EGG HARBOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

June 30, 2023

AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

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Report of Independent Auditors

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Egg Harbor City School District County of Atlantic, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with generally accepted audit standards and <u>Government Auditing</u> <u>Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Board of Education of the Egg Harbor City School District in the County of Atlantic for the year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated November 20, 2023.

As part of our audit, we performed procedures required by the New Jersey Department of Education, and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Egg Harbor City Board of Education's management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Very truly yours,

Ford, Scott & Associates, L.L.C.

FORD, SCOTT & ASSOCIATES, L.L.C. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Leon P. Costello

Leon P. Costello Certified Public Accountant Licensed Public School Accountant No. 767

November 20, 2023

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Administrative Findings - Financial, Compliance and Performance

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and Treasurer of School Moneys, the activities of the Board of Education, and the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Board of Education.

Administrative Practices and Procedures

Insurance

Fire insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on Exhibit J-20, Insurance Schedule contained in the district's ACFR.

Official Bonds (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 18A:17-32, 18A:13-13)

Name	Position	Amount
Susan E. Palaia, CPA	Treasurer	\$200,000
Allyson Milazzo	Board Administrator	25,000

P.L. 2020, C. 44

Our audit procedures included an inquiry and subsequent review of health benefit data required per NJSA 18A:16-13.3 (Chapter 44) submitted for the year on audit. The Chapter 44 summary report was reviewed for reasonableness and timeliness.

The data submitted did include all health benefit plans offered by the school district.

The school district data certification was completed by the chief school administrator. The school district Chapter 44 data was submitted timely.

Tuition Charges

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges were made. The District does not receive students from any other District therefore, no adjustments were required.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

An examination of claims paid during the period under review did not indicate any discrepancies with respect to signatures, certification or supporting documentation.

Payroll Account

The net salaries of all employees of the Board were deposited in the Payroll Account. Employees' payroll deductions and employer's share of fringe benefits were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

All payrolls were approved by the Superintendent and were certified by the President of the Board and Board Secretary/Business Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits premium amounts withheld due to the general fund.

Payrolls were delivered to the treasurer of school moneys with a warrant made to her order for the full amount of each payroll.

Employee Position Control Roster

An inquiry and subsequent review of the Position Control Roster found no inconsistencies between the payroll records, employee benefit records (e.g. pension reports and health benefit coverage reports), the general ledger accounts to where wages are posted (administrative versus instruction), and the Position Control Roster

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30 for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable. No exceptions were noted.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with NJAC 6:23A-16.2(f) as part of our test of transactions of randomly selected expenditure items. We also reviewed the coding of all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit testing procedures. In addition to randomly selecting a test sample, our sample selection specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-8.3. As a result of the procedures performed, a transaction error rate of 0.00% was noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

A. General Classification Findings None

B. Administrative Classification Findings None

Board Secretary's Records

The records of the board secretary were in satisfactory condition, except for the following:

Treasurer's Records

The records of the Treasurer of School Moneys were maintained in satisfactory condition.

<u>Elementary and Secondary Education Act (E.S.E.A.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds</u> <u>Act (ESSA)</u>

The E.S.E.A. financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the ACFR. This section of the ACFR documents the financial position pertaining to the projects under Titles I and VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

The study of compliance for E.S.E.A. indicated no areas of noncompliance and/or questionable costs.

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The district's Special Projects were approved as listed on Schedule A and Schedule B located in the ACFR.

Our audit of the federal and state funds on a test basis indicated that obligations and expenditures were incurred during the fiscal year or project period for which the project was approved.

The financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the ACFR. This section of the ACFR documents the financial position pertaining to the aforementioned special projects.

The study of compliance for Special Federal and/or State Projects indicated no areas of noncompliance and/or questionable costs.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a test of the biweekly reimbursements filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. No exceptions were noted.

TPAF Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

The amount of the expenditure charged to the current year's Final Report for all federal awards for the school district to reimburse the State for the TPAF/FICA payments made by the State on-behalf of the school district for those employees whose salaries are identified as being paid from federal funds was made prior to the end of the 90 day grant liquidation period required by the Office of Grants Management. The expenditure was reviewed subsequent to the reimbursement and no exceptions were noted.

School Purchasing Program

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 states:

a. When the cost or price of any contract awarded by the purchasing agent in the aggregate, does not exceed in a contract year the total sum of \$17,500, the contract may be awarded by a purchasing agent when so authorized by resolution of the board of education without public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except that the board of education may adopt a resolution to set a lower threshold for the receipt of public bids or the solicitation of competitive quotations. If the purchasing agent is qualified pursuant to subsection b. (pending C.40A:11-9) the board of education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$44,000. Such authorization may be granted for each contract or by a general delegation of the power to negotiate and award such contracts pursuant to the section.

b. Commencing in the fifth year after the year in which P.L. 1999, c.440 takes effect, and every five years thereafter, the Governor, in consultation with the Department of Treasury, shall adjust the threshold amount and the higher threshold amount which the board of education is permitted to establish as set forth in subsection a. of this section or the threshold amount resulting from any adjustment under this subsection, in direct proportion to the rise or fall of the index rate as that term is defined in NJS 18A:18A-2, and shall round the adjustment to the nearest \$1,000. The Governor shall notify all local school districts of the adjustment no later than June 1 of every fifth year. The adjustment shall become effective on July 1 of the year in which it is made. Any contract made pursuant to this section may be awarded for a period of 24 consecutive months, except that contracts for professional services pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection a. of NJSA 18A:18A-5 may be awarded for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months.

NJSA 18A:18A-4 states, "Every contract for the provision or performance of any goods or services, the cost of which in the aggregate exceeds the bid threshold, shall be awarded only by resolution of the board of education to the lowest responsible bidder after public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except as is provided otherwise in this chapter or specifically by any other.

The board of education may, by resolution approved by a majority of the board of education and subject to subsections b. and c. of this section, disqualify a bidder who would otherwise be determined to be the lowest responsible bidder, if the board of education finds that it has had prior negative experience with the bidder.

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S. A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(a) are \$44,000 with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$32,000 (without a Qualified Purchasing Agent), respectively. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under NJSA 18A:39-3 is \$20,200 effective 2022-23.

The district board of education has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the contract year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the Solicitor's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

Inasmuch as the system of records did not provide for an accumulation of payments for categories for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies, the results of such an accumulation could not reasonably be ascertained. Disbursements were reviewed, however, to determine whether any clear-cut violations existed.

Based on the results of my examination, I did not note any individual payments, contracts, or agreements made for the performance of any work or goods or services in excess of the statutory thresholds where there had been no advertising for bids in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.

School Food Service

SFAs were authorized to solicit and award emergency noncompetitive procurements and contracts with Food Service Management Companies in accordance with 2 CFR 200.320 and NJSA 18A:18A-7. The SFAs were also authorized to submit contract modifications to their existing Cost Reimbursable or Fixed Price contracts as necessary to ensure the feeding of all children throughout the age of 18, as well as persons over 18 with disabilities as defined in the regulations.

SFAs were notified of the requirement to maintain and report separate meal count records and financial records of all applicable costs incurred in providing meals to all students during the emergency.

The school food service program was not selected as a major federal and/or State program. However, the program expenditures exceeded \$100,000 in federal and/or State support. Accordingly, we inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the School Food Authority (SFA) had any Child Nutrition Program reimbursement overclaims or underclaims. No exceptions were noted.

We also inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the SFA's expenditures of school food service revenues were limited to allowable direct and indirect costs. No exceptions were noted.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Assets (ACFR Schedule B-5) does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program cost of goods sold.

We inquired of management about the public health emergency procedures/practices that the SFA instituted to provide meals to all students, maintenance of all applicable production records; meal counts; noncompetitive procurements; modification of existing contracts and applicable financial records to document the specific costs applicable to the emergency operations. We also inquired if the FSMC received a loan in accordance with the Payroll Protection Plan and whether the funds were used to pay for costs applicable to the Food Service Programs. We also inquired if the PPP loan was subsequently forgiven and the FSMC refunded or credited the applicable to the SFA.

Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in the section entitled Enterprise Funds, Section B of the ACFR.

Application for State School Aid (ASSA)

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 14, 2022, Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped, low-income, and bilingual. We also performed a review of the district procedures related to its completion. The information on the A.S.S.A. was compared to the district workpapers with the following exception. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified without exception. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

The district maintained workpapers on the prescribed state forms or their equivalent.

The district written procedures appear to be adequate for the recording of student enrollment data.

Pupil Transportation

Our audit procedures included a test of on roll status reported in the 2022-2023 District Report of Transported Students (DRTRS). The information that was included on the DRTRS was verified to the DRTRS Eligibility Summary Report without exception. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

Our procedures also included a review of transportation related contracts and purchases. Based on our review, the district complied with proper bidding procedures and award of contracts. No exceptions were noted in our review of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

The school district adhered to all the requirements of NJAC 26-1.2 and 12.4 related to the testing for lead of all drinking water in educational facilities.

The school district did submit the annual Statement of Assurance to the Department of Education, pursuant to NJAC 6A:26-12.4(g).

Follow-up on Prior Years' Findings

In accordance with government auditing standards, our procedures included a review of all prior year recommendations including findings. Corrective action had been taken on all prior year findings.

Suggestions to Management

The District has accumulated Excess Net Cash Resources in the Food Service Fund due to the influx of additional Federal and State Funding related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The State of New Jersey Department of Agriculture has issued a letter dated October 4, 2023 to all School Districts indicating that these excess funds may be retained by the District and, that the District must develop a plan which projects how excess funds will be expended in support of the program during the upcoming school year. We suggest that the district develop a plan to utilize the excess funds on allowable expenses that support the Federal Child Nutrition Program, such as improving the nutritional quality of food or purchasing equipment for the kitchens and cafeterias as outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations, 7 CFR 210.14(a).

Acknowledgment

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the school district and greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to the members of the audit team.

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EGG HARBOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2022

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,	7	2	,	-	-	Reg - Sp Ed, col. 4
,	22	22		29	29	Reg Public Schools, col. 1
Errors	Verified	Tested	Errors	District	DOE/County	
				Reported on	Reported on Reported on	

Transportation

EGG HARBOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION	<u>APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY</u>
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS	ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14. 2022

 Reported
 Recalculated

 8.1
 8.1

 8.3
 8.3

 6.1
 6.1
 Reg Avg. (Mileage) = Regular Including Grade PK Students (Part A) Reg Avg. (Mileage) = Regular Excluding Grade PK Students (Part A) Spec Avg. = Special Ed with Special Needs (Part B) EGG HARBOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2022

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Full Day Kindergarten		ı			ı	ı
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Three		I		I	I	
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Special Ed - Middle School	£	-				
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EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

REGULAR DISTRICT

SECTION 1

Α. 2% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2022-23 Total General Fund Expenditures per the ACFR, Ex. C-1	\$	12,881,508.12	(B)
Increased by:			
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund		-	(B1a)
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund		373,993.00	(B1b)
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Regular		-	(B1c)
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Inclusion		121,455.00	(B1d)
Decreased by:			
On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security		(2,356,926.20)	(B2a)
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	_	-	(B2b)
Adjusted 2022-23 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1s)-(B2s)]	_	11,020,029.92	(B3)
2% of Adjusted 2022-23 General Fund Expenditures			
[(B3) times .02]		220,401.00	(B4)
Enter greater of (B4) or \$250,000		250,000.00	(B5)
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment *	_	43,156.00	(K)

Maximum Unassigned/Undesignated -Unreserved Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]

SECTION 2

Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6-30-23 (Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Year-end Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Legally Restricted - Excess Surplus - Designated for for Subsequent Year's Expenditures ** Other Reserved Fund Balances **** Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	3,697,960.3 (36,410.2 - (1,255,664.6 (1,100,676.5	27) (8) (8)	C (C1) (C2) (C3) (C4) (C5)		
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)-(C6)]				1,305,208.84	(U1)
SECTION 3					
Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus *** [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE ENTER -0-			i	1,012,052.84	(E)
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2023					
Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures ** Reserved Excess Surplus ***[(E)] Total Excess Surplus [(C3) + (E)]	\$			1,255,664.68 1,012,052.84 2,267,717.52	(C3) (E) (D)
 * Allowable adjustment to expenditures on line K must be detailed as follows. This adjustment line (as detailed below) is to be utilized when applicable for: (H) Federal Impact Aid. The passage of P.L.2015, c.46 amemded N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41 to permit a board of education to appropriate federal impact aid funds to establish or supplement a federal impact aid legal reserve in the general fund. Accordingly, effective for the year ending June 30, 2016 the Federal Impact Aid adjustment to expenditures is limited to the portion of Federal Impact Aid Section 8002 and Section 8003 received during the fiscal year and recognized as revene on the General Fund Budgetary Comparison Schedule but not transferred to the Federal Impact Aid Reserve- General (8002 or 8003) by board resoluti during June 1 to June 30 of the fiscal year under audit. Amounts transferred to the reserve are captured on line (C4): (I) Sale of Lease-back (Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10); (JI) Extraordinary Aid; (J2) Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid; (J3) Recognized current year School Bus Advertising Recenue; and (J4) Family Crisis Transportation Aid. (J5) Supplemental Stabilization Aid reeived April 2023 & Maintenance of Equity Aid received Jul 	on				

293,156.00 (M)

Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid	-	(H)
Sale & Lease-back	-	(I)
Extraordinary Aid	37,228.00	(J1)
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	5,928.00	(J2)
Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized	-	(J3)
Family Crisis Transportation Aid	-	(J4)
Supplemental Stabilization Aid received April 2023 &		
Maintenance of Equity Aid received July 2023		(J5)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)+(J4)+(J5)]	\$ 43,156.00	(K)

** This amount represents the June 30, 2023 Excess Surplus (C3 above) and must be included in the Audit Summary Line 90031.

*** Amount must agree to the June 30, 2023 ACFR and the sum of the two lines must agree to Audit Summary Line 90030.

**** Amount for Other Restricted Fund Balances must be detailed for each source. Use in the excess surplus calculation of any legal reserve that is not state mandated or that is not legally imposed by an other type of government, such as the judicial branch of government, must have Departmental approval. District requests should be submitted to the Division of Administration and Finance prior to September 30.

tatutory restrictions:	
pproved unspent separate proposal	-
ale/lease-back reserve	-
apital reserve	750,676.58
aintenance reserve	350,000.00
mergency reserve	-
uition reserve	-
chool Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset Reserve- current year	-
chool Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset Reserve- prior year	-
npact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sections 8002 and 8003)	-
pact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sections 8007 and 8008)	-
eserve for Unemployment Fund	-
ther state/government mandated reserves	-
•	
ther Reserved Fund Balance not noted above****	-

Total Other Reserved Fund Balance

\$ <u>1,100,676.58</u> (C4)

AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 EGG HARBOR CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Recommendations:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

2. Financial Planning. Accounting and Reporting

None

3. <u>School Purchasing Programs</u>

None

4. School Food Service

None

5. Student Body Activities

None

6. Application for State School Aid

None

7. Pupil Transportation

None

8. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

9. Miscellaneous

None

10. <u>Status of Prior Year Audit Findings/Recommendations</u> Corrective action has been taken on all prior year findings.