

To the Board of Education  
Ms. Lisa Rutkoske, CPA  
Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Herricks Union Free School District  
999B Herricks Road  
New Hyde Park, NY 11040

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the fiduciary funds of Herricks Union Free School District as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered Herricks Union Free School District's internal controls over financial reporting (internal controls) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Herricks Union Free School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Herricks Union Free School District's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal controls was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. Given these limitations during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

However, during our audit we became aware of other matters that we believe represent opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. The recommendations that accompany this letter summarize our comments and suggestions concerning these matters. We have also included the status of prior year findings and recommendations.

## **CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **FUND BALANCE**

During our audit, we noted the general fund unassigned fund balance exceeds the allowable limit set by Section 1318 of the Real Property Tax Law of 4.0%, by approximately \$1,000,000 or 0.83% of the 2020-2021 budget. We recommend the District continuously monitor the general fund unassigned fund balance to ensure compliance with current property tax laws and regulations.

### **EXTRACLASSROOM ACCOUNTS**

During our audit of all the District's extraclassroom activity accounts, we noted one out of twenty cash receipts tested from both the Middle School and High School did not have sufficient supporting documentation substantiating the cash receipt/deposit. We recommend the District review the extraclassroom accounts to improve the procedures for the extraclassroom accounts.

### **SCHOOL LUNCH FUND**

During our audit, we noted the school lunch fund has a fund balance deficit in the amount of \$288,472. This is an increase of \$183,807 from the prior year deficit. The school lunch fund should maintain a three-month average expenditure level allowable by Federal Regulations 7CFR Part 2101(b). We recommend the District continue to monitor the school lunch fund.

## **STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **EXTRACLASSROOM ACCOUNTS**

**FINDING:** During our prior year audit of all the District's extraclassroom activity accounts we noted the following:

- Some clubs at both the High School and the Middle School did not meet the State's definition of a bona fide club (i.e Extraclassroom Fund, Working Capital).
- Four out of ten cash receipts selected for testing at the High School and one out of ten cash receipts selected for testing from the Middle School did not contain sufficient supporting documentation.
- One out of ten cash receipts selected for testing at the Middle School did not contain evidence of student involvement.

We recommended the District review the extraclassroom accounts to improve the procedures for the extraclassroom accounts.

**STATUS:** **Partially implemented.** See current year finding.

**SCHOOL LUNCH FUND**

**Fund Balance**

**FINDING:** During our prior year audit, we noted the school lunch fund had a fund balance deficit in the amount of \$104,665. However, this was a \$171,738 decrease to the deficit from the prior year. The school lunch fund balance should maintain a three-month average expenditure level allowable by Federal Regulations 7CFR Part 2101(b). We recommended the District continue to monitor the school lunch fund.

**STATUS:** **Not implemented.** See current year finding.

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We would like to acknowledge the courtesy and assistance extended to us by personnel of the District and also compliment the business office on their excellent financial operations during our audit. Should you have any questions concerning the matters referred to in this letter, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you, at your convenience.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Education, the audit committee, management, federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

*R. S. Abrams & Co., LLP*

R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP  
Islandia, New York  
October 8, 2020