

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SUSSEX
AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,
COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SUSSEX
AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE
FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,
COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
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The Honorable President and Members
of the Board of Education
Sandyston-Walpack Consolidated School District
County of Sussex, New Jersey

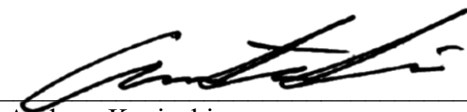
We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Board of Education of the Sandyston-Walpack Consolidated School District in the County of Sussex for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 and have issued our report thereon dated December 4, 2023.

As part of our audit, we performed procedures required by the New Jersey Department of Education, and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents. This letter does not affect our report dated December 4, 2023, on the financial statements of the Board.

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

This report is intended for the information of the Sandyston-Walpack Consolidated School District management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

NISIVOCIA LLP



Andrew Kucinski
Licensed Public School Accountant #2684
Certified Public Accountant

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE
AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Scope of Audit

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

Administrative Practices and Procedures

Insurance

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

Officials in Office and Surety Bonds

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
Tina Palecek	Board Secretary/Business Administrator	\$ 150,000
Amy Lobban	Treasurer of School Moneys	150,000

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 or charter school.

The school district or charter school data certification was completed by the chief school administrator. The school district or charter school Chapter 44 data was not submitted timely.

If the data certification date reflects a submission date later than 60 days after the end of the enrollment period: The original data submission did not require significant revision due to errors or omissions on the part of the District.

Tuition Charges

The provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1(f)3 are not applicable.

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE
AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Continued)

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

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

Payroll Account and Position Control Roster

The net salaries of employees of the Board were deposited in the Payroll Account. Employees' payroll deductions and employer's share of fringe benefits were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

Payrolls tested were approved by the Chief School Administrator and certified by the President of the Board, the School Business Administrator and the Chief School Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies including health benefits withholdings due to the General Fund. Payrolls were delivered to the Treasurer of School Monies with a warrant to her order for the full amount of the payroll.

The required certification (E-Cert-1) of compliance requirements for income tax on compensation of administrators (superintendent and business administrator) to the NJ Department of Treasury was filed by the required due date.

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made on a test basis as of June 30, 2023 for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

Classification of Expenditures – General and Administrative

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A23-2.2(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 included administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-8.3. As a result of the procedures performed, no errors were noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classifications.

Board Secretary's Records

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

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE
AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022
(Continued)

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

Treasurer's Records

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

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

The E.S.E.A. financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the District's ACFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to projects under Title I (ARP) 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 CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to the aforementioned special projects.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a test of the biweekly reimbursements filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. No exceptions were noted.

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

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

School Purchasing Programs

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 states:

- a. "When the cost or price of any contract awarded by the purchasing agent in the aggregate, does not exceed in a contract year the total sum of \$17,500, the contract may be awarded by a purchasing agent when so authorized by resolution of the Board of Education without public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except that the Board of Education may adopt a resolution to set a lower threshold for the receipt of public bids or the solicitation of competitive quotations. If the purchasing agent is qualified pursuant to subsection b. of section 9 of P.L.1971, c. 198 the Board of Education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$25,000. Such authorization may be granted for each contract or by a general delegation of the power to negotiate and award such contracts pursuant to this section.

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE
AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Continued)

School Purchasing Programs (Cont'd)

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

b. Commencing in the fifth year after the year in which P.L.1999, c. 440 takes effect and every five years thereafter, the Governor, in consultation with the Department of Treasury, shall adjust the threshold amount and the higher threshold amount which the Board of Education is permitted to establish as set forth in subsection a. of this section or the threshold amount resulting from any adjustment under this subsection, in direct proportion to the rise or fall of the index rate as that term is defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2, and shall round the adjustment to the nearest \$1,000. The Governor shall notify all local school districts of the adjustment no later than June 1 of every fifth year. The adjustment shall become effective on July 1 of the year in which it is made"

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4 states, "Every contract for the provision or performance of any goods or services the cost of which in the aggregate exceeds the bid threshold, shall be awarded only by resolution of the Board of Education to the lowest responsible bidder after public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except as is provided otherwise in this chapter or specifically by any other law"

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(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 2022-23.

The Board of Education has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the contract year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the Attorney's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

Inasmuch as the system of records did not provide for an accumulation of payments for categories for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies, the results of such an accumulation could not reasonably be ascertained. Disbursements were reviewed, however, to determine whether any clear-cut violations existed. General compliance was noted.

The results of our examination indicated that no individual payments, contracts, or agreements were made "for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies", in excess of the statutory thresholds where there had been no advertising for bids in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.

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

School Food Service

The 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 the 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.

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE
AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Continued)

School Food Service (Cont'd)

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. No exceptions were noted.

Non-program foods were not purchased, prepared or offered for sale.

We inquired of management about the public health emergency procedures/practices that the SFA instituted to provide meals to eligible 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 if the FSMC received a PPP loan.

Finding 2023-001:

The District has net excess cash resources in the Food Service Fund at June 30, 2023 of \$43,661. As the District has plans in place to resolve the excess, no formal recommendation is judged to be warranted.

Student Body Activities

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the Student Activities records for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. No exceptions were noted.

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of enrollments and related services reported in the October 15, 2022 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, bilingual education, private schools for the disabled 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 on test basis without exception. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

The District did maintain workpapers on the prescribed State forms or their equivalent.

The District has adequate written procedures for the recording of student enrollment data.

Pupil Transportation

Our audit procedures included a test of on-roll status reported in the 2022-2023 District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS). The information that was included on the DRTRS was verified to the DRTRS Eligibility Summary Report 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. No exceptions were noted in our review of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE
AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Continued)

Facilities and Capital Assets

The Sandyston-Walpack Consolidated School District did not have any active SDA Grants as of June 30, 2023.

Travel Expenses

Travel regulations require each District to adopt a formal policy and procedure pertaining to travel and travel expense reimbursement for its employees and board members. The regulations include requirements for the District to establish a maximum travel amount for the year and to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded. The regulations also require that all travel must be pre-approved by the Board of Education and Superintendent and that a brief report detailing the key issues addressed at the travel event be submitted after the travel event has occurred. A review of the District's travel expenses was made on a test basis for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 and overall compliance was noted.

Testing for Lead of all Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

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

Management Suggestions:

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

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

COVID-19 Federal Funding

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

Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

There were no prior year recommendations.

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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					
	Reported on A.S.A. as On Roll		Reported on Workpapers as On Roll		Errors		Sample Selected from Workpapers		Verified per Registers On Roll		Errors per Registers On Roll	
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared
Full Day Kindergarten	11		11				11		11			
Grade One	25		25				25		25			
Grade Two	13		13				13		13			
Grade Three	16		16				16		16			
Grade Four	12		12				12		12			
Grade Five	14		14				14		14			
Grade Six	11		11				11		11			
Subtotal	102		102				102		102			
Special Ed - Elementary	18		18				4		4			
Special Ed - Middle School	2		2				1		1			
Subtotal	20		20				5		5			
Totals	122	-0-	122	-0-	-0-	-0-	107	-0-	107	-0-	-0-	-0-
Percentage Error			0.00%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%		0.00%	

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2022

	Private Schools for Disabled			Resident Low Income					
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as Private Schools	Sample for Verification	Sample Verified	Sample Errors	Reported on A.S.S.A. as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors
Grade One					6	6	2	2	
Grade Two					3	3	1	1	
Grade Three					1	1			
Grade Four					1	1	1	1	
Grade Six					2	2			
Subtotal					13	13	4	4	
Special Ed - Elementary					3	3	1	1	
Special Ed - Middle School					1	1			
Subtotal					4	4	1	1	
Totals	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	17	17	5	5	-0-
Percentage Error					0.00%		0.00%		0.00%

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2022

	Transportation					
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Regular - Public Schools	70	70		8	8	
Regular - Special Education	1	1		1	1	
AIL - Non Public	11	11		2	2	
Special Ed. Public	16	16		4	4	
Totals	<u>98</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>-0-</u>
Percentage Error			<u>0.00%</u>			<u>0.00%</u>

	Reported	Recalculated
Average Mileage - Regular Including Grade PK Students	6.3	6.3
Average Mileage - Regular Excluding Grade PK Students	6.3	6.3
Average Mileage - Special Education with Special Needs	4.0	4.0

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

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	\$	<u>3,626,941</u>	(B)
Increased by:			
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund	\$	<u>-0-</u>	(B1a)
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund	\$	<u>-0-</u>	(B1b)
Decreased by:			
On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security	\$	<u>566,790</u>	(B2a)
Assets Acquired Under Lease and Finance Purchases	\$	<u>-0-</u>	(B2b)
Adjusted 2022-2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	\$	<u><u>3,060,151</u></u>	(B3)
2% of Adjusted 2022-2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .02]	\$	<u>122,406</u>	(B4)
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	\$	<u>250,000</u>	(B5)
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	\$	<u>8,116</u>	(K)
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]			<u><u>\$ 258,116</u></u> (M)

SECTION 2

Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2023 (Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1)	\$	<u>1,981,364</u>	(C)
Decreased by:			
Year-End Encumbrances	\$	<u>-0-</u>	(C1)
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	<u>-0-</u>	(C2)
Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	<u>247,794</u>	(C3)
Restricted Fund Balances	\$	<u>860,547</u>	(C4)
Assigned - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	<u>51,398</u>	(C5)
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)]			<u><u>\$ 821,625</u></u> (U1)

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
(Continued)

SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus [(U2)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE, ENTER -0-	<u>\$ 563,509 (E)</u>
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Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2023

Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	<u>\$ 247,794 (C3)</u>
Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)]	<u>\$ 563,509 (E)</u>

Total [(C3)+(E)]	<u>\$ 811,303 (D)</u>
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Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid	<u>\$ -0- (H)</u>
Sale and Lease Back	<u>\$ -0- (I)</u>
Extraordinary Aid	<u>\$ 4,684 (J1)</u>
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	<u>\$ 3,432 (J2)</u>
 Total Adjustments ((H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2))	 <u>\$ 8,116 (K)</u>

Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance

Statutory restrictions:	
Approved unspent separate proposal	<u>\$ -0-</u>
Sale/lease-back reserve	<u>\$ -0-</u>
Capital reserve	<u>\$ 277,680</u>
Maintenance reserve	<u>\$ 70,205</u>
Tuition reserve	<u>\$ -0-</u>
Impact aid reserve	<u>\$ 512,662</u>
Unemployment Compensation	<u>\$ -0-</u>
Other state/governmental mandated reserve	<u>\$ -0-</u>
 Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	 <u>\$ 860,547 (C4)</u>

SANDYSTON-WALPACK CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

It is recommended that:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures
None
2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting
None
3. School Purchasing Program
None
4. School Food Service
None
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's Findings/Recommendations
There were no prior year recommendations.