

Reporting and insights from the 2025 audit:

Benjamin School District 25

June 30, 2025

Executive summary

October 1, 2025

Board of Education
Benjamin School District 25
28W250 St. Charles Road
West Chicago, IL, 60185

We have completed our audit of the financial statements of Benjamin School District 25 (the District) for the year ended June 30, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated October 1, 2025. This letter presents communications required by our professional standards.

Your audit should provide you with confidence in your financial statements. The audit was performed based on information obtained from meetings with management, data from your systems, knowledge of your District's operating environment and our risk assessment procedures. We strive to provide you clear, concise communication throughout the audit process and of the final results of our audit.

Additionally, we have included information on key risk areas Benjamin School District 25 should be aware of in your strategic planning. We are available to discuss these risks as they relate to your organization's financial stability and future planning.

If you have questions at any point, please connect with us:

- Nick Cavaliere, Principal, CFE, CPA: n.cavaliere@bakertilly.com or +1 (630) 645 6244

Sincerely,

Baker Tilly US, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Cavaliere", with a stylized, cursive script.

Nick Cavaliere, CFE, CPA

THIS COMMUNICATION IS INTENDED SOLELY FOR THE INFORMATION AND USE OF THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE, AND, IF APPROPRIATE, MANAGEMENT, AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE AND SHOULD NOT BE USED BY ANYONE OTHER THAN THESE SPECIFIED PARTIES.

BAKER TILLY ADVISORY GROUP, LP AND BAKER TILLY US, LLP, TRADING AS BAKER TILLY, ARE MEMBERS OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK OF BAKER TILLY INTERNATIONAL LTD., THE MEMBERS OF WHICH ARE SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT LEGAL ENTITIES. BAKER TILLY US, LLP IS A LICENSED CPA FIRM THAT PROVIDES ASSURANCE SERVICES TO ITS CLIENTS. BAKER TILLY ADVISORY GROUP, LP AND ITS SUBSIDIARY ENTITIES PROVIDE TAX AND CONSULTING SERVICES TO THEIR CLIENTS AND ARE NOT LICENSED CPA FIRMS.

Responsibilities

Our responsibilities

As your independent auditor, our responsibilities include:

- Planning and performing the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance.
- Assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. Included in that assessment is a consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting.
- Performing appropriate procedures based upon our risk assessment.
- Evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management.
- Forming and expressing an opinion based on our audit about whether the financial statements prepared by management, with the oversight of those charged with governance:
 - Are free from material misstatement
 - Present fairly, in all material respects and in accordance with the modified cash basis of reporting
- Performing tests related to compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, as required by *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Our audit does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities.

We are also required to communicate significant matters related to our audit that are relevant to the responsibilities of the Board of Education, including:

- Internal control matters
- Qualitative aspects of the District's accounting practice including policies, accounting estimates and financial statement disclosures
- Significant unusual transactions
- Significant difficulties encountered
- Disagreements with management
- Circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditors' report
- Audit consultations outside the engagement team
- Corrected and uncorrected misstatements
- Other audit findings or issues

Audit status

Significant changes to the audit plan

There were no significant changes made to either our planned audit strategy or to the significant risks and other areas of emphasis identified during the performance of our risk assessment procedures.

Audit approach and results

Planned scope and timing

Audit focus

Based on our understanding of the District and environment in which you operate, we focused our audit on the following key areas:

- Key transaction cycles
- Areas with significant estimates

Our areas of audit focus were informed by, among other things, our assessment of materiality. Materiality in the context of our audit was determined based on specific qualitative and quantitative factors combined with our expectations about the District's current year results.

Key areas of focus and significant findings

Significant risks of material misstatement

A significant risk is an identified and assessed risk of material misstatement that, in the auditor's professional judgment, requires special audit consideration. Within our audit, we focused on the following areas below.

Significant risk areas	Testing approach	Conclusion
Management override of controls	Incorporate unpredictability into audit procedures, emphasize professional skepticism and utilize audit team with industry expertise	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion
Improper revenue recognition due to fraud	Confirmation or validation of certain revenues supplemented with detailed predictive analytics based on non-financial data and substantive testing of related receivables	Procedures identified provided sufficient evidence for our audit opinion

Other areas of emphasis

We also focused on other areas that did not meet the definition of a significant risk, but were determined to require specific awareness and a unique audit response.

Other areas of emphasis		
Cash and investments	Cash Receipts	General disbursements
Payroll	Long-Term Debt	Financial reporting and required disclosures
Capital assets	Fund balance/net position calculations	

Internal control matters

We considered the District's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements. We are not expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis.

A material weakness is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We identified the following deficiencies as material weaknesses:

Internal Control Over External Financial Report – Cash Basis Adjustments

A properly designed system of internal control should include a review process that identifies any material misstatement of the prepared information so that the information can be corrected. These control procedures would allow the District to present financial information to the auditor in such a condition that the auditor is not able to identify material changes or adjustments as a result of audit procedures.

During our audit procedures we identified and proposed material cash basis adjustments which were ultimately reviewed, and approved, by District personnel and are reflected within the financial statements. A summary of these adjustments are as follows:

1. An adjustment was identified to record \$497,968 of bond issuance proceeds for capitalized interest received by the District during the issuance of general obligation bonds that was not recorded in the District's Debt Service Fund.
2. An adjustment was identified to record a transfer of \$837,608 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund that was approved by the Board of Education and not recorded within the District's accounting records.
3. An adjustment was identified to record \$200,207 of principal and interest payments within the Debt Service Fund that was paid by the District during the year. These amounts related to the Series 2018 General Obligation Bonds and an entry was not recorded within the accounting records for this transaction.
4. An adjustment was identified to record the transfer of \$20,367 of interest earned in the Debt Service Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund into the proper account functions as required by the Illinois State Board of Education for external reporting purposes.
5. An adjustment was identified to correct and reverse an adjusting journal entry recorded by District personnel to increase cash and fund balance within the General Fund incorrectly by \$1,562,569.

We recommend that the district implement additional training for accounting staff and enhance its internal review processes to identify and correct errors before financial information is provided to the external auditor to conduct the annual audit and assist in the preparation of the financial statements.

Bank Reconciliation Process

During the course of our audit, we noted that the District did not perform regular bank reconciliations that included its investment accounts throughout the fiscal year. As a result of this material deposits and disbursements that were authorized by the District were not recorded and this unrecorded bank activity was not detected, and corrected, within the District’s accounting records.

Timely and accurate bank reconciliations are a critical internal control procedure that ensures the completeness and accuracy of financial records, helps detect errors or irregularities, and supports sound financial management. The absence of this control increases the risk of undetected misstatements and may impair the District’s ability to monitor and manage its investment activity effectively. We recommend that the District implement procedures to ensure that all bank and investment accounts are reconciled on a monthly basis and reviewed by appropriate personnel.

Required communications

Qualitative aspect of accounting practices

- Accounting policies: Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we have advised management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by Benjamin School District 25 are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing accounting policies was not changed during 2025. We noted no transactions entered into by the District during the year for which accounting policies are controversial or for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus or diversity in practice.
- Accounting estimates: Accounting estimates, including fair value 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, the degree of subjectivity involved in their development and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The following estimates are of most significance to the financial statements:

Estimate	Management’s process to determine	Baker Tilly’s conclusions regarding reasonableness
Depreciation	Evaluate estimated useful life of the asset and original acquisition value	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole
State of Illinois on-behalf payments	Evaluation of information provided by the Teacher’s Retirement System and the Teacher’s Health Insurance Security Fund	Reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole

There have been no significant changes made by management to either the processes used to develop the particularly sensitive accounting estimates, or to the significant assumptions used to develop the estimates, noted above.

- Financial statement disclosures: The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent and clear.

Significant unusual transactions

There have been no significant transactions that are outside the normal course of business for the District or that otherwise appear to be unusual due to their timing, size or nature.

Significant difficulties encountered during the audit

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

Disagreements with management

Professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the basic financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Audit report

There have been no departures from the auditors' standard report.

Audit consultations outside the engagement team

We encountered no difficult or contentious matters for which we consulted outside of the engagement team.

Uncorrected misstatements and corrected misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial and to communicate accumulated misstatements to management. Management is in agreement with the misstatements we have identified, and they have been corrected in the financial statements. The following material cash basis adjustments were identified, that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures.

1. An adjustment was identified to record \$497,968 of bond issuance proceeds for capitalized interest received by the District that was not recorded in the District's Debt Service Fund.
2. An adjustment was identified to record a transfer of \$837,608 from the Operations and Maintenance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund that was approved by the Board of Education and not recorded within the District's accounting records.
3. An adjustment was identified to record \$200,207 of principal and interest payments within the Debt Service Fund that was paid by the District during the year. These amounts related to the Series 2018 General Obligation Bonds and an entry was not recorded within the accounting records for this transaction.
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5. An adjustment was identified to correct and reverse an adjustment journal entry recorded by District personnel to increase cash and fund balance within the General Fund incorrectly by \$1,562,569.

The internal control matters section of this report describes the effects on the financial reporting process indicated by the corrected misstatements, other than those that we consider to be of a lesser magnitude than significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Other audit findings or issues

We encountered no other audit findings or issues that require communication at this time.

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 District'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 information in documents containing audited basic financial statements

The District's audited financial statements are "general purpose" financial statements. General purpose financial statements consist of the basic financial statements that can be used by a broad group of people for a broad range of activities. Once we have issued our audit report, we have no further obligation to update our report for events occurring subsequent to the date of our report. The District can use the audited financial statements in other client prepare documents, such as official statements related to the issuance of debt, without our acknowledgement. Unless we have been engaged to perform services in connection with any subsequent transaction requiring the inclusion of our audit report, as well as to issue an auditor's acknowledgment letter, we have neither read the document nor performed subsequent event procedures in order to determine whether or not our report remains appropriate.

Management's consultations with other accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing or accounting matters.

Written communications between management and Baker Tilly

The attachments include copies of other material written communications, including a copy of the management representation letter.

Compliance with laws and regulations

We did not identify any non-compliance with laws and regulations during our audit.

Fraud

We did not identify any known or suspected fraud during our audit.

Going concern

Pursuant to professional standards, we are required to communicate to you, when applicable, certain matters relating to our evaluation of the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time but no less than 12 months from the date of the financial statements, including the effects on the financial statements and the adequacy of the related disclosures, and the effects on the auditor's report. No such matters or conditions have come to our attention during our engagement.

Independence

We are not aware of any relationships between Baker Tilly and the District that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence.

Related parties

We did not have any significant findings or issues arise during the audit in connection with the District's related parties.

Other matters

We were not engaged to report on the other information, which accompanies the financial statements. We did not audit or perform other procedures on this other information, and we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Nonattest services

The following nonattest services were provided by Baker Tilly:

- Financial statement preparation
- Adjusting and conversion journal entries
- Compiled regulatory reports

The District maintains its general ledger on the cash basis of accounting. As part of the audit, we proposed entries to convert the District's fund level cash basis information to the modified cash basis of accounting used for external reporting. These entries have been furnished to management, were approved and are reflected within the financial statements. We also proposed, and management approved, conversion entries to prepare the District-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities. These entries are summarized on the Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position and the Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities, both of which are included within the District's Basic Financial Statements.

None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

Audit committee resources

Our business is to know every aspect of yours and to maintain a constant lookout for what's next. We invite you to learn about some of the trending challenges and opportunities for public sector organizations like yours and how Baker Tilly can help.

To explore more trending topics and regulatory updates, visit our resource page at <https://www.bakertilly.com/insights/audit-committee-resource-page>.



Funding evaluation and pursuit

Public sector organizations may be eligible for grants, tax credits and other financial incentives through funding opportunities such as the Inflation Reduction Act, the Clean Communities Investment Accelerator, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Baker Tilly can help you navigate, understand and pursue various federal and state funding sources through grant research and tracking, advising and writing, and management and compliance services.



Digital transformation

Digitizing public services can be a game changer for governments. Streamlining inefficient processes, providing digital access and delivery of services to meet public expectations, implementing technology to protect constituent data, leveraging information to make data-driven decisions and migrating outdated on-premises systems to the cloud are crucial to an entity's success.

Through these types of digital services, Baker Tilly can help you scale with future demand and be better positioned to rapidly respond to changing demands.



Cybersecurity

Public sector organizations face significant challenges from cyber threats and IT regulations. It can feel like you are on the defense keeping up with the latest risks, regulations and emerging trends. To mitigate risk, you must understand your organization's unique vulnerabilities, cybersecurity processes and controls.

Baker Tilly can help enhance your cybersecurity posture and ensure compliance, with solutions in IT compliance and security and cybersecurity and data protection to safeguard your data and navigate complex risk environments.

Management representation letter

Administration Service Center
28W250 St. Charles Road
West Chicago, IL 60185-1400



Phone: (630) 876-7800
Fax: (630) 876-3325
www.bendist25.org

October 1, 2025

Baker Tilly US, LLP
1301 West 22nd Street
Suite 400
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523

Dear Baker Tilly US, LLP:

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Benjamin School District 25 as of June 30, 2025 and for the year then ended for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of Benjamin School District 25 and the respective changes in financial position in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the previously mentioned financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting. We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, establishing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting, and preventing and detecting fraud.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your audit.

Financial Statements

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated April 1, 2025, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting. We have engaged you to advise us in fulfilling that responsibility. The financial statements include all properly classified funds of the primary government required by the modified cash basis of accounting to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility 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.

- 4) We acknowledge that we have included all informative disclosures that are appropriate for the modified cash basis used to prepare our financial statements. These include:
 - i. A description of the modified cash basis or contractual basis, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and how the framework differs from GAAP,
 - ii. Additional disclosures beyond those specifically required that may be necessary to achieve fair presentation.
- 5) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 6) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, if any are reasonable in accordance with the modified cash basis of reporting.
- 7) Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of the modified cash basis of accounting.
- 8) All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the modified cash basis of accounting requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. No other events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the financial statement date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements.
- 9) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 10) All known audit and bookkeeping adjustments have been included in our financial statements, and we are in agreement with those adjustments.
- 11) There are no known or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements. There are no unasserted claims or assessments that our lawyer has advised us are probable of assertion and must be disclosed in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.
- 12) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the District is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

Information Provided

- 13) We have provided you with:
 - a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as financial records and related data, documentation, and other matters.
 - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
 - c) Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

- d) Minutes of the meetings of the Board of Education or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 14) We have disclosed to you results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 15) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:
 - a) Management,
 - b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
 - c) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 16) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity received in communications from employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- 17) We have no knowledge of known instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 18) We have disclosed to you the names of our related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions, including side agreements, of which we are aware.

Other

- 19) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 20) We have identified to you any previous financial audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 21) The District has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources or fund balance or net position.
- 22) We are responsible for compliance with federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits, debt contracts, and IRS arbitrage regulations; and we have identified and disclosed to you all federal, state, and local laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 23) There are no:
 - a) Violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, federal, state, and local laws or regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance, except those already disclosed in the financial statement, if any.

- b) Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by the modified cash basis of accounting.
- c) Nonspendable, restricted, committed, or assigned fund balances that were not properly authorized and approved.
- d) Rates being charged to customers other than the rates as authorized by the applicable authoritative body.
- e) Violations of restrictions placed on revenues as a result of bond resolution covenants such as revenue distribution or debt service funding.

24) In regards to the nonattest services performed by you listed below, we acknowledge our responsibility related to these nonattest services and have 1) accepted all management responsibility; 2) designated an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee the services; 3) evaluated the adequacy and results of the services performed, and 4) accepted responsibility for the results of the services.

- a) Financial statement preparation
- b) Adjusting and conversion journal entries
- c) Compiled regulatory reports

None of these nonattest services constitute an audit under generally accepted auditing standards, including *Government Auditing Standards*.

- 25) Benjamin School District 25 has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- 26) Benjamin School District 25 has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statement in the event of noncompliance.
- 27) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities.
- 28) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASB Statement No. 34 and No. 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.
- 29) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and components of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- 30) Benjamin School District 25 has no derivative financial instruments such as contracts that could be assigned to someone else or net settled, interest rate swaps, collars or caps.
- 31) Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 32) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues and general revenues.
- 33) Interfund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.

- 34) Deposits and investments are properly classified, valued, and disclosed (including risk disclosures, collateralization agreements, valuation methods, and key inputs, as applicable).
- 35) Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated/amortized. Any known impairments have been recorded and disclosed.
- 36) Tax-exempt bonds issued have retained their tax-exempt status.
- 37) We have appropriately disclosed Benjamin School District 25's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available and have determined that net position were properly recognized under the policy. We have also disclosed our policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available.
- 38) With respect to the supplementary information, (SI):
 - a) We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting the SI in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting, and we believe the SI, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. The methods of measurement and presentation of the SI have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.
 - b) If the SI is not presented with the audited financial statements, we will make the audited financial statements readily available to the intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date we issue the supplementary information and the auditor's report thereon.
- 39) We assume responsibility for, and agree with, the information provided by the IMRF, TRS, and THIS systems as audited by their auditors relating to the net pension asset/liability and related deferred outflows and deferred inflows and have adequately considered the reasonableness of the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We also assume responsibility for the census data that has been reported to the plan.
- 40) The financial statements properly disclose all matters we are aware of relevant on the ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time, including conditions or events and our plan to mitigate any adverse effects.
- 41) We have reviewed our long-term debt agreements and believe that all terms related to significant events of default with finance-related consequences, termination events with finance-related consequences and subjective acceleration clauses have been properly identified and disclosed.

- 42) We have identified any leases or other contracts that are required to be reported as leases and are in agreement with the key assumptions used in the measurement of any lease related assets, liabilities or deferred inflows of resources.

Sincerely,

Benjamin School District 25

Signed: 

Superintendent – Dr. Patrick McGill

Signed: 

Business Manager – Dr. Joel Filas CSBO

Accounting changes relevant to Benjamin School District 25

Future accounting standards update

GASB Statement Number	Description	Potentially impacts you	Effective date
103	Financial Reporting Model Improvements	✓	6/30/26
104	Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets	✓	6/30/26

Further information on upcoming [GASB pronouncements](#).

Changes to the financial reporting model

GASB Statement 103, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*, builds on Statement 34 by providing key targeted improvements to the financial reporting model. Its requirements are designed to:

- Enhance the effectiveness of governmental financial reports in providing information essential for decision making and assessing a government's accountability, and
- Address certain application issues.

The targeted improvements contained in Statement 103 establish or modify existing accounting and financial reporting requirements related to:

- Management's discussion and analysis - While the overall requirements do not substantially change management's discussion and analysis, the modifications are meant to improve the analysis included in this section and provide details about the items that should be discussed as currently known facts, decisions, or conditions expected to have a significant financial effect in the subsequent period.
- Unusual or infrequent items (previously known as extraordinary and special items) - The new Statement simplifies GASB literature by eliminating the separate presentation of extraordinary and special items. Under the requirement of Statement 103, applicable items will either be identified as unusual or infrequent, or both.
- Presentation of the proprietary fund statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position - The changes are designed to improve consistency around the classification of items in these statements by better defining what should be included in operating revenues and expenses and nonoperating revenues and expenses including, for example, the addition of subsidies received or provided as a new category of nonoperating revenues and expenses.
- Major component unit information, and Budgetary comparison information - Statement 103 is designed to improve the consistency of the reporting of major component unit information and budgetary comparison information by specifying required placement of that information.

Revisions to disclosures for certain capital assets

Governments are required to provide information on capital assets in the footnotes to the financial statements as outlined in GASB Statement No. 34. Recent standards have impacted the accounting and reporting for capital assets and as a result GASB issued Statement No. 104, *Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets* to provide enhanced disclosures for certain capital assets, including:

- (a) Lease assets reported under Statement No. 87, intangible right-to-use assets reported under Statement No. 94 and subscription assets reported under Statement No. 96 should all be disclosed separately, and by major class of underlying asset. In addition, if there are any other intangible assets reported they should also be disclosed separately.
- (b) Capital assets that are held for sale should have the ending balance with separate disclosure for historical cost and related accumulated depreciation as well as any outstanding debt for which the asset is pledged as collateral disclosed by major class of asset. Assets held for sale are defined as those for which the government has decided to pursue the sale, and it is probable that the sale will be finalized within one year of the financial statement date.

While these changes are focused on footnote disclosures it is important to plan ahead to ensure the required information is available for implementation.

Two-way audit communications

As part of our audit of your financial statements, we are providing communications to you throughout the audit process. Auditing requirements provide for two-way communication and are important in assisting the auditor and you with more information relevant to the audit.

As this past audit is concluded, we use what we have learned to begin the planning process for next year's audit. It is important that you understand the following points about the scope and timing of our next audit:

- a. We address the significant risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, through our detailed audit procedures.
- b. We will obtain an understanding of the five components of internal control sufficient to assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to error or fraud, and to design the nature, timing and extent of further audit procedures. We will obtain a sufficient understanding by performing risk assessment procedures to evaluate the design of controls relevant to an audit of financial statements and to determine whether they have been implemented. We will use such knowledge to:
 - Identify types of potential misstatements.
 - Consider factors that affect the risks of material misstatement.
 - Design tests of controls, when applicable, and substantive procedures.
- c. We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations and provisions of contracts or grant programs. For audits performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, our report will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance and that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting and compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.
- d. The concept of materiality recognizes that some matters, either individually or in the aggregate, are important for fair presentation of financial statements in conformity with the modified cash basis of reporting while other matters are not important. In performing the audit, we are concerned with matters that, either individually or in the aggregate, could be material to the financial statements. Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that material misstatements, whether caused by errors or fraud, are detected.

Our audit will be performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*.

We will not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or compliance with laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts or grant programs. For audits done in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, our report will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report is solely to describe (a) the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, (b) the scope of testing internal control over compliance for major programs and major program compliance and the result of that testing and to provide an opinion on compliance but not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance and, (c) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering internal control over financial reporting, in considering internal control over compliance and major program compliance. The paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

We are very interested in your views regarding certain matters. Those matters are listed here:

- a. We typically will communicate with your top level of management unless you tell us otherwise.
- b. We understand that the governing board has the responsibility to oversee the strategic direction of your organization, as well as the overall accountability of the entity. Management has the responsibility for achieving the objectives of the entity.
- c. We need to know your views about your organization's objectives and strategies, and the related business risks that may result in material misstatements.
- d. We anticipate that the District will receive an unmodified opinion on its financial statements.
- e. Which matters do you consider warrant particular attention during the audit, and are there any areas where you request additional procedures to be undertaken?
- f. Have you had any significant communications with regulators or grantor agencies?
- g. Are there other matters that you believe are relevant to the audit of the financial statements?

Also, is there anything that we need to know about the attitudes, awareness and actions of the governing body concerning:

- a. The entity's internal control and its importance in the entity, including how those charged with governance oversee the effectiveness of internal control?
- b. The detection or the possibility of fraud?

We also need to know if you have taken actions in response to developments in financial reporting, laws, accounting standards, governance practices, or other related matters, or in response to previous communications with us.

With regard to the timing of our audit, here is some general information. If necessary, we may do preliminary financial audit work during the months of May-June, and sometimes early in July. Our final financial fieldwork is scheduled during the late summer or fall to best coincide with your readiness and report deadlines. After fieldwork, we wrap up our financial audit procedures at our office and may issue drafts of our report for your review. Final copies of our report and other communications are issued after approval by your staff. This is typically 6-12 weeks after final fieldwork, but may vary depending on a number of factors.

Keep in mind that while this communication may assist us with planning the scope and timing of the audit, it does not change the auditor's sole responsibility to determine the overall audit strategy and the audit plan, including the nature, timing and extent of procedures necessary to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

We realize that you may have questions on what this all means, or wish to provide other feedback. We welcome the opportunity to hear from you.