

NEW ISSUE – Book-Entry Only

**Rating: S&P: “AA-”
See “RATING” herein**

In the opinion of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey ("Bond Counsel"), under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions, and assuming continuing compliance with certain covenants described herein, interest on the Bonds (as herein defined) (i) is not includable in gross income for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and (ii) is not treated as a preference item under Section 57 of the Code for purposes of computing the Federal alternative minimum tax; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of certain corporations for the purpose of computing the Federal alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022. Bond Counsel is further of the opinion that, under existing laws of the State of New Jersey, interest on the Bonds and any gain on the sale thereof are not includable in gross income under the New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, as amended. See "TAX EXEMPTION" herein.

\$18,437,000

**SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2024
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
BOROUGH OF PALMYRA
IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY
(New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended)**

CALLABLE

Dated: Date of Delivery

Due: July 15, as shown on inside cover

The \$18,437,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2024 (the "Bonds") of The Board of Education of the Borough of Palmyra in the County of Burlington, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) are valid and legally binding general obligations of the Board, and unless paid from other sources, are payable from *ad valorem* taxes levied upon all the taxable real property within the School District for the payment of the Bonds and the interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount. Payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds is also secured under the provisions of the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended.

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds in book-entry only form (without certificates) in the form of one certificate for the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds maturing in each year and when issued will be registered in the name of and held by Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, Brooklyn, New York ("DTC"). Individual purchases may be made in the principal amount of \$1,000 each or any integral multiple thereof with a minimum purchase of \$5,000 required, through book-entries made on the books and records of DTC and its participants. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

The Bonds shall bear interest from their date of delivery, which interest shall be payable semi-annually on the fifteenth day of January and July in each year, commencing July 15, 2025, until maturity or prior redemption. Interest on the Bonds will be credited to the participants of DTC as listed on the records of DTC as of each immediately preceding January 1 and July 1 (the "Record Dates" for the payment of interest on the Bonds).

The Bonds are subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities as set forth herein. See "DESCRIPTION OF THE BONDS – Redemption" herein.

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued and delivered to the Underwriter, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the offer without notice and to approval of legality by the law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey, Bond Counsel to the Board, and certain other conditions described herein. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Board by Capehart & Scatchard, P.A., Mount Laurel, New Jersey, General Counsel to the Board. Phoenix Advisors, LLC, Bordentown, New Jersey, served as Municipal Advisor in connection with the Bonds. Delivery of the Bonds in definitive form to DTC in Jersey City, New Jersey, is anticipated to occur on or about July 15, 2024.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS FOR THE BONDS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FULL NOTICE OF SALE, MUST BE MADE VIA PARITY PRIOR TO 11:00 A.M. EASTERN DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ON JUNE 25, 2024. FOR MORE DETAILS ON HOW TO BID ELECTRONICALLY, VIEW THE FULL NOTICE OF SALE POSTED AT WWW.MUNIHUB.COM.

\$18,437,000
SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2024
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
BOROUGH OF PALMYRA
IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY
(New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended)

CALLABLE

**MATURITIES, PRINCIPAL AMOUNTS, INTEREST RATES,
YIELDS AND CUSIP NUMBERS**

<u>Maturity (July 15)</u>	<u>Principal Amounts</u>	<u>Interest Rates</u>	<u>Yields</u>	<u>CUSIP Numbers*</u>
2026	\$ 612,000			697294__
2027	645,000			697294__
2028	685,000			697294__
2029	725,000			697294__
2030	900,000			697294__
2031	900,000			697294__
2032	900,000			697294__
2033	925,000			697294__
2034	935,000			697294__
2035	960,000			697294__
2036	995,000			697294__
2037	1,030,000			697294__
2038	1,160,000			697294__
2039	1,105,000			697294__
2040	1,145,000			697294__
2041	1,175,000			697294__
2042	1,200,000			697294__
2043	1,220,000			697294__
2044	1,220,000			697294__

* A registered trademark of the American Bankers Association. CUSIP data herein is provided by CUSIP Global Services, which is managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by FactSet Research Systems Inc. The CUSIP numbers listed above are being provided solely for the convenience of Bondholders only at the time of issuance of the Bonds and the Board does not make any representation with respect to such numbers or undertake any responsibility for their accuracy now or at any time in the future. The CUSIP number for a specific maturity is subject to being changed after the issuance of the Bonds as a result of procurement of secondary market portfolio insurance or other similar enhancement by investors that is applicable to all or a portion of certain maturities of the Bonds.

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
BOROUGH OF PALMYRA
IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY**

BOARD MEMBERS

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Vice President – Amy Austin

Kate Allen-Yoakum
Judy Belton
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Erika Celley
James Dickinson
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BOARD ATTORNEY

Capehart & Scatchard, P.A.
Mount Laurel, New Jersey

BOARD AUDITOR

Nightlinger, Colavita & Volpa, P.A.
Williamstown, New Jersey

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR

Phoenix Advisors, LLC
Bordentown, New Jersey

BOND COUNSEL

Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A.
Woodbridge, New Jersey

No broker, dealer, salesperson or other person has been authorized by the Board to give any information or to make any representations with respect to the Bonds, other than those contained in this Official Statement, and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Board. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for any person to make such an offer, solicitation or sale.

The information contained herein has been provided by the Board, DTC and other sources deemed reliable by the Board; however, such information is not guaranteed as to its accuracy or completeness and such information is not to be construed as a representation or warranty by the Board, as to information from sources other than itself. The Board has not confirmed the accuracy or completeness of information relating to DTC, which information has been provided by DTC.

This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement among the Board, the Underwriter and the owners of any of the Bonds. The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice, and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in any of the information herein since the date hereof, or the date as of which such information is given, if earlier.

References in this Official Statement to the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, laws, rules, regulations, resolutions, agreements, reports and documents do not purport to be comprehensive or definitive. All references to such documents or laws are qualified in their entirety by reference to the particular source, the full text of which may contain qualifications of and exceptions to statements made herein, and copies of which may be inspected at the offices of the Board during normal business hours.

The order and placement of materials in this Official Statement, including the Appendices, are not to be deemed to be a determination of relevance, materiality or importance, and this Official Statement, including the Appendices, must be considered in its entirety.

In order to facilitate the distribution of the Bonds, the Underwriter may engage in transactions intended to stabilize the price of the Bonds at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. Such stabilizing, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

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OFFICIAL STATEMENT

OF

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
BOROUGH OF PALMYRA
IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY**

\$18,437,000

SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2024

(NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOND RESERVE ACT, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended)

CALLABLE

INTRODUCTION

This Official Statement, which includes the cover page and the appendices attached hereto, has been prepared by The Board of Education of the Borough of Palmyra in the County of Burlington, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) in connection with the offering, sale and issuance of its \$18,437,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2024 (the "Bonds"). This Official Statement has been executed by and on behalf of the Board by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and its distribution and use in connection with the offering and sale of the Bonds have been authorized by the Board.

This Official Statement contains specific information relating to the Bonds including their general description, certain matters affecting the financing, certain legal matters, historical financial information and other information pertinent to this issue. This Official Statement should be read in its entirety.

All financial and other information presented herein has been provided by the Board from its records, except for information expressly attributed to other sources. The presentation of information is intended to show recent historic information and, but only to the extent specifically provided herein, certain projections into the immediate future, and is not necessarily indicative of future or continuing trends in the financial position of the Board.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BONDS

The following is a summary of certain provisions of the Bonds. Reference is made to the Bonds themselves for the complete text thereof, and the discussion herein is qualified in its entirety by such reference.

Terms and Interest Payment Dates

The Bonds shall be dated their date of delivery and shall mature on July 15 in each of the years and in the amounts set forth on the inside cover page hereof. The Bonds shall bear interest from their date of delivery which interest shall be payable semi-annually on the fifteenth day of January and July (each an "Interest Payment Date"), commencing on July 15, 2025, in each of the years and at the interest rates set forth on the inside cover page hereof until maturity or prior redemption by check mailed by the Board or a duly appointed paying agent to the registered owners of the Bonds as of each January 1 and July 1 immediately preceding the respective Interest Payment Date (the "Record Dates"). So long as The Depository Trust Company, Brooklyn, New York ("DTC"), or its nominee is the registered owner of the Bonds, payments of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made by the Board or a designated paying agent directly to DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., which will in turn remit such payments to DTC participants, which will in turn remit such payments to the beneficial owners of the Bonds. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

The Bonds will be issued in fully registered book-entry only form, without certificates. One certificate shall be issued for the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds maturing in each year, and when issued, will be registered in the name of and held by Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC. DTC will act as Securities Depository for the Bonds (the "Securities Depository"). The certificates will be on deposit with DTC. DTC will be responsible for maintaining a book-entry system for recording the interests of its participants and transfers of the interests among its participants. The participants will be responsible for maintaining records regarding the beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds on behalf of the individual purchasers. Individual purchases may be made in the principal amount of \$1,000 each, or any integral multiple thereof with a minimum purchase of \$5,000 required, through book-entries made on the books and records of DTC and its participants. Individual purchasers of the Bonds will not receive certificates representing their beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds, but each book-entry owner will receive a credit balance on the books of its nominee, and this credit balance will be confirmed by an initial transaction statement stating the details of the Bonds purchased. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

Redemption

The Bonds of this issue maturing prior to July 15, 2032 are not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities. The Bonds of this issue maturing on or after July 15, 2032 are redeemable at the option of the Board in whole or in part on any date on or after July 15, 2031 upon notice as required herein at one hundred percent (100%) of the principal amount being redeemed (the "Redemption Price"), plus accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

Notice of Redemption

Notice of redemption ("Notice of Redemption") shall be given by mailing such notice at least thirty (30) days but not more than sixty (60) days before the date fixed for redemption by first class mail in a sealed envelope with postage prepaid to the registered owners of such Bonds at their respective addresses as they last appear on the registration books kept for that purpose by the Board or a duly appointed Bond Registrar. So long as DTC (or any successor thereto) acts as Securities Depository for the Bonds, Notice of Redemption shall be sent to such Securities Depository and shall not be sent to the beneficial owners of the Bonds. Any failure of the Securities Depository to advise any of its participants or any failure of any participant to notify any beneficial owner of any Notice of Redemption shall not affect the validity of the redemption proceedings. If the Board determines to redeem a portion of the Bonds prior to maturity, such Bonds shall be selected by the Board; the Bonds to be redeemed having the same maturity shall be selected by the Securities Depository in accordance with its regulations.

If Notice of Redemption has been given as provided herein, the Bonds or the portion thereof called for redemption shall be due and payable on the date fixed for redemption at the Redemption Price, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption. Interest shall cease to accrue on the Bonds after the date fixed for redemption.

Security for the Bonds

The Bonds are valid and legally binding general obligations of the Board, and the Board has irrevocably pledged its full faith and credit for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds. Unless paid from other sources, the principal of and interest on the Bonds are payable from *ad valorem* taxes levied upon all the taxable real property within the School District without limitation as to rate or amount. The Bonds are additionally secured by the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended.

School Bond Reserve Act (1980 N.J. Laws c. 72)

All school bonds are secured by the School Bond Reserve (the "School Bond Reserve") established in the Fund for the Support of Free Public Schools of the State of New Jersey (the "Fund") in accordance with the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, N.J.S.A. 18A:56-17 *et seq.* (P.L. 1980, c. 72, approved July 16, 1980, as amended by P.L. 2003, c. 118, approved July 1, 2003 (the "Act")). The 2003 amendments to the Act provide that the Fund will be divided into two (2) School Bond Reserve accounts. All bonds issued

prior to July 1, 2003 shall be benefited by a School Bond Reserve account funded in an amount equal to one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the aggregate issued and outstanding bonded indebtedness of counties, municipalities or school districts for school purposes (the "Old School Bond Reserve Account") and all bonds, including the Bonds, issued on or after July 1, 2003 shall be benefited by a School Bond Reserve account funded in an amount equal to one percent (1%) of the aggregate issued and outstanding bonded indebtedness of counties, municipalities or school districts for school purposes (the "New School Bond Reserve Account"), provided such amounts do not exceed the moneys available in the Fund. If a municipality, county or school district is unable to make payment of principal of or interest on any of its bonds issued for school purposes, the trustees of the Fund will purchase such bonds at par value and will pay to the bondholders the interest due or to become due within the limits of funds available in the applicable School Bond Reserve account in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The Act provides that the School Bond Reserve shall be composed entirely of direct obligations of the United States government or obligations guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the United States government. Securities representing at least one-third of the minimal market value to be held in the School Bond Reserve shall be due to mature within one year of issuance or purchase. Beginning with the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2003 and continuing on each June 30 thereafter, the State Treasurer shall calculate the amount necessary to fully fund the Old School Bond Reserve Account and the New School Bond Reserve Account as required pursuant to the Act. To the extent moneys are insufficient to maintain each account in the School Bond Reserve at the required levels, the State agrees that the Treasurer of the State of New Jersey (the "State") shall, no later than September 15 of the fiscal year following the June 30 calculation date, pay to the trustees for deposit in the School Bond Reserve such amounts as may be necessary to maintain the Old School Bond Reserve Account and the New School Bond Reserve Account at the levels required by the Act. No moneys may be borrowed from the Fund to provide liquidity to the State unless the Old School Bond Reserve Account and the New School Bond Reserve Account each are at the levels certified as full funding on the most recent June 30 calculation date. The amount of the School Bond Reserve in each account is pledged as security for the prompt payment to holders of bonds benefited by such account of the principal of and the interest on such bonds in the event of the inability of the issuer to make such payments. In the event the amounts in either the Old School Bond Reserve Account or the New School Bond Reserve Account fall below the amount required to make payments on bonds, the amounts in both accounts are available to make payments for bonds secured by the School Bond Reserve.

The Act further provides that the amount of any payment of interest or purchase price of school bonds paid pursuant to the Act shall be deducted from the appropriation or apportionment of State aid, other than certain State aid which may be otherwise restricted pursuant to law, payable to the school district, county or municipality and shall not obligate the State to make, nor entitle the school district, county or municipality to receive, any additional appropriation or apportionment. Any amount so deducted shall be applied by the State Treasurer to satisfy the obligation of the school district, county or municipality arising as a result of the payment of interest or purchase price of bonds pursuant to the Act.

Authorization and Purpose

The Bonds have been authorized and are issued pursuant to (i) Title 18A, Chapter 24 of the New Jersey Statutes, Chapter 271 of the Laws of 1967, as amended and supplemented, (ii) a proposal adopted by the Board pursuant to a resolution adopted on January 3, 2024, and approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the legal voters present and voting at a special School District election held on March 12, 2024 and (iii) a resolution duly adopted by the Board on May 8, 2024 (the "Resolution").

The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to finance various capital improvements in and for the School District (the "Project") and to pay the costs of issuance associated with the issuance of the Bonds. The State has awarded the School District aid for the Project in the amount of 42.3337% of the eligible costs of such Project. As such, the State has agreed to pay 42.3337% of the annual debt service on the eligible costs financed by the Bonds each year.

BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM*

The description which follows of the procedures and record keeping with respect to beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds, payment of principal and interest, and other payments on the Bonds to DTC Participants or Beneficial Owners (as such terms are defined or used herein), confirmation and transfer of beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds and other related transactions by and between DTC, DTC Participants and Beneficial Owners, is based on certain information furnished by DTC to the Board. Accordingly, the Board does not make any representations concerning these matters.

DTC will act as Securities Depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered bond certificate will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds, as set forth on the inside cover hereof, in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world's largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over 100 countries that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a Standard & Poor's rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Direct and Indirect Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of the Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co. or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

* Source: The Depository Trust Company

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of the Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of the Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners, or in the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.

Notices of Redemption shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Bonds, unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Board as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Bonds are credited on the Record Date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments on the Bonds will be made to Cede & Co. or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Board or Paying Agent, on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Direct and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name", and will be the responsibility of such Direct and Indirect Participant and not of DTC, nor its nominee, Paying Agent or the Board, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Board or Paying Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as Securities Depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Board or Paying Agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor Securities Depository is not obtained, Bond certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The Paying Agent, upon direction of the Board, may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry transfers through DTC (or a successor Securities Depository). In that event, Bond certificates will be printed and delivered.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the Board believes to be reliable, but the Board takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Discontinuance of Book-Entry Only System

In the event that the book-entry-only system is discontinued and the Beneficial Owners become registered owners of the Bonds, the following provisions apply: (i) the Bonds may be exchanged for an equal aggregate principal amount of Bonds in other authorized denominations and of the same maturity, upon surrender thereof at the office of the Board or its paying agent; (ii) the transfer of any Bonds may be registered on the books maintained by the registrar for such purposes only upon the surrender thereof to the Board or its paying agent together with the duly executed assignment in form satisfactory to the Board or its paying agent; and (iii) for every exchange or registration of transfer of Bonds, the Board or its paying

agent may make a charge sufficient to reimburse for any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to such exchange or registration of transfer of the Bonds. Interest on the Bonds will be payable by check or draft mailed on each Interest Payment Date to the registered owners thereof as of the close of business on the Record Dates.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE BOARD

The Board is an eleven (11) member board with nine (9) members elected for staggered three (3) year terms and one (1) representative each from the City of Beverly and the Borough of Riverton appointed annually. The Superintendent is the chief administrative officer of the School District. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is the chief financial officer of the School District and oversees the Board's business functions. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary reports to the Superintendent.

The School District is a Type II school district serving the students of the Borough of Palmyra, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey (the "Borough"). The School District also receives students from the City of Beverly and the Borough of Riverton as part of a send/receive relationship. The School District provides a full range of educational services appropriate to grades pre-kindergarten (Pre-K) through twelve (12), including regular and special education programs. The School District operates one (1) elementary school, one (1) middle school and one (1) high school. See "APPENDIX A – Certain Economic and Demographic Information Relating to the School District and the Borough of Palmyra, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey."

THE STATE'S ROLE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Constitution of the State of New Jersey provides that the State shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient ("T&E") system of free public schools for the instruction of all children between the ages of 5 and 18 years. Case law has expanded the responsibility to include children between the ages of 3 and 21.

The responsibilities of the State with respect to the general supervision and control of public education have been delegated to the New Jersey Department of Education (the "Department"), which is a part of the executive branch of the State government and was created by the State Legislature. The Department is governed and guided by the policies set forth by the New Jersey State Board of Education (the "State Board"). The State Board is responsible for the general supervision and control of public education and is obligated to formulate plans and to make recommendations for the unified, continuous and efficient development of public education of all people of all ages within the State. To fulfill these responsibilities, the State Board has the power, *inter alia*, to adopt rules and regulations that have the effect of law and that are binding upon school districts, to acquire land and other property.

The Commissioner of Education (the "Commissioner") is the chief executive and administrative officer of the Department. The Commissioner is appointed by the Governor of the State with the advice and consent of the State Senate, and serves at the pleasure of the Governor during the Governor's term of office. The Commissioner is Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the State Board and is responsible for the supervision of all school districts in the State and is obligated to enforce the rules and regulations of the State Board. The Commissioner has the authority to recommend the withholding of State financial aid and the Commissioner's consent is required for authorization to sell school bonds that exceed the debt limit of the municipality in which the school district is located and may also set the amount to be raised by taxation for a board of education if a school budget has not been approved by a board of school estimate or by the voters.

An Executive County Superintendent of Schools (the "County Superintendent") is appointed for each county in the State by the Governor, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner with the advice and consent of the State Senate. The County Superintendent is the local representative of the Commissioner. The County Superintendent is responsible for the daily supervision of the school districts in the county and is charged with the enforcement of rules pertaining to the certification of teachers, pupil registers and financial reports and the review of budgets. Under the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, P.L. 2007, c. 63, effective April 3, 2007, the role of the County Superintendent was

changed to create the post of the Executive County Superintendent with expanded powers for the operation and management of school districts to, among other things, promote administrative and operational efficiencies, eliminate non-operating school districts and recommend a school district consolidation plan to eliminate districts through the establishment or enlargement of regional school districts, subject to voter approval.

STRUCTURE OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN NEW JERSEY

Categories of School Districts

State school districts are characterized by the manner in which the board of education or the governing body takes office. School districts are principally classified in the following categories:

(1) Type I, in which the mayor or chief executive officer ("CEO") of a municipality appoints the members of a board of education and a board of school estimate. The board of school estimate consists of two (2) members of the board of education, two (2) members of the governing body of the municipality and the mayor or CEO of the municipality comprising the school district, and approves all fiscal matters;

(2) Type II, in which the registered voters within a school district elect the members of a board of education and either (a) the registered voters also vote upon all fiscal matters with the exception set forth in the new Budget Election Law (as hereinafter defined in "School Budgetary Process"), or (b) a board of school estimate, consisting of two (2) members of the governing body of and the CEO of each municipality within the school district and the president of and one member of the board of education, and approves all fiscal matters;

(3) Regional and consolidated school districts comprising the territorial boundaries of more than one municipality in which the registered voters within the school district elect members of the board of education and vote upon all fiscal matters with certain exceptions. Regional school districts may be "All Purpose Regional School Districts" or "Limited Purpose Regional School Districts";

(4) State-operated school districts created by the State Board, pursuant to State law, when a local board of education cannot or will not correct severe educational deficiencies;

(5) County vocational school districts have boards of education consisting of the County Superintendent and four (4) members unless it is a county of the first class, which adopted an ordinance, in which case it can have a board consisting of seven (7) appointed members which the board of county commissioners of the county appoints. Such vocational school districts shall also have a board of school estimate, consisting of two (2) members appointed by the board of education of the school district, two (2) members appointed by the board of county commissioners and a fifth member being the county executive or the director of the board of county commissioners of the county, which approves all fiscal matters; and

(6) County special services school districts have boards of education consisting of the County Superintendent and six (6) persons appointed by the board of county commissioners of the county. Such special services school districts shall also have a board of school estimate, consisting of two (2) members appointed by the board of education of the school, two (2) members appointed by the board of county commissioners and a fifth member being the commissioner-director of the board of county commissioners, which approves all fiscal matters.

There is a procedure whereby a Type I school district or a Type II school district may change from one type to the other after an approving public referendum. Such a public referendum must be held whenever directed by the municipal governing body or board of education in a Type I district, or the board of education in a Type II district, or when petitioned for by fifteen percent (15%) of the voters of any school district. The School District is a Type II school district with a board of school estimate.

School Budgetary Process (N.J.S.A. 18A:22-1 et seq.)

In a Type I school district and a Type II school district with a board of school estimate, a separate body from the school district, known as the board of school estimate, examines the budget requests and fixes the appropriation amounts for the next year's operating budget at or after a public hearing. This board, whose composition is fixed by statute, certifies the budget to the municipal governing body or board of education. If the board of education disagrees with the certified budget of the board of school estimate, then it can appeal to the Commissioner to request changes.

In a Type II school district, the elected board of education develops the budget proposal and, at or after a public hearing, submits it for voter approval unless the Board has moved its annual election to November, as discussed below. Debt service provisions are not subject to public referendum. If approved, the budget goes into effect. If defeated, the governing bodies of the constituent municipalities must develop the school budget by May 19 of each year. Should the governing bodies be unable to do so, the Commissioner establishes the local school budget.

The Budget Election Law, P.L. 2011, c. 202, effective January 17, 2012 (the "Budget Election Law") establishes procedures that allow the date of the annual school election of a Type II school district, without a board of school estimate, to be moved from April to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, to be held simultaneously with the general election. Such change in the annual school election date must be authorized by resolution of either the board of education or the governing body of the municipality, or by an affirmative vote of a majority of the voters whenever a petition, signed by at least fifteen percent (15%) of the legally qualified voters, is filed with the board of education. Once the annual school election is moved to November, such election may not be changed back to an April annual school election for four (4) years.

School districts that opt to move the annual school election to November are no longer required to submit the budget to the voters for approval if the budget is at or below the two percent (2%) property tax levy cap as provided in the Tax Levy Cap Law (as hereinafter defined).

The Board conducts its annual election in November.

SUMMARY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF SCHOOL DEBT

Levy and Collection of Taxes

School districts in the State do not levy or collect taxes to pay those budgeted amounts which are not provided by the State. The municipality within which a school district is situated levies or collects the required taxes and must remit them in full to the school district.

Budgets and Appropriations

School districts in the State must operate on an annual cash basis budget. Each school district must adopt an annual budget in such detail and upon forms as prescribed by the Commissioner, to which must be attached an itemized statement showing revenues, including State and Federal aid, and expenditures. The Commissioner must approve a budget prior to its final adoption and has the power to increase or decrease individual line items in a budget. Any amendments to a school district's budget must be approved by the board of education or the board of school estimate, as the case may be. Every budget submitted must provide no less than the minimum permissible amount deemed necessary under State law to provide for a thorough and efficient education as mandated by the State Constitution. The Commissioner may not approve any budget unless the Commissioner is satisfied that the school district has adequately implemented within the budget the Core Curriculum Content Standards (as defined herein) required by State law. If necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to order changes in the local school district's budget. The Commissioner will also ensure that other provisions of law are met including the limitations on taxes and spending explained below.

Tax and Spending Limitations

The Public School Education Act of 1975, N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-1 et seq., P.L. 1975, c. 212 (as amended and partially repealed), first limited the amount of funds that could be raised by a local school district. It limited the annual increase of any school district's net current expense budget. The budgetary limitations were known as a "CAP" on expenditures. The "CAP" was intended to control the growth in local property taxes. Subsequently there have been numerous legislative changes as to how the spending limitations would be applied.

The Quality Education Act of 1990, N.J.S.A. 18A:7D-1 et seq., P.L. 1990, c. 52 (the "QEA") (now repealed), also limited the annual increase in the school district's current expense and capital outlay budgets by a statutory formula linked to the annual percentage increase in per capita income. The QEA was amended and revised by chapter 62 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1991, and further amended by chapter 7 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1993.

The Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996, N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-1 et seq., P.L. 1996, c. 138 (the "CEIFA"), as amended by P.L. 2004, c. 732, effective July 1, 2004, also limited the annual increase in a school district's net budget by a spending growth limitation. The CEIFA limited the amount school districts can increase their annual current expense and capital outlay budgets (the "Spending Growth Limitations"). Generally, budgets could increase either by two and one-half percent (2.5%) or the consumer price index, whichever is greater. Amendments to the CEIFA decreased the budget cap to two and one-half percent (2.5%) from three percent (3%). Budgets could also increase because of certain adjustments for enrollment increases, certain capital outlay expenditures, pupil transportation costs, and special education costs that exceeded \$40,000 per pupil. Waivers were available from the Commissioner based on increasing enrollments and other fairly narrow grounds and increases higher than the cap could be approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) at the annual school election.

P.L. 2007, c. 62, effective April 3, 2007, provided additional limitations on school district spending by limiting the amount a school district could raise for school district purposes through the property tax levy by four percent (4%) over the prior budget year's tax levy. P.L. 2007, c. 62 provided for adjustments to the cap for increases in enrollment, reductions in State aid and increased health care costs and for certain other extraordinary cost increases that required approval by the Commissioner. The bill granted discretion to the Commissioner to grant other waivers from the cap for increases in special education costs, capital outlay, and tuition charges. The Commissioner also had the ability to grant extraordinary waivers to the tax levy cap for certain other cost increases beginning in fiscal year 2009 through 2012.

P.L. 2007, c. 62 was deemed to supersede the prior limitations on the amount school districts could increase their annual current expense and capital outlay budgets created by CEIFA (as amended by P.L. 2004, c. 73, effective July 1, 2004). However, chapter 62 was in effect only through fiscal year 2012. Without an extension of chapter 62 by the legislature, the Spending Growth Limitations on the general fund and capital outlay budget would be in effect.

Debt service was not limited either by the Spending Growth Limitations or the four percent (4%) cap on the tax levy increase imposed by chapter 62.

The previous legislation was amended by P.L. 2010, c. 44, effective July 13, 2010 and became applicable to the next local budget year following enactment. This law limits the school district tax levy for the general fund budget to increases of two percent (2%) over the prior budget year with exceptions only for enrollment increases, increases for certain normal and accrued liability for pension contributions in excess of two percent (2%), certain healthcare increases, and amounts approved by a simple majority of voters voting at a special election (the "Tax Levy Cap Law"). Additionally, also becoming effective in the 2011-2012 fiscal year, a school district that has not been granted approval to exceed the tax levy cap by a separate proposal can bank the unused tax levy for use in any of the next three (3) succeeding budget years. A school district can request a use of "banked cap" only after it has fully exhausted all eligible statute spending authority in the budget year. The process for obtaining waivers from the Commissioner for additional increases over the tax levy cap or Spending Growth Limitations was eliminated under chapter 44. Notwithstanding the foregoing, under P.L. 2018, c. 67, effective July 24, 2018, which increases State

school aid to underfunded school districts and decreases state school aid to overfunded school districts, during the 2018-2019 through 2024-2025 fiscal years, SDA Districts, which are certain urban districts formerly referred to as Abbott Districts referred to herein under "SUMMARY OF STATE AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS", are permitted increases in the tax levy over the two percent (2%) limit to raise a general fund tax levy to an amount that does not exceed its local share of the adequacy budget.

The restrictions are solely on the tax levy for the general fund and are not applicable to the debt service fund. There are no restrictions on a local school district's ability to raise funds for debt service, and nothing would limit the obligation of a school district to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all taxable real property within the school district to pay debt service on its bonds or notes with one exception. School districts are subject to GAAP accounting, and under GAAP interest on obligations maturing within one (1) year must be treated as operating expenses. Accordingly, under the Department of Education's Chart of Accounts, interest on notes is raised in the General Fund of a school district and therefore is counted within its two percent (2%) tax levy cap on spending.

Issuance of Debt

Among the provisions for the issuance of school debt are the following requirements: (i) bonds must mature in serial installments within the statutory period of usefulness of the projects being financed but not exceeding forty (40) years, (ii) debt must be authorized by a resolution of a board of education (and approved by a board of school estimate in a Type I school district and a Type II school district with a board of school estimate), and (iii) there must be filed with the State by each municipality comprising a school district a Supplemental Debt Statement and a school debt statement setting forth the amount of bonds and notes authorized but unissued and outstanding for such school district.

Annual Audit (N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 et seq.)

Every board of education is required to provide an annual audit of the school district's accounts and financial transactions. The audit must be performed by a licensed public school accountant no later than five (5) months after the end of the school fiscal year or by the date extended by statute or by the State of New Jersey Department of Education. The audit, in conformity with statutory requirements, must be filed with the board of education and the Commissioner. Additionally, the audit must be summarized and discussed at a regular public meeting of the local board of education within thirty (30) days following receipt of the annual audit by such board of education.

Temporary Financing (N.J.S.A. 18A:24-3)

Temporary notes may be issued in anticipation of the issuance of permanent bonds for a capital improvement or capital project. Such temporary notes may not exceed in the aggregate the amount of bonds authorized for such improvement or project. A school district's temporary notes may be issued for one (1) year periods, with the final maturity not exceeding five (5) years from the date of original issuance; provided, however, that no such notes shall be renewed beyond the third anniversary date of the original notes unless an amount of such notes, at least equal to the first legally payable installment of the bonds in anticipation of which said notes are issued, is paid and retired subsequent to such third anniversary date from funds other than the proceeds of obligations. School districts must include in each annual budget the amount of interest due and payable in each fiscal year on all outstanding temporary notes.

Capital Lease Financing

School districts are permitted to enter into lease purchase agreements for the acquisition of equipment or for the improvement of school buildings. Generally, lease purchase agreements cannot exceed five (5) years except for certain energy-saving equipment which may be leased for up to fifteen (15) years if paid from energy savings. Lease purchase agreements for a term of five (5) years or less must be approved by the Commissioner. The Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act, P.L. 2000, c. 72 (the "EFCFA"), repealed the authorization to enter into facilities leases in excess of five (5) years. The payment of rent on an equipment lease and on a five (5) year and under facilities lease is treated as a current expense and within the cap on the school district's budget. Under the CEIFA, lease purchase

payments on leases in excess of five (5) years issued under prior law are treated as debt service payments and, therefore, will receive debt service aid if the school district is entitled and are outside the school district's tax levy cap.

Debt Limitation (N.J.S.A. 18A:24-19)

Except as provided below, no additional debt shall be authorized if the principal amount, when added to the net debt previously authorized, exceeds a statutory percentage of the average equalized valuation of taxable property in a school district. As a grades pre-kindergarten (Pre-K) through twelve (12) school district, the School District can borrow up to four percent (4%) of the average equalized valuation of taxable property in the School District. The School District has not exceeded its four percent (4%) debt limit. See "APPENDIX A – Certain Economic and Demographic Information Relating to the School District and the Borough of Palmyra, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey."

Exceptions to Debt Limitation

A Type II school district (other than a regional district) may also utilize its constituent municipality's remaining statutory borrowing power (i.e. the excess of three and one-half percent (3.5%) of the average equalized valuation of taxable property within the constituent municipality over the constituent municipality's net debt). A school district may also authorize debt in excess of this limit with the consent of the Commissioner and the Local Finance Board.

Energy Saving Obligations

Under P.L. 2009, c. 4, approved January 21, 2009 and effective sixty (60) days thereafter, school districts may issue "energy savings obligations" without voter approval to fund certain improvements that result in reduced energy use, facilities for production of renewable energy or water conservation improvements provided that the amount of the savings will cover the cost of the improvements.

SUMMARY OF STATE AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS

In 1973, the Supreme Court of the State of New Jersey (the "Court") ruled in *Robinson v. Cahill* that the method then used to finance public education principally through property taxation was unconstitutional. Pursuant to the Court's ruling, the Legislature enacted the Public School Education Act of 1975, N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-1 *et seq.*, P.L. 1975, c. 212 (the "Public School Education Act") (as amended and partially repealed), which required funding of the State's school aid through the New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, P.L. 1976, c. 47, as amended and supplemented, enacted for the purpose of providing property tax relief.

On June 5, 1990, the Court ruled in *Abbott v. Burke* that the school aid formula enacted under the Public School Education Act was unconstitutional as applied. The Court found that poorer urban school districts (previously called "Abbott Districts", now referred to as "SDA Districts") were significantly disadvantaged under that school funding formula because school revenues were derived primarily from property taxes. The Court found that wealthy school districts were able to spend more, yet tax less for educational purposes.

Since that time there has been much litigation and many cases affecting the State's responsibilities to fund public education and many legislative attempts to distribute State aid in accordance with the court cases and the constitutional requirement. The cases addressed not only current operating fund aid but also addressed the requirement to provide facilities aid as well. The legislation has included QEA, CEIFA and EFCFA. For many years aid has simply been determined in the State Budget, which itself is an act of the legislature, based upon amounts provided in prior years. The school funding formula, provided in the School Funding Reform Act of 2008, P.L. 2007, c. 260, effective January 1, 2008, attempts to remove the special status given to certain school districts known as Abbott Districts after the school funding cases and instead has funding follow students with certain needs and provides aid in a way that takes into account the ability of the local school district to raise local funds to support the budget in amounts deemed adequate to provide for a thorough and efficient education as required by the State constitution. This legislation was

challenged in the Court, and the Court held that the State's then current plan for school aid was a "constitutionally adequate scheme." However, the State continued to underfund certain school districts and to overfund other school districts in its budgets based on the statutory scheme. Since 2019 and in accordance with the enactment of P.L. 2018, c. 67, effective July 24, 2018, the State has increased funding for underfunded school districts and decreased funding for overfunded school districts, and will continue to do so as set forth therein. It has also provided cap relief for overfunded school districts to enable them to pick up more of the local share.

Notwithstanding over thirty-five (35) years of litigation, the State provides State aid to school districts of the State in amounts provided in the State budget each year. These now include equalization aid, special education categorical aid, transportation aid, preschool education aid, instructional supplement aid, supplemental core curriculum standards aid, distance learning network aid, bilingual aid, security aid, adjustment aid and other aid determined in the discretion of the Commissioner.

State law requires that the State will provide aid for the construction of school facilities in an amount equal to the greater of the district aid percentage or forty percent (40%) times the eligible costs determined by the Commissioner either in the form of a grant or debt service aid as determined under the EFCFA. The amount of aid to which a school district is entitled is established prior to the authorization of the project. Grant funding is provided by the State upfront and debt service aid must be appropriated annually by the State.

The State has reduced debt service aid by fifteen percent (15%) annually since fiscal year 2011. As a result of the debt service aid reduction for those fiscal years, school districts received eighty-five percent (85%) of the debt service aid that they would have otherwise received. In addition, school districts which received grants under the EFCFA, which grants were financed through the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (the "EDA"), were assessed an amount in each fiscal year budget since 2011 representing fifteen percent (15%) of the school district's proportionate share of the principal and interest payments on the outstanding EDA bonds issued to fund such grants.

Pursuant to P.L. 2018, c. 67, effective July 24, 2018, the School Funding Reform Act has been modified to adjust the distribution of State aid to school districts in the State ("SFRA Modification Law"). In particular, the SFRA Modification Law revises the School Funding Reform Act so that, after calculating the amount of State aid available per pupil, State aid will be distributed to each school district based on student enrollment. The SFRA Modification Law also eliminates the application of the State aid growth limit and adjustment aid, but includes a transition period for school districts that will receive less State aid. Under the SFRA Modification Law, most school districts that will receive reduced State aid resulting from the revised funding formula will be provided a seven (7) year transition period during which funding will be reduced. For those school districts where State aid will increase under the SFRA Modification Law, the transition period to increase funding will be one (1) year.

SUMMARY OF FEDERAL AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Federal funds are available for certain programs approved by the Federal government with allocation decided by the State, which assigns a proportion to each local school district. The Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, enacted December 10, 2015, is a Federal assistance program for which a school district qualifies to receive aid. A remedial enrichment program for children of low income families is available under Chapter 1 Aid. Such Federal aid is generally received in the form of block grants. Aid is also provided under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act although never in the amounts federal law required.

MUNICIPAL FINANCE - FINANCIAL REGULATION OF COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES

Local Bond Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 et seq.)

The Local Bond Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 et seq. (the "Local Bond Law"), governs the issuance of bonds and notes to finance certain municipal and utility capital expenditures. Among its provisions are requirements that bonds must mature within the statutory period of usefulness of the projects financed and that bonds be retired in serial installments. A five percent (5%) cash down payment is generally required toward the financing of expenditures for municipal purposes. All bonds and notes issued by the Borough are general full faith and credit obligations.

The authorized bonded indebtedness of the Borough is limited by statute, subject to certain exceptions noted below, to an amount equal to three and one-half percent (3.5%) of its average equalized valuation basis. The average for the last three (3) years of the equalized value of all taxable real property and improvements and certain Class II railroad property within the Borough as annually determined by the New Jersey Board of Taxation is set forth in APPENDIX A.

Certain categories of debt are permitted by statute to be deducted for purposes of computing the statutory debt limit.

A municipality may exceed its debt limit with the approval of the Local Finance Board, and as permitted by other statutory exceptions. If all or any part of a proposed debt authorization would exceed its debt limit, a municipality may apply to the Local Finance Board for an extension of credit. If the Local Finance Board determines that a proposed debt authorization would not materially impair the credit of the municipality or substantially reduce the ability of the municipality to meet its obligations or to provide essential public improvements and services, or makes certain other statutory determinations, approval is granted. In addition, debt in excess of the statutory limit may be issued by the municipality to fund certain notes, to provide for self-liquidating purposes, and, in each fiscal year, in an amount not exceeding 2/3 of the amount budgeted in such fiscal year for the retirement of outstanding obligations (exclusive of utility and assessment obligations).

A municipality may sell "bond anticipation notes" to temporarily finance a capital improvement or project in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, if the bond ordinance or subsequent resolution so provides. Bond anticipation notes for capital improvements may be issued in an aggregate amount not exceeding the amount specified in the bond ordinance, as it may be amended and supplemented, creating such capital expenditure. A local unit's bond anticipation notes may be issued for periods not exceeding one (1) year. Generally, bond anticipation notes may not be outstanding for longer than ten (10) years. An additional period may be available following the tenth anniversary date equal to the period from the notes' maturity to the end of the tenth fiscal year in which the notes mature plus four (4) months in the next following fiscal year from the date of original issuance. Beginning in the third year, the amount of notes that may be issued is decreased by the minimum amount required for the first year's principal payment for a bond issue.

Local Budget Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 et seq.)

The foundation of the State local finance system is the annual cash basis budget. Every local unit must adopt an annual operating budget in the form required by the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (the "Division"). Certain items of revenue and appropriation are regulated by law and the proposed budget cannot be finally adopted until it has been certified by the Director of the Division (the "Director"), or in the case of a local unit's examination of its own budget, such budget cannot be finally adopted until a local examination certificate has been approved by the Chief Financial Officer and governing body of the local unit. The Local Budget Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 et seq. (the "Local Budget Law") requires each local unit to appropriate sufficient funds for the payment of current debt service, and the Director or, in the case of local examination, the local unit, may review the adequacy of such appropriations.

Tax anticipation notes are limited in amount by law and must be paid off in full within 120 days of the close of the fiscal year in which they were issued.

The Director has no authority over individual operating appropriations, unless a specific amount is required by law, but the budgetary review functions focusing on anticipated revenues serve to protect the solvency of all local units.

The cash basis budgets of local units must be in balance, i.e., the total of anticipated revenues must equal the total of appropriations. N.J.S.A. 40A:4-22. If in any year a local unit's expenditures exceed its realized revenues for that year, then such excess must be raised in the succeeding year's budget.

A provision in the Local Budget Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-26, provides that: "[n]o miscellaneous revenues from any source shall be included as an anticipated revenue in the budget in an amount in excess of the amount actually realized in cash from the same source during the next preceding fiscal year, unless the director shall determine upon application by the governing body that the facts clearly warrant the expectation that such excess amount will actually be realized in cash during the fiscal year and shall certify such determination, in writing, to the local unit."

No budget or amendment thereof shall be adopted unless the Director shall have previously certified his approval of such anticipated revenues, except that categorical grants-in-aid contracts may be included for their face amount with an offsetting appropriation. The fiscal years for such grants rarely coincide with a municipality's calendar fiscal year. However, grant revenue is generally not realized until received in cash.

The same general principle that revenue cannot be anticipated in a budget in excess of that realized in the preceding year applies to property taxes. The maximum amount of delinquent taxes that may be anticipated is limited by a statutory formula, which allows the local unit to anticipate collection at the same rate realized for the collection of delinquent taxes in the previous year. Also the local unit is required to make an appropriation for a "reserve for uncollected taxes" in accordance with a statutory formula to provide for a tax collection in an amount that does not exceed the percentage of taxes levied and payable in the preceding fiscal year that was received in cash by December 31 of that year. The budget also must provide for any cash deficits of the prior year.

Emergency appropriations (those made after the adoption of the budget and the determination of the tax rate) may be authorized by the governing body. However, with minor exceptions, such appropriations must be included in full in the following year's budget. When such appropriations exceed three percent (3%) of the adopted operating budget, consent of the Director must be obtained.

The exceptions are certain enumerated quasi-capital projects ("special emergencies") such as (i) the repair and reconstruction of streets, roads or bridges damaged by snow, ice, frost, or floods, which may be amortized over three (3) years, and (ii) the repair and reconstruction of streets, roads, bridges or other public property damaged by flood or hurricane, where such expense was unforeseen at the time of budget adoption, the repair and reconstruction of private property damaged by flood or hurricane, tax map preparation, re-evaluation programs, revision and codification of ordinances, master plan preparations, drainage map preparation for flood control purposes, studies and planning associated with the construction and installation of sanitary sewers, authorized expenses of a consolidated commission, contractually required severance liabilities resulting from the layoff or retirement of employees and the preparation of sanitary and storm system maps, all of which projects set forth in this section (ii) may be amortized over five (5) years. N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53, -54, -55, -55.1. Emergency appropriations for capital projects may be financed through the adoption of a bond ordinance and amortized over the useful life of the project as described above.

Budget transfers provide a degree of flexibility and afford a control mechanism. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58, transfers between appropriation accounts are prohibited until the last two (2) months of the year. Appropriation reserves may be transferred during the first three (3) months of the year, to the previous year's budget. N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59. Both types of transfers require a 2/3 vote of the full membership of the governing body. Although sub-accounts within an appropriation are not subject to the same year-

end transfer restriction, they are subject to internal review and approval. Certain types of appropriations are excluded from the provisions permitting transfers. Generally, transfers cannot be made from the down payment account, interest or debt redemption charges or the capital improvement fund or for contingent expenses.

Municipal public utilities are supported by the revenues generated by the respective operations of the utilities, in addition to the general taxing power upon taxable property. For each utility, there is established a separate budget. The anticipated revenues and appropriations for each utility are set forth in the separate budget. The budget is required to be balanced and to provide fully for debt service. The regulations regarding anticipation of revenues and deferral of charges apply equally to the budgets of the utilities. Deficits or anticipated deficits in utility operations which cannot be provided for from utility surplus, if any, are required to be raised in the "Current" or operating budget.

In accordance with the Local Budget Law, each local unit must adopt and may from time to time amend rules and regulations for capital budgets, which rules and regulations must require a statement of capital undertakings underway or projected for a period not greater than over the next ensuing six (6) years as a general improvement program. The capital budget, when adopted, does not constitute the approval or appropriation of funds, but sets forth a plan of the possible capital expenditures which the local unit may contemplate over the next six (6) years. Expenditures for capital purposes may be made either by ordinances adopted by the governing body setting forth the items and the method of financing or from the annual operating budget if the terms were detailed.

Fiscal Year Adjustment Law (1991 N.J. Laws c. 75)

Chapter 75 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1991, requires certain municipalities and permits all other municipalities to adopt the State fiscal year in place of the existing calendar fiscal year. Municipalities that change fiscal years must adopt a six (6) month transition budget for January 1 through June 30. Since expenditures would be expected to exceed revenues primarily because State aid for the calendar year would not be received by the municipality until after the end of the transition year budget, the act authorizes the issuance of Fiscal Year Adjustment Bonds to fund the one time deficit for the six (6) month transition budget. The law provides that the deficit in the six (6) month transition budget may be funded initially with bond anticipation notes based on the estimated deficit in the six (6) month transition budget. Notes issued in anticipation of Fiscal Year Adjustment Bonds, including renewals, can only be issued for up to one (1) year unless the Local Finance Board permits the municipality to renew them for a longer period of time. The Local Finance Board must confirm the actual deficit experienced by the municipality. The municipality then may issue Fiscal Year Adjustment Bonds to finance the deficit on a permanent basis. The purpose of the act is to assist municipalities that are heavily dependent on State aid and that have had to issue tax anticipation notes to fund operating cash flow deficits each year. While the law does not authorize counties to change their fiscal years, it does provide that counties with cash flow deficits may issue Fiscal Year Adjustment Bonds as well.

State Supervision

State law authorizes State officials to supervise fiscal administration in any municipality which is in default on its obligations; which experiences severe tax collection problems for two (2) successive years; which has a deficit greater than four percent (4%) of its tax levy for two (2) successive years; which has failed to make payments due and owing to the State, county, school district or special district for two (2) consecutive years; which has an appropriation in its annual budget for the liquidation of debt which exceeds twenty-five percent (25%) of its total operating appropriations (except dedicated revenue appropriations) for the previous budget year; or which has been subject to a judicial determination of gross failure to comply with the Local Bond Law, the Local Budget Law, or the Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-1 et seq., which substantially jeopardizes its fiscal integrity. State officials are authorized to continue such supervision for as long as any of the conditions exist and until the municipality operates for a fiscal year without incurring a cash deficit.

Appropriations “Cap”

The New Jersey “Cap Law” (the “Cap Law”) (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et seq.) places limits on municipal tax levies and expenditures. The Cap Law provides that a local unit shall limit any increase in its budget to two and one-half percent (2.5%) or the Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (as defined in the Cap Law), whichever is less, of the previous year’s final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions. The Cost-Of-Living Adjustment is defined as the rate of annual percentage increase, rounded to the nearest half percent, in the Implicit Price Deflator for State and Local Government Purchases of Goods and Services produced by the United States Department of Commerce for the year preceding the current year as announced by the Director. However, in each year in which the Cost-Of-Living Adjustment is equal to or less than two and one-half percent (2.5%), a local unit may, by ordinance, approved by a majority vote of the full membership of the governing body, provide that the final appropriations of the local unit for such year be increased by a percentage rate that is greater than the Cost-Of-Living Adjustment, but not more than three and one-half percent (3.5%) over the previous year’s final appropriations. In addition, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a restored “cap” banking to the Local Budget Law. Municipalities are permitted to appropriate available “cap bank” in either of the next two (2) succeeding years’ final appropriations. Along with the permitted increases for total general appropriations there are certain items that are allowed to increase outside the “cap”.

Additionally, P.L. 2010, c. 44, effective July 13, 2010, imposes a two percent (2%) cap on the tax levy of a municipality, county, fire district or solid waste collection district, with certain exceptions and subject to a number of adjustments. The exclusions from the limit include increases required to be raised for capital expenditures, including debt service, increases in pension contributions in excess of two percent (2%), certain increases in health care over two percent (2%), and extraordinary costs incurred by a local unit directly related to a declared emergency. The governing body of a local unit may request approval, through a public question submitted to the legal voters residing in its territory, to increase the amount to be raised by taxation, and voters may approve increases above two percent (2%) not otherwise permitted under the law by an affirmative vote of fifty percent (50%).

The Division has advised that counties and municipalities must comply with both the budget “cap” and the tax levy limitation. Neither the tax levy limitation nor the Cap Law, however, limits the obligation of the county or municipality to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all taxable property within its boundaries to pay debt service on its bonds and notes.

Tax Assessment and Collection Procedure

Property valuations (assessments) are determined on true values as arrived at by a cost approach, market data approach and capitalization of net income (where appropriate). Current assessments are the result of new assessments on a like basis with established comparable properties for newly assessed or purchased properties. This method assures equitable treatment to like property owners. However, a divergence of the assessment ratio to true value is typically due to changes in market value over time.

Upon the filing of certified adopted budgets by the local unit, the local school district and the county, the tax rate is struck by the county Board of Taxation based on the certified amounts in each of the taxing districts for collection to fund the budgets. The statutory provisions for the assessment of property, the levying of taxes and the collection thereof are set forth in N.J.S.A. 54:4-1 et seq. Special taxing districts are permitted in the State for various special services rendered to the properties located within the special districts.

Generally, tax bills are mailed annually in June of the current fiscal year. The taxes are payable in four quarterly installments on February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. The August and November tax bills are determined as the full tax levied for municipal, county and school purposes for the current municipal fiscal year, less the amount charged for the February and May installments for municipal, county and school purposes in the current fiscal year. The amounts due for the February and May installments are determined by the municipal governing body as either one-quarter or one-half of the full tax levied for municipal, county and school purposes for the preceding fiscal year.

Tax installments not paid on or before the due date are subject to interest penalties of eight percent (8%) per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and eighteen percent (18%) per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00. Pursuant to 1991 N.J. Laws c. 75, the governing body may also fix a penalty to be charged to a taxpayer with a delinquency in excess of \$10,000.00 who fails to pay that delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year. The penalty so fixed shall not exceed six percent (6%) of the amount of the delinquency. These penalties and interest rates are the highest permitted under State statutes. Delinquent taxes open for one (1) year or more are annually included in a tax sale in accordance with State statutes.

Tax Appeals

State statutes provide a taxpayer with remedial procedures for appealing an assessment deemed excessive. The taxpayer has a right to petition the county Board of Taxation on or before April 1 of the current year for review. The county Board of Taxation has the authority after a hearing to decrease or reject the appeal petition. These adjustments are usually concluded within the current tax year and reductions are shown as canceled or remitted taxes for that year. If the taxpayer feels his petition was unsatisfactorily reviewed by the county Board of Taxation, appeal may be made to the Tax Court of the State of New Jersey (the "State Tax Court") for further hearing. Some State Tax Court appeals may take several years prior to settlement and any losses in tax collections from prior years are charged directly to operations.

Local Fiscal Affairs Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:5-1 et seq.)

This law regulates the nonbudgetary financial activities of local governments. The chief financial officer of every local unit must file annually with the Director a verified statement of the financial condition of the local unit and all constituent boards, agencies or commissions.

An independent examination of each local unit's accounts must be performed annually by a licensed registered municipal accountant. The audit, conforming to the Division's "Requirements of Audit," includes recommendations for improvement of the local unit's financial procedures. The audit report must be filed with the Director. A synopsis of the report, together with all recommendations made, must be published in a local newspaper within thirty (30) days of the local unit's receipt of the audit report.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The audited financial statements of the Board as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023 together with the notes to the financial statements have been audited by Nightlinger, Colavita & Volpa, P.A., Williamstown, New Jersey (the "Auditor") and are presented in APPENDIX B to this Official Statement (the "Financial Statements"). See APPENDIX B – Financial Statements of The Board of Education of the Borough of Palmyra in the County of Burlington, New Jersey.

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR

Phoenix Advisors, LLC, Bordentown, New Jersey, has served as Municipal Advisor to the Board with respect to the issuance of the Bonds (the "Municipal Advisor"). The Municipal Advisor is not obligated to undertake, and has not undertaken, either to make an independent verification of, or to assume responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the information contained in this Official Statement and the Appendices hereto. The Municipal Advisor is an independent firm and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, trading or distributing municipal securities or other public securities.

LITIGATION

To the knowledge of the Board Attorney, Capehart & Scatchard, P.A., Mount Laurel, New Jersey (the "Board Attorney"), there is no litigation of any nature now pending or threatened against the Board, restraining or enjoining the issuance or the delivery of the Bonds, or the levy or the collection of any taxes to pay the principal of or the interest on the Bonds, or in any manner questioning the authority or the proceedings for the issuance of the Bonds or for the levy or the collection of taxes, or contesting the corporate existence or the boundaries of the Board or the School District or the title of any of the present

officers. To the knowledge of the Board Attorney, no litigation is presently pending or threatened that, in the opinion of the Board Attorney, would have a materially adverse impact on the financial condition of the Board if adversely decided. A certificate to such effect will be executed by the Board Attorney and delivered to the Underwriter (as hereinafter defined) of the Bonds at the closing.

TAX EXEMPTION

Federal Income Tax Treatment

The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), establishes certain requirements which must be met at the time of, and on a continuing basis subsequent to, the issuance of the Bonds in order for the interest thereon to be and remain excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Code. Noncompliance with such requirements could cause such interest to be included in gross income for Federal income tax purposes retroactive to the date of issuance of the Bonds. The Board has covenanted to comply with the provisions of the Code applicable to the Bonds, and has covenanted not to take any action or fail to take any action that would cause interest on the Bonds to lose the exclusion from gross income under Section 103 of the Code.

In the opinion of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions, and assuming continuing compliance by the Board with the requirements of the Code described above, interest on the Bonds is not includable in gross income for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Code and is not treated as a preference item under Section 57 of the Code for purposes of computing the Federal alternative minimum tax; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of certain corporations for the purpose of computing the Federal alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022.

Premium Bonds

[The Bonds [maturing on July 15 in the years 20__ through 20__, inclusive (collectively, the "Premium Bonds")], have been sold to the public at a premium. Section 171 of the Code provides rules under which a bond premium may be amortized and a deduction allowed for the amount of the amortizable bond premium for a taxable year. Under Section 171(a)(2) of the Code, however, no deduction is allowable for the amortizable bond premium in the case of bonds, like the [Premium] Bonds, the interest on which is excludable from gross income. Under Section 1016(a)(5) of the Code, the purchaser's basis in a [Premium] Bond will be reduced by the amount of the amortizable bond premium disallowable as a deduction under Section 171(2) of the Code. Proceeds received from the sale, exchange, redemption or payment of a [Premium] Bond in excess of the owner's adjusted basis (as reduced pursuant to Section 1016(a)(5) of the Code), will be treated as a gain from the sale or exchange of such [Premium] Bonds and not as interest.]

Discount Bonds

[Bond Counsel is also of the opinion that the difference between the stated principal amount of the Bonds maturing on July 15 in the years 20__ through 20__, inclusive (collectively, the "Discount Bonds") and their respective initial public offering prices to the public (excluding bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers) at which prices a substantial amount of the [Discount] Bonds of the same maturity and interest rate were sold, constitutes original issue discount which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent as interest on the Bonds. In the case of any holder of the [Discount] Bonds, the amount of such original issue discount which is treated as having accrued with respect to the [Discount] Bonds is added to the cost basis of the holder in determining, for federal income tax purposes, gain or loss upon disposition (including sale, redemption or payment at maturity). Holders of the [Discount] Bonds should consult their tax advisors for an explanation of the original issue discount rules.]

Additional Federal Income Tax Consequences Relating to Bonds

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should be aware that ownership of, accrual or receipt of interest on or disposition of tax-exempt obligations, such as the Bonds, may have additional Federal income tax consequences for certain taxpayers, including, without limitation, taxpayers eligible for the earned income credit, recipients of certain Social Security and Railroad Retirement benefits, taxpayers that may be deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry tax-exempt obligations, financial institutions, property and casualty insurance companies, foreign corporations and certain S corporations. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should also consult with their tax advisors with respect to the need to furnish certain taxpayer information in order to avoid backup withholding.

State Taxation

Bond Counsel is also of the opinion that interest on the Bonds, and any gain on the sale of the Bonds, are not includable in gross income under the existing New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, 1976 N.J. Laws c. 47, as amended. Except as provided above, no opinion is expressed with respect to other State and local tax consequences of owning the Bonds. See "APPENDIX C – Form of Approving Legal Opinion" for the complete text of the proposed form of Bond Counsel's approving legal opinion.

Prospective Tax Law Changes

Federal, state or local legislation, administrative pronouncements or court decisions may affect the Federal and State tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds and the State tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds, gain from the sale or other disposition of the Bonds, the market value of the Bonds or the marketability of the Bonds. The effect of any legislation, administrative pronouncements or court decisions cannot be predicted. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding such matters.

Other Tax Consequences

Except as described above, Bond Counsel expresses no opinion with respect to any Federal, State, local or foreign tax consequences of ownership of the Bonds. Bond Counsel renders its opinion under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions as of the date of issuance of the Bonds and assumes no obligation to update its opinion after such date of issuance to reflect any future action, fact, circumstance, change in law or interpretation, or otherwise. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to the effect, if any, on the tax status of the interest on the Bonds paid or to be paid as a result of any action hereafter taken or not taken in reliance upon an opinion of other counsel.

See APPENDIX C for the complete text of the proposed form of Bond Counsel's legal opinion with respect to the Bonds.

PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF THE BONDS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISORS WITH RESPECT TO ALL TAX CONSEQUENCES (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THOSE LISTED ABOVE) OF HOLDING THE BONDS.

RISK TO HOLDERS OF BONDS

It is understood that the rights of the holders of the Bonds, and the enforceability thereof, may be subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights heretofore or hereafter enacted to the extent constitutionally applicable and that their enforcement may also be subject to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases.

Municipal Bankruptcy

THE BOARD HAS NOT AUTHORIZED THE FILING OF A BANKRUPTCY PETITION. THIS REFERENCE TO THE BANKRUPTCY CODE OR THE STATE STATUTE SHOULD NOT CREATE ANY IMPLICATION THAT THE BOARD EXPECTS TO UTILIZE THE BENEFITS OF ITS PROVISIONS, OR

THAT IF UTILIZED, SUCH ACTION WOULD BE APPROVED BY THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD, OR THAT ANY PROPOSED PLAN WOULD INCLUDE A DILUTION OF THE SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF AND SECURITY FOR THE BONDS, OR THAT THE BANKRUPTCY CODE COULD NOT BE AMENDED AFTER THE DATE HEREOF.

The undertakings of the Board should be considered with reference to 11 U.S.C. §101 et seq., as amended and supplemented (the "Bankruptcy Code"), and other bankruptcy laws affecting creditors' rights and municipalities in general. The Bankruptcy Code permits the State or any political subdivision, public agency, or instrumentality that is insolvent or unable to meet its debts to commence a voluntary bankruptcy case by filing a petition with a bankruptcy court for the purpose of effecting a plan to adjust its debts; directs such a petitioner to file with the court a list of petitioner's creditors; provides that a petition filed under this chapter shall operate as a stay of the commencement or continuation of any judicial or other proceeding against the petitioner; grants priority to certain debts owed, and provides that the plan must be accepted in writing by or on behalf of creditors holding at least two-thirds in amount and more than one-half in number of the allowed claims of at least one (1) impaired class. The Bankruptcy Code specifically does not limit or impair the power of a state to control, by legislation or otherwise, the procedures that a political subdivision must follow in order to take advantage of the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.

The Bankruptcy Code provides that special revenue acquired by the debtor after the commencement of the case shall remain subject to any lien resulting from any security agreement entered into by such debtor before the commencement of such bankruptcy case. However, special revenues acquired by the debtor after commencement of the case shall continue to be available to pay debt service secured by those revenues. Furthermore, the Bankruptcy Code provides that a transfer of property of a debtor to or for the benefit of any holder of a bond or note, on account of such bond or note, may be avoided pursuant to certain preferential transfer provisions set forth in such act.

Reference should also be made to N.J.S.A. 52:27-40 et seq. which provides that a political subdivision, including the Board, has the power to file a petition in bankruptcy with any United States Court or court in bankruptcy under the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, for the purpose of effecting a plan of readjustment of its debts or for the composition of its debts; provided, however, the approval of the Local Finance Board, as successor to the Municipal Finance Commission, must be obtained.

RECENT HEALTHCARE DEVELOPMENTS

In early March of 2020, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic following the global outbreak of COVID-19, a respiratory disease caused by a newly discovered strain of coronavirus. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national public health emergency to unlock federal funds and assistance to help states and local governments fight the pandemic. The Governor of the State declared a state of emergency and a public health emergency on March 9, 2020. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, federal and State legislation and executive orders were implemented to mitigate the spread of the disease and provide relief to State and local governments. The pandemic and certain mitigation measures altered the behavior of businesses and people with negative impacts on regional, State and local economies. The national public health emergency and the State public health emergency have since ended, while the state of emergency declared by the State and several executive orders signed by the Governor remain to manage COVID-19 on an endemic level. Depending on future circumstances, ongoing actions could be taken by State, federal and local governments and private entities to mitigate the spread and impacts of COVID-19, its variants or other critical health care challenges.

To date, the overall finances and operations of the Board have not been materially adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, the degree of any future impact to the Board's operations and finances is difficult to predict due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and any additional actions that may be taken by governmental and other health care authorities to manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, H.R. 1319 (the "Plan"), signed into law by the President of the United States on March 11, 2021, provided \$1.9 trillion in relief designed to provide funding to address the COVID-19 pandemic and alleviate the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The

Plan, in part, provides funding for State and local governments to offset costs to safely reopen schools during the COVID-19 pandemic and to subsidize COVID-19 testing and vaccination programs. In addition, the Plan includes \$350 billion in relief funds to public entities, such as the Board.

The Board has been awarded a total of \$1,856,441 in federal aid to address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

APPROVAL OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

All legal matters incident to the authorization, the issuance, the sale and the delivery of the Bonds are subject to the approval of Bond Counsel to the Board, whose approving legal opinion will be delivered with the Bonds substantially in the form set forth as APPENDIX C. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Board by its Board Attorney.

PREPARATION OF OFFICIAL STATEMENT

The Board hereby states that the descriptions and statements herein, including the Financial Statements, are true and correct in all material respects, and it will confirm same to the Underwriter by a certificate signed by the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary. See "CERTIFICATE WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT" herein.

Bond Counsel has participated in the preparation and review of this Official Statement but has not participated in the collection of financial, statistical or demographic information contained in this Official Statement nor verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness thereof, and, accordingly, expresses no opinion or other assurance with respect thereto.

The Municipal Advisor has participated in the preparation of information contained in APPENDIX A to this Official Statement and information has been obtained from sources which the Municipal Advisor considers to be reliance, but they make no warranty, guarantee or other representation with respect to the completeness or fairness of such information.

The Auditor takes responsibility for the Financial Statements to the extent specified in the Independent Auditor's Report appearing in APPENDIX B hereto.

The Board Attorney has not participated in the preparation of the information contained in this Official Statement, nor has the Board Attorney verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness thereof, and, accordingly, expresses no opinion or other assurance with respect thereto, but has reviewed the section under the caption entitled "LITIGATION" and expresses no opinion or assurance other than that which is specifically set forth therein with respect thereto.

All other information has been obtained from sources which the Board considers to be reliable, but it makes no warranty, guarantee or other representation with respect to the accuracy and completeness of such information.

RATING

S&P Global Ratings, acting through Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC (the "Rating Agency"), has assigned an underlying rating of "AA-" to the Bonds based upon the creditworthiness of the School District. The Bonds are additionally secured by the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act.

The rating reflects only the view of the Rating Agency and an explanation of the significance of such rating may only be obtained from the Rating Agency. The Board forwarded to the Rating Agency certain information and materials concerning the Bonds and the School District. There can be no assurance that the rating will be maintained for any given period of time or that the rating will not be raised, lowered or withdrawn entirely if, in the Rating Agency's judgment, circumstances so warrant. Any downward change in or withdrawal of such rating may have an adverse effect on the marketability or market price of the Bonds.

UNDERWRITING

The Bonds are being purchased from the Board by _____ (the "Underwriter"), at a price of \$ _____. The Underwriter is obligated to purchase all of the Bonds if any Bonds are so purchased.

The Underwriter intends to offer the Bonds to the public initially at the offering yields set forth on the inside cover page of this Official Statement, which may subsequently change without any requirement of prior notice. The Underwriter reserves the right to join with dealers and other underwriters in offering the Bonds to the public. The Underwriter may offer and sell the Bonds to certain dealers (including dealers depositing the Bonds into investment trusts) at yields higher than the public offering yields set forth on the inside cover page, and such public offering yields may be changed, from time to time, by the Underwriter without prior notice.

SECONDARY MARKET DISCLOSURE

The Board has covenanted for the benefit of the holders and beneficial owners of the Bonds to provide certain financial information and operating data relating to the Board by no later than each January 31 after the end of each fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 (the "Annual Report"), and to provide notices of the occurrence of certain enumerated events, if material. The Annual Report will be filed by the Board with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB") or any other entity designated by the MSRB. The notices of material events will be filed by the Board with the MSRB through its Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") system and with any other entity designated by the MSRB, as applicable. The nature of the information to be contained in the Annual Report or the notices of material events is set forth in "APPENDIX D – Form of Continuing Disclosure Certificate." These covenants have been made in order to assist the underwriter in complying with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) (the "SEC Rule").

The Board has previously entered into continuing disclosure undertakings under the SEC Rule. The Board appointed Phoenix Advisors, LLC, Bordentown, New Jersey in May of 2015 to act as continuing disclosure agent to assist in the filing of certain information on EMMA as required under its obligations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Inquiries regarding this Official Statement, including information additional to that contained herein, may be directed to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Jared M. Toscano, (856) 786-9300, ext. 1012, ext. 4018 or to Charles Anthony Solimine, Esq., Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel to the Board, (732) 855-6430.

CERTIFICATE WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

At the time of the original delivery of the Bonds, the Board will deliver a certificate of one or more of its authorized officials to the effect that he/she has examined this Official Statement (including the Appendices) and the financial and other data concerning the School District contained herein and that, to the best of his knowledge and belief, (i) this Official Statement, both as of its date and as of the date of delivery of the Bonds, does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact necessary to make the statements herein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading and (ii) between the date of this Official Statement and the date of delivery of the Bonds, there has been no material adverse change in the affairs (financial or otherwise), financial condition or results or operations of the Board except as set forth in or contemplated by this Official Statement.

MISCELLANEOUS

This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement among the Board, the Underwriter and the holders of any of the Bonds. Any statements made in this Official Statement involving matters of opinion, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended merely as opinions and not as representations of fact. The information and expressions of opinion contained herein are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale of the Bonds made hereunder

shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs (financial or otherwise) of the Board since the date hereof.

The Board has authorized the preparation of this final Official Statement containing pertinent information relative to the Bonds, and this Official Statement is deemed to be the final Official Statement as required by Rule 15c2-12, promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended and supplemented. By awarding the Bonds to the Underwriter, the Board agrees that, within the earlier of seven (7) business days following the date of such award or to accompany the purchasers' confirmations requesting payment for the Bonds, it shall provide without cost to the Underwriter, for distribution purposes, copies of this final Official Statement. The underwriter agrees that (i) it shall accept such designation, and (ii) it shall assure the distribution of the final Official Statement.

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF
PALMYRA IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW
JERSEY**

**JARED M. TOSCANO,
Business Administrator/Board Secretary**

DATED: _____, 2024

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APPENDIX A

**Certain Economic and Demographic Information Relating to the
School District and the Borough of Palmyra,
in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey**

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INFORMATION REGARDING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT¹

Type

The School District is a Type II school district that is coterminous with the borders of the Borough of Palmyra (the “Board”). The School District provides a full range of educational services appropriate to pre-kindergarten (Pre-K) through grade twelve (12).

The Board is composed of nine (9) members elected by the legally qualified voters in the School District to terms of three (3) years on a staggered basis. The President and Vice President are chosen for one (1) year terms from among the members of the Board.

The Board is the policy making body of the School District and has the general responsibility for providing an education program, the power to establish policies and supervise the public schools in the School District, the responsibility to develop the annual School District budget and present it to the legally registered voters in the School District. The Board's fiscal year ends each June 30.

The Board appoints a Superintendent and Business Administrator/Board Secretary who are responsible for budgeting, planning and the operational functions of the School District. The administrative structure of the Board gives final responsibility for both the educational process and the business operation to the Superintendent.

Description of Facilities

The Board presently operates the following school facilities:

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Construction Date</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Student Enrollment (As of 6/30/23)</u>
Charles Street Elementary	1958	K-6	529
Palmyra High School	1922	7-12	566

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

¹ Source: The Board, unless otherwise indicated.

Staff

The Superintendent is the chief executive officer of the Board and is in charge of carrying out Board policies. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is the chief financial officer of the Board and must submit monthly financial reports to the Board and annual reports to the New Jersey Department of Education.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Teaching Professionals	95	95	95	93	90
Support Staff	<u>53</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>57</u>
Total Full & Part Time Employees	<u>148</u>	<u>148</u>	<u>148</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>147</u>

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

Pupil Enrollments

The following table presents the historical average daily pupil enrollments for the past five (5) school years.

<u>School Year</u>	<u>Enrollment</u>
2022-2023	1095
2021-2022	969
2020-2021	934
2019-2020	938
2018-2019	919

Source: School District and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

Pensions

Those employees of the School District who are eligible for pension coverage are enrolled in one of the two State-administered multi-employer pension systems (the "Pension System"). The Pension System was established by an act of the State Legislature. The Board of Trustees for the Pension System is responsible for the organization and administration of the Pension System. The two State-administered pension funds are: (1) the Teacher's Pension and Annuity Fund ("TPAF") and (2) the Public Employee's Retirement System ("PERS"). The Division of Pensions and Benefits, within the State of New Jersey Department of the Treasury (the "Division"), charges the participating school districts annually for their respective contributions. The School District raises its contributions through taxation and the State contributes the employer's share of the annual Social Security and Pension contribution for employees enrolled in the TPAF. The Pension System is a cost sharing multiple employer contributory defined benefit plan. The Pension System's designated purpose is to provide retirement and medical benefits for qualified retirees and other benefits to its members. Membership in the Pension System is mandatory for substantially all full-time employees of the State or any county, municipality, school district or public agency provided the employee is not

required to be a member of another State administered retirement system or other state or local jurisdiction.

Fiscal 2024-25 Budget

Prior to the passage of P.L. 2011, c. 202 the Board was required to submit its budget for voter approval on an annual basis. Under the Election Law (P.L. 2011, c. 202, effective January 17, 2012) if the school has opted to move its annual election to November, it is no longer required to submit the budget to voters for approval if the budget is at or below the two-percent (2%) property tax levy cap as provided for under New Cap Law (P.L. 2010, c. 44). If the Board proposes to spend above the two-percent (2%) property tax levy cap, it is then required to submit its budget to voters at the annual school election in November.

The General Fund budget is the sum of all state aid (exclusive of pension aid and social security aid) and the local tax levy (exclusive of debt service). The Board’s General Fund Budget for the 2024-2025 fiscal year is \$ 24,571,248. The major sources of revenue are \$10,715,898 from the local tax levy and \$ 8,320,226 from state aid.

Source: Annual User-Friendly Budget of the School District

Budget History

As noted, prior to the Board’s budget for its 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Board was required to submit its budget for voter approval. The results of the last five budget elections of the Board are as follows:

<u>Budget Year</u>	<u>Amount Raised in Taxes</u>	<u>Budget Amount</u>
2024-2025	\$10,715,898	\$24,571,248
2023-2024	10,715,898	21,981,957
2022-2023	10,505,782	20,465,630
2021-2022	10,127,361	18,810,114
2020-2021	9,928,786	18,681,382

Source: Annual User-Friendly Budget of the School District and NJ State DOE Website – School Election Results

Financial Operations

The following table summarizes information on the changes in general fund revenues and expenditures for the school years ending June 30, 2019 through June 30, 2023 for the general fund. Beginning with the 1993-94 fiscal year, school districts in the State of New Jersey have begun to prepare their financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States.

GENERAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
REVENUES					
Local Sources:					
Local Tax Levy	\$10,505,782	\$10,127,361	\$9,928,786	\$9,552,528	\$9,365,224
Other Local Revenue	<u>2,604,899</u>	<u>2,172,009</u>	<u>2,078,392</u>	<u>2,034,560</u>	<u>1,764,647</u>
Total Revenues-Local Sources	13,110,681	12,299,370	12,007,178	11,587,088	11,129,871
State Sources	10,681,259	9,605,174	8,171,491	7,621,172	7,537,037
Federal Sources	<u>28,134</u>	<u>15,685</u>	<u>15,108</u>	<u>21,256</u>	<u>19,389</u>
Total Revenues	\$23,820,074	\$21,920,229	\$20,193,777	\$19,229,516	\$18,686,297
EXPENDITURES					
General Fund:					
Instruction	\$7,177,972	\$6,832,674	\$6,501,244	\$6,358,773	\$6,365,694
Undistributed Expenditures	15,630,620	14,430,235	12,354,698	12,113,673	11,626,982
Capital Outlay	<u>47,972</u>	<u>13,251</u>	<u>599,653</u>	<u>341,376</u>	<u>124,002</u>
Total Expenditures	22,856,564	21,276,160	19,455,595	18,813,822	18,116,678
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	963,510	644,069	738,182	415,694	569,619
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Proceeds of Capital Lease	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers In	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers Out	<u>(76,147)</u>	<u>(71,134)</u>	<u>(65,234)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(76,147)	(71,134)	(65,234)	0	0
Net Change in Fund Balance	887,363	572,935	672,948	415,694	569,619
Fund Balance, July 1	<u>6,055,458</u>	<u>5,482,523</u>	<u>4,809,575*</u>	<u>4,239,840</u>	<u>3,670,221</u>
Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$6,942,821</u>	<u>\$6,055,458</u>	<u>\$5,482,523</u>	<u>\$4,655,534</u>	<u>\$4,239,840</u>

*Restated

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Governmental Funds and Changes In Fund Balances on a GAAP basis

Capital Leases

As of June 30, 2023, the Board has capital leases outstanding with payments due through year ending June 30, 2024, totaling \$17,542.

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

Operating Leases

As of June 30, 2023, the Board has no operating leases outstanding.

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

Short Term Debt

As of June 30, 2023, the Board has no short-term debt outstanding.

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

Long Term Debt

The following table outlines the outstanding long-term debt of the Board as of June 30, 2023.

<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$640,000	\$149,025	\$789,025
2025	640,000	123,425	763,425
2026	640,000	104,225	744,225
2027	635,000	85,025	720,025
2028	635,000	62,800	697,800
2029	625,000	43,750	668,750
2030	<u>625,000</u>	<u>21,875</u>	<u>646,875</u>
TOTALS	<u>\$4,440,000</u>	<u>\$590,125</u>	<u>\$5,030,125</u>

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

Debt Limit of the Board

The debt limitation of the Board is established by the statute (N.J.S.A. 18A:24-19). The Board is permitted to incur debt up to 4% of the average equalized valuation for the past three years. (See “SUMMARY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF SCHOOL DEBT- Exceptions to School Debt Limitations”). The following is a summation of the Board’s debt limitations as of June 30, 2023:

Average Equalized Real Property Valuation (2021, 2022, and 2023)	\$636,038,764
School District Debt Analysis	
Permitted Debt Limitation (4% of AEVP)	\$25,441,551
Less: Bonds and Notes Authorized and Outstanding	<u>4,440,000</u>
Remaining Limitation of Indebtedness	\$21,001,551
Percentage of Net School Debt to Average Equalized Valuation	0.70%

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

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INFORMATION REGARDING THE BOROUGH²

The following material presents certain economic and demographic information of the Borough of Palmyra (the “Borough”), in the County of Burlington (the “County”), State of New Jersey (the “State”).

General Information

The Borough of Palmyra is located in the western portion of Burlington County, New Jersey, directly across the Delaware River from the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Form of Government

The Borough of Palmyra was incorporated in 1905 and is governed by a Mayor and six-member Borough Council. The Mayor is elected for a four-year term and serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Borough. Members of the Borough Council are elected to three-year terms on a staggered basis and function as the legislative body of the Borough. The Borough Administrator is appointed by the Mayor and monitors the daily administrative and financial responsibilities, including but not limited to, staffing and personnel issues and budget preparation and implementation.

Retirement Systems

All full-time permanent or qualified Borough employees who began employment after 1944 must enroll in one of two retirement systems depending upon their employment status. These systems were established by acts of the State Legislature. Benefits, contributions, means of funding and the manner of administration are set by State law. The Division of Pensions, within the New Jersey Department of Treasury (the “Division”), is the administrator of the funds with the benefit and contribution levels set by the State. The Borough is enrolled in the Public Employees' Retirement System (“PERS”) and the Police and Firemen's Retirement System (“PFRS”).

Pension Information³

Employees, who are eligible to participate in a pension plan, are enrolled in PERS or PFRS, administered by the Division. The Division annually charges municipalities and other participating governmental units for their respective contributions to the plans based upon actuarial calculations. The employees contribute a portion of the cost.

² Source: The Borough, unless otherwise indicated.

³ Source: State of New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Employment and Unemployment Comparisons

For the following years, the New Jersey Department of Labor reported the following annual average employment information for the Borough, the County, and the State:

	<u>Total Labor Force</u>	<u>Employed Labor Force</u>	<u>Total Unemployed</u>	<u>Unemployment Rate</u>
<u>Borough</u>				
2023	4,283	4,102	181	4.2%
2022	4,183	4,031	152	3.6%
2021	4,087	3,842	245	6.0%
2020	4,047	3,713	334	8.3%
2019	4,082	3,949	133	3.3%
<u>County</u>				
2023	252,255	242,294	9,961	3.9%
2022	246,708	238,085	8,623	3.5%
2021	240,563	226,911	13,652	5.7%
2020	238,216	219,308	18,908	7.9%
2019	240,127	232,445	7,682	3.2%
<u>State</u>				
2023	4,829,671	4,615,722	213,949	4.4%
2022	4,736,213	4,552,563	183,650	3.9%
2021	4,648,814	4,337,793	311,021	6.7%
2020	4,638,386	4,200,980	437,406	9.4%
2019	4,687,390	4,525,044	162,346	3.5%

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor, Office of Research and Planning, Division of Labor Market and Demographic Research, Bureau of Labor Force Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

Income (as of 2022)

	<u>Borough</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
Median Household Income	\$84,866	\$100,478	\$96,346
Median Family Income	90,354	117,024	117,988
Per Capita Income	44,593	50,960	51,272

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 2022 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Population

The following tables summarize population increases and the decreases for the Borough, the County, and the State.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Borough</u>		<u>County</u>		<u>State</u>	
	<u>Population</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>% Change</u>
2022 est.	7,488	0.7%	469,860	4.7%	9,290,841	5.7%
2020	7,438	0.5	448,734	6.0	8,791,894	4.5
2010	7,398	4.3	423,394	7.2	8,414,350	8.9
2000	7,091	0.5	395,066	9.0	7,730,188	5.0
1990	7,056	-0.4	362,542	12.2	7,365,001	2.7

Source: United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

Largest Taxpayers

The ten largest taxpayers in the Borough and their assessed valuations are listed below:

<u>Taxpayers</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>
Willow Shores LP	\$11,406,700	2.38%
Boss Lady, LLC	3,500,000	0.73%
River Villas Mew LLC	2,261,600	0.47%
NAI Entertainment Holdings LLC	2,009,000	0.42%
Philadelphia Sign Company	1,809,200	0.38%
Taxpayer #1	1,530,300	0.32%
Palmyra Holdings LLC	1,320,600	0.28%
ROTO Cylinders, INC	1,247,800	0.26%
Taxpayer#2	1,177,700	0.25%
Taxpayer#3	<u>1,173,600</u>	<u>0.24%</u>
Total	<u>\$27,436,500</u>	<u>5.72%</u>

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District & Municipal Tax Assessor

Comparison of Tax Levies and Collections

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tax Levy</u>	<u>Current Year Collection</u>	<u>Current Year % of Collection</u>
2023U	\$20,343,758	\$19,915,891	97.90%
2022	19,838,435	19,405,534	97.82%
2021	19,098,623	18,716,238	97.40%
2020	19,118,875	18,622,616	97.55%
2019	18,532,720	18,050,283	97.79%

U=Unaudited
Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Borough

Delinquent Taxes and Tax Title Liens

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount of Tax Title Liens</u>	<u>Amount of Delinquent Tax</u>	<u>Total Delinquent</u>	<u>% of Tax Levy</u>
2023U	\$78,401	\$399,119	\$477,520	2.35%
2022	82,065	407,102	489,167	2.47%
2021	68,381	373,461	456,935	2.47%
2020	68,129	388,382	444,711	2.40%
2019	41,138	415,797	455,394	2.50%

U=Unaudited
Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Borough

Property Acquired by Tax Lien Liquidation

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2023U	\$300,550
2022	300,550
2021	300,550
2020	300,550
2019	570,050

U=Unaudited
Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Borough

Tax Rates per \$100 of Net Valuations Taxable and Allocations

The table below lists the tax rates for Borough residents for the past five (5) years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Municipal</u>	<u>Local School</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	\$1.387	\$2.377	\$0.470	\$4.234
2022	1.352	2.339	0.443	4.134
2021	1.313	2.243	0.434	3.99
2020	1.295	2.289	0.421	4.005
2019	1.243	2.206	0.430	3.879

Source: Abstract of Ratables and State of New Jersey – Property Taxes

Valuation of Property

<u>Year</u>	<u>Aggregate Assessed Valuation of Real Property</u>	<u>Aggregate True Value of Real Property</u>	<u>Ratio of Assessed to True Value</u>	<u>Assessed Value of Personal Property</u>	<u>Equalized Valuation</u>
2023	\$479,582,745	\$632,194,496	75.86%	\$76	\$632,194,572
2022	479,124,945	631,591,016	75.86	85	631,591,101
2021	477,400,245	559,016,680	85.40	94	559,016,774
2020	476,635,245	508,845,143	93.67	94	508,845,237
2019	477,382,645	513,480,311	92.97	93	513,480,404

Source: Abstract of Ratables and State of New Jersey – Table of Equalized Valuations

Classification of Ratables

The table below lists the comparative assessed valuation for each classification of real property within the Borough for the past five (5) years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Vacant Land</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Farm</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Industrial</u>	<u>Apartments</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	\$6,577,000	\$412,053,145	\$0	\$30,214,700	\$9,338,500	\$21,399,400	\$479,582,745
2022	6,567,000	411,485,645	0	30,186,600	9,486,300	21,399,400	479,124,945
2021	4,733,600	409,706,845	0	32,267,600	9,486,300	21,205,900	477,400,245
2020	4,627,600	408,915,145	0	32,380,300	9,506,300	21,205,900	476,635,245
2019	4,787,800	408,502,345	0	32,380,300	10,506,300	21,205,900	477,382,645

Source: Abstract of Ratables and State of New Jersey – Property Value Classification

Financial Operations

The following table summarizes the Borough's Current Fund budget for the past five (5) fiscal years ending December 31. This summary should be used in conjunction with the tables from which it is derived.

Summary of Current Fund Budget

<u>Anticipated Revenues</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Fund Balance Utilized	\$1,364,800	\$1,314,800	\$1,211,000	\$1,350,000	\$1,600,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,183,457	1,045,743	1,042,993	1,028,493	1,678,885
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	270,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000
Amount to be Raised by Taxation	<u>5,934,463</u>	<u>6,174,697</u>	<u>6,270,730</u>	<u>6,479,208</u>	<u>6,644,444</u>
Total Revenue:	<u>\$8,752,720</u>	<u>\$8,835,240</u>	<u>\$8,824,723</u>	<u>\$9,157,701</u>	<u>\$10,223,329</u>
<u>Appropriations</u>					
General Appropriations	\$6,695,962	\$6,715,115	\$6,660,159	\$7,024,140	\$7,158,598
Operations (Excluded from CAPS)	22,500	36,300	40,259	17,805	451,719
Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures	1,940	0	3,000	3,000	3,000
Judgments	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Improvement Fund	50,000	0	0	25,000	50,000
Municipal Debt Service	1,371,823	1,401,800	1,443,017	1,443,843	1,894,755
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	<u>610,495</u>	<u>682,025</u>	<u>678,288</u>	<u>643,913</u>	<u>665,257</u>
Total Appropriations:	<u>\$8,752,720</u>	<u>\$8,835,240</u>	<u>\$8,824,723</u>	<u>\$9,157,701</u>	<u>\$10,223,329</u>

Source: Annual Adopted Budgets of the Borough

Fund Balance

Current Fund

The following table lists the Borough's fund balance and the amount utilized in the succeeding year's budget for the Current Fund for the past five (5) fiscal years ending December 31.

Fund Balance - Current Fund

<u>Year</u>	<u>Balance 12/31</u>	<u>Utilized in Budget of Succeeding Year</u>
2023U	\$5,877,904	N/A
2022	5,045,522	1,350,000
2021	4,959,950	1,211,000
2020	3,922,172	1,314,800
2019	3,240,344	1,364,800

U=Unaudited

Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Borough

Sewer Utility Operating Fund

The following table lists the Borough's fund balance and the amount utilized in the succeeding year's budget for the Sewer Utility Operating Fund for the past five (5) fiscal years ending December 31.

Fund Balance		
<u>Fund Balance - Sewer Utility Operating Fund</u>		
<u>Year</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Utilized in Budget</u>
	<u>12/31</u>	<u>of Succeeding Year</u>
2023U	\$401,567	N/A
2022	787,153	637,426
2021	1,032,191	493,870
2020	688,913	240,000
2019	725,821	240,000

U=Unaudited

Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Borough

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Borough Indebtedness as of December 31, 2023

General Purpose Debt

Serial Bonds	\$8,865,000
Bond Anticipation Notes	3,746,000
Bonds and Notes Authorized but Not Issued	1,285,249
Other Bonds, Notes and Loans	0
Total:	<u>\$13,896,249</u>

Local School District Debt

Serial Bonds	\$4,440,000
Temporary Notes Issued	0
Bonds and Notes Authorized but Not Issued	0
Total:	<u>\$4,440,000</u>

Self-Liquidating Debt

Serial Bonds	\$2,460,000
Bond Anticipation Notes	933,000
Bonds and Notes Authorized but Not Issued	1,981,939
Other Bonds, Notes and Loans	1,893,432
Total:	<u>\$7,268,371</u>

TOTAL GROSS DEBT

\$25,604,620

Less: Statutory Deductions

General Purpose Debt	\$313,850
Local School District Debt	4,440,000
Self-Liquidating Debt	7,268,371
Total:	<u>\$12,022,221</u>

TOTAL NET DEBT

\$13,582,399

Source: Annual Debt Statement of the Borough

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Overlapping Debt (as of December 31, 2023)⁴

<u>Name of Related Entity</u>	<u>Related Entity Debt Outstanding</u>	<u>Borough Percentage</u>	<u>Borough Share</u>
Local School District	\$4,440,000	100.00%	\$4,440,000
County (2022)	584,086,740	1.11%	<u>6,458,061</u>
Net Indirect Debt			\$10,898,061
Net Direct Debt			<u>13,582,399</u>
Total Net Direct and Indirect Debt			<u>\$24,480,460</u>

Debt Limit

Average Equalized Valuation Basis (2021, 2022, 2023)	\$607,600,731
Permitted Debt Limitation (3 1/2%)	21,266,026
Less: Net Debt	<u>13,582,399</u>
Remaining Borrowing Power	<u>\$7,683,627</u>
Percentage of Net Debt to Average Equalized Valuation	2.235%
Gross Debt Per Capita based on 2020 population of 7,488	\$3,419
Net Debt Per Capita based on 2020 population of 7,488	\$1,814

Source: Annual Debt Statement of the Borough

⁴ Borough percentage of County debt is based on the Borough's share of total equalized valuation in the County

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APPENDIX B

**Financial Statements of The Board of Education of the
Borough of Palmyra
in the County of Burlington, New Jersey**

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NIGHTLINGER, COLAVITA & VOLPA

A Professional Association

Certified Public Accountants

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Williamstown, NJ 08094

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Fax (856) 728-2245
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable President and
Members of the Board of Education
Palmyra Borough School District
County of Burlington, New Jersey 08065

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Board of Education of the Palmyra Borough School District in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Board of Education of the Palmyra Borough School District in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Board of Education of Palmyra Borough School District in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Board of Education of the Palmyra Borough School District in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Board of Education of the Palmyra Borough School District in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board of Education of the Palmyra Borough School District in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Board of Education of the Palmyra Borough School District in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Board of Education of the Palmyra Borough School District in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) and New Jersey OMB's Circular 15-08, Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants and State Aid, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining statements and related major fund supporting financial statements are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report, as required by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey. The other information comprises the introductory and statistical sections but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 15, 2023 on our consideration of the Palmyra Borough Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Palmyra Borough Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Governments Auditing Standards* in considering Palmyra Borough School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

NIGHTLINGER, COLAVITA & VOLPA, P.A.



Raymond Colavita, C.P.A., R.M.A.
Licensed Public School Accountant
No. 915
November 15, 2023

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REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PART I

**BOROUGH OF PALMYRA BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

This section of the Borough of Palmyra Board of Education School District annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the School District's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2018. Please read it in conjunction with the transmittal letter at the front of this report and the School District's financial statements, which immediately follows this section.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of Required Supplementary Information specified in the Governmental Accounting Standard Board's (GASB) Statement No. 34- Basic Financial Statements- and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments issued in June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current year (2022-23) and the prior year (2021-22) is required to be presented in the MD&A.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key financial highlights for the 2022-23 fiscal year include the following:

- Net Position for Governmental and Business-Type activities were \$7,882,283 and \$382,043, respectively.
- Net Position for the Governmental activities increased by \$1,171,088 from operations while the Net Position for Business-Type activities decreased by \$102,948 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.
- The General Fund, fund balance as of June 30, 2023 was \$6,942,821, an increase of \$887,363 when compared with the prior year.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial section of the annual report consists of four parts - Independent Auditor's Report, required supplementary information which includes the management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and supplemental information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the Borough of Palmyra School District.

- The first two statements are government-wide financial statements that provide both short-term and long-term information about the Borough of Palmyra School District's overall financial status.
- The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual parts of the Borough of Palmyra School District, reporting the Borough of Palmyra School District's operation in more detail than the School Government-wide statements.
- The governmental funds statements tell how basic services such as regular and special education were financed in short term as well as what remains for future spending.
- Proprietary funds statements offer short-term and long-term financial information about the activities that the Borough of Palmyra School District operates like businesses.
- Fiduciary funds statements provide information about the financial relationships in which the School District acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of others to whom the resources belong.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the statements and provide more detailed data. Table A-1 summarizes the major features of the Borough of Palmyra School District's financial statements, including the portion of the School District's activities they cover and the types of information they contain. The remainder of this overview section of management's discussion and analysis highlights the structure and contents of each of the statements.

Table A-1

MAJOR FEATURES OF THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

		Fund Financial Statements	
	Government-wide Statements	Governmental Funds	Proprietary Funds
Scope	Entire School District (except fiduciary funds)	The activities of the School District that are not proprietary or fiduciary, such as regular and special education, building maintenance and transportation	Activities the School District operates similar to private businesses: Food Service Fund, After School Program
Required Financial Statements	Statement of Net Position	Balance Sheet	Statement of Net Position
	Statement of Activities	Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position
			Statement of Cash Flows
Accounting Basis and measurement focus	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus	Modified accrual accounting and current financial focus	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus
Type of asset/liability information	All assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, short-term and long-term	Generally, assets expected to be used up and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter; no capital assets or long-term liabilities included	All assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term
Type of inflow/outflow information	All revenues and expenses during year, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and the related liability is due and payable	All revenue and expenses during the year, regardless of when cash is received or paid

Government-Wide Statements

The government-wide statements report information about the Borough of Palmyra School District, as a whole, using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net position includes all of the School District's assets and liabilities. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report the Borough of Palmyra School District's net position and how they have changed. Net position - the difference between the School District's assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources - are a measure of the School District's financial health or position.

- Over time, increases or decreases in the School District's net position are an indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating, respectively.
- To assess the overall health of the School District you need to consider additional non-financial factors such as changes in the School District's property tax base and the condition of school buildings and other facilities.

In the government-wide financial statements the School District's activities are shown in two categories:

- *Governmental activities*- Most of the School District's basic services are included here, such as regular and special education, transportation, administration, and maintenance. Aid from the State of New Jersey and from the Federal government along with local property taxes finances most of these activities.
- *Business-type activities*-The School District charges fees to customers to help it cover the costs of certain services it provides. The School District's Food Service Program and After School Program are included here.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the School District's funds - focusing on the most significant or "major" funds - not the School District as a whole. Funds are accounting devices the School District uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending on particular programs:

- Some funds are required by State law and by bond covenants.
- The School District uses other funds, established in accordance with the State of New Jersey Uniform Chart of Accounts, to control and manage money for particular purposes (e.g., repaying its long-term debts) or to show that it is properly using certain revenues (e.g., federal funds).

The School District has three kinds of funds:

- **Governmental funds** - Most of the School District's basic services are included in governmental funds, which generally focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps to determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the School District's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide statements, we provide additional information at the bottom of the governmental funds statements that explain the relationship (or differences) between them.
- **Proprietary funds** - Services for which the School District charges a fee are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way as the government-wide statements.
- **Fiduciary funds** - The School District is the trustee, or fiduciary, for assets that belong to others. The School District is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used only for their intended purposes and by those to whom the assets belong. All of the School District's fiduciary activities are reported in a separate statement of fiduciary net position and a statement of changes in fiduciary net position. We exclude these activities from the government-wide financial statements because the School District cannot use these assets to finance its operations.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Net Position. The School District's net position for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2022 and 2023 are reflected in the following table.

**Table 1
NET POSITION**

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Assets						
Current and Other Assets	\$ 7,765,761	\$ 6,255,147	\$ 400,436	\$ 457,527	\$ 8,166,197	\$ 6,712,674
Capital Assets, Net	8,641,433	9,331,403	33,994	38,375	8,675,427	9,369,778
Total Assets	16,407,194	15,586,550	434,430	495,902	16,841,624	16,082,452
Deferred Outflows of Resources	640,681	573,816			640,681	573,816
Liabilities						
Other Liabilities	733,471	61,183	52,387	10,911	785,858	72,094
Non-Current Liabilities	7,988,313	8,044,556			7,988,313	8,044,556
Total Liabilities	8,721,784	8,105,739	52,387	10,911	8,774,171	8,116,650
Deferred Inflows of Resources	443,808	1,343,432			443,808	1,343,432
Net Position						
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Debt	3,278,393	3,896,044	33,994	38,375	3,312,387	3,934,419
Restricted	6,193,885	5,445,165			6,193,885	5,445,165
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(1,589,995)	(2,630,014)	348,049	446,616	(1,241,946)	(2,183,398)
Total Net Position	\$ 7,882,283	\$ 6,711,195	\$ 382,043	\$ 484,991	\$ 8,264,326	\$ 7,196,186

The School District's financial position for governmental and business-type activities is the product of the following factors:

- Program revenues were \$8,005,069.
 - ✓ Operating Grants & Contributions - \$5,077,208.
 - ✓ Charges for Services - \$2,927,861.
- General revenues amounted to \$18,232,559.
- Total Program Expenditures were \$25,169,488.
- Total School District revenues and beginning assets are adjusted by net adjusted expenditures resulting in a calculation of net position of \$8,264,326 as of June 30, 2023:
 - Revenues (\$26,237,628) + Beginning net position (\$7,196,186) - Net expenditures (\$25,169,488) = Net Position of \$8,264,326.

Changes in Net Position - Net position for governmental and business-type activities increased from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023 as reflected in the following table.

Changes in Net Position - Net position for governmental and business-type activities increased from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2023 as reflected in the following table.

Table 2
CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Revenues:						
Program Revenues:						
Charges for Services	\$ 2,548,158	\$ 2,217,527	\$ 379,703	\$ 214,348	\$ 2,927,861	\$ 2,431,875
Operating Grants and Contributions	4,748,417	3,319,647	328,791	654,831	5,077,208	3,974,478
General Revenues:						
Property Taxes	11,208,189	10,711,921			11,208,189	10,711,921
Grants and Contributions	6,874,624	7,342,420			6,874,624	7,342,420
Other	148,735	(399,938)	1,011	248	149,746	(399,690)
Total Revenues	<u>25,528,123</u>	<u>23,191,577</u>	<u>709,505</u>	<u>869,427</u>	<u>26,237,628</u>	<u>24,061,004</u>
Expenses						
Instruction	8,602,722	7,803,040			8,602,722	7,803,040
Support Services	15,561,089	14,782,778			15,561,089	14,782,778
Interest on Debt and Related Costs	193,224	230,111			193,224	230,111
Food Services			616,603	646,932	616,603	646,932
Childcare			195,850	147,554	195,850	147,554
Total Expenses	<u>24,357,035</u>	<u>22,815,929</u>	<u>812,453</u>	<u>794,486</u>	<u>25,169,488</u>	<u>23,610,415</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position	1,171,088	375,648	(102,948)	74,941	1,068,140	450,589
Net Position, July 1	6,711,195	6,335,547	484,991	410,050	7,196,186	6,745,597
Net Position, June 30	<u>\$ 7,882,283</u>	<u>\$ 6,711,195</u>	<u>\$ 382,043</u>	<u>\$ 484,991</u>	<u>\$ 8,264,326</u>	<u>\$ 7,196,186</u>

Total revenues for the School District were \$26,237,828. Government funding of \$11,951,832 was the source of 45.6% of the School District's revenues. This includes the State of New Jersey and Federal sources.

Property taxes of \$11,208,189 provided 42.7% of revenues. Charges for services provided 11.2% of revenues.

Other miscellaneous revenues of \$149,746 represent 0.5% of the School District revenues. Miscellaneous revenue was primarily provided from interest, refunds and athletic sales.

The School District's expenses for governmental activities are predominantly related to instruction and support services. Instruction and tuition totaled \$10,357,548 (41.2%) of total expenditures. Student and instruction or related support services totaled \$3,291,766 (13.1%) of total expenditures. Employee benefits of \$5,371,511 accounted for (21.3%) of expenditures, plant operations totaled \$2,377,239 (9.4%) of total expenditures and transportation, general, school and business administrative services totaled \$2,765,747 (11.0%). Interest on long-term debt totaled \$193,224 (0.8%).

Total revenues exceeded expenditures for governmental activities, increasing net position by \$1,171,088 from the beginning balance at July 1, 2023.

Activity Descriptions

Instruction expenses include activities directly dealing with the teaching of pupils and the interaction between teacher and student.

Tuition expenses include the cost to the School District to send pupils with special needs living within the School District to private schools and/or schools outside the School District area.

Student and instruction related services include the activities designed to assess and improve the well being of students and to supplement the teaching process.

School Administrative and General and Business Administrative services include expenses associated with establishing and administering policy for the School District including financial supervision.

Plant operation and maintenance of plant activities involve keeping the school grounds, buildings and equipment in a safe and effective working condition.

Pupil transportation includes activities involved with the conveyance of students to and from school, as well as to and from student activities as provided by State law and Board Policy.

Unallocated benefits include the cost of benefits for the School District staff for social security, retirement contributions, worker's compensation, health benefits, pension expense and other employee benefits.

Interest on long-term debt and amortization of bond issuance costs involve the transactions associated with the payment of interest and other related charges to the debt of the School District.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FUNDS

The financial performance of the Borough of Palmyra School District as a whole is also reflected in the governmental funds which are accounted for by using the modified accrual basis of accounting. As the School District completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$7,069,546.

All governmental funds had total revenues of \$27,139,463 and total expenditures of \$26,231,341, in addition to a transfer out to charter schools of \$76,147.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETING HIGHLIGHTS

The School District's budget is prepared according to New Jersey law, and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

The General Fund includes the primary operations of the School District in providing educational services to students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12 including pupil transportation activities and capital outlay projects.

The following schedule presents a summary of Governmental Fund Revenues. The summary reflects the dollar and percent increase (decrease) from the prior year.

Table 3
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS COMPARISON OF REVENUES
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>% of Increase (Decrease)</u>
Revenues:				
Local Sources:				
Local Tax Levy	\$ 11,208,189	\$ 10,711,921	\$ 496,268	4.63%
Tuition & Transportation	2,390,831	2,059,314	331,517	16.10%
Miscellaneous and Local Grants	382,209	274,822	107,387	39.08%
Total	<u>13,981,229</u>	<u>13,046,057</u>	<u>935,172</u>	<u>7.17%</u>
Government Sources:				
State Sources	11,241,416	9,694,239	1,547,177	15.96%
Federal Sources	1,916,818	1,298,104	618,714	47.66%
Total	<u>13,158,234</u>	<u>10,992,343</u>	<u>2,165,891</u>	<u>19.70%</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 27,139,463</u>	<u>\$ 24,038,400</u>	<u>\$ 3,101,063</u>	<u>12.90%</u>

One of the primary sources of funding for the School District is received from local property taxes and accounted for 41.3% of total revenues. State aid accounted for 48.5% of total revenues.

Total Governmental Fund revenues increased by \$3,101,063, or 12.9%, from the previous year. The major component of this increase was an increase in taxes and state sources.

The following schedule presents a summary of Governmental Fund expenditures. The summary reflects the dollar and percent increases (decreases) from the prior year.

Table 4
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURES
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Percent of Increase (Decrease)</u>
Expenditures				
Instruction				
Regular	\$ 5,252,487	\$ 4,911,947	\$ 340,540	6.93%
Special Education	2,566,025	2,129,543	436,482	20.50%
Other	784,210	761,550	22,660	2.98%
Total Instruction	<u>8,602,722</u>	<u>7,803,040</u>	<u>799,682</u>	<u>10.25%</u>
Support Services				
Tuition	1,754,826	1,721,901	32,925	1.91%
Student and Instruction Related Services	3,291,766	2,434,481	857,285	35.21%
School Administration	542,588	562,394	(19,806)	-3.52%
General/Business Administration	791,762	795,368	(3,606)	-0.45%
Plant Operations and Maintenance	2,365,543	1,691,002	674,541	39.89%
Pupil Transportation	705,277	510,861	194,416	38.06%
Unallocated Benefits	3,308,945	3,404,256	(95,311)	-2.80%
TPAF and FICA Reimbursements	3,994,639	3,771,275	223,364	5.92%
Total Support Services	<u>16,755,346</u>	<u>14,891,538</u>	<u>1,863,808</u>	<u>12.52%</u>
Capital Outlay	<u>63,848</u>	<u>13,251</u>	<u>50,597</u>	<u>381.84%</u>
Debt Service	<u>809,425</u>	<u>673,625</u>	<u>135,800</u>	<u>20.16%</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 26,231,341</u>	<u>\$ 23,381,454</u>	<u>\$ 2,849,887</u>	<u>12.19%</u>

Total Governmental Fund expenditures increased \$2,849,887 or 12.2% from the previous year, which included increased grant activity.

The Borough of Palmyra School District values its fund balances as a vehicle for addressing unbudgeted and emergent needs that occur during the school year.

During the course of fiscal year 2023, the School District modified the General Fund Budget as needed to ensure no line item was projected to be over-expended.

DEBT SERVICE FUND

The current year obligations for payment of debt service principal and interest amounted to \$809,425 where funding was provided by the local tax levy and Debt Service Aid.

FOOD SERVICE PROPRIETARY FUND

The Food Service Fund's net position was \$238,667 as of June 30, 2023. This reflects an decrease of \$46,396 from June 30, 2022.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM PROPRIETARY FUND

The After School Program Fund's net position was \$143,376 as of June 30, 2023. This reflects an decrease of \$56,552 from June 30, 2022.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

Capital Assets are individual items purchased at a cost exceeding \$2,000, have an extended useful life of one year or more and maintain their identity and structure when placed into service.

At the end of 2023, the School District had capital assets allocated to governmental activities with a net book value of \$8,641,433 and business-type activities of \$33,994. This consists of a broad range of capital assets, including land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment, and right-to-use lease assets. Total depreciation expense for the year was \$689,970.

Table 5
CAPITAL ASSETS (NET OF ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION)

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Land	\$ 46,066	\$ 46,066	\$	\$	\$ 46,066	\$ 46,066
Building and Improvements	8,296,323	8,920,912			8,296,323	8,920,912
Vehicles	61,369	78,079			61,369	78,079
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	225,042	261,081	33,994	38,375	259,036	299,456
Right-to-Use Lease Assets	12,633	25,265			12,633	
Total	\$ 8,641,433	\$ 9,331,403	\$ 33,994	\$ 38,375	\$ 8,675,427	\$ 9,344,513

Debt Administration - Long-term Obligations

At fiscal year-end, the School District had \$4,440,000 in general obligation bonds outstanding, a decrease of \$635,000 from last fiscal year. This reduction was due to payment of principal. The School District does not anticipate incurring any new long-term debt at this time.

The School District's has a right-to-use lease liability, in the amount of \$17,030.

The School District also had a \$327,568 liability for compensated absences allocated to government activities. This liability represents the School District's contractual obligation to compensate employees for accumulated unused sick and vacation leave entitlements upon retirement.

The School District's proportionate share of net pension liability was \$2,754,688.

Table 6
SCHEDULE OF LONG TERM OBLIGATIONS

	2023	2022	Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
Bonds Payable	\$ 4,440,000	\$ 5,075,000	\$ (635,000)	-12.51%
Add: Issuance Premium	449,027	511,319	(62,292)	-12.18%
Total Bonds Payable	4,889,027	5,586,319	(697,292)	
Compensated Absences	327,568	321,593	5,975	1.86%
Net Pension Liability	2,754,688	2,103,612	651,076	30.95%
Right-to-Use Lease Liability	17,030	33,032	(16,002)	100.00%
Total	\$ 7,988,313	\$ 8,044,556	\$ (56,243)	-0.70%

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

The Borough of Palmyra School District is presently in a stable financial position.

The School District has done a commendable job managing the budget through changing state regulations and unfunded mandates. The over reliance on fund balances in prior years and the level of property tax support for the School District has been stabilized. The School District remains committed to serving students and taxpayers and it continues to strive for an exceptional program and a stable tax rate.

The School District's system for financial planning, budgeting and internal controls are continually reviewed, in an effort to align routine operational processes with the continually changing educational demands, as well as those demands imposed upon the School District by outside authorities having jurisdiction. The School District is committed to continuing its sound fiscal management to meet the challenges of the future.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to demonstrate the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the School Business Administrator, Jared Toscano, at:

Borough of Palmyra Board of Education, 301 Delaware Ave., Palmyra, New Jersey 08065.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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DISTRICT WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District.

These statements include the financial activities of the overall District, except for fiduciary activities.

Eliminations have been made to minimize the double-counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the governmental and business-type activities of the District.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICTStatement of Net PositionFor the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Business-Type Activities</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS:			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,969,040	\$ 357,216	\$ 6,326,256
Receivables, Net	1,796,721	21,705	1,818,426
Inventory		21,515	21,515
Capital Assets, Net (Note 6)	8,641,433	33,994	8,675,427
Total Assets	16,407,194	434,430	16,841,624
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:			
Deferred Loss on Refunding Related to Pensions (Note 9)	96,550		96,550
	544,131		544,131
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	640,681		640,681
LIABILITIES:			
Accounts Payable	696,215	33,505	729,720
Accrued Interest	37,256		37,256
Unearned Revenue		18,882	18,882
Noncurrent Liabilities (Note 7):			
Due within One Year	669,197		669,197
Due beyond One Year	7,319,116		7,319,116
Total Liabilities	8,721,784	52,387	8,774,171
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:			
Related to Pensions (Note 9)	443,808		443,808
NET POSITION:			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	3,278,393	33,994	3,312,387
Restricted for:			
Unemployment Compensation	264,515		264,515
Scholarships	66,464		66,464
Student Activity	114,280		114,280
Capital Projects	1,750,320		1,750,320
Maintenance Reserve	1,199,898		1,199,898
Other Purposes	2,798,408		2,798,408
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(1,589,995)	348,049	(1,241,946)
Total Net Position	\$ 7,882,283	\$ 382,043	\$ 8,264,326

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Statement of Activities

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Functions / Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position		
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Governmental Activities:							
Instruction:							
Regular	\$ 5,252,487	\$ 2,390,831			\$ (2,861,656)		\$ (2,861,656)
Special Education	2,566,025		\$ 1,424,750		(1,141,275)		(1,141,275)
Other Special Instruction	784,210				(784,210)		(784,210)
Support Services:							
Tuition	1,754,826				(1,754,826)		(1,754,826)
Student and Instruction Related Services	3,291,766	157,327	1,124,726		(2,009,713)		(2,009,713)
School Administrative Services	1,268,708				(1,268,708)		(1,268,708)
General and Business Administrative Services	791,762				(791,762)		(791,762)
Plant Operations and Maintenance	2,377,239				(2,377,239)		(2,377,239)
Pupil Transportation	705,277				(705,277)		(705,277)
Unallocated Benefits	5,371,511		2,198,941		(3,172,570)		(3,172,570)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	193,224				(193,224)		(193,224)
Total Governmental Activities	24,357,035	2,548,158	4,748,417		(17,060,460)		(17,060,460)
Business-Type Activities:							
Food Service	616,603	240,405	328,791			(47,407)	(47,407)
After School Program	195,850	139,298				(56,552)	(56,552)
Total Business-Type Activities	812,453	379,703	328,791			(103,959)	(103,959)
Total Government	\$ 25,169,488	\$ 2,927,861	\$ 5,077,208		(17,060,460)	(103,959)	(17,164,419)
General Revenues:							
Taxes:							
Property Taxes, Levied for General Purposes, net					10,505,782		10,505,782
Property Taxes Levied for Debt Service					702,407		702,407
Federal and State Aid not Restricted					6,874,624		6,874,624
Miscellaneous Income					148,735	1,011	149,746
Total General Revenues					18,231,548	1,011	18,232,559
Change in Net Position					1,171,088	(102,948)	1,068,140
Net Position -- July 1					6,711,195	484,991	7,196,186
Net Position -- June 30					\$ 7,882,283	\$ 382,043	\$ 8,264,326

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

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FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Individual Fund statements and schedules present more detailed information for the individual fund in a format that segregates information by fund.

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GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Governmental Funds

Balance Sheet

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Debt Service Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS:				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,785,546	\$ 180,744		\$ 5,966,290
Receivables, net:				
Interfunds Receivable:				
Special Revenue Fund	209,730			209,730
Food Service	2,750			2,750
Debt Service	58,534			58,534
Receivables from Other Governments:				
State Sources	404,838	4,497		409,335
Federal Sources		207,638		207,638
Local Sources	1,121,214		58,534	1,179,748
Total Assets	\$ 7,582,612	\$ 392,879	\$ 58,534	\$ 8,034,025
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES:				
Liabilities:				
Accounts Payable	\$ 628,221	\$ 18,893		\$ 647,114
Unemployment Compensation Claims Payable	824			824
Flexible Spending Reserve	10,746			10,746
Interfunds Payable:				
General Fund		209,730	58,534	268,264
Unearned Revenue		37,531		37,531
Total Liabilities	639,791	266,154	58,534	964,479
Fund Balances:				
Restricted:				
Excess Surplus	1,390,170			1,390,170
Excess Surplus - Subsequent Year's Expenditures	1,408,238			1,408,238
Capital Reserve	1,750,320			1,750,320
Maintenance Reserve	1,199,898			1,199,898
Unemployment Compensation	264,515			264,515
Scholarships		66,464		66,464
Student Activities		114,280		114,280
Assigned:				
Subsequent Year's Expenditures	781,591			781,591
Unassigned (Deficit)	148,089	(54,019)		94,070
Total Fund Balances	6,942,821	126,725		7,069,546
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 7,582,612	\$ 392,879	\$ 58,534	

Amounts reported for *governmental activities* in the statement of net position (A-1) are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. The cost of the assets is \$23,052,752, and the accumulated depreciation is \$14,411,319.

8,641,433

Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable and compensated absences, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds.

(5,233,625)

Net Pension Liability

(2,754,688)

Deferred Outflows of Resources - Related to Pensions

544,131

Deferred Inflows of Resources - Related to Pensions

(443,808)

Deferred loss on defeasance of debt is a consumption of net position

96,550

that is applicable to a future reporting period and therefore is not reported in the funds.

Interest on long term debt is accrued on the Statement of Net Position regardless when due.

(37,256)

Net Position of Governmental Activities

\$ 7,882,283

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICTGovernmental FundsStatement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund BalancesFor the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Debt Service Fund	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
Local Tax Levy	\$ 10,505,782	\$	\$ 702,407	\$ 11,208,189
Tuition and Transportation	2,390,831			2,390,831
Miscellaneous	195,346			195,346
Other Restricted Miscellaneous Revenue	18,722			18,722
State Sources	10,681,259	453,139	107,018	11,241,416
Local Sources		168,141		168,141
Federal Sources	28,134	1,888,684		1,916,818
Total Revenues	23,820,074	2,509,964	809,425	27,139,463
EXPENDITURES:				
Regular Instruction	5,252,487			5,252,487
Special Education Instruction	1,141,275	1,424,750		2,566,025
Other Special Instruction	784,210			784,210
Support Services and Undistributed Costs:				
Tuition	1,754,826			1,754,826
Student and Instruction Related Services	2,167,040	1,124,726		3,291,766
School Administrative Services	542,588			542,588
Other Administrative Services	791,762			791,762
Plant Operations and Maintenance	2,365,543			2,365,543
Pupil Transportation	705,277			705,277
Unallocated Benefits	7,303,584			7,303,584
Debt Service:				
Principal			635,000	635,000
Interest and Other Charges			174,425	174,425
Capital Outlay	47,972	15,876		63,848
Total Expenditures	22,856,564	2,565,352	809,425	26,231,341
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	963,510	(55,388)		908,122
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
Transfer of Funds to Charter School	(76,147)			(76,147)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(76,147)			(76,147)
Net Change in Fund Balances	887,363	(55,388)		831,975
Fund Balance - July 1	6,055,458	182,113		6,237,571
Fund Balance - June 30	\$ 6,942,821	\$ 126,725	\$	\$ 7,069,546

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Governmental Funds
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds
to the Statement of Activities
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Total Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds		\$ 831,975
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities (A-2) are different because:</p> <p>Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the period.</p>		
Depreciation Expense	\$ (726,120)	
Capital Outlays	36,150	(689,970)
Repayment of bond principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position and is not reported in the statement of activities.		635,000
In the statement of activities, interest on long-term debt in the statement of activities is accrued, regardless of when due. In the governmental funds, interest is reported when due. The decrease in accrued interest is an addition in the reconciliation. (+)		6,351
Governmental funds report School District pension contributions as expenditures. However in the statement of activities, the cost of pension benefits earned is reported as pension expense. This is the amount by which pension benefits earned exceeded the School District's pension contributions in the current period.		402,855
Repayment of right-to-use lease principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position and is not reported in the statement of activities.		16,002
In the Statement of Activities, deferred losses on debt refunding are amortized over the life of the debt. However, in the governmental fund, no expenditures are incurred.		(25,150)
In the statement of activities, certain operating expenses, e.g., compensated absences (vacations) are measured by the amounts earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are reported in the amount of financial resources used (paid). When the earned amount exceeds the paid amount, the difference is reduction in the reconciliation (-); when the paid amount exceeds the earned amount the difference is an addition to the reconciliation (+).		(5,975)
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		\$ 1,171,088

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICTProprietary FundsBusiness-Type Activities - Enterprise FundsStatement of Net PositionJune 30, 2023

	<u>Food Service</u>	<u>After School Program</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS:			
Current Assets:			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 216,590	\$ 143,376	\$ 359,966
Accounts Receivable:			
State	485		485
Federal	12,415		12,415
Other	8,805		8,805
Inventories	21,515		21,515
Total Current Assets	<u>259,810</u>	<u>143,376</u>	<u>403,186</u>
Noncurrent Assets:			
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	337,711		337,711
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(303,717)		(303,717)
Total Noncurrent Assets	<u>33,994</u>		<u>33,994</u>
Total Assets	<u>293,804</u>	<u>143,376</u>	<u>437,180</u>
LIABILITIES:			
Current Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	33,505		33,505
Interfund Accounts Payable	2,750		2,750
Unearned Revenue	18,882		18,882
Total Liabilities	<u>55,137</u>		<u>55,137</u>
NET POSITION:			
Restricted:			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	33,994		33,994
Unrestricted	204,673	143,376	348,049
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 238,667</u>	<u>\$ 143,376</u>	<u>\$ 382,043</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Proprietary Funds
Business-Type Activities - Enterprise Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Food Service</u>	<u>After School Program</u>	<u>Total</u>
OPERATING REVENUES:			
Charges for Services:			
Daily Sales:			
Non-reimbursable Programs	\$ 122,144	\$	\$ 122,144
Reimbursable Program -- School Lunch	118,261		118,261
Child Care Fees		139,298	139,298
Total Operating Revenues	<u>240,405</u>	<u>139,298</u>	<u>379,703</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES:			
Salaries	229,784	158,741	388,525
Management Fee	25,789		25,789
General Supplies	1,267	6,039	7,306
Direct Expenses	4,503		4,503
Depreciation	4,381		4,381
Other Professional and Technical Services	34,932	31,070	66,002
Cost of Sales - Reimbursable Programs	260,495		260,495
Cost of Sales - Non-reimbursable Programs	55,452		55,452
Total Operating Expenses	<u>616,603</u>	<u>195,850</u>	<u>812,453</u>
Operating Income / (Loss)	<u>(376,198)</u>	<u>(56,552)</u>	<u>(432,750)</u>
NONOPERATING REVENUES:			
State Sources:			
State School Breakfast Program	857		857
State School Lunch Program	8,058		8,058
Federal Sources:			
National School Breakfast Program	36,996		36,996
National School Lunch Program	192,883		192,883
Supply Chain Assistance Funding	34,722		34,722
Food Distribution Program	55,275		55,275
Interest Revenue	1,011		1,011
Total Nonoperating Revenues	<u>329,802</u>		<u>329,802</u>
Change in Net Position	(46,396)	(56,552)	(102,948)
Net Position -- July 1	285,063	199,928	484,991
Net Position -- June 30	<u>\$ 238,667</u>	<u>\$ 143,376</u>	<u>\$ 382,043</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICTProprietary FundsBusiness-Type Activities - Enterprise FundsStatement of Cash FlowsFor the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Food Service	After School Program	Total
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Receipts from Customers	\$ 268,502	\$ 143,398	\$ 411,900
Payments to Management Company	(25,789)		(25,789)
Payments to Employees	(229,784)	(158,741)	(388,525)
Payments for Employee Benefits			0
Payments for Supplies and Services	(321,560)	(37,109)	(358,669)
Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities	(308,631)	(52,452)	(361,083)
CASH FLOWS FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
State Sources	8,058		8,058
Federal Sources	320,733		320,733
Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Non-Capital Financing Activities	328,791		328,791
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchase of Fixed Assets			
Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Capital Financing Activities			
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Interest Revenue	1,011		1,011
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	21,171	(52,452)	(31,281)
Cash and Cash Equivalents -- July 1	195,419	195,828	391,247
Cash and Cash Equivalents -- June 30	\$ 216,590	\$ 143,376	\$ 359,966
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided (Used)			
by Operating Activities:			
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (376,198)	\$ (56,552)	\$ (432,750)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash			
Provided by (used for) Operating Activities:			
Depreciation and Net Amortization	4,381		4,381
(Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable	27,917	4,100	32,017
(Increase) Decrease in Inventories	(9,137)		(9,137)
(Increase) Decrease in Interfund Receivable	180		180
Increase (Decrease) in Unearned Revenue	7,971		7,971
Increase (Decrease) in Interfund Payable	2,750		2,750
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable	33,505		33,505
Total Adjustments	67,567	4,100	71,667
Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities	\$ (308,631)	\$ (52,452)	\$ (361,083)

Noncash Investing, Capital, and Financing Activities:

During the year, the District received \$41,660 of food commodities from the U.S. Department of Agriculture

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Borough of Palmyra School District (the "School District") have been prepared to conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The District's financial reporting consist of a Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) providing an analysis of the District's over-all financial position and results of operations, as well as Basic financial statements prepared using full-accrual accounting for all of the District's activities. The following is a summary of the more significant of these policies.

Description of the Financial Reporting Entity

The School District is a Type II district located in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey. As a Type II district, the School District functions independently through a Board of Education (the "Board"). The Board is comprised of nine members elected to three-year terms. These terms are staggered so that three member's terms expire each year. The Superintendent is appointed by the Board to act as executive officer of the School District. The purpose of the School District is to educate students from Palmyra Borough in grades Pre-K through 12 at its three schools. In addition, high school students from the City of Beverly and the Borough of Riverton attend Palmyra High School. The School District has an approximate enrollment at June 30, 2023 of 1,095.

The primary criterion for including activities within the School District's reporting entity, as set forth in Section 2100 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board *Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards*, is the degree of oversight responsibility maintained by the School District. Oversight responsibility includes financial interdependency, selection of governing authority, designation of management, ability to significantly influence operations and accountability for fiscal matters. The combined financial statements include all funds of the School District over which the Board exercises operating control.

Component Units

In evaluating how to define the School District for financial reporting purposes, management has considered all potential component units. The decision to include any potential component units in the financial reporting entity was made by applying the criteria set forth in GASB Statements No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units*, GASB Statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus - an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34*, and GASB Statement No. 80, *Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 14*. Blended component units, although legally separate entities, are in-substance part of the government's operations. Each discretely presented component unit is reported in a separate column in the government-wide financial statements to emphasize that it is legally separate from the government.

The basic-but not the only-criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is the governing body's ability to exercise oversight responsibility. The most significant manifestation of this ability is financial interdependency. Other manifestations of the ability to exercise oversight responsibility include, but are not limited to, the selection of governing authority, the designation of management, the ability to significantly influence operations, and accountability for fiscal matters. A second criterion used in evaluating potential component units is the scope of public service. Application of this criterion involves considering whether the activity benefits the government and/or its citizens.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Component Units (Cont'd)

A third criterion used to evaluate potential component units for inclusion or exclusion from the reporting entity is the existence of special financing relationships, regardless of whether the government is able to exercise oversight responsibilities. Finally, the nature and significance of a potential component unit to the primary government could warrant its inclusion within the reporting entity.

Based upon the application of these criteria, the School District has no component units.

Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The School District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by property taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and, therefore, clearly identifiable to a particular function. It is the policy of the School District to not allocate indirect expenses to functions in the statement of activities. Program revenues include (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Property taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

In regards to the fund financial statements, the School District segregates transactions related to certain functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund financial statements report detailed information about the School District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. The Burlington County Board of Taxation is responsible for the assessment of properties, and the respective municipal tax collector is responsible for the collection of property taxes. Assessments are certified and property taxes are levied on January 1.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation (Cont'd)

Property tax payments are due February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. Unpaid property taxes are considered delinquent the following January 1 and are then subject to municipal lien. In accordance with New Jersey State Statute, the School District is entitled to receive moneys under an established payment schedule, and any unpaid amount is considered as an accounts receivable. The governing body of each municipality is required to pay over to the School District, within forty (40) days after the beginning of the school year, twenty percent (20%) of the moneys from school tax due. Thereafter, but prior to the last day of the school year, the municipality must pay the balance of moneys from school tax due for school purposes in such amounts as requested, with certain limitations, from time to time by the School District, within thirty days after each request.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when they are deemed both available and measurable. Available means when revenues are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the School District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within sixty (60) days of the end of the current fiscal year. Measurable means that the amount of revenue can be determined. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, tuition, reimbursable-type grants, and interest associated with the current fiscal year are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal year. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the School District.

The School District reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - The general fund is the primary operating fund of the School District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Included are certain expenditures for vehicles and movable instructional or non-instructional equipment classified in the capital outlay sub-fund.

As required by the New Jersey State Department of Education, the School District includes budgeted capital outlay in this fund. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, as they pertain to governmental entities, state that general fund resources may be used to directly finance capital outlays for long-lived improvements as long as the resources in such cases are derived exclusively from unrestricted revenues.

Resources for budgeted capital outlay purposes are normally derived from State of New Jersey aid, ad valorem tax revenues, and appropriated fund balance. Expenditures are those which result in the acquisition of or additions to capital assets for land, existing buildings, improvements of grounds, construction of buildings, additions to, or remodeling of buildings, and the purchase of built-in equipment.

As a result of implementing GASB Statement No. 84, Fiduciary Activities, amounts maintained for unemployment claims and payroll withholdings for employee salary deductions are included in the general fund. Amounts maintained for unemployment claims are used to account for the portion of employee deductions for unemployment compensation required to be deposited and accumulated for future unemployment claims under the Benefit Reimbursement Method.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation (Cont'd)

Special Revenue Fund - The special revenue fund is used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditures for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

As a result of implementing GASB Statement No. 84, Fiduciary Activities, amounts maintained for student activities and private purpose scholarships are included in the special revenue fund. The amounts are considered to be restricted and available to use for specific expenditures. Amounts maintained for student activities are derived from athletic events or other activities of pupil organizations and accumulated for payment of student group activities.

Capital Projects Fund - The capital projects fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets, other than those financed by proprietary funds. The financial resources are derived from New Jersey Economic Development Authority grants, temporary notes, serial bonds which are specifically authorized by the voters as a separate question on the ballot either during the annual election or at a special election, or from the general fund by way of transfers from capital outlay or the capital reserve account. The School District does not maintain a capital projects fund.

Debt Service Fund - The debt service fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for principal and interest.

Proprietary Funds

All proprietary funds are accounted for on a current financial resource's measurement focus. This means that all assets and liabilities, whether current or noncurrent, associated with their activity are included on their balance sheets. Their reported fund equity (total net position) segregated into contributed capital and unreserved retained earnings, if applicable. Proprietary fund type operating statements present increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses) in total net position.

Depreciation of all exhaustive fixed assets used by proprietary funds is charged as an expense against their operations. Accumulated depreciation is reported on proprietary fund balance sheets. Depreciation has been provided over the estimated useful lives using the straight-line method.

The School District reports the following major proprietary funds:

Enterprise Funds

Food Service Fund - This fund accounts for the financial transactions related to the food service operations of the School District.

After School Fund - This fund accounts for the financial activity related to providing day care services for School District students after school.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

As a general rule the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

Amounts reported as program revenues include (1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, (2) operating grants and contributions, and (3) capital grants and contributions. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all property taxes.

Budgets / Budgetary Control

Annual appropriated budgets are prepared in the spring of each fiscal year for the general, special revenue, and debt service funds, and are submitted to the county office of education. In accordance with P.L. 2011, c. 202, the School District passed a resolution to move the school board election to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, starting in November of 2012, to be held simultaneously with the general election. As a result, a vote is not required on the School District's general fund tax levy for the budget year, other than the general fund tax levy required to support a proposal for additional funds, if any. Budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The legal level of budgetary control is established at line item accounts within each fund. Line item accounts are defined as the lowest (most specific) level of detail as established pursuant to the minimum chart of accounts referenced in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(f)1. Transfers of appropriations may be made by school board resolution at any time during the fiscal year in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A- 13.3.

Formal budgetary integration into the accounting system is employed as a management control device during the year. For governmental funds there are no substantial differences between the budgetary basis of accounting and generally accepted accounting principles, with the exception of the legally mandated revenue recognition of the one or more June state aid payments for budgetary purposes only, and the special revenue fund. N.J.S.A. 18A:22-44.2 provides that in the event a state school aid payment is not made until the following school budget year, school districts must record the delayed one or more June state aid payments as revenue, for budget purposes only, in the current school budget year. The bill provides legal authority for school districts to recognize this revenue in the current budget year. Encumbrance accounting is also employed as an extension of formal budgetary integration in the governmental fund types. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

The accounting records of the special revenue fund are maintained on the budgetary basis. The budgetary basis differs from GAAP in that the budgetary basis recognizes encumbrances as expenditures and also recognizes the related revenues, whereas the GAAP basis does not. Sufficient supplemental records are maintained to allow for the presentation of GAAP basis financial reports.

The budget, as detailed on exhibit C-1, exhibit C-2, and exhibit I-3, includes all amendments to the adopted budget, if any.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Budgets / Budgetary Control (Cont'd)

Exhibit C-3 presents a reconciliation of the general fund revenues and special revenue fund revenues and expenditures from the budgetary basis of accounting, as presented in the general fund budgetary comparison schedule and the special revenue fund budgetary comparison schedule, to the GAAP basis of accounting as presented in the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances - governmental funds. Note that the School District does not report encumbrances outstanding at fiscal year-end as expenditures in the general fund since the general fund budget follows the modified accrual basis of accounting, with the exception of the aforementioned revenue recognition policy for the one or more June state aid payments.

Encumbrances

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded to assign a portion of the applicable appropriation, is utilized for budgetary control purposes. Encumbrances are a component of fund balance at fiscal year-end as they do not constitute expenditures or liabilities, but rather commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods and services. Open encumbrances in the governmental funds, other than the special revenue fund, which have not been previously restricted, committed, or assigned, should be included within committed or assigned fund balance, as appropriate.

Open encumbrances in the special revenue fund, however, for which the School District has received advances of grant awards, are reflected on the balance sheet as unearned revenues at fiscal year-end.

The encumbered appropriation authority carries over into the next fiscal year. An entry will be made at the beginning of the next fiscal year to increase the appropriation reflected in the certified budget by the outstanding encumbrance amount as of the current fiscal year end.

Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents, for all funds, include petty cash, change funds, cash in banks and all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase and are stated at cost plus accrued interest. Such is the definition of cash and cash equivalents used in the statement of cash flows for the proprietary funds. U.S. treasury and agency obligations and certificates of deposit with maturities of one year or less when purchased are stated at cost. All other investments are stated at fair value.

New Jersey school districts are limited as to the types of investments and types of financial institutions they may invest in. N.J.S.A. 18A:20-37 provides a list of permissible investments that may be purchased by New Jersey school districts.

N.J.S.A. 17:9-41 et seq. establishes the requirements for the security of deposits of governmental units. The statute requires that no governmental unit shall deposit public funds in a public depository unless such funds are secured in accordance with the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act ("GUDPA"), a multiple financial institutional collateral pool, which was enacted in 1970 to protect governmental units from a loss of funds on deposit with a failed banking institution in New Jersey. Public depositories include State or federally chartered banks, savings banks or associations located in or having a branch office in the State of New Jersey, the deposits of which are federally insured.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (Cont'd)

All public depositories must pledge collateral, having a market value at least equal to five percent of the average daily balance of collected public funds, to secure the deposits of governmental units. If a public depository fails, the collateral it has pledged, plus the collateral of all other public depositories, is available to pay the amount of their deposits to the governmental units.

Inventories

Inventories are valued at cost, which approximates market. The costs are determined on a first-in, first-out method.

The cost of inventories in the governmental fund financial statements is recorded as expenditures when purchased rather than when consumed.

Inventories recorded on the government-wide financial statements and in the proprietary fund types are recorded as expenses when consumed rather than when purchased.

Tuition Receivable

Tuition charges were established by the School District based on estimated costs. The charges are subject to adjustment when the final costs are determined.

Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses recorded on the government-wide financial statements and in the proprietary fund types represent payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2023. The School District had no prepaid expenses for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

In the governmental fund financial statements, however, payments for prepaid items are fully recognized as expenditures in the fiscal year of payment. No asset for the prepayment is created, and no expenditure allocation to future accounting periods is required (*non-allocation method*). This is consistent with the basic governmental concept that only expendable financial resources are reported by a specific fund.

Short-Term Interfund Receivables / Payables

Short-term interfund receivables / payables (internal balances) represent amounts that are owed, other than charges for goods or services rendered to / from a particular fund within the School District, and that are due within one year. Such balances are eliminated in the statement of net position to minimize the grossing up of internal balances, thus leaving a net amount due between the governmental and business-type activities that are eliminated in the total government column. Balances with fiduciary activities are not considered to be internal balances; therefore, such balances appear on the statement of net position as accounts receivable.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Capital Assets

Capital assets represent the cumulative amount of capital assets owned by the School District. Purchased capital assets are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund financial statements and are capitalized at cost on the government-wide statement of net position and proprietary fund statement of net position. In the case of gifts or contributions, such capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the time received.

The School District's capitalization threshold is \$2,000. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance is expensed as incurred. All reported capital assets, except land and construction in progress, are depreciated. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Years</u>
Buildings	50
Building improvements & portable classroom	20 -50
Land improvements	20
Furniture	20
Maintenance equipment	15
Musical instruments	10
Athletic equipment	10
Audio visual equipment	10
Office equipment	5 – 10
Computer equipment	5 – 10

The School District does not possess any infrastructure assets.

Deferred Outflows and Deferred Inflows of Resources

The statement of net position reports separate sections for deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, reported after total assets, represents a reduction of net position that applies to a future period(s) and will be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) at that time. Deferred inflows of resources, reported after total liabilities, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and will be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) at that time.

Transactions are classified as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources only when specifically prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards. The School District is required to report the following as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources:

Defined Benefit Pension Plans - The difference between expected (actuarial) and actual experience, changes in actuarial assumptions, net difference between projected (actuarial) and actual earnings on pension plan investments, changes in the School District's proportion of expenses and liabilities to the pension as a whole, differences between the School District's pension contribution and its proportionate share of contributions, and the School District's pension contributions subsequent to the pension valuation measurement date.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

In addition, the School District reports the following as deferred outflows of resources:

Loss on Refunding of Debt - The loss on refunding arose from the issuance of refunding bonds, which is amortized in a systematic and rational manner over the duration of the related debt as a component of interest expense.

Tuition Payable

Tuition charges for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022 were based on rates established by the receiving district. These rates are subject to change when the actual costs have been determined.

Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied and is recorded as a liability until the revenue is both measurable and the School District is eligible to realize the revenue.

Accrued Salaries and Wages

Certain School District employees who provide services to the School District over the ten-month academic year have the option to have their salaries evenly disbursed during the entire twelve-month year. New Jersey statutes require that these earned but undisbursed amounts be retained in a separate bank account. As of June 30, 2023, the amounts earned by these employees were disbursed to the employees' own individual credit union accounts.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires Management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and the accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Compensated Absences

Compensated absences are payments to employees for accumulated time such as paid vacation, paid holidays, sick pay, and sabbatical leave. A liability for compensated absences that is attributable to services already rendered, and that are not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the School District and its employees, is accrued as the employees earn the rights to the benefits. Compensated absences that relate to future services, or that are contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the School District and its employees, are accounted for in the period in which such services are rendered or in which such events take place.

The School District uses the vesting method to calculate the compensated absences amount. The entire compensated absence liability, including the employer's share of applicable taxes, is reported on the government-wide financial statements. The portion related to employees in the proprietary funds is recorded at the fund level. The current portion is the amount estimated to be used in the following fiscal year. Expenditures are recognized in the governmental funds as payments come due each period, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements. Compensated absences not recorded at the fund level represent a reconciling item between the fund level and government-wide presentations.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities, and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements, and all payables, accrued liabilities, and long-term obligations payable from proprietary funds are reported on the proprietary fund financial statements. In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner, and in full from current financial resources, are reported as obligations of the funds. However, claims and judgments, compensated absences, special termination benefits, and contractually required pension contributions that will be paid from governmental funds, are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are normally expected to be paid with expendable available financial resources. Bonds are recognized as a liability on the governmental fund financial statements when due.

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund ("TPAF") and the Public Employees' Retirement System ("PERS"), and additions to/deductions from TPAF's and PERS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the plans. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Bond Discounts / Premiums

Bond discounts / premiums arising from the issuance of long-term debt (bonds) are amortized over the life of the bonds, in systematic and rational method, as a component of interest expense. Bond discounts/ premiums are presented as an adjustment of the face amount of the bonds on the government-wide statement of net position and on the proprietary fund statement of net position.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between the summation of assets and deferred outflows of resources, and the summation of liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net position is classified into the following three components:

Net Investment in Capital Assets - This component represents capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, net of outstanding balances of borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Restricted - Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

Unrestricted - Net position is reported as unrestricted when it does not meet the criteria of the other two components of net position.

The School District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Fund Balance

The School District reports fund balance in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. The School District's classifications, and policies for determining such classifications, are as follows:

Non-spendable -The non-spendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash, such as inventories and prepaid amounts.

Restricted - The restricted fund balance classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes. Such restrictions, or constraints, are placed on the use of resources either by being (1) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed - The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the School District's highest level of decision-making authority, which, for the School District, is the Board of Education. Such formal action consists of an affirmative vote by the Board of Education, memorialized by the adoption of a resolution. Once committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Education removes, or changes, the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts.

Assigned - The assigned fund balance classification includes amounts that are constrained by the School District's *intent* to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. *Intent* is expressed by either the Board of Education or by the business administrator, to which the Board of Education has delegated the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes. Such authority of the business administrator is established by way of a formal job description for the position and standard operating procedures, approved by the Board of Education.

Unassigned - The unassigned fund balance classification is the residual classification for the general fund. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund. The general fund is the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount. In other governmental funds, if expenditures incurred for specific purposes exceed the amounts restricted, committed, or assigned to those purposes, it may be necessary to report a negative unassigned fund balance.

When expenditures are incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available, it is the policy of the School District to spend restricted fund balances first. Moreover, when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used, it is the policy of the School District to spend fund balances, if appropriate, in the following order: committed, assigned, then unassigned.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

Interfund Activity

Transfers between governmental and business-type activities on the government-wide statements are reported in the same manner as general revenues. Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures / expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources / uses in governmental funds and after non-operating revenues / expenses in proprietary funds. Reimbursements from funds responsible for particular expenditures / expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Principles

Recently Issued and Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

Accounting standards that the School District is currently reviewing for applicability and potential impact on the financial statements include:

- GASB Statement No. 96 – Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements was effective after June 15, 2022 and was considered by Management.
- GASB Statement No. 99 - *Omnibus 2022*: The objectives of this Statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. Management is evaluating the potential impact of the adoption of GASB 99 on the School District's financial statements.
- GASB Statement No. 100 - *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections, an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*: The primary objective of this Statement is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. Management is evaluating the potential impact of the adoption of GASB 100 on the School District's financial statements.
- GASB Statement No. 101 - *Compensated Absences*: The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. Management is evaluating the potential impact of the adoption of GASB 101 on the School District's financial statements.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Custodial Credit Risk Related to Deposits - Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the School District's deposits might not be recovered. Although the School District does not have a formal policy regarding custodial credit risk, N.J.S.A. 17:9-41 et seq. requires that governmental units shall deposit public funds in public depositories protected from loss under the provisions of the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA). Under the Act, the first \$250,000 of governmental deposits in each insured depository is protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Public funds owned by the School District in excess of FDIC insured amounts are protected by GUDPA. However, GUDPA does not protect intermingled agency funds such as salary withholdings, and student activity funds, or funds that may pass to the School District relative to the happening of a future condition. Such funds are classified as uninsured and uncollateralized.

As of June 30, 2023, the School District's bank balances of \$6,688,840 were exposed to custodial credit risk as follows:

Insured	\$	250,000
Uninsured and collateralized under GUDPA by pledging financial institutions		6,438,840
	\$	<u>6,688,840</u>

As of June 30, 2023, the School District's cash and cash equivalents of \$6,384,790 was allocated across the fund financial statements as follows:

Unrestricted Cash:			
Governmental Funds, Balance Sheet	B-1	\$	5,966,290
Enterprise Funds, Statement of Net Position	B-4		<u>359,966</u>
Total Cash		\$	<u>6,326,256</u>

NOTE 3: RESERVE ACCOUNTS

Capital Reserve - Funds placed in the capital reserve account are restricted to capital projects in the School District's approved Long Range Facilities Plan ("LRFP"). Upon submission of the LRFP to the Department, a school district may increase the balance in the capital reserve by appropriating funds in the annual general fund budget certified for taxes or by transfer by board resolution at fiscal year-end (June 1 to June 30) of any unanticipated revenue or unexpended line-item appropriation amounts, or both. A school district may also appropriate additional amounts when the express approval of the voters has been obtained by either a separate proposal at budget time or by a special question at one of the four special elections authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:60-2. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.1(g), the balance in the account cannot at any time exceed the local support costs of uncompleted capital projects in its approved LRFP.

Districts are also permitted, as per N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41(a) and 41(b) to deposit into the legal reserves by Board Resolution during the month of June for any unanticipated revenue and/or unexpended line-item appropriation amounts.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 3: RESERVE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)

The activity of the capital reserve for the July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 fiscal year is as follows:

Beginning Balance July 1, 2022	\$ 1,131,320
Add: Interest Earnings	
Interest Earnings	7,335
Resolution	611,665
	\$ 1,750,320
Ending Balance June 30, 2023	\$ 1,750,320

Maintenance Reserve - New Jersey Statute 18A:7G-9 permits school districts to accumulate funds for the required maintenance of a facility in accordance with EFCFA. The balance may only be increased through an appropriation in the annual general fund budget certified for taxes. Upon completion of a school facilities projects, districts are required to submit a plan for maintenance of that facility. The activity of the maintenance reserve for the July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 fiscal year is as follows:

Beginning Balance July 1, 2022	\$ 1,399,898
Add: Interest Earnings	9,076
Less: Withdrawal	(209,076)
	\$ 1,199,898
Ending Balance June 30, 2023	\$ 1,199,898

NOTE 4: ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable at June 30, 2023 consisted of accounts (fees for services) and intergovernmental awards / grants. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the stable condition of federal and state programs, the current fiscal year guarantee of federal funds, and the regulated budgetary control of governmental entities in New Jersey. Accounts receivable as of fiscal year end for the School District's individual major and fiduciary funds, in the aggregate, are as follows:

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Debt</u>	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Total</u>
Receivables:	Fund	Revenue	Service	Funds	
	Fund	Fund	Fund	Funds	Total
Governmental	\$ 1,526,052	\$ 212,135	\$ 58,534	\$ 12,900	\$ 1,809,621
Other				8,805	8,805
Totals	\$ 1,526,052	\$ 212,135	\$ 58,534	\$ 21,705	\$ 1,818,426

NOTE 5: INVENTORY

Inventory recorded at June 30, 2023 in business-type activities on the government-wide statement of net position, and on the food service enterprise fund statement of net position, which includes \$21,515 of federal commodities, consisted of the following:

Food	\$ 4,365
Commodities	13,834
Supply	3,316
	\$ 21,515
Totals	\$ 21,515

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 6: CAPITAL ASSETS

The Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2023 was as follows

	Balance 7/1/2022	Additions	Adjustment	Balance 6/30/2023
Governmental activities:				
Capital Assets That Are Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 46,066	\$	\$	\$ 46,066
Construction in Progress				
Total capital assets not being depreciated	46,066			46,066
Capital Assets being Depreciated and Amortized				
Land Improvements	449,615			449,615
Building and Improvements	21,008,650	6,250		21,014,900
Vehicles	298,137			298,137
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	1,150,972	29,900		1,180,872
Right-to-Use Lease Assets	63,162			63,162
Totals at historical cost	22,970,536	36,150	-	23,006,686
Less Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization				
Land Improvements	(449,615)			(449,615)
Building and Improvements	(12,087,738)	(630,839)		(12,718,577)
Vehicles	(220,058)	(16,710)		(236,768)
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	(889,891)	(65,939)		(955,830)
Right-to-Use Lease Assets	(37,897)	(12,632)		(50,529)
Total accumulated depreciation and Amortization	(13,685,199)	(726,120)	-	(14,411,319)
Total capital assets being depreciated and Amortized, Net of Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization	9,285,337	(689,970)	-	8,595,367
Government activities capital assets, net	\$ 9,331,403	\$ (689,970)	\$ -	\$ 8,641,433
	To A-1			To A-1
Business-type activities:				
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	\$ 337,711	\$	\$	\$ 337,711
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	(299,336)	(4,381)		(303,717)
Business-type activities capital assets, net	\$ 38,375	\$ (4,381)	\$	\$ 33,994

* Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Unallocated	\$ 689,970
Total depreciation expense	<u>\$ 689,970</u>

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 7: LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the following changes occurred in long-term obligations for governmental activities:

	Beginning Balance 7/1/2022	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance 6/30/2023	Amounts Due within One Year	Long-term Portion
Governmental Activities:						
Bonds payable:						
General obligation debt	\$ 5,075,000	\$	\$ (635,000)	\$ 4,440,000	\$ 640,000	\$ 3,800,000
Add Amounts:						
Issuance Premium	511,319		(62,292)	449,027	62,292	386,735
Total bonds payable	5,586,319		(697,292)	4,889,027	702,292	4,186,735
Other Liabilities:						
Compensated absences payable	321,593	5,975		327,568		327,568
Net Pension Liability	2,103,612	651,076		2,754,688		2,754,688
Right-to-Use Lease Liability	33,032		16,002	17,030	17,030	-
Total Liabilities	\$ 8,044,556	\$ 657,051	\$ (681,290)	\$ 7,988,313	\$ 719,322	\$ 7,268,991
Business-Type Activities:						
Compensated absences payable	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Long-Term Obligations	\$ 8,044,556	\$	\$ (681,290)	\$ 7,988,313	\$ 719,322	\$ 7,268,991

The bonds payable are generally liquidated by the debt service fund, while the compensated absences and net pension liability are liquidated by the general fund.

Bonds Payable - Bonds and loans are authorized in accordance with State law by the voters of the municipality through referendums. All bonds are retired in serial installments within the statutory period of usefulness. Bonds issued by the School District are general obligation bonds.

The general obligation bonded debt of the District is limited by state law to 4% of the average equalized assessed values of the total taxable property in the District for the past three years. The legal debt limit at June 30, 2023 is \$22,877,675. General obligation debt at June 30, 2023 is \$4,440,000 resulting in a legal debt margin of \$18,437,675.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 7: LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS (CONT'D)

Bonds Payable (Cont'd) -

Principal and interest due on bonds outstanding is as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 640,000	\$ 149,025	\$ 789,025
2025	640,000	123,425	763,425
2026	640,000	104,225	744,225
2027	635,000	85,025	720,025
2028	635,000	62,800	697,800
2029	625,000	43,750	668,750
2030	625,000	21,875	646,875
	<u>\$ 4,440,000</u>	<u>\$ 590,125</u>	<u>\$ 5,030,125</u>

Bonds Authorized but not Issued - As of June 30, 2023, the School District had no authorizations to issue additional bonded debt.

Compensated Absences - As previously stated, compensated absences will be paid from the fund from which the employees' salaries are paid. Refer to note 14 for a description of the School District's policy.

Net Pension Liability - For details on the net pension liability, refer to Note 9. The School District's annual required contribution to the Public Employees' Retirement System is budgeted and paid from the general fund on an annual basis.

NOTE 8: LEASES

The School is a lessee for various copiers. The District recognizes a lease liability – finance purchase and a capital asset or recognizes a lease liability – right to use and an intangible right-to use lease asset in the district-wide financial statements based on the criteria dictated in GASB Statement No. 87 – Leases.

At the commencement of a lease, the School determines based on the criteria dictated in GASB Statement No. 87 – Leases, if the lease is a finance purchase or a right to use lease liability. Then the School initially measures the lease liability at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease liability is reduced by the principal portion of lease payments made. The lease liabilities are reported with the long-term obligations on the statement of net position.

A finance purchased asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain initial direct costs. The asset is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease which is considered the asset's useful life. The asset is reported with the School capital assets as land, land improvements, buildings and improvements or furniture and equipment.

An intangible right-to use lease asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date. The intangible right-to use lease asset is amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease. The intangible right-to use lease asset is reported with the School's capital assets in its own category called Right-to-Use Lease Assets.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 8: LEASES (CONT'D)

Key estimates and judgements related to leases include how the School determines (1) the discount rate it uses to discount the expected lease payments to present value, (2) lease term, and (3) lease payments.

The District uses the interest rate charged by the lessor as the discount rate. When the interest rate charged by the lessor is not provided, the District is utilizing the treasury bill rate (corresponding to length of lease) in place at the date of implementation along with other risk factors to determine the discount interest rate for leases.

The School has elected to recognize payments for short-term leases with a lease term of 12 months or less as expenses as incurred, and these leases are not included as lease liabilities or right-to-use lease assets on the statements of net position.

The District has determined all of their copier lease agreements qualify as right-to-use assets. As of June 30, 2023, total future minimum lease payments under right-to-use lease agreements are as follows:

Year Ending				
June 30,	Total	Pricipal	Interest	
2024	\$ 17,542	\$ 17,030	\$ 512	
Total	\$ 17,542	17,030	512	

NOTE 9. PENSION PLANS

Description of Plans - Eligible employees of the School District can be covered by Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF), or Defined Contribution Retirement Program (DCRP). PERS and TPAF are administered by the New Jersey Division of Pension and Benefits (NJDPB) and the DCRP is jointly administered by Prudential and NJDPB. The NJDPB issues publicly available financial reports that include financial statements and required supplementary information for the systems. These reports may be obtained online at <https://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/financial-reports.shtml>.

Public Employees' Retirement System

The PERS is a cost sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that was established in 1955. The PERS provides retirement, death and disability, and medical benefits to qualified members. The vesting and benefit provisions for PERS are set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A. All benefits vest after ten years of service, except for medical benefits that vest after 25 years of service or under the disability provisions of PERS.

Service retirement benefits of 1/55th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tiers 1 and 2 members upon reaching age 60 and to tier 3 members upon reaching age 62. Service retirement benefits of 1/60th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tier 4 members upon reaching age 62 and tier 5 members upon reaching age 65. Early retirement benefits are available to tiers 1 and 2 members before reaching age 60, tiers 3 and 4 with 25 years or more of service credit before age 62, and tier 5 with 30 years or more of service credit before age 65. Benefits are reduced by a fraction of a percent for each month that a member retires prior to the age at which a member can receive full early retirement benefits in accordance with their respective tier. Tier 1 members can receive an unreduced benefit from age 55 to age 60 if they have at least 25 years of service. Deferred retirement is available to members who have at least 10 years of service credit and have not reached the service retirement age for the respective tier.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 9. PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Public Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

The following represents the membership tiers for PERS:

Tier	Definition
1	Members who are enrolled prior to July 1, 2007.
2	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after July 1, 2007 and prior to November 2, 2008.
3	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after November 2, 2008 and prior to May 22, 2010.
4	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after May 22, 2010 and prior to June 28, 2011.
5	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after June 28, 2011.

Contributions - The contribution policy is set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. Plan member and employer contributions may be amended by State of New Jersey legislation. The PERS member total contribution rate as of July 1, 2021 was 7.5% of base salary. The District employees' contributions for the year ended June 30, 2023 were \$117,588. Employers in PERS are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate which includes funding for cost-of-living adjustments, noncontributory death benefits, and post-retirement medical premiums. The PERS employer rate due in 2023 is 15.98% of covered payroll. The District is billed annually for its normal contribution plus any accrued liability. These contributions were paid by the District and equal to the required contributions for each year. The District's contributions to PERS for the years ended June 30, 2023, and 2022, were \$230,184 and \$207,958 respectively.

The total payroll for the year ended June 30, 2023 was \$11,071,952. Payroll covered by PERS was \$1,567,841 for fiscal year 2023.

Components of Net Pension Liability - At June 30, 2023, the District's proportionate share of the PERS net pension liability was \$2,754,688. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's actual contributions to the plan relative to the total of all participating employers' contributions for the year ended June 30, 2022. The District's proportion measured as of June 30, 2022 was 0.018253% which was an increase of 0.00050% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2021.

Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources - The District's 2023 PERS pension expense, with respect to GASB 68, was \$(150,446). The District's 2023 deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources were from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 19,882	\$ 17,533
Changes of assumptions	8,535	412,486
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	114,014	
Changes in proportion	171,516	13,789
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	230,184	
Total	<u>\$ 544,131</u>	<u>\$ 443,808</u>

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 9. PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Public Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year		PERS
2023	\$	(118,091)
2024		(49,729)
2025		(28,129)
2026		65,249
2027		839
Thereafter		
Total	\$	(129,861)

Additional Information - Collective Balances at June 30, 2023 and 2022 are as follows:

Year		2023		2022
Collective deferred outflows of resources	\$	544,131	\$	389,824
Collective deferred inflows of resources	\$	443,808	\$	1,343,432
Collective Net Pension Liability	\$	2,754,688	\$	2,103,612
District's Proportion		0.018253%		0.017757%

Actuarial Assumptions - The total pension liability for the June 30, 2022 measurement date was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2021, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2022. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods in the measurement:

	PERS
Investment Rate of Return	7.00%
Salary Increases: (Based on Years of Service):	2.75 – 6.55%
Inflation Rate – Price	2.75%
Inflation Rate – Wage	3.25%

Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Employee mortality table with an 82.2% adjustment for males and 101.4% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Healthy Retiree mortality table with a 91.4% adjustment for males and 99.7% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Disability retirement rates used to value disabled retirees were based on the Pub-2010 Non-Safety Disabled Retiree mortality table with a 127.7% adjustment for males and 117.2% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Mortality improvement is based on Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2021 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 9. PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Public Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return – In accordance with State statute, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments (7.00% at June 30, 2022) is determined by the State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the Division of Investment and Division of Pensions and Benefits, the board of trustees and the actuaries. The long-term expected rate of return was determined using a building block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic rates of return for each major asset class included in PERS's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2022 are summarized in the following table:

	PERS	
Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
U.S. Equity	27.00%	8.12%
Non-U.S. Developed Markets Equity	13.50%	8.38%
Emerging Markets Equity	5.50%	10.33%
Private Equity	13.00%	11.80%
Real Estate	8.00%	11.19%
Real Assets	3.00%	7.60%
High Yield	4.00%	4.95%
Private Credit	8.00%	8.10%
Investment Grade Credit	7.00%	3.38%
Cash Equivalents	4.00%	1.75%
U.S. Treasuries	4.00%	1.75%
Risk Mitigation Strategies	3.00%	4.91%
Total	100.00%	

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current member contribution rates and that contributions from employers and the nonemployer contributing entity will be based on 100% of the actuarially determined contributions for the State employer and 100% of actuarially determined contributions for the local employers. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied to all projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 9. PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Public Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

Sensitivity of the Collective Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following presents the collective net pension liability of the participating employers as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above, as well as what the collective net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (6.00%)</u>	<u>Current Discount (7.00%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.00%)</u>
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ <u>3,568,938</u>	\$ <u>2,754,688</u>	\$ <u>2,104,911</u>

Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund

The State of New Jersey Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) is a cost sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with a special funding situation that was established in 1955. As under current statute, all employer contributions are made by the State of New Jersey on behalf of the District and the system's other related non-contributing employers. Membership is mandatory for substantially all teachers or members of the professional staff certified by the State Board of Examiners, and employees of the Department of Education who have titles that are unclassified, professional and certified.

The vesting and benefit provisions are set by N.J.S.A. 18A:66. TPAF provides retirement, death and disability benefits. All benefits vest after ten years of service. Members are always fully vested for their own contributions and, after three years of service credit, become vested for 2% of related interest earned on the contributions. In the case of death before retirement, members' beneficiaries are entitled to full interest credited to the members' accounts.

The following represents the membership tiers for TPAF:

<u>Tier</u>	<u>Definition</u>
1	Members who are enrolled prior to July 1, 2007.
2	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after July 1, 2007 and prior to November 2, 2008.
3	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after November 2, 2008 and prior to May 22, 2010.
4	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after May 22, 2010 and prior to June 28, 2011.
5	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after June 28, 2011.

Special Funding Situation - The employer contributions for local participating employers are legally required to be funded by the State in accordance with N.J.S.A 18:66-33. Therefore, these local participating employers are considered to be in a special funding situation as defined by GASB Statement No. 68 and the State is treated as a nonemployer contributing entity. Since the local participating employers do not contribute directly to the plan (except for employer specific financed amounts), there is no net pension liability or deferred outflows or inflows to report in the financial statements of the local participating employers. However, the notes to the financial statements of the local participating employers must disclose the portion of the nonemployer contributing entities' total proportionate share of the net pension liability that is associated with the local participating employer. In addition, each local participating employer must recognize pension expense associated with the employer as well as revenue in an amount equal to the nonemployer contributing entities' total proportionate share of the collective pension expense associated with the local participating employer.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 9. PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (Continued)

Contributions - The contribution policy is set by N.J.S.A. 18A:66 and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. The member contribution rate was 7.5% in as of July 1, 2021. The State's pension contribution is based on an actuarially determined amount which includes the employer portion of the normal cost and an amortization of the unfunded accrued liability. Funding for noncontributory group insurance benefits is based on actual claims paid. For fiscal year 2022, the State's pension contribution was less than the actuarial determined amount. Under current statute, all employer contributions are made by the State of New Jersey on-behalf of the District and all other related non-contributing employers. No normal or accrued liability contribution by the District has been required over several preceding fiscal years. These on-behalf contributions by the State of New Jersey are considered a special funding situation, under the definition of GASB 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions. The District was not required to make any contributions to the pension plan during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 because of the 100% special funding situation with the State of New Jersey.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the State of New Jersey contributed \$2,670,550 to the TPAF for pension contributions, \$701,547 for post-retirement benefits on behalf of the School, and \$1,135 for long-term disability. Also, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:66-66 the State of New Jersey reimbursed the District \$621,407 during the year ended June 30, 2023 for the employer's share of social security contributions for TPAF members, as calculated on their base salaries.

Components of Net Pension Liability - At June 30, 2023, the District was not required to report a liability for its proportionate share of the net pension liability because of a 100% reduction for State of New Jersey pension support provided to the District.

Pension Expense - For the year ended June 30, 2023, the District recognized pension expense of \$857,987 and revenue of \$857,987 for support provided by the State.

Actuarial Assumptions - The total pension liability for the June 30, 2022 measurement date was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2021, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2022. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods in the measurement:

	TPAF
Investment Rate of Return	7.00%
Salary Increases	
(Based on Years of Service):	2.75 – 5.65%
Inflation Rate – Price	2.75%
Inflation Rate – Wage	3.25%

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 9. PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (Continued)

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return - Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in TPAF's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2022 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	TPAF Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
U.S. Equity	27.00%	8.12%
Non-U.S. Developed Markets Equity	13.50%	8.38%
Emerging Markets Equity	5.50%	10.33%
Private Equity	13.00%	11.80%
Real Estate	8.00%	11.19%
Real Assets	3.00%	7.60%
High Yield	4.00%	4.95%
Private Credit	8.00%	8.10%
Investment Grade Credit	7.00%	3.38%
Cash Equivalents	4.00%	1.75%
U.S. Treasuries	4.00%	1.75%
Risk Mitigation Strategies	3.00%	4.91%
Total	100.00%	

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current member contribution rates and that contributions from employers will be based on 100% of the actuarially determined contributions for the State. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied to all projected benefit payments in determining the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Collective Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following presents the collective net pension liability of the participating employers as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above, as well as what the collective net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
State's Share of the Net Pension Liability associated with the District	\$ 37,439,801	\$ 31,880,248	\$ 27,290,567
State's Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 60,591,896,759	\$ 51,676,587,303	\$ 44,166,559,329

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 9. PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Defined Contribution Retirement Program (DCRP)

The **Defined Contribution Retirement Program (DCRP)** is a multiple-employer defined contribution pension fund that was established in 2007 under the provisions of N.J.S.A 43:15C-1. The DCRP provides eligible members with a tax-sheltered, defined contribution retirement benefit, along with life insurance and long-term disability coverage. Vesting and benefit provisions are established by N.J.S.A. 43:15C-1 et seq.

The following represents the individuals eligible for membership in the DCRP:

Eligibility

1. State or Local Officials who are elected or appointed on or after July 1, 2007
2. Employees enrolled in the PERS or TPAF on or after July 1, 2007, who earn salary in excess of established "maximum compensation" limits
3. Employees enrolled in the PFRS or SPRS after May 21, 2010, who earn salary in excess of established "maximum compensation" limits
4. Employees otherwise eligible to enroll in the PERS or TPAF on or after November 2, 2008, who do not earn the minimum annual salary for PERS or TPAF Tier 3 enrollment but who earn salary of at least \$5,000 annually
5. Employees otherwise eligible to enroll in the PERS or TPAF after May 21, 2010, who do not work the minimum number of hours per week required for PERS or TPAF Tier 4 or Tier 5 enrollment but who earn salary of at least \$5,000 annually

Contributions – The contribution policy is set by N.J.S.A 43:15C-3 and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. Plan members are required to contribute 5.5% of their base salary and the District's employer match is an additional 3% contribution. For the year ended June 30, 2023, employee contributions totaled \$7,655 and the District's employer contribution, recognized in pension expense, was \$4,176. There were no forfeitures during the fiscal year.

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Detailed information about each pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued New Jersey Division of Pension and Benefits financial report. Information on where to obtain the report is indicated at the beginning of this note.

NOTE 10. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB)

State Health Benefit State Retired Employees Plan:

State Health Benefit State Retired Employees Plan Pension and Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Obligations in Fiscal Year 2022 the State funded the various defined benefit pension systems at 108 percent of the full actuarially determined contributions. Employer contributions to the pension plans are calculated per the requirements of the governing State statutes using generally accepted actuarial procedures and practices. The actuarial funding method used to determine the State's contribution is a matter of State law. Any change to the funding method requires the approval of the State Legislature and the Governor. The amount the State actually contributes to the pension plans may differ from the actuarially determined contributions of the pension plans because the State's contribution to the pension plans is subject to the appropriation of the State Legislature and actions by the Governor. GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, requires participating employers to recognize their proportionate share of the collective net pension liability. Under the new statement, the calculation of the pension liability was changed to a more conservative methodology and each employer was allocated a proportional share of the pension plans' net pension liability. The State's share of the net pension liability, based on a measurement date of June 30, 2021, which is required to be recorded on the financial statements, is \$75.1 billion. The Fiscal Year 2023 projected aggregate State contribution to the pension plans of \$6.8 billion represents 104 percent of the actuarially determined contribution. The State provides post-retirement medical (PRM) benefits for certain State and other retired employees meeting the service credit eligibility requirements. In Fiscal

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 10. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (Continued)

Year 2022, the State paid PRM benefits for 161,238 State and local retirees. The State funds post-retirement medical benefits on a “pay-as-you-go” basis, which means that the State does not prefund, or otherwise establish a reserve or other pool of assets against the PRM expenses that the State may incur in future years. For Fiscal Year 2022, the State contributed \$1.9 billion to pay for “pay-as-you-go” PRM benefit costs incurred by covered populations, a slight increase from \$1.8 billion in Fiscal Year 2021. The State has appropriated \$2.1 billion in Fiscal Year 2023 as the State’s contribution to fund increases in prescription drugs and medical claims costs. In accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, the State is required to quantify and disclose its obligations to pay Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) to retired plan members. This new standard supersedes the previously issued guidance, GASB Statement No. 45, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, effective for Fiscal Year 2018. The State is now required to accrue a liability in all instances where statutory language names the State as the legal obligor for benefit payments. The Fiscal Year 2022 State OPEB liability to provide these benefits is \$88.9 billion, a decrease of \$12.7 billion, or 12.5 percent from the \$101.6 billion liability recorded in Fiscal Year 2021. Additional information on Pensions and OPEB can be accessed on the Division of Pensions & Benefits Financial Reports webpage: <https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/financial-reports.shtml>.

General Information about the OPEB Plan

The State of New Jersey reports a liability as a result of its statutory requirements to pay other postemployment (health) benefits for State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan. The State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan is a multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan that is administered on a pay-as-you-go basis. Accordingly, no assets are accumulated in a qualifying trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for the Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions. The State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan provides medical, prescription drug, and Medicare Part B reimbursement to retirees and their covered dependents of local education employers.

The employer contributions for the participating local education employers are legally required to be funded by the State of New Jersey in accordance with N.J.S.A 52:14-17.32f. According to N.J.S.A 52:14- 17.32f, the State provides employer-paid coverage to employees who retire from a board of education or county college with 25 years or more of service credit in, or retires on a disability pension from, one or more of the following plans: the Teachers’ Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF), the Public Employees’ Retirement System (PERS), the Police and Firemen Retirement System (PFRS), or the Alternate Benefit Program (ABP).

Pursuant to Chapter 78, P.L., 2011, future retirees eligible for postretirement medical coverage who have less than 20 years of creditable service on June 28, 2011 will be required to pay a percentage of the cost of their health care coverage in retirement provided they retire with 25 or more years of pension service credit. The percentage of the premium for which the retiree will be responsible will be determined based on the retiree’s annual retirement benefit and level of coverage.

The total nonemployer OPEB liability does not include certain other postemployment benefit obligations that are provided by the local education employers. The reporting of these benefits are the responsibility of the individual local education employers.

Special Funding Situation

The participating local education employer allocations included in the supplemental Schedule of special funding amounts by employer are provided as each local education employer is required to record in their financial statements, as an expense and corresponding revenue, their respective amount of total OPEB expense attributable to the State of New Jersey under the special funding situation and to include their respective amount of total OPEB liability in their notes to their financial statements. The total OPEB liability and service cost for each employer was determined separately based on actual data for each employer’s participants.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 10. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (Continued)

Total OPEB Liability

The State of New Jersey’s total OPEB liability, as of the measurement date of June 30, 2022, was \$50,646,462,966. Of this amount, the total OPEB liability attributable to the School District was \$37,476,332. The State of New Jersey’s proportionate share of the total OPEB liability is 100%, including the proportion attributable to the School District of 0.07400%. The total OPEB liability for the School District measured as of June 30, 2022 is zero as a result of the Special Funding Situation with the State of New Jersey. The School District’s proportionate share of the total OPEB liability measured as of June 30, 2022 is 0.00%. Accordingly, the School District did not recognize any portion of the collective net OPEB liability on the Statement of Net Position.

Total Nonemployer OPEB Liability

The total nonemployer OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2022. The actuarial assumptions vary for each plan member depending on the pension plan the member is enrolled in. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods in the measurement:

	TPAF/ABP	PERS	PFRS
Salary Increases:	2.75% to 4.25% based on years of service	2.75% to 6.55% based on years of service	3.25% to 16.25% based on years of service

Preretirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Healthy “Teachers” (TPAF/ABP), “General” (PERS), and “Safety” (PFRS) classification headcount-weighted mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using Scale MP-2021. Postretirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 “General” classification headcount-weighted mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using Scale MP-2021. Disability mortality was based on the Pub-2010 “General” classification headcount-weighted disabled mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using Scale MP-2021 for current disables retirees.

Future disabled retirees was based on the Pub-2010 “Safety” (PFRS), “General” (PERS), and “Teachers” (TPAF/ABP) classification headcount-weighted disabled mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using Scale MP-2021.

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2021 valuation were based on the results of the TPAF, PERS and PFRS experience studies prepared for July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Health Care Trend Assumptions

For pre-Medicare medical benefits, the trend rate is initially 6.25% and decreases to a 4.50% long-term trend rate after eight years. For post-65 medical benefits PPO, the trend is initially -1.99% in fiscal year 2023, increasing to 13.44% in fiscal year 2026 and decreases to 4.50% in fiscal year 2033. For HMO the trend is initially -3.54% in fiscal year 2023, increasing to 15.19% in fiscal year 2026 and decreases to 4.50% in fiscal year 2033. For prescription drug benefits, the initial trend rate is 8.00% and decreases to a 4.50% long-term trend rate after eight years. For the Medicare Part B reimbursement, the trend rate is 5.00%.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 10. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (Continued)

Discount rate

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 3.54%. This represents the municipal bond return rate as chosen by the Division. The source is the Bond Buyer Go 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index, which includes tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher. As the long-term rate of return is less than the municipal bond rate, it is not considered in the calculation of the discount rate, rather the discount rate is set at the municipal bond rate.

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

State of New Jersey		<u>Total OPEB Liability</u>
Balance as of June 30, 2021 Measurement Date	\$	<u>60,007,650,971</u>
Changes for the year:		
Service Cost		2,770,618,025
Interest		1,342,187,139
Changes of Benefit Terms		0
Differences between Expected and Actual experience		1,399,200,736
Changes of Assumptions		(13,586,368,097)
Benefit Payments		(1,329,476,059)
Contributions from Members		<u>42,650,252</u>
Net Changes		<u>(9,361,188,004)</u>
Balance as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date	\$	<u><u>50,646,462,967</u></u>

Sensitivity of Total Nonemployer OPEB Liability to changes in the discount rate:

The following presents the total nonemployer OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022, respectively, calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above as well as what the total nonemployer OPEB liability would be if it was calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rate:

June 30, 2022		
At 1.00% Decrease	At Discount Rate	At 1.00% Increase
2.54%	3.54%	4.54%
\$ 59,529,589,697	50,646,462,966	43,527,080,995

Sensitivity of Total Nonemployer OPEB Liability to changes in the healthcare trend rate:

The following presents the total nonemployer OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the healthcare trend rate as disclosed above as well as what the total nonemployer OPEB liability would be if it was calculated using a healthcare trend rate that is 1- percentage point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rate:

June 30, 2022		
Healthcare Cost Trend		
1.00% Decrease	Rate	1.00% Increase
\$ 41,862,397,291	50,646,462,966	62,184,866,635

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 10. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (Continued)

OPEB Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the School District recognized OPEB expense of \$960,917. The School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 6,691,012	\$ (11,441,957)
Changes of Assumptions	6,486,204	(12,754,896)
Net difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments		
Changes in Proportion	1,048,630	(837,407)
Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		
Total	<u>\$ 14,225,846</u>	<u>\$ (25,034,260)</u>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows.

<u>Measurement Period Ending June 30,</u>		<u>OPEB</u>
2023	\$	4,284,684
2024		4,284,684
2025		4,284,684
2026		4,534,026
2027		5,248,239
Thereafter		<u>16,623,790</u>
Total	\$	<u>39,260,107</u>

NOTE 11: ON-BEHALF PAYMENTS

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the School District has recognized as revenues and expenditures on-behalf payments made by the State for normal costs and post-retirement medical costs related to TPAF, in the fund financial statements. The amounts recognized as revenues and expenditures in the fund financial statements for normal costs, post-retirement medical costs, and long-term disability insurance were \$2,670,550, \$701,547, and \$1,135, respectively. Also, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:66-66 the State of New Jersey reimbursed the District \$621,407 during the year ended June 30, 2023 for the employer's share of social security contributions for TPAF members, as calculated on their base salaries.

NOTE 12: RISK MANAGEMENT

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 12: RISK MANAGEMENT (CONT'D)

New Jersey Unemployment Compensation Insurance - The School District has elected to fund its New Jersey Unemployment Compensation Insurance under the "Benefit Reimbursement Method". Under this plan, the School District is required to reimburse the New Jersey Unemployment Trust Fund for benefits paid to its former employees and charged to its account with the State. The School District is billed quarterly for amounts due to the State.

The following is a summary of the activity of the School District's private-purpose trust fund for the unemployment claims for the current and previous two fiscal years:

<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>Ended June 30,</u>	<u>School District</u> <u>Contributions</u>	<u>Employee</u> <u>Contributions</u>	<u>Interest</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Claims</u> <u>Incurred</u>	<u>Ending</u> <u>Balance</u>
2023	\$ 25,237	\$ 29,207	\$ 2,311	\$ 12,070	\$ 264,515
2022		18,752	436		219,830
2021	25,000	29,119	551	8,069	200,642

Joint Insurance Fund - The School District is a member of the School Alliance Insurance Fund. The Fund provides its members with the following coverage:

Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability
Property (Including Crime and Auto Physical
Damage) General and Auto Liability
School Board Legal Liability
Boiler and Machinery
Pollution/Environmental Legal
Liability Blanket Dishonesty Bond

Contributions to the Fund, including a reserve for contingencies, are payable in two installments and are based on actuarial assumptions determined by the Fund's actuary. The Commissioner of Banking and Insurance may order additional assessments to supplement the Fund's claim, loss retention, or administrative accounts to assure the payment of the Fund's obligations.

For more information regarding claims, coverage's and deductibles, the Fund publishes its own financial report for the year ended December 31, 2018, which can be obtained from:

School Alliance Insurance Fund
51 Everett Drive, Suite B-40
West Windsor, New Jersey 08550

NOTE 13: DEFERRED COMPENSATION

The School District offers its employees a choice of three deferred compensation plans created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Sections 403(b) and 457. The plans, which are administered by the entities listed below, permit participants to defer a portion of their salary until future years. Amounts deferred under the plans are not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency. The plan administrators are as follows:

Lincoln Investment Planning
AXA Equitable
Vanguard

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 14: COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The School District accounts for compensated absences (e.g., unused vacation, sick leave) as directed by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 16 (GASB 16), *Accounting for Compensated Absences*. A liability for compensated absences attributable to services already rendered and not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the employer and employee is accrued as employees earn the rights to the benefits.

School District employees are granted varying amounts of vacation and sick leave in accordance with the School District's personnel policy. Upon termination, employees are paid for accrued vacation. The School District policy permits employees to accumulate sick leave and carry forward the full amount to subsequent years. Upon retirement, employees shall be paid by the School District for the unused sick leave in accordance with the School District's agreements with the various employee unions.

The liability for vested compensated absences is recorded within those funds as the benefits accrue to employees. At June 30, 2023 the liability for compensated absences reported on the government-wide statement of net position was \$327,568.

NOTE 15: INTERFUND RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES, AND TRANSFERS

The composition of interfund balances as of June 30, 2023 is as follows:

Fund	Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable
General Fund	\$ 212,480	
Special Revenue Fund		\$ 209,730
Food Service		2,750
Total	\$ 212,480	\$ 212,480

The interfund receivables and payables above predominately resulted from payments made by certain funds on behalf of other funds. During the fiscal year 2023, the School District expects to liquidate such interfunds, depending upon the availability of cash flow.

NOTE 16: CAPITAL DEBT REFUNDING

On September 14, 2016, the School District issued \$8,365,000 in general obligation bonds with interest rates varying from 2.00% to 4.00% to refund \$8,625,000 of outstanding 2006 series bonds with interest rates varying from 4.00% to 4.25% and 2009 series bonds with interest rates varying from 2.50% to 4.00%. The bonds were issued at a premium of \$872,094. The net proceeds of \$9,116,749 (after payment of issuance costs of \$120,345) were deposited in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt service payments on the 2006 and 2009 series bonds. As a result of the current refunding, the School District will reduce its total debt service payments over the next ten years by \$473,679, which results in an economic gain (difference between the present values of the debt service payments of the old and new debt) of \$432,414, or 5.01% of the principal amount being refunded. The current refunding meets the requirements of an in-substance defeasance and the liability for the refunded bonds was removed from the School District's financial statements.

In addition, the School District previously elected to implement GASB Statement No. 65 and as a result, has reflected the Bond Debt Refunding Cost as a Deferred Outflow of Resources on the Statement of Net Position, net of the portion amortized, as a component of interest expense over the life of the debt. During the 2022-23 School Year, \$87,442 was amortized, resulting in a balance in Deferred Outflows of Resources of \$96,550, as of June 30, 2023.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 17: CONTINGENCIES

Grantor Agencies - Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies could be subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time, although the School District expects such amount, if any, to be immaterial.

Litigation - The School District is a defendant in several legal proceedings that are in various stages of litigation. It is believed that the outcome, or exposure to the School District, from such litigation is either unknown or potential losses, if any, would not be material to the financial statements.

NOTE 18: CONCENTRATIONS

The School District depends on financial resources flowing from, or associated with, both the federal government and the State of New Jersey. As a result of this dependency, the School District is subject to changes in specific flows of intergovernmental revenues based on modifications to federal and State laws and federal and State appropriations.

NOTE 19: DEFICIT FUND BALANCES

N.J.S.A. 18A:22-44.2 provides that in the event a state school aid payment is not made until the following school budget year, school districts must record the delayed one or more June state aid payments as revenue, for budget purposes only, in the current school budget year. The statute provides legal authority for school districts to recognize this revenue in the current budget year. For intergovernmental transactions, GASB Statement No. 33 requires that recognition (revenue, expenditure, asset, liability) should be in symmetry, i.e., if one government recognizes an asset, the other government recognizes a liability.

Since the State is recording the June state aid payments in the subsequent fiscal year, the School District cannot recognize the June state aid payment on the GAAP financial statements until the year the State records the payable. Due to the timing difference of recording the June state aid payments, a general fund balance deficit does not alone indicate that the School District is facing financial difficulties.

As of June 30, 2023, the District had no general fund deficit in fund balance and an unassigned deficit in the special revenue fund of \$54,019. (modified accrual basis).

NOTE 20: FUND BALANCES

NONSPENDABLE

As stated in Note 1, the non-spendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. There are no non-spendable fund balances of the School District as of June 30, 2023.

RESTRICTED

As stated in Note 1, the restricted fund balance classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes. Such restrictions, or constraints, are placed on the use of resources by either of the following: (1) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Specific restrictions of the School District's fund balance are summarized as follows:

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 20: FUND BALANCES (CONT'D)

General Fund

For Excess Surplus - In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-7, as amended, the designation of restricted fund balance - excess surplus is the result of a required calculation pursuant to the New Jersey Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996 (CEIFA). New Jersey school districts are required to restrict general fund balance at the fiscal year end of June 30 if they did not appropriate a required minimum amount as budgeted fund balance in their subsequent years' budget. The excess fund balance at June 30, 2023 is \$2,798,408, of which \$1,408,238 was assigned for utilization in the 2023-24 budget and \$1,750,320 will be utilized in the 2024-25 budget.

RESTRICTED (Continued)

For Capital Reserve Account - As of June 30, 2023, the balance in the capital reserve account is 1,750,320. These funds are restricted for future capital outlay expenditures for capital projects in the School District's approved Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP).

For Maintenance Reserve Account - As of June 30, 2023, the balance in the maintenance reserve account is \$1,199,898. These funds are restricted for the required maintenance of school facilities in accordance with the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act (EFCFA) (N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-9) as amended by P.L. 2004, c. 73(S1701).

COMMITTED

As stated in Note 1, the committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the School District's highest level of decision-making authority, which is the Board of Education. There were no specific commitments of the School District's fund balance at June 30, 2023.

ASSIGNED

As stated in Note 1, the assigned fund balance classification includes amounts that are constrained by the School District's *intent* to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. Specific assignments of the School District's fund balance are summarized as follows:

General Fund

For Subsequent Year's Expenditures - The District has appropriated and included as an anticipated revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 \$781,591 of general fund balance at June 30, 2023.

Other Purposes - As of June 30, 2023, the School District had no encumbrances outstanding for purchase orders and contracts signed by the School District, but not completed, as of the close of the fiscal year.

BOROUGH OF PALMYRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 20: FUND BALANCES (CONT'D)

UNASSIGNED

As stated in note 1, the unassigned fund balance classification represents fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes. The School District's unassigned fund balance is summarized as follows:

General Fund - As of June 30, 2023, the School District has a fund balance of \$148,089 in the general fund. See Note 19.

NOTE 21: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There were no other events noted, between the year-end and the date of the audit report, requiring disclosure.

End of Notes to Financial Statements

APPENDIX C

Form of Bond Counsel's Approving Legal Opinion

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90 Woodbridge Center Drive
Suite 900 Box 10
Woodbridge, NJ 07095-0958
732.636.8000

_____, 2024

The Board of Education of the
Borough of Palmyra
Palmyra, New Jersey

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have served as bond counsel in connection with the authorization, sale and issuance of \$18,437,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2024 (the “Bonds”) of The Board of Education of the Borough of Palmyra in the County of Burlington, New Jersey (the “Board” when referring to the governing body and the “School District” when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board).

The Bonds are issued pursuant to: (i) Title 18A, Chapter 24 of the New Jersey Statutes, as amended and supplemented (the “Education Law”); (ii) a proposal adopted by the Board on January 3, 2024 (the “Proposal”) and approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the legal voters present and voting at a special School District election held on March 12, 2024 and (iii) a resolution duly adopted by the Board on May 8, 2024 (the “Resolution”).

The Bonds are issued in fully registered book-entry only form, without coupons, initially registered in the name of and held by Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, Brooklyn, New York (“DTC”), an automated depository for securities and clearing house for securities transactions. Purchases of the Bonds will be made in book-entry only form in principal amounts of \$1,000 each or any integral multiple thereof with a minimum purchase of \$5,000 required, through book entries made on the books and records of DTC and its participants. So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of the Bonds, payments of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made by the Board directly to Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC. Disbursement of such payments to DTC participants is the responsibility of DTC and disbursement of such payments to the beneficial owners of the Bonds is the responsibility of DTC participants.

The Bonds are dated their date of delivery and shall bear interest from such date, which interest shall be payable commencing July 15, 2025 and semi-annually thereafter on the fifteenth day of January and July in each year until maturity or prior redemption, and shall mature on July 15 of the years and in the principal amounts as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
2026	\$612,000		2036	\$ 995,000	
2027	645,000		2037	1,030,000	
2028	685,000		2038	1,160,000	
2029	725,000		2039	1,105,000	
2030	900,000		2040	1,145,000	
2031	900,000		2041	1,175,000	
2032	900,000		2042	1,200,000	
2033	925,000		2043	1,220,000	
2034	935,000		2044	1,220,000	
2035	960,000				

The Bonds of this issue are subject to optional redemption prior to their stated maturities.

We have examined such matters of law, certified copies of the proceedings, including the bond referendum proceedings, and other documents and proofs relative to the issuance and sale of the Bonds as we have deemed necessary or appropriate for the purposes of the opinion rendered below. In such examination, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals and the conformity to the original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies. As to any facts material to our opinion we have, when relevant facts were not independently established, relied upon the aforesaid instruments, certificates and documents.

We are of the opinion that: (i) such proceedings and proofs show lawful authority for the sale and issuance of the Bonds pursuant to the Education Law, the Proposal and the Resolution; (ii) the Bonds are valid and legally binding obligations of the Board; and (iii) all the taxable real property within the School District is subject to the levy of *ad valorem* taxes, without limitation as to rate or amount, for the payment of principal of and interest on the Bonds.

The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), sets forth certain requirements which must be met subsequent to the issuance and delivery of the Bonds for the interest thereon to be and remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Noncompliance with such requirements could cause interest on the Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactive to the date of the issuance of the Bonds. The Board has covenanted to maintain the exclusion of the interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103(a) of the Code.

In our opinion, under existing law, and assuming continuing compliance by the Board with the aforementioned covenant, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court

decisions, interest on the Bonds is not includable for federal income tax purposes in the gross income of the owners of the Bonds pursuant to Section 103 of the Code. The Bonds are not “specified private activity bonds” within the meaning of Section 57 of the Code and, therefore, the interest on the Bonds will not be treated as a preference item for purposes of computing the federal alternative minimum tax; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of certain corporations for the purpose of computing the alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022.

We are also of the opinion that, under existing laws of the State of New Jersey, interest on the Bonds and any gain on the sale thereof is not includable in gross income under the New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, 1976 N.J. Laws c. 47, as amended and supplemented.

[The Bonds maturing on July 15 in the years 20__ through 20__, inclusive (the “[Premium] Bonds”), have been sold to the public at a premium. Section 171 of the Code provides rules under which a bond premium may be amortized and a deduction allowed for the amount of the amortizable bond premium for a taxable year. Under Section 171(a)(2) of the Code, however, no deduction is allowable for the amortizable bond premium in the case of bonds, like the [Premium] Bonds, the interest on which is excludable from gross income. Under Section 1016(a)(5) of the Code, the purchaser's basis in a [Premium] Bond will be reduced by the amount of the amortizable bond premium disallowable as a deduction under Section 171(2) of the Code. Proceeds received from the sale, exchange, redemption or payment of a [Premium] Bond in excess of the owner's adjusted basis (as reduced pursuant to Section 1016(a)(5) of the Code), will be treated as a gain from the sale or exchange of such [Premium] Bonds and not as interest.]

[We are also of the opinion that the difference between the stated principal amount of the Bonds maturing on July 15 in the years 20__ through 20__, inclusive (the “[Discount] Bonds”) and their respective initial offering prices to the public (excluding bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers), at which price a substantial amount of the [Discount] Bonds of the same maturity and interest rate were sold, constitutes original issue discount which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent as interest on the [Discount] Bonds. Further, such original issue discount accrues actuarially on a constant interest rate basis over the term of each [Discount] Bond and the basis of each [Discount] Bond acquired at such initial offering price by an initial purchaser thereof will be increased by the amount of such accrued original issue discount.]

Except as stated in the preceding paragraphs, we express no opinion as to any federal, state or local tax consequences of the ownership or disposition of the Bonds. Furthermore, we express no opinion as to any federal, state or local tax law consequences with respect to the Bonds, or the interest thereon, if any action is taken with respect to the Bonds or the proceeds thereof upon the advice or approval of other bond counsel.

This opinion is qualified to the extent that the enforceability of the rights or remedies with respect to the Bonds may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, debt adjustment, moratorium, reorganization or other similar laws affecting creditors' rights or remedies heretofore or hereafter enacted to the extent constitutionally applicable and their enforcement may also be subject to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases.

We have examined one of the executed Bonds and, in our opinion, its form and execution are regular and proper.

Very truly yours,

WILENTZ, GOLDMAN & SPITZER, P.A.

APPENDIX D

Form of Continuing Disclosure Certificate

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CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE

This Continuing Disclosure Certificate dated as of _____, 2024 (the “Disclosure Certificate”) is executed and delivered by The Board of Education of the Borough of Palmyra in the County of Burlington, New Jersey (the “Board” when referring to the governing body and the “School District” when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) in connection with the issuance of its \$18,437,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2024 dated their date of delivery (the “Bonds”). The Bonds are being issued by virtue of a proposal adopted by the Board on January 3, 2024 and approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the legal voters present and voting at a special School District election held on March 12, 2024 and pursuant to a resolution entitled, “RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF \$18,437,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2024 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF PALMYRA IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THEIR SALE AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH”, duly adopted by the Board on May 8, 2024 (the “Bond Resolution”). The Board covenants and agrees as follows:

SECTION 1. Purpose of the Disclosure Certificate. This Disclosure Certificate is being executed and delivered by the Board for the benefit of the Bondholders and Beneficial Owners of the Bonds and in order to assist the Participating Underwriter(s) in complying with the Rule (as defined below). The Board acknowledges it is an “Obligated Person” under the Rule (as defined below).

SECTION 2. Definitions. In addition to the definitions set forth in the Bond Resolution which apply to any capitalized term used in this Disclosure Certificate unless otherwise defined in this Section, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

“*Annual Report*” shall mean any Annual Report provided by the Board pursuant to, and as described in, Sections 3 and 4 of this Disclosure Certificate.

“*Beneficial Owner*” shall mean any person which (a) has the power, directly or indirectly, to vote or consent with respect to, or to dispose of ownership of any Bonds, as applicable (including persons holding Bonds, as applicable through nominees, depositories or other intermediaries), or (b) is treated as the owner of any Bonds, as applicable, for federal income tax purposes.

“*Continuing Disclosure Information*” shall mean, collectively, (i) each Annual Report, (ii) any notice required to be filed by the Board with the EMMA (as defined herein) pursuant to Section 3 of this Disclosure Agreement, and (iii) any notice of a Listed Event required to be filed by the Board with EMMA pursuant to Section 5 of this Disclosure Agreement.

“Disclosure Representative” shall mean the Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Board or his/her designee, or such other person as the Board shall designate in writing from time to time for the purposes of this Disclosure Certificate.

“Dissemination Agent” shall mean, initially, the Board or any Dissemination Agent subsequently designated in writing by the Board which has filed with the Board a written acceptance of such designation.

“EMMA” shall mean the Electronic Municipal Market Access system, a website created by the MSRB (as defined herein) and approved by the SEC (as defined herein) to provide a central location where investors can obtain municipal bond information including disclosure documents. The Board or the Dissemination Agent shall submit disclosure documents to EMMA as a PDF file to www.emma.msrb.org.

“Financial Obligation” shall mean a: (a) debt obligation; (b) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (c) guarantee of (a) or (b) listed hereinabove. The term *“Financial Obligation”* shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB (as defined below) consistent with the Rule (as defined below).

“Listed Events” shall mean any of the events listed in Section 5(a) of this Disclosure Certificate.

“MSRB” shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.

“Rule” shall mean Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time.

“SEC” shall mean the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

“SEC Release No. 34-59062” shall mean Release No. 34-59062 of the SEC dated December 5, 2008.

“State” shall mean the State of New Jersey.

“Underwriters” shall mean any of the original underwriters of the Bonds required to comply with the Rule in connection with the purchase of the Bonds.

SECTION 3. Provision of Annual Reports. (a) The Board shall provide or cause to be provided to the Dissemination Agent not later than December 31 of each year, commencing December 31, 2024 (for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024), an Annual Report which is consistent with the requirements of Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate. Each Annual Report may be submitted as a single document or as separate documents comprising a package, and may cross-reference other information as provided in Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate; provided that the audited financial statements of the Board

may be submitted separately from the balance of the Annual Report; and provided, further, that if the audited financial statements of the Board are not available by December 31, the Board shall include unaudited financial statements with its Annual Report and when such audited financial statements become available to the Board, the same shall be submitted to the Dissemination Agent no later than thirty (30) days after the receipt of the same by the Board.

(b) Not later than January 31 of each year (commencing January 31, 2025) the Dissemination Agent shall provide to EMMA a copy of the Annual Report received by the Dissemination Agent pursuant to subsection (a) hereof.

(c) If the Board does not provide or is unable to provide an Annual Report by the applicable date required in subsection (a) above, such that the Dissemination Agent cannot file the Annual Report with EMMA in accordance with subsection (b) above, the Dissemination Agent shall, in a timely manner, send a notice of such event to EMMA in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, with copies to the Board (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board).

(d) Each year the Dissemination Agent shall file a report with the Board (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board), certifying that the Annual Report has been provided to EMMA pursuant to this Disclosure Certificate, stating the date it was provided.

(e) If the fiscal year of the Board changes, the Board shall give written notice of such change to the Dissemination Agent and the Dissemination Agent shall, within five (5) business days after the receipt thereof from the Board, forward a notice of such change to EMMA in the manner provided in Section 5(e) hereof.

SECTION 4. Content of Annual Reports. The Board's Annual Report shall contain or incorporate by reference the following:

(1) The audited financial statements of the Board (or unaudited financial statements if audited financial statements are not then available, which audited financial statements will be delivered when and if available).

The audited financial statements are to be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

(2) The general financial information and operating data of the Board consistent with the information set forth in the Official Statement dated June 25, 2024, prepared in connection with the sale of the Bonds (the "Official Statement") in Appendix A under the sections relating to (1) Board indebtedness; (2) property valuation information; and (3) tax rate, levy and collection data.

Any or all of the items listed above may be incorporated by reference from other documents, including official statements of debt issues with respect to which the Board is an "Obligated Person" (as defined by the Rule), which have been filed with EMMA or the Securities and Exchange Commission. If the document incorporated by reference is a final

official statement, it must be available from the MSRB. The Board shall clearly identify each such other document so incorporated by reference.

SECTION 5. Reporting of Significant Events. (a) This Section 5 shall govern the giving of notices of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds:

- (1) Principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (2) Nonpayment related defaults, if material;
- (3) Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
- (4) Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (5) Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- (6) Adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds;
- (7) Modifications to rights of Bondholders, if material;
- (8) Bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
- (9) Defeasances of the Bonds;
- (10) Release, substitution or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material;
- (11) Ratings changes rating to the Bonds;
- (12) Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Board;
- (13) The consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Board or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Board, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;

- (14) Appointment of a successor or additional trustee for the Bonds or the change of name of a trustee for the Bonds, if material;
- (15) Incurrence of a financial obligation, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation, any of which affect Bondholders, if material; and
- (16) Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a financial obligation, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

The Board shall, in a timely manner not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of any Listed Event, file a notice of the occurrence of such Listed Event with the MSRB in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 of this Disclosure Certificate. In determining the materiality of any of the Listed Events specified in this subsection (a) of this section 5, the Board may, but shall not be required to, rely conclusively on an opinion of counsel.

(b) Whenever the Board has or obtains knowledge of the occurrence of any of the Listed Events, the Board shall, as soon as possible, determine if such event would constitute information material to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds.

(c) If the Board determines that the occurrence of a Listed Event would be material to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, the Board shall promptly notify the Dissemination Agent in writing (if the Board is not the Dissemination Agent) and the Board shall instruct the Dissemination Agent to report such Listed Event and the Dissemination Agent shall report the occurrence of such Listed Event pursuant to subsection (e) hereof.

(d) If the Board determines that the occurrence of a Listed Event would not be material to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, the Board shall promptly notify the Dissemination Agent in writing (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board) and the Dissemination Agent (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board) shall be instructed by the Board not to report the occurrence.

(e) If the Dissemination Agent has been instructed in writing by the Board to report the occurrence of a Listed Event, the Dissemination Agent shall file a notice of such occurrence with EMMA, with a copy to the Board (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board). Notwithstanding the foregoing, notice of Listed Events described in subsections (a)(8) and (9) hereof need not be given under this subsection any earlier than the notice (if any) of the underlying event is given to the Beneficial Owner of the affected Bonds pursuant to the Bond Resolution.

SECTION 6. Termination of Reporting Obligation. The Board's obligations under this Disclosure Certificate shall terminate upon the defeasance, prior redemption or payment in full of all of the Bonds or when the Board is no longer an "Obligated Person" (as defined in the Rule). The Board shall file a notice of the termination of its reporting

obligations pursuant to the provisions hereof with the Dissemination Agent, which notice shall be filed with EMMA in accordance with the provisions of Section 5(e) hereof.

SECTION 7. Dissemination Agent; Compensation. The Board may, from time to time, appoint or engage a Dissemination Agent to assist it in carrying out its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate, and may discharge any such Dissemination Agent, with or without appointing a successor Dissemination Agent. The initial Dissemination Agent shall be the Board. The Board shall compensate the Dissemination Agent (which shall be appointed) for the performance of its obligations hereunder in accordance with an agreed upon fee structure.

SECTION 8. Amendment; Waiver. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the Board may amend this Disclosure Certificate and any provision of this Disclosure Certificate may be waived, if such amendment or waiver (supported by an opinion of counsel expert in federal securities laws acceptable to the Board to the effect that such amendment or waiver would not, in and of itself, cause the undertakings herein to violate the Rule if such amendment or waiver had been effective on the date hereof) is (a) made in connection with a change in circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, change in law, or change in the identity, nature, or status of the obligated person, or type of business conducted; (b) the undertaking, as amended or waived, would have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the primary offering of the Bonds, after taking into account any amendments or interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances; and (c) the amendment or waiver does not materially impair the interests of holders, as determined either by parties unaffiliated with the Board or "Obligated Person," or by approving vote of the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, as applicable pursuant to the terms of the Bond Resolution at the time of the amendment. The Board shall give notice of such amendment or waiver to this Disclosure Certificate to the Dissemination Agent, which notice shall be filed in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 hereof. Notwithstanding the above, the addition of or change in the Dissemination Agent shall not be construed to be an amendment under the provisions hereof.

In the event of any amendment or waiver of a provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the Board shall describe such amendment in the next Annual Report, and shall include, as applicable, a narrative explanation of the reason for the amendment or waiver and its impact on the type (or in the case of a change of accounting principles, on the presentation) of financial information or operating data being presented by the Board. In addition, if the amendment relates to the accounting principles to be followed in preparing financial statements (i) notice of such change shall be given in the same manner as a Listed Event under Section 5 hereof, and (ii) the Annual Report for the year in which the change is made should present a comparison (in narrative form and also, if feasible, in quantitative form) between the financial statements as prepared on the basis of the new accounting principles and those prepared on the basis of the former accounting principles.

SECTION 9. Additional Information. Nothing in this Disclosure Certificate shall be deemed to prevent the Board from disseminating any other information, using the means of dissemination set forth in this Disclosure Certificate or any other means of

communication, or including any other information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is required by this Disclosure Certificate. If the Board chooses to include any information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is specifically required by this Disclosure Certificate, the Board shall have no obligation under this Disclosure Certificate to update such information or include it in any future Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event.

SECTION 10. Default. In the event of a failure of the Board to comply with any provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the Holders of at least 25% aggregate principal amount of Outstanding Bonds or any Beneficial Owner of the Bonds may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandamus or specific performance by court order, to cause the Board to comply with its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate. A default under this Disclosure Certificate shall not be deemed an Event of Default on the Bonds and the sole remedy under this Disclosure Certificate in the event of any failure of the Board to comply with this Disclosure Certificate shall be an action to compel performance.

SECTION 11. Duties, Immunities and Liabilities of the Dissemination Agent. The Dissemination Agent shall have only such duties as are specifically set forth in this Disclosure Certificate, and, to the extent permitted by law, the Board agrees to indemnify and hold the Dissemination Agent (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board) and its respective officers, directors, employees and agents, harmless against any loss, expense and liabilities which it may incur arising out of or in the exercise or performance of its powers and duties hereunder, including the costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees) of defending against any claim of liability, but excluding liabilities due to the Dissemination Agent's gross negligence or willful misconduct. To the extent permitted by law, the Board further releases the Dissemination Agent from any liability for the disclosure of any information required by the Rule and this Disclosure Certificate. The obligations of the Board under this Section shall survive resignation or removal of the Dissemination Agent and payment of the Bonds.

SECTION 12. Beneficiaries. This Disclosure Certificate shall inure solely to the benefit of the Board, the Dissemination Agent, the Underwriters, and the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, including Bondholders, and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.

SECTION 13. Notices. All notices and submissions required hereunder shall be given to the following, or their successors, by facsimile transmission (with written confirmation of receipt), followed by hard copy sent by certified or registered mail, personal delivery or recognized overnight delivery:

(a) If to the Board of Education:

The Board of Education of the
Borough of Palmyra
301 Delaware Avenue
Palmyra, New Jersey 08065
Attention: Business Administrator/Board Secretary

(b) Copies of all notices to the Dissemination Agent from time to time with respect to the Bonds, initially:

The Board of Education of the
Borough of Palmyra
301 Delaware Avenue
Palmyra, New Jersey 08065
Attention: Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Each party shall give notice from time to time to the other parties, in the manner specified herein, of any change of the identity or address of anyone listed herein.

SECTION 14. Counterparts. This Disclosure Certificate may be executed in any number of counterparts which shall be executed by authorized signatories of the Board and the Dissemination Agent, as applicable, and all of which together shall be regarded for all purposes as one original and shall constitute and be but one and the same.

SECTION 15. Severability. If any one or more of the covenants or agreements in this Disclosure Certificate to be performed on the part of the Board and the Dissemination Agent should be contrary to law, then such covenant or covenants, agreement or agreements, shall be deemed severable from the remaining covenants and agreements and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this Disclosure Certificate.

SECTION 16. Governing Law. This Disclosure Certificate shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the Laws of the United States of America and the State of New Jersey as applicable.

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
BOROUGH OF PALMYRA IN THE
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY**

By: _____
**JARED M. TOSCANO,
Business Administrator/
Board Secretary**

EXHIBIT A

**NOTICE TO EMMA OF FAILURE
TO FILE ANNUAL REPORT**

Name of Issuer: The Board of Education of the
Borough of Palmyra
in the County of Burlington, New Jersey

Name of Issue: \$18,437,000 School Bonds, Series 2024
Dated: _____, 2024
(CUSIP Number: 697294____)

Date of Issuance: _____, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above designated Board has not provided an Annual Report with respect to the above-named Bonds as required by the Bond Resolution and a Continuing Disclosure Certificate for the Bonds dated as of _____, 2024 executed by the Board.

DATED: _____

DISSEMINATION AGENT
(on behalf of the Board)

cc: The Board

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