

October 11, 2022

The Board of Education
Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District for the year ended June 30, 2022. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and Government Auditing Standards and Uniform Guidance), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated April 13, 2020. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District are described in the notes to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended June 30, 2022. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the Government-Wide financial statements were:

- Management's estimate of the liability of the payout for the employee compensated absences upon their retirement is based on expected payout. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the balance of compensated absences in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Management's estimate of the lives of capital assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimated life span of the capital assets in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole. Certain amounts included in capital assets have been estimated by appraisers based on historical information for assets placed in service prior to implementation of GASB Statement No. 34.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements were related to the District's share of the net pension and net OPEB liabilities related to GASB Statements No. 68 and 75.

The disclosure of the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability in the Notes to the financial statements were recorded as of June 30, 2022 based on information received from the Michigan Office of Retirement Services. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these liabilities in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole. There were no significant adjustments derived from the audit process.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated October 11, 2022.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matter, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the Management's Discussion and Analysis and Schedules related to the Proportionate Share and Contributions of the District's Net Pension and Net OPEB Liabilities, which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on combining and individual fund statements and schedules, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Other Comments

The District General Fund balance decreased by \$76,320 to \$1,632,991 at June 30, 2022. This balance represents approximately 14.51 percent of the District's 2022-23 expenditure budget (up from 14.3 at June 30, 2021). Maintaining a fund balance of at least 10 to 20 percent of the ensuing year's expenditure budget is advisable for Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District. This gives the District more stable operating funds during the year, helps avoid or reduce the necessity of borrowing for short-term cash flow purposes and acts as a buffer against the uncertainty of state aid revenues accruing to the District.

Restriction on Use

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District Board of Education and management and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties. We have furnished a copy of this letter to the Michigan Departments of Education and Treasury as an enclosure with the audited financial statements as required by the State of Michigan.

Hungerford Nichols

Certified Public Accountants