HANOVER PARK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT COUNTY OF MORRIS AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

HANOVER PARK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT <u>COUNTY OF MORRIS</u> <u>AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE</u> <u>FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,</u> <u>COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE</u> <u>FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023</u> <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>

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Independent Member BKR International

November 29, 2023

The Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Hanover Park Regional High School District County of Morris, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Board of Education of the Hanover Park Regional High School District in the County of Morris for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated November 29, 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 letter does not affect our report dated November 29, 2023, on the financial statements of the Board.

We will review the status of our suggestions and comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed the suggestions and any comments with various management personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing our suggestions.

This report is intended for the information of the Hanover Park Regional High School District's management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Nisivoccia, LLP

NISIVOCCIA, LLP

Kathryn L. Mantell

Kathryn L. Mantell Licensed Public School Accountant #884 Certified Public Accountant

Scope of Audit

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

Administrative Practices and Procedures

Insurance

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

Officials in Office and Surety Bonds

Name	Position	Coverage
Susan Young	Treasurer	\$ 275,000
William F. Albert, Jr.	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	275,000

P.L. 2020, Chapter 44

Our audit procedures included an inquiry and subsequent review of health benefit data required per N.J.S.A. 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, and the school district Chapter 44 data was submitted timely.

Tuition Charges

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. The actual costs were different than estimated costs. The Board made a proper adjustment to the billings to sending districts for the change in per pupil costs in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(f)3.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

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

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

Payroll Account and Position Control Roster

The net salaries of 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. Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits withholding due to the general fund.

All payrolls tested were approved by the Chief School Administrator and certified by the President of the Board and the School Business Administrator and the Chief School Administrator.

The required certification (E-CERT1) of compliance with requirements for income tax on compensation of administrators (superintendents, assistant superintendents and business administrator) to the New Jersey Department of Treasury was filed by March 15th due date.

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made on a test basis as of June 30, for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

Classification of General and Administrative Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:23-2.2(g) as part of our test of transactions of randomly selected expenditure items. In addition to randomly selecting a test sample, we reviewed administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.4. We also reviewed the coding of all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit testing procedures. As a result of the procedures performed, no transaction errors were noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

Board Secretary's Records

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the Board Secretary's records for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. Based on these procedures, we have no comments except as noted herein.

Treasurer's Records

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the Treasurer's records for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. Based on these procedures, we have no comments except as noted herein.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

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

The E.S.E.A financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the District's ACFR. This section of the ACFR documents the financial position pertaining to projects under Title I, Title II and Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

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.

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.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State of Federal Salary Expenditures

The T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures was remitted to the State of New Jersey prior to the required deadline of October 1, 2023. The reimbursement form was reviewed and no exceptions were noted.

School Purchasing Programs

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. of section 9 of P.L.1971, c. 198 the Board of Education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$25,000. Such authorization may be granted for each contract or by a general delegation of the power to negotiate and award such contracts pursuant to this section.

School Purchasing Programs (Cont'd)

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Cont'd)

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 N.J.S.A. 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"

N.J.S.A. 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 law"

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3 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 N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3 is \$20,200 for 2022-23.

The 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 Attorney'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. General compliance was noted.

The results of our examination indicated that no individual payments, contracts, or agreements were made "for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies", 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.

The system of records did not provide for an accumulation of purchases for which the school board used contracts entered into by the State Department of Purchase and Property pursuant to Ch. 114, P.L. 1977, therefore, the extent of such purchases could not reasonably be ascertained.

School Food Service

The District does not participate in the Child Nutrition Program and therefore received no federal or state support.

Student Body Activities

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the records of the Student Activities for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. Based on these procedures, we have no comments except as noted herein.

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of enrollments and related services reported in the October 15, 2022 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped, bilingual, and low income. 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 one minor error. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified on a test check basis with no errors. 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 has adequate written procedures 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 Resident Students (DRTRS). The information that was included on the DRTRS was verified to the DRTRS Eligibility Summary Report with no exceptions. 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. The bid specifications for the purchase of buses were in compliance with applicable statutes.

Facilities and Capital Assets

Our procedures included a review of the SDA grant agreements for consistency with recording SDA revenue, transfer of local funds from the General Fund or from the Capital Reserve Account and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction. No exceptions were noted.

Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy

Travel regulations require each District to adopt a formal policy and procedure pertaining to travel and expense reimbursement for its employees and board members. The regulations require the District to establish a maximum travel amount for the year and to account that the maximum is not exceeded. The regulations also require that all travel be approved prior by the Board of Education and that the approval must be itemized by event, event total cost, and individuals attending.

Our review of the travel policies and records revealed that the District is in general compliance with the travel regulations.

Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

The District did submit the annual Statement of Assurance to the NJ Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g).

Management Suggestions

Reconciling Food Service Management Contractor's Operating Statement with District Records

It is suggested that the District reconcile the revenue and expenses per the Food Service Management Contractor's Operating Statement with the District's records on a monthly basis.

COVID-19 Federal Funding

It is likely that the District will undergo some review of its COVID-19 federal funding if only at a desk review level by state and/or federal agencies. We strongly suggest that the District ensures that these funds are utilized in accordance with the applicable federal requirements especially with respect to procurement. Additionally, we strongly suggest that the District ensures that these funds are accounted for in the state account numbers designated by the NJ Department of Education and that any applicable Board policies are current with respect to federal grant requirements.

Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

There were no prior year recommendations.

	Errors per	Registers	On Roll	Shared								- () -
	Erroi	Regi	On	Full								- 0 -
erification	d per	ers	oll	Shared			21	19	40			40
Sample for Verification	Verified per	Registers	On Roll	Full	262	277	277	267	1,083	21	21	1,104
Š	le	from	pers	Shared			21	19	40			40
	Sample	Selected from	Workpapers	Full	262	277	277	267	1,083	21	21	1,104
			LS	Shared								- 0 -
nool Aid			Errors	Full		(1)			(1)	-	-	- 0 -
for State Scl	d on	pers	oll	Shared			21	19	40	14	14	54
2023-2024 Application for State School Aid	Reported on	Workpapers	On Roll	Full	262	277	277	267	1,083	190	190	1,273
2023-2024 /	d on	A.	llc	Shared			21	19	40	14	14	54
	Reported on	A.S.S.A.	On Roll	Full	262	276	277	267	1,082	191	191	1,273
	1				Grade Nine	Grade Ten	Grade Eleven	Grade Twelve	Subtotal	Special Ed - High School _	Subtotal	Totals

0.00%

0.00%

0.00%

0.00%

Percentage Error

	Р	Private Schools for Disabled	for Disabled				Resident L	Resident Low Income		
	Reported on				Reported on	Reported on Reported on		Sample		
	A.S.S.A. as	Sample			A.S.S.A.	Workpapers		Selected	Verified to	
	Private	for	Sample	Sample	as Low	as Low		from	Application	Sample
I	Schools	Verification	Verified	Errors	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors
Grade Nine					18	16	7	2	5	
Grade Ten					L	L		1	1	
Grade Eleven					2.5	2.5				
Grade Twelve					5	5				
Subtotal					32.5	30.5	2	3	ε	
Special Ed - High School	32	3	3		9.5	9.5		1	1	
Subtotal	32	3	3		9.5	9.5		-		
Totals	32	3	3	- 0 -	42	40	2	4	4	- 0 -
Percentage Error				0.00%			4.76%			0.00%

			Resident LEF	P Low Income		
	Reported on	Reported on		Sample	Verified to	
	A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Selected	Test Scores,	
	LEP Low	LEP Low		from	Application	Sample
	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors
~	_	_				
Grade Nine	5	5				
Grade Ten	2	2				
Grade Eleven	1	1		1	1	
Subtotal	8	8		1	1	
Special Ed - High School	1	1				
Subtotal	1	1				
Totals	9	9	- 0 -	1	1	- 0 -
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

		Res	ident LEP N	lot Low Income		
	Reported on	Reported on		Sample		
	A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Selected	Verified to	
	LEP Not Low	LEP Not Low		from	Test Scores	Sample
	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors
Grade Nine	7	7				
Grade Ten	9	9		1	1	
Grade Eleven	5	5		1	1	
Grade Twelve	3	3		1	1	
Subtotal	24	24		3	3	
Special Ed - High School	1	1		1	1	
Subtotal	1	1		1	1	
Totals	25	25	- 0 -	4	4	- 0 -
Percentage Error		-	0.00%			0.00%

			Transport	ation		
	Reported	Reported				
	on DRTRS	on DRTRS				
	by DOE	by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Regular - Public Schools	916	916		16	16	
Regular - Special Education	11	11		3	3	
Transported - Non Public	82	82		1	1	
AIL - Non Public	85	85		2	2	
Special Needs - Public	5	5		1	1	
Special Needs - Private	31	31	<u> </u>	2	2	
Totals	1,130	1,130	- 0 -	25	25	- 0 -
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

	Reported	Recalculated
Average Mileage - Regular Including Grade PK Students	5.5	5.5
Average Mileage - Regular Excluding Grade PK Students	5.5	5.5
Average Mileage - Special Education with Special Needs	11.6	11.6

HANOVER PARK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

REGULAR DISTRICT

SECTION 1

2% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2022-2023 Total General Fund Expenditures per the ACFR Increased by: Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund Decreased by:	<u>\$ 45,102,800</u> (B) <u>\$ -0-</u> (B1a) <u>\$ 975,000</u> (B1b)
On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security Assets Acquired Under Leases, Financed Purchases & SBITAs	\$ 7,104,745 (B2a) \$ 130,000 (B2b)
Adjusted 2022-2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	<u>\$ 38,843,055</u> (B3)
2% of Adjusted 2022-2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .02 Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000 Increased by: Allowable Adjustments	\$ 776,861 (B4) \$ 776,861 (B5) \$ 491,559 (K)
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]	\$ 1,268,420 (M)
SECTION 2	
	<u>\$ 15,155,669</u> (C)
SECTION 2 Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2023 (Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Year - End Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 15,155,669 (C) \$ 1,119,395 (C1) (C2) \$ 4,780,795 (C3)
SECTION 2 Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2023 (Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Year - End Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 15,155,669 (C) \$ 1,119,395 (C1) (C2)

HANOVER PARK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT <u>EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION</u> FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 (Continued)

SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE, ENTER -0-	\$ 4,773,378 (E)
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2023	
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)]	\$ 4,780,795 (C3) \$ 4,773,378 (E)
Total [(C3)+(E)]	<u>\$ 9,554,173</u> (D)
Detail of Allowable Adjustments	
Impact Aid	\$ -0- (H)
Sale and Lease-Back	\$ -0- (I)
Extraordinary Aid	\$ 446,043 (J1)
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	\$ 45,516 (J2)
Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized	\$ -0- (J3)
Family Crisis Transportation Aid	<u> </u>
Supplemental Stabilization Aid Received April 2023	
& Maintenance of Equity Aid Received July 2023	\$ -0- (J5)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)+(J4)+(J5)]	<u>\$ 491,559</u> (K)

Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balances

Statutory Restrictions:	
Approved Unspent Separate Proposal	\$ -0-
Sale/Lease-Back Reserve	\$ -0-
Capital Reserve	\$ 2,068,524
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 56,413
Tuition Reserve	\$ -0-
Emergency Reserve	\$ -0-
Unemployment Compensation	\$ 134,857
Other State/Governmental Mandated Reserve	\$ -0-
Other Restricted Fund Balance not Noted Above	\$ -0-
Total Other Restricted Fund Balances	\$ 2,259,794 (C4)

HANOVER PARK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

It is recommended that:

1. <u>Administrative Practices and Procedures</u>

None

2. <u>Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting</u>

None

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

None

4. <u>School Food Service</u>

None

5. <u>Student Body Activities</u>

None

6. <u>Application for State School Aid</u>

None

7. <u>Pupil Transportation</u>

None

8. <u>Facilities and Capital Assets</u>

None

9. <u>Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy</u>

None

10. <u>Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations</u>

There were no prior year recommendations.