

*Auditor's Management Report*

*for the*

*Township of Warren  
School District*

*in the*

*County of Somerset  
New Jersey*

*for the*

*Fiscal Year Ended  
June 30, 2024*



**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  
Township of Warren School District  
County of Somerset  
Warren, New Jersey 07059

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 Township of Warren School District in the County of Somerset for the year ended June 30, 2024, and have issued our report dated January 9, 2025.

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 Township of Warren School District, County of Somerset, New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education and federal and state audit awarding agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT NO. 948

January 9, 2025

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative  
Findings - Financial and Compliance**

**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 Township of Warren School District, 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 A.C.F.R. (See Exhibit "J-20").

**Official Bonds**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF BONDS</u>
Christopher Heagele	Board Secretary/Business Administrator	\$105,000.00
Patricia Wilson	Treasurer of School Monies	\$330,000.00

Adequacy of insurance coverage is the responsibility of the Board of Education.

**Health Benefits-Chapter 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. The school district data certification was completed by the chief school administrator. The school district Chapter 44 data was submitted timely.

**FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING**

**Examination of Claims**

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

**Payroll Account**

The net salaries of all 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.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative  
Findings - Financial and Compliance**

**Payroll Account (Continued)**

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

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies.

Payrolls were delivered to the treasurer of school monies 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, Liability (Current) for Accounts Payable**

A review of outstanding purchase orders was made as of June 30 for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

**Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund**

The Board has adopted the direct reimbursement method and has established an Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund.

**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 specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.3. As a result of the procedures performed, no errors were noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

**Board Secretary's Records**

The records maintained by the Board Secretary were in satisfactory condition and appropriate balances matched to those prepared by the Treasurer of School Monies.

**Treasurer's Records**

The records maintained by the Treasurer of School Monies were in satisfactory condition and independently maintained from the Board Secretary/Board Administrator.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative  
Findings - Financial and Compliance**

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

The E.S.E.A. financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue section of the A.C.F.R.. This section of the A.C.F.R. documents the financial position pertaining to projects under Title I, II, and IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

**Other Special Federal and State Projects**

The District's Special Projects were approved as listed on Schedule A and Schedule B located in the A.C.F.R.. 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 A.C.F.R.. This section of the A.C.F.R. documents the financial position pertaining to the aforementioned special projects.

**T.P.A.F. Reimbursement**

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

Our audit procedures also included a test of the reimbursement of the employer share of pensions, group life insurance, FICA and other benefits of the Teacher's Pension and Annuity Fund for TPAF members carrying out and paid from federally funded programs in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:66-90. The District filled out the required form and submitted it for audit. Our test included verification of eligible employees to be included. No reimbursement was due for the fiscal year 2024. No exceptions were noted.



**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative  
Findings - Financial and Compliance**

**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 \$44,000.00, the contract may be awarded by a purchasing agent when so authorized by resolution of the board of education without public advertising for bids and bidding therefor, except that the board of education may adopt a resolution to set a lower threshold for the receipt of public bids or the solicitation of competitive quotations. If the purchasing agent is qualified pursuant to subsection b. (pending before the Legislature as section 15 of this bill) of section 9 of P.L. 1971 c. 198 (C.40A:11-9) the board of education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$44,000.00. Such authorization may be granted for each contract or by a general delegation of the power to negotiate and award such contracts pursuant to this section.

b. Commencing in the fifth year after the year in which P.L. 1999 c. 440 takes effect, and every five years thereafter, the Governor, in consultation with the Department of Treasury, shall adjust the threshold amount and the higher threshold amount which the board of education is permitted to establish as set forth in subsection a. of this section or the threshold amount resulting from any adjustment under this subsection, in direct proportion to the rise or fall of the index rate as that term is defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and shall round the adjustment to the nearest \$1,000.00. The Governor shall notify all local school districts of the adjustment no later than June 1 of every fifth year. The adjustment shall become effective on July 1 of every year in which it is made. Any contract made pursuant to this section may be awarded for a period of 24 consecutive months, except that contracts for professional services pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection a. of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 may be awarded for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months."

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

The board of education may, by resolution approve by the majority of the board of education and subject to subsections b. and c. of this section, disqualify a bidder who would otherwise be determined to be the lowest responsible bidder, if the board of education finds that it has had negative prior experience with the bidder."

Effective July 1, 2020 and thereafter, the bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3(a) became \$44,000.00. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18:39-3 is currently \$20,400.00.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative  
Findings - Financial and Compliance**

**SCHOOL PURCHASING PROGRAMS**

**Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Continued)**

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.

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.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative  
Findings - Financial and Compliance**

**SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE FUND**

Therefore, 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 free and reduced price meal eligible students during the emergency.

The financial transactions and statistical records of the School Food Services were maintained in satisfactory condition. The financial accounts, meal count records and eligibility applications were reviewed on a test-check basis. No exceptions were noted.

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 and indirect costs. No exceptions noted.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Assets (ACFR Schedule B-5) does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program cost of goods sold.

**STUDENT BODY ACTIVITIES**

The District maintains a General Activity Account in satisfactory condition.

**APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID**

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 15, 2023 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped, low-income and bilingual. We also performed a review of the district procedures related to its completion. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified without exception.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative  
Findings - Financial and Compliance**

**PUPIL TRANSPORTATION**

Our audit procedures included a test of on-roll status reported in the 2023-24 District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS). The information that was included on the DRTRS was verified to the DRTRS Eligibility Summary Report without exception. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

Our procedures also included a review of transportation related contracts and purchases. Based on our review, the district complied with proper bidding procedures and award of contracts. The bid specifications for the purchase of buses were in compliance with applicable statutes. No exceptions were noted in our review of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

**FACILITIES AND CAPITAL ASSETS**

Our procedures included review of transfers of local funds from the general fund or from the capital reserve account, awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction, and the District's capital assets ledger. No exceptions noted.

**TESTING FOR LEAD OF ALL DRINKING WATER IN EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES**

Our procedures included examination and interviews regarding the district's compliance with N.J.A.C. 26-1.2 and 12.4 relating to the testing for lead in drinking water. 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). No exceptions were noted.

**FOLLOW-UP ON PRIOR YEAR'S FINDINGS**

In accordance with governmental auditing standards, our procedures included a review of all prior year recommendations. All prior findings have been resolved.

TOWNSHIP OF WARREN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS  
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY  
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2023

	2022-23 Application for State School Aid						Sample for Verification						Private School for Handicapped					
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as 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		
	Full	Shared		Full	Shared		Full	Shared		Full	Shared		Full	Shared		Full	Shared	
Full Day PreK 3 yrs	19			0			3			3			0					
Full Day PreK 4 yrs	32			0			5			5			0					
Full Day Kindergarten	130			0			24			24			0					
One	150			0			27			27			0					
Two	163			0			25			25			0					
Three	157			0			24			24			0					
Four	143			0			26			26			0					
Five	161			0			23			23			0					
Six	138			0			26			26			0					
Seven	159			0			26			26			0					
Eight	151			0			25			25			0					
Subtotal	1,403	0		0	0		234	0		234	0		0	0		0	0	0
SpEd Elementary	170			0			24			24			0			5	1	0
SpEd Middle School	94			0			14			14			0			3	1	0
SpEd High School				0									0					0
Subtotal	264	0		0	0		38	0		38	0		0	0		8	2	0
Totals	1,667	0		0	0		272	0		272	0		0	0		8	2	0
Percentage				0.00%									0.00%					0.00%

TOWNSHIP OF WARREN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS  
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY  
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2023

	Low Income			Sample for Verification			Resident LEP Low Income			Sample for Verification		
	Reported on A.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.A. as LEP Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as LEP Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors
Full Day Preschool 3 yrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Full Day Preschool 4 yrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Full Day Kindergarten	6	6	0	1	1	0	3	3	0	1	1	0
One	12	12	0	1	1	0	4	4	0	1	1	0
Two	13	13	0	2	2	0	3	3	0	1	1	0
Three	9	9	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
Four	10	10	0	1	1	0	3	3	0	1	1	0
Five	7	7	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Six	8	8	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
Seven	5	5	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eight	8	8	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
Subtotal	78	78	0	10	10	0	16	16	0	7	7	0
SpEd Elementary	16	16	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
SpEd Middle School	11	11	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd High School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	27	27	0	3	3	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
Totals	105	105	0	13	13	0	17	17	0	8	8	0
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%

Transportation

	Transportation			Transportation		
	Reported on DRTS by DOE	Reported on DRTS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Reg. Public Schools, col.1	501	501	0	80	80	0
Transported - Non-Public, Col.2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Public All, col.3	122	122	0	19	19	0
Reg. - SpEd, Col.4	62	62	0	9	9	0
Special Ed Spec, col.6	162	162	0	25	25	0
Totals	847	847	0	133	133	0
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

80.16  
0  
19.52  
9.92  
25.92

TOWNSHIP OF WARREN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS  
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY  
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2023

	Resident LEP NOT Low Income			Sample for Verification		
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as NOT Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as NOT Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors
Half Day Preschool 3 yrs						
Half Day Preschool 4 yrs						
Full Day Kindergarten	10	10	0	1	1	0
One	11	11	0	1	1	0
Two	5	5	0	1	1	0
Three	2	2	0	1	1	0
Four	1	1	0	1	1	0
Five	0	0	0	0	0	0
Six	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seven	1	1	0	1	1	0
Eight	3	3	0	1	1	0
Subtotal	33	33	0	7	7	0
SpEd Elementary	3	3	0	1	1	0
SpEd Middle School	1	1	0	1	1	0
SpEd High School	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	4	4	0	2	2	0
Totals	37	37	0	9	9	0
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

TOWNSHIP OF WARREN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

SECTION 1

2% Calculation of Excess Surplus (2023-24 expenditures)

2023 - 2024 Total General Fund Expenditures	<u>65,337,871.48</u>	
Increased by:		
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund	<u>527,820.00</u>	
Decreased by:		
On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	<u>11,753,023.83</u>	
Adjusted 2023 - 2024 General Fund Expenditures		<u>54,112,667.65</u>
2% of Adjusted 2023 - 2024 General Fund Expenditures		<u>1,082,253.35</u>
Greater of line above or \$250,000.00		<u>1,082,253.35</u>
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment		<u>824,291.00</u>
Maximum Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance		<u><u>1,906,544.35</u></u>

SECTION 2

Total General Fund Balances @ 6-30-24	<u>11,095,943.33</u>	
Decreased by:		
Year End Encumbrances	<u>393,547.36</u>	
Legally Restricted-Excess Surplus-Designated For Subsequent Year's Expenditures	<u>585,000.00</u>	
Other Restricted Fund Balances (Capital Reserve, Maintenance Reserve, Emergency Reserve, Unemployment)	<u>7,624,851.62</u>	
Total Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance for Excess Surplus Calculation		<u>2,492,544.35</u>

SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus		<u><u>586,000.00</u></u>
<u>Recapitulation of excess surplus as of June 30, 2024</u>		
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures		<u>585,000.00</u>
Restricted Excess Surplus		<u>586,000.00</u>
Total		<u><u>1,171,000.00</u></u>
<u>Detail of Allowable Adjustments</u>		
Additional/Unbudgeted Extraordinary Aid		768,781.00
Additional/Unbudgeted Non-Public School Transportation Aid		<u>55,510.00</u>
		<u><u>824,291.00</u></u>



**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative  
Findings - Financial and Compliance**

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  
None



