# LEBANON BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS, FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

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Federal Identification Number 22-6002023



#### **Independent Auditors' Report**

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Lebanon Borough School District County of Hunterdon, 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 basic financial statements of the Lebanon Borough School District in the County of Hunterdon for the fiscal 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 for the information of the Lebanon Borough School District 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.

BHC, CHOS, PC BKC, CPAS, PC

Michael Holk, CPA, PSA NO. 20CS00265600

November 20, 2023 Flemington, New Jersey

# Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and the Treasurer of School Monies, 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

#### <u>Insurance</u>

Property and fire insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on Exhibit J-20, Insurance Schedule contained in the School District Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). Adequacy of insurance coverage is the responsibility of the Board of Education.

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

Surety bond coverage in force during the period was:

Name of Employee	Position	Amo	unt
Patricia Duell	Board Secretary/Business Administrator	\$	50,000
Cheryl Zarra	Treasurer of School Monies		150,000

The Treasurer of School Monies was bonded in a surety bond in accordance with provisions of N.J.S.A 18A:17-32 within minimum limits of the schedule promulgated by the New Jersey State Board of Education.

#### P.L.2020,c.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 project data certification was completed by the Chief School Administrator. The School District Chapter 44 data was submitted timely.

#### Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

#### Examination of Claims

A review of claims paid during the period under review did indicate discrepancies with respect to signatures, certification or supporting documentation.

#### Examination of Claims (continued)

We suggest the District take measures to ensure receiving signatures certifying goods or services were received are to be evident on all applicable payment forms.

#### 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, the Board Secretary/Business Administrator, and the Chief School Administrator.

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

#### **Employee Position Control Roster**

A 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 goods not yet received or services not yet rendered, and it was determined that no blanket purchase orders were included in the balance of the reserves for encumbrances. Also, unpaid purchase orders included in the balance of accounts payable were reviewed for propriety and to determine that goods were received, and services were rendered, as of June 30.

#### Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was evaluated for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A: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 N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.3.

A review of classification of expenditures during the period under review did not indicate any material discrepancies with respect to proper classification.

#### Board Secretary's Records

Our review of the financial and accounting records maintained by the Board Secretary did not disclose any material exceptions.

#### Treasurer or Reconciler of Accounts' Records

Our review of the records of the Treasurer of School Moneys did not disclose any exceptions.

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 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.

# 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.

#### **TPAF** Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a test of the 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

No reimbursement is due to the State to reimburse for the TPAF/FICA payments made by the State onbehalf of the District. The District had no employees with applicable salaries identified as being paid from federal funds.

#### Nonpublic State Aid

The District did not receive any Nonpublic State Aid during the fiscal year 2023.

<u>School Purchasing Programs</u>
<u>Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids</u>

#### 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 therefor, 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 possesses a qualified purchasing agent certificate pursuant to Subsection B. of Section 9 of P.L.1971, c.198 (C.40A:11-9) 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."
- "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 the 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.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-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 therefor, 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(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 N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3 is \$20,200 for 2022-2023.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3A and N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et. seq. the Board of Education has appointed a Qualified Purchasing Agent which allows the Board of Education to increase the bid threshold and to grant the authorization to negotiate contracts below the bid threshold.

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 solicitor's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

School Purchasing Programs (continued)
Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (continued)

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. Expenditures were reviewed, however, to determine whether any clear-cut violations existed.

Based on the results of our examination, we 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.

#### **Unemployment Compensation Insurance Fund**

The Board has adopted the contributory method and is required to remit the entire employee withholding for unemployment compensation to the State of New Jersey. Any claims for unemployment are paid for by the State for those funds.

#### School Food Service

Food service is provided by the Clinton - Glen Gardner School District.

Applications for free and reduced-price meals were reviewed for completeness and accuracy. The number of free and reduced-price meals claimed as served was compared to the number of valid applications/or to the list of directly certified students on file, times the number of operating days, on a school-by-school basis. The free and reduced-price meal and free milk policy was reviewed for uniform administration throughout the school system. Sites approved to participate in Provisions I and II were examined for compliance with all counting and claiming requirements. The required verification procedures for free and reduced-price applications were completed and available for review.

#### **Student Body Activities**

Our review of the records of the student activity funds did not disclose any exceptions.

# Application for State School Aid

We evaluated the information reported in the October 15, 2022 Application for State School Aid (ASSA) for onroll, 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 ASSA was compared to the District workpapers with minor 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's 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 2022-23 District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS). 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.

#### Facilities and Capital Assets

Our review of facilities and capital assets did not disclose any exceptions.

#### Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

The School District adhered to all the requirements of N.J.A.C. 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 N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g).

#### Follow-up on Prior Year Findings

Not Applicable

# **Application for State School Aid Summary**

# Schedule of Audited Enrollments - Enrollment as of October 15, 2022

	2023 - 2024 Application for State School Aid					Sample for Verification					Private Schools for Disabled					
	Repo A	Reported on Reported on Sample Verified per Errors per ASSA Workpapers Selected from Registers Registers Onroll Onroll Errors Workpapers Onroll Onroll		sters				e Sample								
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors
Half Day Preschool Age 3	6	_	6	_	_	_	6	-	6	-	_	_	-	-	_	-
Full Day Preschool Age 3	_	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Half Day Preschool Age 4	2	-	2	-	-	-	2	_	2	-	_	_	-	-	-	-
Full Day Preschool Age 4	3	-	3	-	-	-	3	_	3	-	_	_	-	-	-	-
Half Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	_	-	_	-	_	-	-	_	-	-	_	-	-
Full Day Kindergarten	11	-	11	-	-	-	11	_	11	-	_	_	-	-	-	-
One	4	-	4	-	-	-	4	_	4	-	_	_	-	-	-	-
Two	13	-	13	_	-	_	13	_	13	-	_	-	-	_	-	-
Three	10	-	10	-	-	-	10	_	10	-	-	-	-	_	-	-
Four	8	-	8	_	-	_	8	_	8	-	_	-	-	_	-	-
Five	11	-	11	-	-	-	11	_	11	-	-	-	-	_	-	-
Six	9	-	9	-	-	-	9	_	9	-	-	-	-	_	-	-
Seven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eight	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eleven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Twelve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Graduate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adult HS (15+CR)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adult HS (1-14CR)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	77	_	77		-	-	77		77		-			-		
Special Education - Elementary	15		15				10		10							
Special Education - Elementary Special Education - Middle	13	-	13	-	-	-	10	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Education - Middle Special Education - High School	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	16	<del></del>	16			<del></del>	11		11	<del></del> -		<del></del>	<del></del>			<u> </u>
Subtotal	10	<u>-</u>	10				- 11			<u> </u>						<u>_</u>
County Vocational - Regular County Vocational -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full-Time Post Sec.	-	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	-	-	_	-	_	_	_	_
Total	93		93		-		88		88		_			-		
Percentage error					0.00%	0.00%					0.00%	0.00%				0.00%

# **Application for State School Aid Summary**

# Schedule of Audited Enrollments - Enrollment as of October 15, 2022 (continued)

	Res	dent Low Incom	ne	Sample	for Verification	on	Reside	nt LEP Low Incom	me	Sample for Verification			
	Reported on ASSA as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application & Register	Sample Errors	Reported on ASSA as LEP Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as LEP Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Test Score & Register	Sample Errors	
Half Day Preschool Age 3	1	1	-	1	1			-	-			-	
Full Day Preschool Age 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Half Day Preschool Age 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Full Day Preschool Age 4	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Half Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Full Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
One	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Two	2	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Three	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Four	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Five	4	4	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Six	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Seven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Eight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Eleven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Twelve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Post-Graduate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Adult HS (15+CR)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Adult HS (1-14CR)				-									
Subtotal	10	10		10	10								
Special Education - Elementary	3	3	-	3	3	_	-	-	_	_	_	-	
Special Education - Middle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Special Education - High School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal	3	3	-	3	3			-			-		
County Vocational - Regular	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Cty Vocational - F/T Post Sec.	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
Total	13	13	-	13	13			-					
Percentage error		:	0.00%			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%	

# **Application for State School Aid Summary**

# Schedule of Audited Enrollments - Enrollment as of October 15, 2022 (continued)

	Resident 1	LEP Not Low In	come	Sample for Verification			
Total	Reported on ASSA as Not Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Not Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application & Register	Sample Errors	
Percentage error			0.00%			0.00%	
			Transpo	ortation			
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE/County	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Sample Errors	
Regular & special education without special needs in-district							
Public	21	21	-	21	21	-	
Aid-in-lieu charter school Special education public	3	3	-	3	2	1	
Special education with special needs & out of district special education without special needs	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Private school disabled with special needs	<del>-</del>	-	=	-	- 2	- 1	
Out of district public without special needs Total	28	28		28	<u>3</u> <u>26</u>	2	
Percentage error			0.00%			7.14%	

# LEBANON BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Excess Surplus Calculation

#### **SECTION 1**

2% Calculation of Excess Surplus			
2022 - 2023 Total General Fund Expenditures Per the ACFR, Exhibit C-1	\$ 3,884,342	(B)	
Increased by: Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund Transfer from General Fund to SRF for Pre-K Regular Transfer from General Fund to SRF for Pre-K Inclusion Transfer to Unemployment Compensation Fund Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security Assets Acquired Under Leases	606,310	(B1a) (B1b) (B1c) (B1d) (B1e) (B2a) (B2b)	
Adjusted 2022 - 2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1s)-(B2s)]	\$ 3,278,032	(B3)	
2% of Adjusted 2022 - 2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) Times .04] Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000 Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	\$ 131,121 250,000 5,693	(B4) (B5) (K)	
Maximum Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]			\$ 255,693 (M)
SECTION 2			
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 06/30/2023 (Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Year-end Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 982,359 10,679	(C) (C1) (C2)	
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's  Legally Restricted - Excess Surplus-Designated for Subsequent Year's  Expenditures  Other Restricted Fund Balances	12,672 672,534	(C2) (C3) (C4)	
Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	30,781	(C4)	
Total Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)]			\$ 255,693 (U)

# **LEBANON BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT Excess Surplus Calculation (continued)**

#### **SECTION 3**

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus [(U)-(M)] if Negative Enter -0-			\$ -	<b>=</b> (E)
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2023				
Restricted Excess Surplus-Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures			\$ 12,672	(C3)
Restricted Excess Surplus			-	(E)
Total [(C3) + (E)]			\$ 12,672	= <sup>(D)</sup>
Detail of Allowable Adjustments				
Impact Aid	\$ -	(H)		
Sale and Lease Back	-	(I)		
Extraordinary Aid	4,757	(J1)		
Additional Nonpublic Transportation Aid	936	(J2)		
Other	 -	(J3)		
Total Adjustments	\$ 5,693	(K)		
Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance				
Approved Unspent Separate Proposal	\$ -			
Sale/Lease - Back Reserve	=			
Capital Reserve	200,556			
Maintenance Reserve	141,771			
Tuition Reserve	200,000			
Emergency Reserve	130,207			
Other Restricted Fund Balance not Noted Above	 			
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$ 672,534	(C4)		

BHC, CAON, PC BKC, CPAS, PC

Michael Holk, CPA, PSA NO. 20CS00265600

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# <u>Acknowledgment</u>

The foregoing conditions were considered in determining the nature, timing and extent of the audit tests to be applied in our examination of the financial statements, and this report of such conditions does not modify our report dated November 20, 2023.

Should any questions arise as to our comments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We desire to express our appreciation for the assistance and courtesies rendered by the school officials and employees during the course of the examination.

BHC, CAUS, AC BKC, CPAS, PC

Michael Holk, CPA, PSA No. 20CS00265600

# Recommendations:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

	None
2.	Financial Planning Accounting and Reporting
	None
3.	School Purchasing Programs
	None
4.	School Food Service
	None
5.	Student Body Activities
	None
6.	Application for State School Aid
	None
7.	<u>Pupil Transportation</u>
	None
8.	Facilities and Capital Assets
	None
9.	Miscellaneous
	None
10.	Status of Prior Year Audit Findings/Recommendations
	None