

**GLOUCESTER COUNTY
SPECIAL SERVICES
SCHOOL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER**

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

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2024**



GLOUCESTER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICTAuditor's Management Report on Administrative
Findings - Financial, Compliance and Performance

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings - Financial, Compliance and Performance	1
Scope of Audit	2
Administrative Practices and Procedures	
Insurance	2
Official Bonds	2
P.L. 2020, c.44	2
Tuition Charges	2
Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting	
Examination of Claims	2
Payroll Account	3
Employee Position Control Roster	3
Encumbrances and Accounts Payable	3
Travel	3
Classification of Expenditures	3
• General Classifications	3
• Administrative Classifications	3
Board Secretary's Records	3
Treasurer's Records	N/A
Pupil Transportation	N/A
Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act (E.S.S.A.)	N/A
Other Special Federal and / or State Projects	4
TPAF Reimbursement	4
TPAF Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures	4
School Purchasing Programs	4
Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids	4
School Food Service	5
Student Body Activities	5
Application for State School Aid (ASSA)	5
Facilities and Capital Assets	5
Miscellaneous	5
Follow-up on Prior Year Findings	5
Acknowledgment	6
Schedule of Meal Count Activity	N/A
Schedule of Net Cash Resources	N/A
Schedule of Audited Enrollments	7
Excess Surplus Calculation	N/A
Audit Recommendations Summary	11

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

The Honorable President and
Members of the Board of Education
Gloucester County Special Services School District
County of Gloucester, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Board of Education of the Gloucester County Special Services School District, a component unit of the County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, which were separately issued in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report dated January 13, 2025.

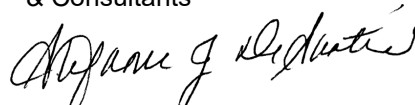
As part of our audit, we also performed procedures required by the New Jersey Department of Education, and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents.

This report is issued in conjunction with the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the Board of Education of the Gloucester County Special Services School District, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and 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.

Respectfully submitted,



BOWMAN & COMPANY LLP
Certified Public Accountants
& Consultants



Stefanie J. DeSantis
Certified Public Accountant
Public School Accountant No. CS 002523

Woodbury, New Jersey
January 13, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - 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 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Christopher Retzbach	School Business Administrator	\$330,000.00

There is a blanket dishonesty bond covering all other employees with a coverage limit of \$250,000.00.

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 under 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. The School District Chapter 44 data was submitted timely.

If the data certification date reflects 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

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 costs in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-17.1(f)3.

FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING, AND REPORTING

Examination of Claims

Sampled claims paid during the fiscal year under audit did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to signatures, certification, or supporting documentation.

FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING, AND REPORTING (CONT'D)**Payroll Account**

The net salaries of sampled employees of the School District were deposited in the net payroll account. Employees' payroll deductions and the employer's share of fringe benefits were deposited in the payroll agency account.

Sampled salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefit premium withholdings due to the general fund.

Sampled payrolls were delivered to the Board Secretary who then deposited with warrants in separate bank accounts for net payroll and withholdings.

Employee Position Control Roster

A sample of the Employee Position Control Roster indicated that it was in satisfactory condition and was approved by the county office submission with the 2023-2024 budget review checklist.

Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A sample of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30 for proper classification of orders as encumbrances and accounts payable. Our sample did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to classification of orders.

Travel

Our procedures performed on travel expenditures during the fiscal year under audit did not indicate any reportable noncompliance.

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 randomly sampled expenditure transactions. We also tested the coding of all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit sampling procedures. In addition, a sample was selected that specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.3. Our samples did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to classification of expenditures.

Board Secretary's Records

Our audit of the financial and accounting records maintained by the Board Secretary indicated that they were in satisfactory condition.

Other Special Federal and / or State Projects

The School District's other 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 sample 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 other special projects.

The audit of compliance for other special projects did not indicate any reportable noncompliance. However, the following condition was noted:

FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING, AND REPORTING (CONT'D)**Other Special Federal and / or State Projects (Cont'd)*****Finding No. 2024-001 (ACFR Finding No. 2024-001)***

The reimbursement requests, final reports, specific charges and approved budget amendments / appropriations were not always supported by or in agreement with School District workpapers.

Recommendation

The School District should strengthen internal controls to insure that expenditures are allowed in accordance with program requirements and the accounting records maintained are in agreement with the reimbursement requests and final reports.

TPAF Reimbursement

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

TPAF Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

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 and N.J.S.A. 18A:66-90. There were no salaries charged to grants that required TPAF/FICA reimbursement to the State for federal salary expenditures.

SCHOOL PURCHASING PROGRAMS**Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids**

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq. (Public School Contracts Law), the associated rules and related information on the statute, and the school contracts in general, are available on the following website:

https://nj.gov/dca/dlgs/programs/NJ_LAPL.shtml

Current statute is posted on the New Jersey Legislature website at:

<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>.

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(a) are \$44,000.00 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$32,000.00 (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 \$20,200.00 for 2023-24.

The School District's 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 audit, 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

The school food service program was not selected as a major Federal and / or State program. However, the program expenditures exceeded \$100,000.00 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 and indirect costs. No exceptions were noted.

The statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position (ACFR exhibit B-5) does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program cost of goods sold.

Net cash resources did not exceed three months average expenditures.

STUDENT BODY ACTIVITIES

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

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID

Our audit procedures included a sample of information reported in the October 13, 2023 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, private schools for the disabled, low-income, and bilingual. We also performed an inspection of the School District procedures related to its completion. The information on the A.S.S.A. was compared to the School District workpapers. The results of our procedures are presented in the schedule of audited enrollments.

The School District maintained workpapers on the prescribed State forms or their equivalent.

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

FACILITIES AND CAPITAL ASSETS

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Education Facilities

The School District complied with all the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A: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

There were no audit findings for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

There were no Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance audit reports issued during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

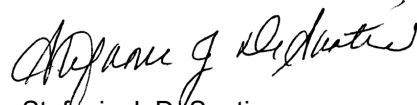
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We received the complete cooperation of all of the officials of the School District, and we greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to the members of the audit team.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bowman & Company LLP".

BOWMAN & COMPANY LLP
Certified Public Accountants
& Consultants

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stefanie J. DeSantis".

Stefanie J. DeSantis
Public School Accountant No. 002523

GLOUCESTER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Application for State School Aid Summary
Schedule of Audited Enrollments
Enrollment as of October 13, 2023

	2024-2025 Application for State School Aid						Sample for Verification						Private Schools for Disabled			
	Reported on A.S.S.A. On Roll		Reported on Workpapers On Roll		Errors		Sample Selected from Workpapers		Verified per Registers On Roll		Errors per Registers On Roll		Reported on A.S.S.A. as Private Schools	Sample for Verifi- cation	Sample Verified	Sample Errors
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared				
Half Day Preschool																
Full Day Preschool																
Half Day Kindergarten																
Full Day Kindergarten																
One																
Two																
Three																
Four																
Five																
Six																
Seven																
Eight																
Nine																
Ten																
Eleven																
Twelve																
Post-Graduate																
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)																
Adult H.S. (1-14CR.)																
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Education-Elementary	177		178		(1)		178		178							
Special Education-Middle School	103		104		(1)		104		104							
Special Education-High School	255		269		(14)		269		269							
Subtotal	535	-	551	-	(16)	-	551	-	551	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Co. Voc. - Regular																
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.																
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	535	-	551	-	(16)	-	551	-	551	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage Error					-2.90%	-					-	-				-

GLOUCESTER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Application for State School Aid Summary

Schedule of Audited Enrollments

Enrollment as of October 13, 2023

	Resident Low Income			Sample for Verification			Resident LEP Low Income			Sample for Verification		
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors	Reported on A.S.S.A. as LEP Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as LEP Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application, Test Score and Register	Sample Errors
Half Day Preschool												
Full Day Preschool												
Half Day Kindergarten												
Full Day Kindergarten												
One												
Two												
Three												
Four												
Five												
Six												
Seven												
Eight												
Nine												
Ten												
Eleven												
Twelve												
Post-Graduate												
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)												
Adult H.S. (1-14CR.)												
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Education-Elementary												
Special Education-Middle School												
Special Education-High School												
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Co. Voc. - Regular												
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.												
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage Error			-	(c)		-			-	(d)		-
Transportation												
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE/County	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors					Reported	Re- Calculated
Reg. - Public Schools, Col. 1							Reg. Avg. (Mileage) = Regular Including Grade PK students (Part A)				N/A	N/A
Reg. - SpEd, Col. 4							Reg. Avg. (Mileage) = Regular Excluding Grade PK students (Part B)				N/A	N/A
Transported - Non-Public, Col. 3							Spec. Avg. (Mileage) = Special Ed. with Special Needs				N/A	N/A
Special Needs, Col. 6												
Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-						
Percentage Error			-			-						

GLOUCESTER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Application for State School Aid Summary

Schedule of Audited Enrollments

Enrollment as of October 13, 2023

	Resident LEP NOT Low Income			Sample for Verification		
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as NOT Low <u>Income</u>	Reported on Workpapers as NOT Low <u>Income</u>	<u>Errors</u>	Sample Selected from <u>Workpapers</u>	Verified to Test Score and Register	Sample <u>Errors</u>
Half Day Preschool						
Full Day Preschool						
Half Day Kindergarten						
Full Day Kindergarten						
One						
Two						
Three						
Four						
Five			NOT APPLICABLE			
Six						
Seven						
Eight						
Nine						
Ten						
Eleven						
Twelve						
Post-Graduate						
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)						
Adult H.S. (1-14CR.)						
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Education-Elementary			-			-
Special Education-Middle School			-			-
Special Education-High School			-			-
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Co. Voc. - Regular			-			-
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.			-			-
Subtotal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage Error			-			-

GLOUCESTER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Application for State School Aid Summary

Schedule of Audited Enrollments

Enrollment as of October 13, 2023

Military Connected Students			
Reported on A.S.S.A. as Military Connected <u>Students</u>	Sample for <u>Verification</u>	Sample <u>Verified</u>	Sample <u>Errors</u>
NOT APPLICABLE			
-	-	-	-

GLOUCESTER COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Audit Recommendations Summary
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Recommendations:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

The School District should strengthen internal controls to insure that expenditures are allowed in accordance with program requirements and the accounting records maintained are in agreement with the reimbursement requests and final reports.

3. School Purchasing Programs

None

4. School Food Service

None

5. Student Body Activities

None

6. Application for State School Aid

None

7. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

8. Miscellaneous

None

9. Follow-Up on Prior Year Findings

There were no prior year findings.