

DATE

To the School Board of
Greenbush Middle River School District
Greenbush, Minnesota

We have audited the financial statements of Greenbush Middle River School District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated DATE. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards

As communicated in our letter dated May 27, 2020, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of its respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the District solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

We have provided our comments regarding internal control matters during our audit in our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* dated DATE.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, our firm, and other firms utilized in the engagement, if applicable, have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Greenbush Middle River School District are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 1, Greenbush Middle River School District changed accounting policies related to accounting for fiduciary activities to adopt the provisions of GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*. Accordingly, the accounting change has been retrospectively applied to the financial statements beginning July 1, 2019. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on 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 markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are:

Management's estimate of the state aid receivable and related revenue from the State of Minnesota is based on the projected student counts at year-end. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the state aid receivable and related revenue and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the other post-employment and net pension liability is based on an actuary's calculation in accordance with the employment contracts. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the other post-employment benefits and net pension liability and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. The misstatements in the attached schedule that we identified as a result of our audit procedures were brought to the attention of, and corrected by management.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, 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, which could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

Representations Requested from Management

We have requested certain written representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated **DATE**.

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 and accounting matters.

Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues

In the normal course of our professional association with Greenbush Middle River School District, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, business conditions affecting the entity, and business plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as Greenbush Middle River School District' auditors.

Modification of the Auditor’s Report

As discussed in Notes 1 and 10 to the financial statements, the District has adopted the provisions of GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, which has resulted in an adjustment of the net deficit and fund balance of the General Fund as of July 1, 2019. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the School Board and management of Greenbush Middle River School District and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Fargo, North Dakota



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