Auditor's Management Report

for the

Borough of Middlesex School District

in the

County of Middlesex New Jersey

for the

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Borough of Middlesex County of Middlesex Middlesex, New Jersey 08846

We have audited, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Borough of Middlesex School District in the County of Middlesex for the year ended June 30, 2023 and have issued our report 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 are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents.

This report is intended solely for the information of the Borough of Middlesex School District, County of Middlesex, New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education and federal and state audit awarding agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT NO. 948

Scope of Audit

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

Administrative Practices and Procedures

Insurance

Insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed in the District's ACFR. (See Exhibit J-20)

Official Bonds

<u>Name</u>	Position	Amount of Bonds
John P. Kayser Bert Arafaj All Employees	Treasurer of School Monies Business Administrator/Board Secretary All Employee Faithful Position Bond	\$270,000.00 100,000.00 250,000.00

Adequacy of insurance coverage is the responsibility of the 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 project.

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

Tuition Charges

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. The actual costs differed from the estimated costs. The Board made a proper adjustment to the billings to sending Districts for the difference in per pupil costs in accordance with <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A-23-3.1(f)3.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

Our audit of claims paid during the period under review did not indicate any discrepancies with respect to signatures, certifications or supporting documentation.

Payroll Accounts

The net salaries of all employees of the Board were deposited in the Net 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 the Board Secretary/Business Administrator.

Salary withholdings were properly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits withholdings due to the general fund.

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

Position Control Roster

The Position Control Roster was reviewed and compared to payroll records, employee benefit records and charges made to the general ledger to ensure proper and consistent financial reporting and that employee benefits are only offered to current employees.

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.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested 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. As a result of the procedures performed, no errors were noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

Board Secretary's Records

The records maintained by the Board Secretary were in agreement with the records maintained by the Treasurer of School Monies.

Treasurer's Records

The records maintained by the Treasurer of School Monies were in satisfactory condition and were in agreement with the records maintained by the Board Secretary/Business Administrator.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act 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 through IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

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.

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.

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 reimbursement filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund.

The amount of the expenditure charged to the current year's Final Report(s) 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.

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 \$32,000.00, 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 is qualified 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 \$44,000.00. Such authorization may be granted or each contract or by a general delegation of the power to negotiate and award such contracts pursuant to this section.

School Purchasing Programs (Continued)

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Continued)

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 \$1,000.00. 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 every 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 N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 may be awarded for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months."

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 therefor, except as is provided otherwise in this chapter or specifically by any other law.

The board of education may, by resolution approve by the 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 negative prior experience with the bidder."

Effective July 1, 2020, the bid threshold in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3(a) and (c) is \$32,000.00. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9 (b) the bid threshold for all purchases made by the District's qualified purchasing agent is \$44,000.00. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18:39-3 is currently \$20,200.00.

The Board of Education has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the fiscal 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.

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 provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A-18A-4, amended.

School Purchasing Programs (Continued)

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Continued)

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. Our audit did reveal however, that the District did make purchases under State contracts and cooperative purchasing agreements.

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 N.J.S.A. 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 or indirect costs. There were no exceptions noted.

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 amounts to the SFA.

The District utilizes a food service management company (FSMC) and is depositing and expending program monies in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-34 and 19-1 through 19-4.1.

School Food Service (Continued)

Provisions of the FSMC cost reimbursable fixed price or non-competitive emergency procurement contract/addendum were reviewed and audited. The FSMC contract includes an operating results provision which guarantees that the food service program will return an operating profit of at least \$50,000.00. The operating provision has been met. All vendor discounts, rebates and credits from vendors and/or the FSMC were tracked and credited to the Food Service Account and reconciled to supporting documentation at least annually.

The school district maintains the detailed revenue and expenditure information necessary in order to execute the USDA mandated Non-Program Food Revenue Tool at least annually.

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.

Student Body Activities

The records for the Student Body Activities were maintained in satisfactory condition.

Application for State School Aid

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, 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 without 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 had written procedures for the recording of student enrollment.

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 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. The bid specifications for the purchase of buses were in compliance with applicable statutes. No exceptions were noted in our review of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

Facilities and Capital Assets

Our procedures included a review of transfers of local funds from the general fund or from the capital reserve account and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction.

Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

The school district adhered to 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 submitted the annual Statement of Assurance to the Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g).

Follow-Up Prior Year's Audit Findings

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, our procedures included a review of the prior year audit recommendations. There were no prior year audit findings.

Recommendations

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting
None
School Purchasing Program
None
School Food Service
None
Student Body Activities
None
Application for State School Aid
None
Pupil Transportation
None
Facilities and Capital Assets
None
Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities
None
Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations
Not Applicable

Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2022

		2022-23	Application f	2022-23 Application for State School Aid	ool Aid			J,	Sample for Verification	/enfication			Priva	ate School fo	Private School for Handicapped	ped
	Reported	ed	Reported on	no pa			Sample	ye.	Verified per	ber	Errors per	ber	Reported	Sample		
	on A.S.S.A.	S.A.	Workpapers	spers			Selected from	from	Registers	ters	Registers	ters	on A.S.S.A.	for		
	as on Roll	Roll	on Roil	100	Errors	Z.	Workpapers	pers	on Roll	<u>10</u>	on Roll	loli	as Private	Verifi-	Sample	Sample
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	FE	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors
Half Day PreSchool	16		16		0		7		7		0					
Full Day Kindergarten	119		119		0		5		5		0					
One	124		124		0		17		17		0					
Two	118		118		0		16		16		0					
Three	143		143		0		17		17		0					
Four	127		127		0		17		17		0					
Five	101		101		0		16		16		0					
Six	124		124		0		11		17		0					
Seven	138		138		0		18		48		0					
Eight	124		124		0		16		16		0					
Nine	128		128	0	0	0	16		16		0	0				
Ten	140		140	0	0	0	17		17		0	0				
Eleven	132		132	0	0	0	16		16		0	0				
Twelve	122		122	0	0	0	17		17		٥	٥	-			
Subfotal	1656	0	1656	0	0	0	217	0	217	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd Elementary	164		164		0		25		25		0		ĸ	4	4	0
SpEd Middle School	88		88	0	0	0	20		20		0	0	က	က	က	0
SpEd High School	95	2.0	95	2.0	0	0	22	-	22	+	0	٥	7	2	2	0
Subtotal	348	2	348	2	0	0	19	+	29	1	0	0	10.0	6	6	0
Totals	2004	2	2004	2	0	0	284	1 *************************************	284	-	0	0	10.0	6	6	0
Percentage				1	0.00%	0.00%					0.00%	0.00%				0.00%

BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2022

		Low Income		Sai	Sample for Verification	uo	Res	Resident ELL Low Income	лте	S	Sample for Verification	ou
	Reported on	Reported on		Sample	Verified to		Reported on	Reported on		Sample	Verified to	
	A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Selected	Application		A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Selected	Application	
	Low	Low		from	and	Sample	LEP Low	LEP Low		from	and	Sample
	псоте	Income	Errors	Workpapers	Register	Errors	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	Register	Errors
Full Day Kindergarten	33	33	0	σ	6	0	7	7	0	4	4	0
one	38	88	0	13	13	0	10	0	0	4	7	0
Two	4	4	0	10	5	0	10	5	0	-	7	0
Three	44	44	0	4.	4	0	20	20	0	4	14	0
Four	38	88	0	15	15	0	4	4	0	က	9	0
Five	38	88	0	15	15	0	9	က	0	2	2	0
Six	36	36	0	17	17	0	4	4	0	က	က	0
Seven	47	47	0	21	21	0	7	7	0	S	2	0
Eight	52	52	0	50	50	0	S	15	0	4	4	0
Nire	48	48	0	15	15	0	2	2	0	•	~	0
Ten	52	52	0	14	4	0	6	Ø	0	7	7	0
Eleven	4	4	0	13	13	0	7	7	0	S	ĸ	0
Twelve	4	49	0	13	13	0	က	က	0	2	2	0
Subtotal	560	560	0	189	189	0	91	91	0	64	29	0
										i	i	,
SpEd Elementary	69	69	0	13	13	0	13	13	0	7	7	0
SpEd Middle School	4	4	0	20	20	0	2	s.	0	e	3	0
SpEd High School	45.0	45.0	0	10	10	0		+	0	+		0
Subtotal	155.0	155.0	0	43	43	0	19	19	0	11	11	0
Totals	715.0	715.0	0	232	232	0	110	110	0	75	75	0
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%			%00.0
			-	1								
			i alisporation	N CONTROLL								
	DRTRS by	DRTRS by										
	DOE	District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors						
Reg Public Schools col 1	100	100	c	25	52	C						
Red - SpEd col 4	9	9	0	, m	, 60	0						
NonPublic - Alt., col.3	68	Ψ,	0	46	46	0						
Transported - Non-Public, col.2	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Special Ed Spec, col.6	99	65	0	8	8	0						
Totals	260	260	0	135	135	0						
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%						

BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2022

c		Sample	Errors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sample for Verification	Verified to Application	and	Register	0	7	7	ო	9	N	~	-	0	7	7	7	73	1	36	2	2	0	4	40
San	Sample Selected	from	Workpapers	0	7	7	ო	9	7	-	****	0	2	2	2	7	***	36	2	7	0	4	40
соте			Errors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Resident ELL NOT Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as	NOT Low	Income	0	∞	ω	4	7	7	-	~	0	7	7	ო	7	-	41	က	7	0	5	46
Residen	Reported on A.S.S.A. as		Income	0	∞	∞	4	7	8	~	~~~	0	2	7	က	2	~~~	41	ო	2	0	5	46
				Half Day Preschool	Full Day Kindergarten	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight	Nine	Ten	Eleven	Tweive	Subtotal	SpEd Elementary	SpEd Middle School	SpEd High School	Subtotal	Totals

0.00%

%00.0

Percentage Error

BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHEDULE OF CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

REGULAR DISTRICT

SECTION 1

2%	Calcula	tion of	Excess	Surplus

2022 - 2023 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR, Ex. C-1 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 PreK- Regular Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK- Inclusion Decreased by:	\$47,089,393.80 368,935.00 3,140,000.00	
On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	\$ 9,297,405.13	
Assets acquired under Installment Purchase Contract		
Adjusted 2022 - 2023 General Fund Expenditures		\$ 41,300,923.67
2% of Adjusted 2022 - 2023 General Fund Expenditures		\$826,018.47
Greater of line above or \$250,000.00		\$826,018.47
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment		\$354,199.00
Maximum Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance		\$1,180,217.47
SECTION 2		
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6-30-23 Decreased by:	\$8,936,496.03	
Year-end Encumbrances	\$ 235,060.59	
Legally Restricted-Designated for		
Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 909,356.12	
Semi Supplemental FFCRA- Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 8,552.27	
Legally Restricted-Excess Surplus-Designated for	Ψ 0,002.21	
Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	
Other Resticted Fund Balances:		
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 832,794.44	
Capital Reserve	\$ 4,828,526.14	
Uemployment Compensation Funds	\$ 45,000.00	
Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved-Designated for		
Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	
Total Unassigned Fund Balance		\$2,077,206.47

SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus	\$ 896,989.00
Recapitulation of excess surplus as of June 30, 2023	
Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$
Reserved Excess Surplus	\$ 896,989.00
Total Excess Surplus	\$ 896,989.00
Detail of Allowable Adjustments	
Extraordinary Aid Additional Non-Public School Transportation Aid	\$ 326,431.00 27,768.00
	\$ 354,199.00