# OCEAN GATE SCHOOL DISTRICT 

Ocean Gate, New Jersey

County of Ocean

Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings -
Financial, Compliance and Performance
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

## MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS
PAGE
Report of Independent Auditors - Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings, Financial Compliance and Performance ..... 1
Scope of Audit ..... 3
Administrative Practices and Procedures:
Insurance ..... 3
Official Bonds ..... 3P.L.2020, c44Tuition Charges3
Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting:
Examination of Claims ..... 3
Payroll Account ..... 3
Employee Position Control Roster ..... 4
Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable ..... 4
Classification of Expenditures ..... 4
Business Administrator/Board Secretary's Record ..... 4
Treasurer's Records ..... 4
Elementary \& Secondary School Education Act (E.S.E.A.), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) ..... 4
Other Special Federal and/or State Projects ..... 4
T.P.A.F. Reimbursement ..... 5
T.P.A.F. Reimbursement as the State for Federal Salary Expenditures ..... 5
School Purchasing Programs:
Contracts \& Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids ..... 5
School Food Service ..... 5
Student Body Activities ..... 6
Application for State School Aid (ASSA) ..... 6
Pupil Transportation ..... 6
Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities ..... 6
Facilities and Capital Assets ..... 6
Miscellaneous ..... 6
Follow-up on Prior Year Findings ..... 6
Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC) Findings ..... 7
Acknowledgment ..... 7
Additional Information:
Schedule of Audited Enrollments ..... 11
Excess Surplus Calculation ..... 15
Audit Recommendations Summary ..... 18

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

Honorable President and Members
of the Board of Education
Ocean Gate School District
County of Ocean
Ocean Gate, NJ 08740
We have audited, in accordance with generally accepted audit standards and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Ocean Gate School District in the County of Ocean for the year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated February 4, 2024.

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 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.


Lakewood, New Jersey
February 4, 2024

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## ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - <br> FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

## Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, 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 School District's ACFR.

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

| Name | $\underline{\text { Position }}$ | Amount |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| John Failla | Board Secretary/School Business Administrator | $\$$ | $150,000.00$ |
| Stephen Brennan | Treasurer |  | $150,000.00$ |

## P.L.2020, c44

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 school district.
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 were less than estimated costs. The School District made a proper adjustment to the billings to sending districts for the decrease in per pupil cost in accordance with N.J.A.C.6A:23A-17.1(f)3.

## Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

## Examination of Claims

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

## Payroll Account

The net salaries of sampled 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.

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

Sampled 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 School Business Administrator/Board Secretary who then deposited with warrants in separate bank accounts for net payroll and withholdings.

## Employee Position Control Roster

A sample 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 sample 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 N.J.A.C. $6 A: 23$ A-16.29(f) as part of our test of transactions of randomly selected expenditure items. We also reviewed the coding of a sample of 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. $6 A: 23 A-8.3$. As a result of the procedures performed, a transaction error rate of $0 \%$ percent overall was noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

## Business Administrator/Board Secretary's Records

Our review of the financial and accounting records maintained by the board secretary were found to be in satisfactory condition.

## Finding 2023-003 (ACFR Finding 2023-001):

The School District transferred general fund appropriations in an amount that on a cumulative basis exceeded 10 percent of the total amount included in the original budget, without proper Executive County Superintendent approval.

## Recommendation:

The School District should request approval from the Executive County Superintendent for any transfer from a budgeted appropriation that cumulatively exceeds 10 percent of that amount and maintain documentation of the written approval.

## Treasurer's Records

Our review of the financial and accounting records maintained by the Treasurer of School Monies were found to be in satisfactory condition.

## 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, II and III 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.

## Finding 2023-001:

Based upon a Federal Monitoring Report covering the period of July 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023, it was noted that the District is not adequately documenting and allocating funds related to the Title I, IDEA, CRRSA ESSER II, CRRSA ESSER Mental Health, ARP ESSER Summer Learning federal grant programs.

## Recommendation:

It is recommended that the District review all grant agreements to ensure that expenditures are being properly charged according to the allowability of the agreement and proper documentation is being maintained according to approved procedures in the Federal Compliance Supplement.

## TPAF Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a sample test of the biweekly reimbursements forms filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of TPAF. 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(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 and no exceptions were noted.

## School Purchasing Programs

## Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

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 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.

Based on the results of our tests on sample basis, 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.

## 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.

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. Exceptions were not noted.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Assets (ACFR Schedule B-5) does separate 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 amounts to the SFA.

## Finding No. 2023-002:

The School District should create a plan to reduce the net cash resources below its three month average expenditures.

## Recommendation:

The District should not have net cash resources that exceed three months average expenditures.

## Student Body Activties

Our review of the financial and accounting records for student activities indicated they were in satisfactory condition.

## Application for State School Aid (ASSA)

Our audit procedures included a sample test of information reported in the October 14, 2022 Application for State School Aid (ASSA) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped and low-income, and bilingual. We also performed a review on a sample basis of the School District's procedures related to its completion. The information on the ASSA was compared to the School 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 School District maintained workpapers on the prescribed state forms of their equivalent.
The School District written procedures appear to be adequate for the recording of student enrollment data.

## Pupil Transportation

Our audit procedures included a sample 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 sample of transportation contracts and purchases. Based on our sample, the School 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 sampling of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

## 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) .

The school district/charter school/renaissance school project did submit the annual Statement of Assurance to the Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g).

## Facilities and Capital Assets

Our review of the financial and accounting records for capital assets indicated they were in satisfactory condition.

## Miscellaneous

The School District complied with its most recent continuing disclosure agreements in relation to prior year bond issuances.

## Follow-up on Prior Year Findings

In accordance with audit requirements prescribed by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey, our procedures included a review of all prior year findings reported in the prior year's Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings - Financial, Compliance and Performance. There were no prior year findings.

## Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC) Findings

We have also reviewed an findings contained in the audit reports issued by the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC). The School District has approved a corresponding corrective action plan in response to all findings in the report dated June 14, 2023.

## Acknowledgment

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

Respectfully Submitted,
HOLMAN FRENIA ALLISON, P.C.


Certified Public Accountant
Public School Accountant, No. 2470

Lakewood, New Jersey
February 4, 2024

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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LOIGLSIG TOOHOS GLVO NVGDO
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY


Full Day Preschool 3 Yrs
Full Day Preschool 4 Yrs
Full Day Kindergarten
One
Two
Three
Four
Five
Six
$\quad$ Subtotal
Special Ed - Elementary
Special Ed - Middle School
$\quad$ Subtotal
$\quad$ Totals


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

| Resident LEP NOT Low Income |  |  | Sample for Verification |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reported on A.S.S.A as LEP Not Low Income | Reported on Workpapers LEP Not Low Income | Errors | Sample Selected from Workpapers | Verified to Test Score and Register | Sample Errors |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - | - | - |
|  |  | 0.00\% |  |  | 0.00\% | Half Day Preschool 4 Yrs

Full Day Kindergarten
One
Two
Three
Four
Five
Six
$\quad$ Subtotal
Special Ed - Elementary
Special Ed - Middle School
$\quad$ Subtotal
$\quad$ Totals
Percentage Error

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## EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

## REGULAR DISTRICT

## SECTION 1

## A. 2\% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2022-2023 Total General Fund Expenditures per the ACFR, 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
Decrease by:
On-Behalf TPAF Pension \& Social Security
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases
Adjusted 2022-2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1s)-(B2s)]

2\% of Adjusted 2022-2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .02]
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment *
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]

## 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
Legally Restricted - Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures**
Other Restricted Fund Balances ****
Assigned Fund Balance - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures

Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)]

$\$ \xlongequal{440,015.00}(\mathrm{M})$
\$ 1,496,484.53 (C)
\$ 27,352.63 (C1)
\$ $\qquad$
\$ $447,852.00$ (C3)
$\$ 3$ 386,902.19 (C4)
$\$ \quad 50,000.00$ (C5)
\$ 584,377.71
(U1)

## REGULAR DISTRICT (continued):

## SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus *** [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE ENTER -0-]


## Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2023

Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures **<br>Reserved Excess Surplus *** [(E)]<br>Total Excess Surplus [(C3)+(E)]

| $\$$ | $447,852.00$ |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | (C3) |

$\$ \quad 592,214.71(\mathrm{D}$

## Footnotes:

*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 amended 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, 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 revenue on the General Fund Budgetary Comparison Schedule, but not transferred to the Federal Impact Aid Reserve - General (8002 or 8003) by board resolution during June 1 to June 30 of the fiscal year under audit. Amounts transferred to the reserve are captured on line (C4);
(I) Sale and Lease-back (Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10);
(J1) Extraordinary Aid;
(J2) Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid;
(J3) Recognized Current Year School Bus Advertising revenue; and
(J4) Family Crisis Transportation Aid.
(J5) Supplemental Stabilization Aid received April 2023 \& Maintenance of Equity Aid received July 2023

## Detail of Allowable Adjustments

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

\$ 155,454.00 (J5)
\$ 190,015.00 (K)
** This amount represents the June 30, 2023 Excess Surplus (C3 above) and must be included in the Audit Summary Line 90031.
*** Amounts must agree to the June 30, 2023 ACFR and 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 another type of government, such as the judicial branch of government, must have departmental approval. School District requests should be submitted to the Division of Administration and Finance prior to September 30.

## REGULAR DISTRICT (continued):

## Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance

## Statutory Restrictions:

Approved Unspent Separate Proposal
Sale/Lease-Back Reserve
Capital Reserve
Maintenance Reserve
Emergency Reserve
Tuition Reserve
School Bus Advertising 50\% Fuel Offset Reserve - Current Year
School Bus Advertising 50\% Fuel Offset Reserve - Prior Year
Impact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sections 8002 and 8003)
Impact Aid Capital Fund Reserve (Sections 8007 and 8008)
Other State/Government Mandated Reserve
Unemployment Reserve
[Other Restricted Fund Balance Not Noted Above] ****
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance

\$ $\qquad$

# OCEAN GATE SCHOOL DISTRICT AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 

## SCHOOL DISTRICT

Recommendations:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None
2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

## Finding 2023-001

It is recommended that the District review all grant agreements to ensure that expenditures are being properly charged according to the allowability of the agreement and proper documentation is being maintained according to approved procedures in the Federal Compliance Supplement.

## Finding 2023-003 (ACFR Finding 2023-001)

The School District should request approval from the Executive County Superintendent for any transfer from a budgeted appropriation that cumulatively exceeds 10 percent of that amount and maintain documentation of the written approval.
3. School Purchasing Programs

None
4. School Food Service

Finding 2023-002
The District should not have net cash resources that exceed three months average expenditures.
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. Status of Prior Year Audit Findings/Recommendations

None

