

October 9, 2020

To the Board of Education
Pocantico Hills Central School District
599 Bedford Road
Sleepy Hollow, New York 10591

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the fiduciary funds of Pocantico Hills Central School District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, 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 July 25, 2019. 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 Pocantico Hills Central School District are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during fiscal year 2020. We noted no transactions entered into by Pocantico Hills Central School District the fiscal 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 Pocantico Hills Central School District financial statements were:

- Useful Life of Capital Assets – Management's estimate of the useful life of capital assets is based on the historical asset life information for Pocantico Hills Central School District capital assets and industry standards, in order to determine the value and period of time over which individual capital assets are to be depreciated.

- Compensated Absences Liability – Management’s estimate of the liability for compensated absences is based on historical information regarding employees who have separated from Pocantico Hills Central School District and their terminal payout amounts, in order to determine the probability and amount of future payouts to employees for vested accumulated sick, vacation and/or leave terminal payouts. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Other Post-Employment Benefits Obligation – Management’s estimate of the liability for other post-employment benefits is based on an actuarial valuation report prepared by a third party. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- Net Pension Asset/Liability– Management’s estimate of the asset or liability for retirement systems is based on an actuarial valuation report prepared by a third party. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate 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 clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. Attached is a schedule showing a material misstatement detected as a result of audit procedures that was corrected by management.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is 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 9, 2020.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to Pocantico Hills Central School District 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 Finding 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 Pocantico Hills Central School District 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 management’s discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, schedule of funding progress, schedule of District’s proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset), and the schedule of District’s contributions 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 the schedule of change from adopted budget to final budget – general fund and section 1318 of real property tax law limit calculation, schedule of project expenditures - capital projects fund and net investment in capital assets 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.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Education, Audit Committee and management of Pocantico Hills Central School District and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP

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