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Pleasantdale Middle School 7450 S. Wolf Road Burr Ridge, IL 60527 708.246.3210 Fax: 708.352.0092

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To: Dr. Dave Palzet, Superintendent

From: Griffin L. Sonntag, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations

Date: April 9, 2025

Subject: New Auditor Approval

Introduction/Background Information:

Over the past five years, Baker Tilly has performed the independent audit of District finances. The relationship has been very positive, and they have done a great job not only with our audits, but they have been a resource to me during my transition into this role. With this said, previous Boards of Education have instituted the practice of utilizing a new audit firm every five years to have "fresh eyes" on the books. In following with this past practice, I engaged in a Request for Proposal (RFP) process this winter/spring seeking a new partner to serve as our auditor.

Discussion/Highlights:

The district put out a request for proposals to several audit firms and was fortunate to receive three responses from reputable firms. They were directed to include the pricing for a three-year engagement, with the option for five years. The total cost of their proposals for the first three years is summarized below:

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP	\$83,200
Sikich	\$91,300
Eccezion	\$101,050

While the cost of contracting audit services is an important factor, it is not the only thing the district has to consider. The firm must be reliable and have expertise in government and school accounting. They must also have the capacity within their staffing to perform the work within required timelines.

After contacting numerous references, an interview with representatives from Lauterbach & Amen took place on Friday, March 28, 2025. Through that interview process, Lauterbach & Amen LLP made it abundantly clear that they have the expertise and capacity to be a great partner in performing our audit and supporting the financial functions of the district. In addition, Lauterbach & Amen, LLP successfully serves several school districts in the surrounding area.

Recommendation:

Approve Lauterbach & Amen, LLP to be the next auditor of Pleasantdale School District 107.