Auditor's Management Report

for the

## City of Rahway School District

in the

County of Union New Jersey

for the

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

#### AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS-FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE

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#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education City of Rahway School District County of Union Rahway, New Jersey 07065

We have audited, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the City of Rahway School District in the County of Union for the year ended June 30, 2023 and have issued our report dated February 8, 2024.

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 City of Rahway School District, County of Union, New Jersey and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Rola W. J

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT NO. 948

February 8, 2024

#### 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 Roselle Board of Education, and the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Board of Education.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

#### Insurance (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 18A: 17-32)

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

#### **Official Bonds**

		AMOUNT
NAME	POSITION	OF BONDS
Stephen Fried	School Business Administrator	\$400,000.00

There is a Public Employees' Faithful Performance Blanket Position Bond with Selective Insurance covering all other employees with coverage of \$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 fiscal year of 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 was submitted timely.

#### 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, certification or supporting documentation.

#### Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

#### 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 tested 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.

Payrolls were delivered to the secretary of the board 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 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 reserve 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 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 the 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.

**2023-001 Finding:** The District receives two monthly payments from the City for its taxes. We noted that the District did not receive its second payment for its taxes for the month of October. Subsequent to the balance sheet date, the City paid the District its share of the taxes.

**<u>2023-001 Recommendation:</u>** That the District review its accounting records and ensure that all payments from the City be collected in a timely manner.

**2023-002 Finding:** We noted that the County Special Services Tuition and the Community of the Blind state aid deductions were not recorded as a revenue and expense on the District's accounting records. The Financial Statements were adjusted to properly reflect the revenues and expenses related to the state aid deductions.

**<u>2023-002 Recommendation:</u>** That the District record all state aid deductions on its accounting records.

### 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 Title I and Title 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 Exhibits K-3 and K-4 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 semi-monthly reimbursement filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund.

#### T.P.A.F. 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 60 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-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, 2021, 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.

#### School Purchasing Programs

#### **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 examination did reveal however, that the district made purchases through the use of state contracts.

#### 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.

2023-003 Finding: Net cash resources exceeded three months average expenditures.

**<u>2023-003 Recommendation:</u>** Appropriate action be taken to ensure that net cash resources of the Food Service Fund do not exceed (3) months average expenditures.

#### **Student Body Activities**

Our review of the student activity funds disclosed the following findings:

**2023-004 Finding**: Our examination of the District's student activity funds revealed that the bank reconciliation for the Middle School Account contained several deposits in transit and outstanding checks in excess of one year old.

**2023-004 Recommendation**: Internal Controls over the maintenance and utilization of the Student Activity funds be reviewed and enhanced.

#### 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, lowincome and bilingual. We also performed a review of the district procedures related to its completion. The information on the A.S.S.A. was compared to the district workpapers without exception. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified without exceptions. 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.

#### **Capital Assets and Facilities**

Our procedures included a review of the SDA grant agreements for consistency with recording of SDA revenue, transfer of local funds from the general or 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 ON PRIOR YEAR'S FINDINGS

Prior year findings were corrected with the exception of items marked with "\*" on the last page.

FOOD SERVICE FUND NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED AND (OVER) UNDERCLAIM - FEDERAL ENTERPRISE FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 **CITY OF RAHWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT** 

(OVER) UNDER	CLAIM	0.00	0.00	00.0	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RATE	4.35	3.95	0.79	0.08	i	2.67	2.37	0.50		
	DIFFERENCE	0	0	0	0		0	0	0		
MEALS	VERIFIED	233,399	46,177	155,667 435,243	435,243		49,056	9,723	23,860	82,639	
MEALS	TESTED	233,399	46,177	155,667	435,243		49,056	9,723	23,860	82,639	
MEALS	CLAIMED	233,399	46,177	155,667	435,243		49,056	9,723	23,860	82,639	aim ( Underclaim)
MEAL	<u>CATEGORY</u>	Free	Reduced	Paid TOTAL	ННЕКА		Free	Reduced	Paid	TOTAL	Total Net Overclaim (
	PROGRAM High Rate	National School Lunch	National School Lunch	National School Lunch	National School Lunch	Severe Need Rates	School Breakfast	School Breakfast	School Breakfast		

#### CITY OF RAHWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE - FOOD SERVICE 2022-2023

Net Cash Resources:		Food Service B - 4/5
CAFR *	Current Assets	
B-4	Cash & Cash Equiv.	\$886,263.23
B-4	Due from Other Gov'ts	115,825.84
B-4	Accounts Receivable	137,064.52
CAFR	Current Liabilities	
B-4	Less Accounts Payable	31,753.21
B-4	Less Due to Other Funds	22,267.53
B-4	Less Unearned Revenue	36,329.21
	Net Cash Resources	\$1,229,503.54 (A)
Net Adj. Total Operating E	Expense:	
B-5	Tot. Operating Exp.	\$2,723,343.06
B-5	Less Depreciation	(38,935.00)
	Adj. Tot. Oper. Exp.	<u>\$2,684,408.06</u> (B)
Average Monthly Operation	ng Expense:	
	B / 10	<u>\$268,440.81</u> (C)
Three times monthly Ave	rage:	
	3 X C	<u>\$805,322.42</u> (D)
TOTAL IN BOX A	\$1,229,503.54	
LESS TOTAL IN BOX D	(\$805,322.42)	
NET	\$424,181.12	
	exceeds 3 X average monthly o does not exceed 3 X average m	

RAHWAY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS	APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY	ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2022
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		2022-23 A	pplication 1	2022-23 Application for State School Aid	ool Aid		0	Sample for Verification	/erification		Priva	ate School 1	Private School for Handicapped	ped
-	Reported	orted	Reported on	ted on		Sample	le	Verified per	per	Errors per	Reported	Sample		
	on A.S.S.A.	3.S.A.	Workpapers	apers		Selected from	from	Registers	ters	Registers	on A.S.S.A.	for		
	as on Roll	n Roll	on Roll	Roll	Errors	Workpapers	Ders	on Roll	oli	on Roll	as Private	Verifi-	Sample	Sampie
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full Shared	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors
Half Day Pre-School							-							
Fuli Day Pre-School	201		201			14		14						
Full Day Kindergarten	255		255			1.4		1						
One	239		239			12		12						
Two	243		243			21		21						
Three	211		211			23		23						
Four	230		230			21		21						
Five	211		211			24		24						
Six	248		248			16		16						
Seven	236		236			18		18						
Eight	242		242			19		19						
Nine	265		265			12		42						
Ten	269	ę	269	ŝ		14		14	***					
Eleven	232	2	232	7		16	S	16	ę					
Twelve	200	12	200	12		18	7	18	7					
Subtotal	3,282	22	3,282	22		239	11	239	11					
SpEd Elementary (PK-6)	286		286			23		23			19	16	16	
SpEd Middle School (7-8)	155		155			10		<del>1</del>			6) ()	ę	9	
SpEd High School	201	18	201	18		18	2	18	2		23	17	17	
Subtotal	642	18	642	18		51	2	51	7		51	39	39	
-					A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A			*						
Totais	3,924	40	3,924	40		290	13	290	13		51.0	39	39	
Percentage				ł	0.00% 0.00%				anne.	0.00% 0.00%	ł			%00.0

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2007		284	284		256	256		133	133	
	0.00%		-	0'00%		-	0.00%			0.00%
	Transportation	rtation								
Reported on										
District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors						
185		88	65							
2/1		0 0	0 ¢							
5106		2 62	23							
571		197	197						Reported	Recalculated
	Autoracide/001125002622000				Reg Ave.(Mileas	e) ~ Reular Includi	ing Grade PK sti	idents (Part A)	4.8	4.8
	0.00%			0.00%	Reg Avg. (Milea	e) = Regular Exclud	ing Grade PK st	udents (Part B)	4	4.8
			-		Spec Avg Spe	cial Ed with Special	Needs		6.1	6.1
	1 % 8	112 12 571 571 	4,000,00	10 137 197 197	10 137 197 197				0.00%	30     30       10     10       12     12       137     197       Reg Avg (Mileage) = Regular Including Grade PK students (Part A)       0.00%     Reg Avg. (Mileage) = Regular Excluding Grade PK students (Part A)       0.00%     Spec Avg. = Special Ed with Special Needs

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

# RAHWAY BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2022

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#### CITY RAHWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

#### **REGULAR DISTRICT**

#### SECTION 1

#### 2% Calculation of Excess Surplus

<ul> <li>2022 - 2023 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR, Ex. C-1 Increased by:</li> <li>Transfer to Food Service Fund</li> <li>Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund</li> <li>Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK- Regular</li> <li>Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK- Inclusion</li> <li>Decreased by:</li> <li>On-Behalf TPAF Pension &amp; Social Security</li> <li>Assets acquired under Installment Purchase Contract</li> <li>Adjusted 2022 - 2023 General Fund Expenditures</li> <li>2% of Adjusted 2022 - 2023 General Fund Expenditures</li> </ul>	\$ <u>94,417,837.26</u> \$ <u>549,198.00</u> \$ <u>17,278,955.05</u>	\$ <u>77,688,080.21</u> \$ <u>1,553,761.60</u>
Greater of line above or \$250,000.00		\$1,553,761.60_
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment		\$351,002.00
Maximum Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance		\$1,904,763.60
SECTION 2		
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6-30-23 Decreased by: Year-end Encumbrances	\$ <u>24,468,076.13</u> \$ <u>755,239.80</u>	
Legally Restricted-Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	
Semi Supplemental FFCRA- Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Legally Restricted-Excess Surplus-Designated for	\$37,366.53	
Subsequent Year's Expenditures Other Resticted Fund Balances:	\$1,800,000.00	
Maintenance Reserve Capital Reserve	\$ <u>875,668.00</u> \$16,959,152.86	
Uemployment Compensation Funds	\$ 335,885.34	
Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved-Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	
Total Unassigned Fund Balance		\$3,704,763.60_

#### CITY RAHWAY SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus	\$ 1,800,000.00
Recapitulation of excess surplus as of June 30, 2023	
Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 1,800,000.00
Reserved Excess Surplus	\$ 1,800,000.00
Total Excess Surplus	\$ 3,600,000.00
Detail of Allowable Adjustments	
Extraordinary Aid Additional Non-Public School Transportation Aid	\$ 297,338.00 53,664.00
	\$ 351,002.00

#### **Recommendations**

#### 1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

#### 2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

2023-001 Recommendation: The District review its records to make sure that all tax levy payments are received in a timely manner.

**2023-002 Recommendation:** The District record all state aid deductions on its accounting records.

#### 3. School Purchasing Program

None

#### 4. School Food Service

\*2023-003 Recommendation: Appropriate action be taken to ensure that net cash resources of the Food Service Fund do not exceed (3) months average expenditures.

#### 5. Student Body Activities

**\*2023-004 Recommendation**: Internal Controls over the maintenance and utilization of the Student Activity funds be reviewed and enhanced.

#### 6. Application for State School Aid

None

#### 7. Pupil Transportation

None

#### 8. Capital Assets and Facilities

None

#### 9. Miscellaneous

None

#### 10. Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

Prior year findings were corrected with the exception of items marked with "\*" on this page.