#### **OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED JULY 16, 2015**

#### **NEW ISSUE - Book-Entry Only**

Rating: See "RATING" herein

In the opinion of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey ("Bond Counsel"), under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions, and assuming continuing compliance with certain covenants described herein, interest on the Bonds (as herein defined) (i) is not includable in gross income for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and (ii) is not treated as a preference item under Section 57 of the Code for purposes of computing the Federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals and corporations. Bond Counsel is further of the opinion that, under existing laws of the State of New Jersey, interest on the Bonds and any gain on the sale thereof are not includable in gross income under the New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, as amended. See "TAX EXEMPTION" herein.

# \$8,999,000 SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2015 THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY (New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended)

#### CALLABLE BANK-QUALIFIED

Dated: Date of Delivery Due: July 15, as shown below

The \$8,999,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2015 (the "Bonds"), of The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) are valid and legally binding general obligations of the Board, and unless paid from other sources, are payable from ad valorem taxes levied upon all the taxable real property within the School District for the payment of the Bonds and the interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount. Payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds is also secured under the provisions of the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended.

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds in book-entry only form (without certificates) in the form of one certificate for the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds maturing in each year and when issued will be registered in the name of and held by Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"). Individual purchases may be made in the principal amount of \$1,000 each, or any integral multiple thereof with a minimum purchase of \$5,000 required, through book-entries made on the books and the records of DTC and its participants. Individual purchasers of the Bonds will not receive certificates representing their beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds, but each book-entry Bond owner will receive a credit balance on the books of its nominee, and this credit balance will be confirmed by an initial transaction statement stating the details of the Bonds purchased. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

The Bonds shall bear interest from their date of delivery, which interest shall be payable semi-annually on the fifteenth day of January and July in each year, commencing July 15, 2016, until maturity or prior redemption. Interest on the Bonds will be credited to the participants of DTC as listed on the records of DTC as of each immediately preceding July 1 and January 1 (the "Record Dates" for the payment of interest on the Bonds).

The Bonds are subject to optional redemption prior to their stated maturities as set forth herein. See "DESCRIPTION OF THE BONDS – Optional Redemption" herein.

#### MATURITY SCHEDULE, INTEREST RATES AND YIELDS

<u>Year</u>	Principal Amount	Interest <u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Year</u>	Principal <u>Amount</u>	Interest <u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>
2016	\$255,000	2.000%	0.450%	2026*	\$445,000	3.000%	2.600%
2017	370,000	2.000	0.770	2027*	460,000	3.000	2.750
2018	375,000	2.000	1.060	2028*	475,000	3.000	2.850
2019	380,000	2.000	1.230	2029*	490,000	3.000	2.920
2020	390,000	2.000	1.470	2030	505,000	3.000	3.000
2021	395,000	2.000	1.690	2031*	520,000	3.250	3.150
2022	405,000	2.000	2.000	2032	535,000	3.250	3.250
2023	415,000	2.000	2.150	2033*	555,000	3.500	3.300
2024	425,000	2.250	2.290	2034*	575,000	3.500	3.400
2025	435,000	2.375	2.420	2035*	594,000	3.500	3.450

<sup>\*</sup> Priced to the July 15, 2025 call date.

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued and delivered to the Underwriter, subject to prior sale, to withdrawal or modification of the offer without notice and to approval of legality by the law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey, Bond Counsel to the Board, and certain other conditions described herein. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Board by the Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. Woodbridge, New Jersey, General Counsel to the Board. NW Financial Group, LLC, Hoboken, New Jersey, served as financial advisor in connection with the Bonds. Delivery of the Bonds in definitive form to DTC in New York, New York is anticipated to occur on or about July 28, 2015.

# THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

President – Erin Hegglin Vice President – Susan Trocchia

Kristin Arvanitis
Meaghan Cavanaugh
Paul J. Christopher
Mary Orendorff-Gassman
Brian Kramer
Patricia Bambach-McLaughlin
Beth Sarfaty

#### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Thomas Farrell

#### **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY**

Dennis W. Kotch

#### **BOARD ATTORNEY**

Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. Woodbridge, New Jersey

#### **BOARD AUDITOR**

Robert A. Hulsart and Company Wall, New Jersey

#### **FINANCIAL ADVISOR**

NW Financial Group, LLC Hoboken, New Jersey

#### **BOND COUNSEL**

Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. Woodbridge, New Jersey

No broker, dealer, salesperson or other person has been authorized by the Board to give any information or to make any representations with respect to the Bonds, other than those contained in this Official Statement, and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Board. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for any person to make such an offer, solicitation or sale.

The information contained herein has been provided by the Board, DTC and other sources deemed reliable by the Board; however, such information is not guaranteed as to its accuracy or completeness and such information is not to be construed as a representation or warranty by the Board, as to information from sources other than itself. The Board has not confirmed the accuracy or completeness of information relating to DTC, which information has been provided by DTC.

This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement among the Board, the Underwriter and the owners of any of the Bonds. The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice, and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in any of the information herein since the date hereof, or the date as of which such information is given, if earlier.

References in this Official Statement to the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, laws, rules, regulations, resolutions, agreements, reports and documents do not purport to be comprehensive or definitive. All references to such documents or laws are qualified in their entirety by reference to the particular source, the full text of which may contain qualifications of and exceptions to statements made herein, and copies of which may be inspected at the offices of the Board during normal business hours.

The order and placement of materials in this Official Statement, including the Appendices, are not to be deemed to be a determination of relevance, materiality or importance, and this Official Statement, including the Appendices, must be considered in its entirety.

In order to facilitate the distribution of the Bonds, the Underwriter may engage in transactions intended to stabilize the price of the Bonds at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market. Such stabilizing, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

The Underwriter has provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Underwriter has reviewed the information in this Official Statement pursuant to its responsibilities to investors under the federal securities law, but the Underwriter does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

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#### **OFFICIAL STATEMENT**

OF

# THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

\$8,999,000 SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2015 (NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOND RESERVE ACT, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended)

#### CALLABLE BANK-QUALIFIED

#### INTRODUCTION

This Official Statement, which includes the cover page and the appendices attached hereto, has been prepared by The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) in connection with the offering, sale and issuance of its \$8,999,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2015 (the "Bonds"). This Official Statement has been executed by and on behalf of the Board by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and its distribution and use in connection with the offering and sale of the Bonds have been authorized by the Board.

This Official Statement contains specific information relating to the Bonds including their general description, certain matters affecting the financing, certain legal matters, historical financial information and other information pertinent to this issue. This Official Statement should be read in its entirety.

All financial and other information presented herein has been provided by the Board from its records, except for information expressly attributed to other sources. The presentation of information is intended to show recent historic information and, but only to the extent specifically provided herein, certain projections into the immediate future, and is not necessarily indicative of future or continuing trends in the financial position of the Board.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE BONDS**

The following is a summary of certain provisions of the Bonds. Reference is made to the Bonds themselves for the complete text thereof, and the discussion herein is qualified in its entirety by such reference.

#### **Terms and Interest Payment Dates**

The Bonds shall be dated their date of delivery and shall mature on July 15, in each of the years and in the amounts set forth on the cover page hereof. The Bonds shall bear interest from their date of delivery which interest shall be payable semi-annually on the fifteenth day of January and July (each an "Interest Payment Date"), commencing on July 15, 2016, in each of the years and at the interest rates set forth on the cover page hereof until maturity or prior redemption by check mailed by the Board or a duly appointed paying agent to the registered owners of the Bonds as of each July 1 and January 1 immediately preceding the respective Interest Payment Date (the "Record Dates"). So long as The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), or its nominee is the registered owner of the Bonds, payments of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made by the Board or a designated paying agent directly to DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., which will in turn remit such payments to DTC Participants, which will in turn remit such payments to the beneficial owners of the Bonds. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

The Bonds will be issued in fully registered book-entry only form, without certificates. One certificate shall be issued for the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds maturing in each year, and when issued, will be registered in the name of and held by Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC. DTC will act as Securities Depository for the Bonds (the "Securities Depository"). The certificates will be on deposit with DTC. DTC will be responsible for maintaining a book-entry system for recording the interests of its participants and transfers of the interests among its participants. The participants will be responsible for maintaining records regarding the beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds on behalf of the individual purchasers. Individual purchases may be made in the principal amount of \$1,000 each, or any integral multiple thereof with a minimum purchase of \$5,000 required, through book-entries made on the books and records of DTC and its participants. Individual purchasers of the Bonds will not receive certificates representing their beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds, but each book-entry owner will receive a credit balance on the books of its nominee, and this credit balance will be confirmed by an initial transaction statement stating the details of the Bonds purchased. See "BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

#### Redemption

The Bonds of this issue maturing prior to July 15, 2026 are not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities. The Bonds of this issue maturing on or after July 15, 2026 are redeemable at the option of the Board in whole or in part on any date on or after July 15, 2025 upon notice as required herein at one hundred percent (100%) of the principal amount being redeemed (the "Redemption Price"), plus accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

#### **Notice of Redemption**

Notice of redemption ("Notice of Redemption") shall be given by mailing such notice at least thirty (30) days but not more than sixty (60) days before the date fixed for redemption by first class mail in a sealed envelope with postage prepaid to the registered owners of such Bonds at their respective addresses as they last appear on the registration books kept for that purpose by the Board or a duly appointed Bond Registrar. So long as DTC (or any successor thereto) acts as Securities Depository for the Bonds, Notice of Redemption shall be sent to such Securities Depository and shall not be sent to the beneficial owners of the Bonds. Any failure of the Securities Depository to advise any of its participants or any failure of any participant to notify any beneficial owner of any Notice of Redemption shall not affect the validity of the redemption proceedings. If the Board determines to redeem a portion of the Bonds prior to maturity, such Bonds shall be selected by the Board; the Bonds to be redeemed having the same maturity shall be selected by the Securities Depository in accordance with its regulations.

If Notice of Redemption has been given as provided herein, the Bonds or the portion thereof called for redemption shall be due and payable on the date fixed for redemption at the Redemption Price, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption. Interest shall cease to accrue on the Bonds after the date fixed for redemption.

#### **Security for the Bonds**

The Bonds are valid and legally binding general obligations of the Board, and the Board has irrevocably pledged its full faith and credit for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds. Unless paid from other sources, the principal of and interest on the Bonds are payable from *ad valorem* taxes levied upon all the taxable real property within the School District without limitation as to rate or amount. The Bonds are additionally secured by the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended.

#### School Bond Reserve Act (1980 N.J. Laws c. 72)

All school bonds are secured by the School Bond Reserve (the "School Bond Reserve") established in the Fund for the Support of Free Public Schools of the State of New Jersey (the "Fund") in accordance with the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, N.J.S.A. 18A:56-17 et seq. (P.L. 1980, c. 72, approved July 16, 1980, as amended by P.L. 2003, c. 118, approved July 1, 2003 (the "Act")). The 2003

amendments to the Act provide that the Fund will be divided into two School Bond Reserve accounts. All bonds issued prior to July 1, 2003 shall be benefited by a School Bond Reserve account funded in an amount equal to 1-1/2% of the aggregate issued and outstanding bonded indebtedness of counties, municipalities or school districts for school purposes (the "Old School Bond Reserve Account") and all bonds, including the Bonds, issued on or after July 1, 2003 shall be benefited by a School Bond Reserve account funded in an amount equal to 1% of the aggregate issued and outstanding bonded indebtedness of counties, municipalities or school districts for school purposes (the "New School Bond Reserve Account"), provided such amounts do not exceed the moneys available in the Fund. If a municipality, county or school district is unable to make payment of principal of or interest on any of its bonds issued for school purposes, the trustees of the Fund will purchase such bonds at par value and will pay to the bondholders the interest due or to become due within the limits of funds available in the applicable School Bond Reserve account in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The Act provides that the School Bond Reserve shall be composed entirely of direct obligations of the United States government or obligations guaranteed by the full faith and credit of the United States government. Securities representing at least one-third of the minimal market value to be held in the School Bond Reserve shall be due to mature within one year of issuance or purchase. Beginning with the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2003 and continuing on each June 30 thereafter, the State Treasurer shall calculate the amount necessary to fully fund the Old School Bond Reserve Account and the New School Bond Reserve Account as required pursuant to the Act. To the extent moneys are insufficient to maintain each account in the School Bond Reserve at the required levels, the State agrees that the State Treasurer shall, no later than September 15 of the fiscal year following the June 30 calculation date, pay to the trustees for deposit in the School Bond Reserve such amounts as may be necessary to maintain the Old School Bond Reserve Account and the New School Bond Reserve Account at the levels required by the Act. No moneys may be borrowed from the Fund to provide liquidity to the State unless the Old School Bond Reserve Account and New School Bond Reserve Account each are at the levels certified as full funding on the most recent June 30 calculation date. The amount of the School Bond Reserve in each account is pledged as security for the prompt payment to holders of bonds benefited by such account of the principal of and the interest on such bonds in the event of the inability of the issuer to make such payments. In the event the amounts in either the Old School Bond Reserve Account or the New School Bond Reserve Account fall below the amount required to make payments on bonds, the amounts in both accounts are available to make payments for bonds secured by the School Bond Reserve.

The Act further provides that the amount of any payment of interest or purchase price of school bonds paid pursuant to the Act shall be deducted from the appropriation or apportionment of State aid, other than certain State aid which may be otherwise restricted pursuant to law, payable to the school district, county or municipality and shall not obligate the State to make, nor entitle the school district, county or municipality to receive, any additional appropriation or apportionment. Any amount so deducted shall be applied by the State Treasurer to satisfy the obligation of the school district, county or municipality arising as a result of the payment of interest or purchase price of bonds pursuant to the Act. Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. currently maintains a rating of "A2" in connection with the School Bond Reserve.

#### **Authorization and Purpose**

The Bonds have been authorized and are issued pursuant to Title 18A, Chapter 24 of the New Jersey Statutes, Chapter 271 of the Laws of 1967, as amended and supplemented, (ii) a proposal adopted by the Board on January 6, 2015, and approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the legal voters present and voting at a special school district election held on March 10, 2015 and (iii) a resolution duly adopted by the Board on June 16, 2015 (the "Resolution").

The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to finance various capital improvements in and for the School District (the "Project") and to pay the costs of issuance associated with the issuance of the Bonds. The State has awarded the School District aid for the Project in the amount of 40% of the eligible costs of such Project. As such, the State has agreed to pay 40% of the annual debt service on the eligible costs financed by the Bonds each year.

#### **BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM**

The description which follows of the procedures and record keeping with respect to beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds, payment of principal and interest, and other payments on the Bonds to DTC Participants or Beneficial Owners (as such terms are defined or used herein), confirmation and transfer of beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds and other related transactions by and between DTC, DTC Participants and Beneficial Owners, is based on certain information furnished by DTC to the Board. Accordingly, the Board does not make any representations concerning these matters.

DTC will act as Securities Depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered bond certificate will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds, as set forth on the inside front cover hereof, in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world's largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over 100 countries that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a Standard & Poor's rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Direct and Indirect Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of the Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co. or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of the Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of the Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners, or in the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.

Notices of Redemption shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds within an issue are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Bonds, unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Board as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Bonds are credited on the Record Date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments on the Bonds will be made to Cede & Co. or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Board or Paying Agent, on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Direct and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name", and will be the responsibility of such Direct and Indirect Participant and not of DTC, nor its nominee, Paying Agent or the Board, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions and dividend payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Board or Paying Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as Securities Depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Board or Paying Agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor Securities Depository is not obtained, Bond certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

Paying Agent, upon direction of the Board, may decide to discontinue use of the system of bookentry transfers through DTC (or a successor Securities Depository). In that event, Bond certificates will be printed and delivered.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the Board believes to be reliable, but the Board takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

#### **Discontinuance of Book-Entry Only System**

In the event that the book-entry-only system is discontinued and the Beneficial Owners become registered owners of the Bonds, the following provisions apply: (i) the Bonds may be exchanged for an equal aggregate principal amount of Bonds in other authorized denominations and of the same maturity, upon surrender thereof at the office of the Board or Paying Agent; (ii) the transfer of any Bonds may be registered on the books maintained by the registrar for such purposes only upon the surrender thereof to the Board or Paying Agent together with the duly executed assignment in form satisfactory to the Board

or Paying Agent; and (iii) for every exchange or registration of transfer of Bonds, the Board or Paying Agent may make a charge sufficient to reimburse for any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to such exchange or registration of transfer of the Bonds. Interest on the Bonds will be payable by check or draft mailed on each Interest Payment Date to the registered owners thereof as of the close of business on the Record Dates.

#### THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE BOARD

The Board is a nine (9) member board with members elected for staggered three (3) year terms. The Superintendent of Schools is the chief administrative officer of the School District. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is the chief financial officer of the School District and oversees the Board's business functions. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary reports through the Superintendent of Schools.

The School District provides a full range of educational services appropriate to Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) through grade eight (8), including regular and special education programs for the students of the Borough of West Long Branch (the "Borough"). The School District operates one grades Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) through three (3) school and one grades four (4) through eight (8) school. See APPENDIX A. The High School students attend Shore Regional High School.

#### THE STATE'S ROLE IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Constitution of the State of New Jersey provides that the State shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient ("T&E") system of free public schools for the instruction of all children between the ages of 5 and 18 years. Case law has expanded the responsibility to include children between the ages of 3 and 21.

The responsibilities of the State with respect to the general supervision and control of public education have been delegated to the New Jersey Department of Education (the "Department"), which is a part of the executive branch of the State government and was created by the State Legislature. The Department is governed and guided by the policies set forth by the New Jersey State Board of Education (the "State Board"). The State Board is responsible for the general supervision and control of public education and is obligated to formulate plans and to make recommendations for the unified, continuous and efficient development of public education of all people of all ages within the State. To fulfill these responsibilities, the State Board has the power, *inter alia*, to adopt rules and regulations that have the effect of law and that are binding upon school districts, to acquire land and other property and to decide appeals from decisions of the Commissioner (as hereinafter defined) on matters of school law or State Board regulations.

The Commissioner of Education (the "Commissioner") is the chief executive and administrative officer of the Department. The Commissioner is appointed by the Governor of the State with the advice and consent of the State Senate, and serves at the pleasure of the Governor during the Governor's term of office. The Commissioner is Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the State Board and is responsible for the supervision of all school districts in the State and is obligated to enforce the rules and regulations of the State Board. The Commissioner has the authority to recommend the withholding of State financial aid and the Commissioner's consent is required for authorization to sell school bonds that exceed the debt limit of the municipality in which the school district is located and may also set the amount to be raised by taxation for a board of education if a school budget has not been approved by a board of school estimate or by the voters.

An Executive County Superintendent of Schools (the "County Superintendent") is appointed for each county in the State by the Governor, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner with the advice and consent of the State Senate. The County Superintendent is the local representative of the Commissioner. The County Superintendent is responsible for the daily supervision of the school districts in the county and is charged with the enforcement of rules pertaining to the certification of teachers, pupil registers and financial reports and the review of budgets. Under the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, P.L. 2007, c. 63 approved April 3, 2007 (A4), the role of the County Superintendent

was changed to create the post of the Executive County Superintendent with expanded powers for the operation and management of school districts to, among other things, promote administrative and operational efficiencies, eliminate non-operating school districts and recommend a school district consolidation plan to eliminate districts through the establishment or enlargement of regional school districts, subject to voter approval.

#### STRUCTURE OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN NEW JERSEY

#### **Categories of School Districts**

State school districts are characterized by the manner in which the board of education or the governing body takes office. School districts are principally classified in the following categories:

- (1) Type I, in which the mayor or chief executive officer ("CEO") of a municipality appoints the members of a board of education and a board of school estimate. The board of school estimate consists of two (2) members of the board of education, two (2) members of the governing body of the municipality and the mayor or CEO of the municipality comprising the school district, and approves all fiscal matters;
- (2) Type II, in which the registered voters within a school district elect the members of a board of education and either (a) the registered voters also vote upon all fiscal matters with the exception set forth in the new Budget Election Law (as hereinafter defined in "School Budgetary Process"), or (b) a board of school estimate, consisting of two (2) members of the governing body of and the CEO of each municipality within the school district and the president of and one member of the board of education, approves all fiscal matters;
- (3) Regional and consolidated school districts comprising the territorial boundaries of more than one municipality in which the registered voters within the school district elect members of the board of education and vote upon all fiscal matters with certain exceptions. Regional school districts may be "All Purpose Regional School Districts" or "Limited Purpose Regional School Districts";
- (4) State-operated school districts created by the State Board, pursuant to State law, when a local board of education cannot or will not correct severe educational deficiencies;
- (5) County vocational school districts have boards of education consisting of the County Superintendent and four (4) members unless it is a county of the first class, which adopted an ordinance, in which case it can have a board consisting of seven (7) appointed members which the board of chosen freeholders of the county appoints. Such vocational school districts shall also have a board of school estimate, consisting of two (2) members appointed by the board of education of the school district, two (2) members appointed by the board of chosen freeholders and a fifth member being the county executive or the director of the board of chosen freeholders of the county, which approves all fiscal matters; and
- (6) County special services school districts have boards of education consisting of the County Superintendent and six (6) persons appointed by the board of chosen freeholders of the county. Such special services school districts shall also have a board of school estimate, consisting of two (2) members appointed by the board of education of the school, two (2) members appointed by the board of chosen freeholders and a fifth member being the freeholder-director of the board of chosen freeholders, which approves all fiscal matters.

There is a procedure whereby a Type I school district or a Type II school district may change from one type to the other after an approving public referendum. Such a public referendum must be held whenever directed by the municipal governing body or board of education in a Type I district, or the board of education in a Type II district, or when petitioned for by fifteen percent (15%) of the voters of any school district. The School District is a Type II school district.

#### School Budgetary Process (N.J.S.A. 18A:22-1 et seq.)

In a Type I school district, a separate body from the school district, known as the board of school estimate, examines the budget requests and fixes the appropriation amounts for the next year's operating budget at or after a public hearing. This board, whose composition is fixed by statute, certifies the budget to the municipal governing body or board of education. If the board of education disagrees with the certified budget of the board of school estimate, then it can appeal to the Commissioner to request changes if such certified budget is less than or equal to the maximum T&E budget and may appeal to the Commissioner if such certified budget amount is in excess of the maximum T&E budget. See "SUMMARY OF STATE AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS" herein.

In a Type II school district, the elected board of education develops the budget proposal and, at or after a public hearing, submits it for voter approval. Debt service provisions are not subject to public referendum. If approved, the budget goes into effect. If defeated, the governing bodies of the constituent municipalities must develop the school budget by May 19 of each year. Should the governing bodies be unable to do so, the Commissioner establishes the local school budget.

The New Budget Election Law (P.L. 2011, c. 202, effective January 17, 2012) (the "Budget Election Law") establishes procedures that allow the date of the annual school election of a Type II school district, without a board of school estimate, to be moved from April to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, to be held simultaneously with the general election. Such change in the annual school election date must be authorized by resolution of either the board of education or the governing body of the municipality, or by an affirmative vote of a majority of the voters whenever a petition, signed by at least fifteen percent (15%) of the legally qualified voters, is filed with the board of education. Once the annual school election is moved to November, such election may not be changed back to an April annual school election for four (4) years.

School districts that opt to move the annual school election to November would no longer be required to submit the budget to the voters for approval if the budget is at or below the two percent (2%) property tax levy cap as provided in the New Cap Law (as hereinafter defined). For school districts that opt to change the annual school election date to November, proposals to spend above the two percent (2%) property tax levy cap would be presented to voters at the annual school election in November.

## SUMMARY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF SCHOOL DEBT

#### **Levy and Collection of Taxes**

School districts in the State do not levy or collect taxes to pay those budgeted amounts which are not provided by the State. The municipality within which a school district is situated levies or collects the required taxes and must remit them in full to the school district.

#### **Budgets and Appropriations**

School districts in the State must operate on an annual cash basis budget. Each school district must adopt an annual budget in such detail and upon forms as prescribed by the Commissioner, to which must be attached an itemized statement showing revenues, including State and Federal aid, and expenditures. The Commissioner must approve a budget prior to its final adoption and has the power to increase or decrease individual line items in a budget. Any amendments to a school district's budget must be approved by the board of education or the board of school estimate, as the case may be. Every budget submitted must provide no less than the minimum permissible amount deemed necessary under State law to provide for a thorough and efficient education as mandated by the State Constitution. The Commissioner may not approve any budget unless the Commissioner is satisfied that the school district has adequately implemented within the budget the Core Curriculum Content Standards (as defined herein) required by State law. If necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to order changes in the local school district's budget. The Commissioner will also ensure that other provisions of law are met including the limitations on taxes and spending explained below.

#### **Tax and Spending Limitations**

The Public School Education Act of 1975, N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-1 et seq., P.L. 1975, c. 212 (as amended and partially repealed), first limited the amount of funds that could be raised by a local school district. It limited the annual increase of any school district's net current expense budget. The budgetary limitations were known as a "CAP" on expenditures. The "CAP" was intended to control the growth in local property taxes. Subsequently there have been numerous legislative changes as to how the spending limitations would be applied.

The Quality Education Act of 1990, N.J.S.A. 18A:7D-1 et seq., P.L. 1990, c. 52 (the "QEA") (now repealed), also limited the annual increase in the school district's current expense and capital outlay budgets by a statutory formula linked to the annual percentage increase in per capita income. The QEA was amended and revised by chapter 62 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1991, and further amended by chapter 7 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1993.

The Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996, N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-1 et seq., P.L. 1996, c. 138 (the "CEIFA"), as amended by P.L. 2004, c. 732, effective July 1, 2004 and P.L. 2010, c. 44, effective July 13, 2010, which followed QEA, also limits the annual increase in a school district's general fund tax levy which does not exceed the school district's adjusted tax levy, defined as the amount raised by property taxation for the purposes of the school district, excluding any debt service payments (the "Adjusted Tax Levy"). The CEIFA limited the amount school districts can increase their annual current expenses and capital outlay budgets (the "Spending Growth Limitations"). Generally, budgets could increase either by two and one-half percent (2.5%) or the consumer price index, whichever is greater. Prior amendments to the CEIFA decreased the budget cap to two and one-half percent (2.5%) from three percent (3%). As a result of recent amendments to CEIFA, the budget presented to the voters may not have an increase in the Adjusted Tax Levy that exceeds the pre-budget year Adjusted Tax Levy and an adjustment for enrollment by two percent (2%). See the description of the New Cap Law (as defined herein) below. A school district is required to submit, as applicable, to the board of school estimate or to the voters of the district at the annual school budget election, a general fund tax levy if it exceeds the school district's Adjusted Tax Levy as calculated by N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-38 and 39. Any school district may also submit at the annual school budget election, a separate proposal or proposals for additional funds, including interpretive statements, specifically identifying the program purposes for which the proposed funds shall be used. The Executive County Superintendent may prohibit the submission of such a separate proposal if he or she determines that the district has not implemented all potential efficiencies in the administrative operations of the district, which efficiencies would eliminate the need for such additional funds. Parts of the CEIFA have been found to be unconstitutional. See "SUMMARY OF STATE AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS" herein.

P.L. 2010, c. 44, effective July 13, 2010 (the "New Cap Law"), further provides limitations on school district spending by limiting the amount a school district can raise for school district purposes through the property tax levy by two percent (2%) over the prior year's tax levy. See "SUMMARY OF STATE AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS" herein. The New Cap Law provides for certain adjustments to the tax levy cap for specific circumstances relating to enrollment increases, health care cost increases and increases in amounts for certain normal and accrued liability pension contributions.

The New Cap Law provides that school districts may submit to voters during April school elections or on other dates set by regulation of the Commissioner, a proposal or proposals to increase the Adjusted Tax Levy by more than the allowable amount authorized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-38. The proposal or proposals to increase the Adjusted Tax Levy shall be approved if a majority of the people voting shall vote affirmatively. For school districts with boards of school estimate, the additional Adjusted Tax Levy shall be authorized only if a quorum is present for the vote and a majority of those board members who are present vote affirmatively to authorize the Adjusted Tax Levy.

Debt service on bonds, such as the Bonds, is not limited either by the two percent (2%) cap on the tax levy increase imposed by the New Cap Law.

#### **Issuance of Debt**

Among the provisions for the issuance of school debt are the following requirements: (i) bonds must mature in serial installments within the statutory period of usefulness of the projects being financed but not exceeding forty (40) years, (ii) debt must be authorized by a resolution of a board of education (and approved by a board of school estimate in a Type I school district), and (iii) there must be filed with the State by each municipality comprising a school district a Supplemental Debt Statement and a school debt statement setting forth the amount of bonds and notes authorized but unissued and outstanding for such school district.

#### Temporary Financing (N.J.S.A. 18A:24-3)

Temporary notes may be issued in anticipation of the issuance of permanent bonds for a capital improvement or capital project. Such temporary notes may not exceed in the aggregate the amount of bonds authorized for such improvement or project. A school district's temporary notes may be issued for one (1) year periods, with the final maturity not exceeding five (5) years from the date of original issuance; provided, however, that no such notes shall be renewed beyond the third anniversary date of the original notes unless an amount of such notes, at least equal to the first legally payable installment of the bonds in anticipation of which said notes are issued, is paid and retired subsequent to such third anniversary date from funds other than the proceeds of obligations. School districts must include in each annual budget the amount of interest due and payable in each fiscal year on all outstanding temporary notes.

#### **Capital Lease Financing**

School districts are permitted to enter into lease purchase agreements for the acquisition of equipment or for the improvement of school buildings. Generally, lease purchase agreements cannot exceed five (5) years except for certain energy-saving equipment which may be leased for up to fifteen (15) years if paid from energy savings. Lease purchase agreements for a term of five (5) years or less must be approved by the Commissioner. The Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act, P.L. 2000, c. 72, repealed the authorization to enter into facilities leases in excess of five (5) years. The payment of rent on an equipment lease and on a five (5) year and under facilities lease is treated as a current expense and within the cap on the school district's budget. Under the CEIFA, lease purchase payments on leases in excess of five (5) years issued under prior law are treated as debt service payments and, therefore, will receive debt service aid if the school district is entitled and are outside the school district's tax levy cap.

#### **Debt Limitation (N.J.S.A. 18A:24-19)**

Except as provided below, no additional debt shall be authorized if the principal amount, when added to the net debt previously authorized, exceeds a statutory percentage of the average equalized valuation of taxable property in a school district. As a grades Kindergarten (K) through eight (8) school district, the School District can borrow up to 3% of the average equalized valuation of taxable property in the School District. The School District has not exceeded its 3% debt limit. See "APPENDIX A — School District Debt Limit and Borrowing Margin."

#### **Exceptions to Debt Limitation**

A Type II school district (other than a regional district) may also utilize its constituent municipality's remaining statutory borrowing power (i.e. the excess of 3.5% of the average equalized valuation of taxable property within the constituent municipality over the constituent municipality's net debt). A school district may also authorize debt in excess of this limit with the consent of the Commissioner and the Local Finance Board.

#### **Energy Saving Obligations**

Under P.L. 2009, c. 4, approved January 21, 2009 and effective 60 days thereafter, school districts may issue "energy savings obligations" without voter approval to fund certain improvements that

result in reduced energy use, facilities for production of renewable energy or water conservation improvements provided that the amount of the savings will cover the cost of the improvements.

#### **SUMMARY OF STATE AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

In 1973, the Supreme Court of the State of New Jersey (the "Court") ruled in Robinson v. Cahill that the method then used to finance public education principally through property taxation was unconstitutional. Pursuant to the Court's ruling, the Legislature enacted the Public School Education Act of 1975, N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-1 et seq., P.L. 1975, c. 212 (the "Public School Education Act") (as amended and partially repealed), which required funding of the State's school aid through the New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, P.L. 1976, c. 47, as amended and supplemented, enacted for the purpose of providing property tax relief.

On June 5, 1990, the Court ruled in Abbott v. Burke that the school aid formula enacted under the Public School Education Act was unconstitutional as applied. The Court found that poorer urban school districts ("Abbott Districts") were significantly disadvantaged under that school funding formula because school revenues were derived primarily from property taxes. The Court found that wealthy school districts were able to spend more, yet tax less for educational purposes.

The School District is not an "Abbott District".

The legislative response to Abbott v. Burke was the passage of the QEA (now repealed). The QEA established a new formula for the distribution of State aid for public education, beginning with the 1991-92 fiscal year. The QEA provided a formula that took into account property values and personal income to determine a school district's capacity to raise money for public education. A budgetary limitation, or "CAP" on expenditures, was also provided in the law. The "CAP" was intended to control the growth in local property taxes. The QEA was amended and revised by chapter 62 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1991, and further amended by chapter 7 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1993.

On July 12, 1994, the Court declared the school aid formula under the QEA unconstitutional on several grounds as it applied to the 28 Abbott Districts in the ongoing litigation commonly known as Abbott v. Burke II. No specific remediation was ordered, but the Court ultimately held that the Legislature and the Governor were required to have a new funding formula in effect by December 31, 1996 so that any new formula would be implemented during the 1997-1998 fiscal period and thereafter.

In keeping with the Court's deadline, the Governor signed the CEIFA into law on December 20, 1996. The CEIFA departed from other funding formulas adopted in the State by defining what constituted a "thorough and efficient" education, as is required by the Constitution of the State. The CEIFA further established the costs necessary provide each student with such an education.

In defining what constitutes a "thorough" education, the State Board adopted a set of Core Curriculum Content Standards (the "Core Curriculum Content Standards"). The purpose of the Core Curriculum Content Standards is to provide all students with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to be productive citizens when they graduate from any State high school, regardless of the school's location or socioeconomic condition. The CEIFA provided State funding assistance in the form of Core Curriculum Content Standards Aid based on a school district's financial ability to raise sufficient tax revenue for its students to achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

On May 14, 1997, the Court held that the CEIFA was unconstitutional as applied to the Abbott Districts because (1) its funding provisions failed to assure that students in such districts would receive a thorough and efficient education and (2) supplemental programs to increase student performance in such districts were neither adequately identified nor funded. The Court recognized the Core Curriculum Content Standards as a valid means of identifying a "thorough and efficient" education under the State Constitution, but found that the State did not adequately determine or provide the adequate funding level to allow those standards to be met in the Abbott Districts. To bridge the gap between Abbott Districts and non-special needs districts, the Court ordered the parity remedy, designed as an interim remedy whereby

the State would provide parity aid and supplemental funding to Abbott Districts. The CEIFA has not been used to calculate State aid for public schools since the 2001-2002 school year.

Pursuant to the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act, P.L. 2000, c. 72 (the "EFCFA"), which became law on July 18, 2000, the State provides aid to school facilities projects. Under the EFCFA, the State provides one hundred percent (100%) State funding for school facilities projects undertaken by Abbott Districts; for non-Abbott Districts, the State provides aid in an amount equal to the greater of the district aid percentage or forty percent (40%) times the eligible costs determined by the Commissioner either in the form of a grant or debt service aid as determined under the EFCFA. The amount of the aid is established prior to the authorization of the project.

Since the 2010-2011 fiscal year, the State has funded debt service aid at eighty-five (85%) of the amount that a School District was entitled to receive under the EFCFA. See "Recent Developments in the Reduction of State Aid" herein.

#### The School Funding Reform Act of 2008

The School Funding Reform Act of 2008 (the "SFRA") was signed into law in January 2008 and is a five-year product of the State's latest effort to craft a redesigned school funding formula that satisfies the constitutional standard. While the SFRA maintains the Core Curriculum Content Standards established by the CEIFA, it repeals the provisions of the CEIFA which established State aid formulas for programs to support the Core Curriculum Content Standards and has established new formulas. Essentially, the SFRA provides State aid to school districts while also requiring certain levels of local funding. It is a weighted school funding formula which identifies a base cost associated with the education of an elementary pupil without any particular special needs. Once the per-pupil amount is identified, the amount is increased to reflect factors that increase the cost of education, such as (i) grade level, and whether the pupil is (ii) an at-risk pupil (eligible for free or reduced-price lunch), (iii) a Limited English Proficiency ("LEP") pupil, or (iv) a special education student of mild, moderate or severe classification.

The formula is further comprised of several funding mechanisms, the central component being the Adequacy Budget, a wealth equalized budget based on the school district's ability to provide funding through local resources (the "Adequacy Budget"). The Adequacy Report (the "Adequacy Report") establishes the base pupil cost necessary to provide the thorough and efficient education for an elementary school student. Such amount will be adjusted to reflect the differing cost of education a student at the middle and high school levels and various other factors as set forth in the SFRA. Based upon the school district's property and personal income wealth, a local share of such Adequacy Budget is determined. State aid will be provided for that portion of the Adequacy Budget which cannot be supported locally. The SFRA guarantees a minimum two percent (2%) increase in State aid for each school district.

The Department must provide an Adequacy Report every three (3) years addressing the weighted factors that comprise the Adequacy Budget and the various additional components of the SFRA: equalization aid, categorical aid, preschool aid, extraordinary aid, adjustment aid and education adequacy aid.

The constitutionality of the SFRA was challenged and was held to be constitutional by the Court on May 28, 2009.

#### Recent Developments in the Reduction of State Aid

The State provides aid to school districts in accordance with amounts provided annually in the State budget. Such aid includes equalization aid, special education categorical aid, transportation aid, preschool education aid, supplemental core curriculum standards aid, choice aid, education adequacy aid, security aid, adjustment aid and other aid as determined in the discretion of the Commissioner.

The State has reduced debt service aid by fifteen percent (15%) since fiscal year 2011. As a result of the debt service aid reduction for such years, school districts received eighty-five percent (85%)

of the debt service aid that they would have otherwise received. In addition, for such years, school districts which received grants under the EFCFA, which grants were financed through the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (the "EDA"), were assessed an amount in such years' budgets representing fifteen percent (15%) of the school district's proportionate share of such respective years' principal and interest payments on the outstanding EDA bonds issued to fund such grants.

#### SUMMARY OF FEDERAL AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Federal funds are available for certain programs approved by the Federal government with allocation decided by the State, which assigns a proportion to each local school district. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended and restated by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C.A. § 6301 et seq., is a Federal assistance program for which a school district qualifies to receive aid. A remedial enrichment program for children of low income families is available under Chapter 1 Aid. Such Federal aid is generally received in the form of block grants. Aid is also provided under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act although never in the amounts federal law required.

### MUNICIPAL FINANCE FINANCIAL REGULATION OF COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES

#### Local Bond Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 et seq.)

The Local Bond Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:2-1 et seq. (the "Local Bond Law"), governs the issuance of bonds and notes to finance certain municipal and utility capital expenditures. Among its provisions are requirements that bonds must mature within the statutory period of usefulness of the projects financed and that bonds be retired in serial installments. A five percent (5%) cash down payment is generally required toward the financing of expenditures for municipal purposes. All bonds and notes issued by the Borough of West Long Branch (the "Borough") are general full faith and credit obligations.

The authorized bonded indebtedness of the Borough is limited by statute, subject to certain exceptions noted below, to an amount equal to 3.5% of its average equalized valuation basis. The average for the last three (3) years of the equalized value of all taxable real property and improvements and certain Class II railroad property within each respective constituent municipality as annually determined by the New Jersey Board of Taxation are set forth in <u>APPENDIX A</u>.

Certain categories of debt are permitted by statute to be deducted for purposes of computing the statutory debt limit.

A municipality may exceed its debt limit with the approval of the Local Finance Board, and as permitted by other statutory exceptions. If all or any part of a proposed debt authorization would exceed its debt limit, a municipality may apply to the Local Finance Board for an extension of credit. If the Local Finance Board determines that a proposed debt authorization would not materially impair the credit of the municipality or substantially reduce the ability of the municipality to meet its obligations or to provide essential public improvements and services, or makes certain other statutory determinations, approval is granted. In addition, debt in excess of the statutory limit may be issued by the municipality to fund certain notes, to provide for self-liquidating purposes, and, in each fiscal year, in an amount not exceeding 2/3 of the amount budgeted in such fiscal year for the retirement of outstanding obligations (exclusive of utility and assessment obligations).

A municipality may sell "bond anticipation notes" to temporarily finance a capital improvement or project in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, if the bond ordinance or subsequent resolution so provides. Bond anticipation notes for capital improvements may be issued in an aggregate amount not exceeding the amount specified in the bond ordinance, as it may be amended and supplemented, creating such capital expenditure. A local unit's bond anticipation notes may be issued for periods not exceeding one (1) year. Generally, bond anticipation notes may not be outstanding for longer than ten (10) years. An additional period may be available following the tenth anniversary date equal to the period from the notes' maturity to the end of the tenth fiscal year in which the notes mature plus four (4) months in the next following fiscal year from the date of original issuance. Beginning in the third year, the amount

of notes that may be issued is decreased by the minimum amount required for the first year's principal payment for a bond issue.

#### Local Budget Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 et seq.)

The foundation of the State local finance system is the annual cash basis budget. Every local unit must adopt an annual operating budget in the form required by the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (the "Division"). Certain items of revenue and appropriation are regulated by law and the proposed budget cannot be finally adopted until it has been certified by the Director of the Division (the "Director"), or in the case of a local unit's examination of its own budget, such budget cannot be finally adopted until a local examination certificate has been approved by the Chief Financial Officer and governing body of the local unit. The Local Budget Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-1 et seq. (the "Local Budget Law") requires each local unit to appropriate sufficient funds for the payment of current debt service, and the Director or, in the case of local examination, the local unit, may review the adequacy of such appropriations.

Tax anticipation notes are limited in amount by law and must be paid off in full within 120 days of the close of the fiscal year in which they were issued.

The Director has no authority over individual operating appropriations, unless a specific amount is required by law, but the budgetary review functions focusing on anticipated revenues serve to protect the solvency of all local units.

The cash basis budgets of local units must be in balance, <u>i.e.</u>, the total of anticipated revenues must equal the total of appropriations. N.J.S.A. 40A:4-22. If in any year a local unit's expenditures exceed its realized revenues for that year, then such excess must be raised in the succeeding year's budget.

A provision in the Local Budget Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-26, provides that: "[n]o miscellaneous revenues from any source shall be included as an anticipated revenue in the budget in an amount in excess of the amount actually realized in cash from the same source during the next preceding fiscal year, unless the director shall determine upon application by the governing body that the facts clearly warrant the expectation that such excess amount will actually be realized in cash during the fiscal year and shall certify such determination, in writing, to the local unit."

No budget or amendment thereof shall be adopted unless the Director shall have previously certified his approval of such anticipated revenues, except that categorical grants-in-aid contracts may be included for their face amount with an offsetting appropriation. The fiscal years for such grants rarely coincide with a municipality's calendar fiscal year. However, grant revenue is generally not realized until received in cash.

The same general principle that revenue cannot be anticipated in a budget in excess of that realized in the preceding year applies to property taxes. The maximum amount of delinquent taxes that may be anticipated is limited by a statutory formula, which allows the local unit to anticipate collection at the same rate realized for the collection of delinquent taxes in the previous year. Also the local unit is required to make an appropriation for a "reserve for uncollected taxes" in accordance with a statutory formula to provide for a tax collection in an amount that does not exceed the percentage of taxes levied and payable in the preceding fiscal year that was received in cash by December 31 of that year. The budget also must provide for any cash deficits of the prior year.

Emergency appropriations (those made after the adoption of the budget and the determination of the tax rate) may be authorized by the governing body. However, with minor exceptions, such appropriations must be included in full in the following year's budget. When such appropriations exceed three percent (3%) of the adopted operating budget, consent of the Director must be obtained.

The exceptions are certain enumerated quasi-capital projects ("special emergencies") such as (i) the repair and reconstruction of streets, roads or bridges damaged by snow, ice, frost, or floods, which

may be amortized over three (3) years, and (ii) the repair and reconstruction of streets, roads, bridges or other public property damaged by flood or hurricane, where such expense was unforeseen at the time of budget adoption, the repair and reconstruction of private property damaged by flood or hurricane, tax map preparation, re-evaluation programs, revision and codification of ordinances, master plan preparations, drainage map preparation for flood control purposes, studies and planning associated with the construction and installation of sanitary sewers, authorized expenses of a consolidated commission, contractually required severance liabilities resulting from the layoff or retirement of employees and the preparation of sanitary and storm system maps, all of which projects set forth in this section (ii) may be amortized over five (5) years. N.J.S.A. 40A:4-53, -54, -55, -55.1. Emergency appropriations for capital projects may be financed through the adoption of a bond ordinance and amortized over the useful life of the project as described above.

Budget transfers provide a degree of flexibility and afford a control mechanism. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58, transfers between appropriation accounts are prohibited until the last two (2) months of the year. Appropriation reserves may be transferred during the first three (3) months of the year, to the previous year's budget. N.J.S.A. 40A:4-59. Both types of transfers require a 2/3 vote of the full membership of the governing body. Although sub-accounts within an appropriation are not subject to the same year-end transfer restriction, they are subject to internal review and approval. Certain types of appropriations are excluded from the provisions permitting transfers. Generally, transfers cannot be made from the down payment account, interest or debt redemption charges or the capital improvement fund or for contingent expenses.

Municipal public utilities are supported by the revenues generated by the respective operations of the utilities, in addition to the general taxing power upon taxable property. For each utility, there is established a separate budget. The anticipated revenues and appropriations for each utility are set forth in the separate budget. The budget is required to be balanced and to provide fully for debt service. The regulations regarding anticipation of revenues and deferral of charges apply equally to the budgets of the utilities. Deficits or anticipated deficits in utility operations which cannot be provided for from utility surplus, if any, are required to be raised in the "Current" or operating budget.

In accordance with the Local Budget Law, each local unit must adopt and may from time to time amend rules and regulations for capital budgets, which rules and regulations must require a statement of capital undertakings underway or projected for a period not greater than over the next ensuing six (6) years as a general improvement program. The capital budget, when adopted, does not constitute the approval or appropriation of funds, but sets forth a plan of the possible capital expenditures which the local unit may contemplate over the next six (6) years. Expenditures for capital purposes may be made either by ordinances adopted by the governing body setting forth the items and the method of financing or from the annual operating budget if the terms were detailed.

#### Annual Audit (N.J.S.A. 18A:23-1 et seq.)

Every board of education is required to provide an annual audit of the school district's accounts and financial transactions. The audit must be performed by a licensed public school accountant no later than five (5) months after the end of the school fiscal year. The audit, in conformity with statutory requirements, must be filed with the board of education and the Commissioner. Additionally, the audit must be summarized and discussed at a regular public meeting of the local board of education within thirty (30) days following receipt of the annual audit by such board of education.

#### Fiscal Year Adjustment Law (1991 N.J. Laws c. 75)

Chapter 75 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1991, requires certain municipalities and permits all other municipalities to adopt the State fiscal year in place of the existing calendar fiscal year. Municipalities that change fiscal years must adopt a six (6) month transition budget for January 1 through June 30. Since expenditures would be expected to exceed revenues primarily because State aid for the calendar year would not be received by the municipality until after the end of the transition year budget, the act authorizes the issuance of Fiscal Year Adjustment Bonds to fund the one time deficit for the six (6) month transition budget. The law provides that the deficit in the six (6) month transition budget may be

funded initially with bond anticipation notes based on the estimated deficit in the six (6) month transition budget. Notes issued in anticipation of Fiscal Year Adjustment Bonds, including renewals, can only be issued for up to one (1) year unless the Local Finance Board permits the municipality to renew them for a longer period of time. The Local Finance Board must confirm the actual deficit experienced by the municipality. The municipality then may issue Fiscal Year Adjustment Bonds to finance the deficit on a permanent basis. The purpose of the act is to assist municipalities that are heavily dependent on State aid and that have had to issue tax anticipation notes to fund operating cash flow deficits each year. While the law does not authorize counties to change their fiscal years, it does provide that counties with cash flow deficits may issue Fiscal Year Adjustment Bonds as well.

#### **State Supervision**

State law authorizes State officials to supervise fiscal administration in any municipality which is in default on its obligations; which experiences severe tax collection problems for two (2) successive years; which has a deficit greater than four percent (4%) of its tax levy for two (2) successive years; which has failed to make payments due and owing to the State, county, school district or special district for two (2) consecutive years; which has an appropriation in its annual budget for the liquidation of debt which exceeds twenty-five percent (25%) of its total operating appropriations (except dedicated revenue appropriations) for the previous budget year; or which has been subject to a judicial determination of gross failure to comply with the Local Bond Law, the Local Budget Law, or the Local Fiscal Affairs Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-1 et seq., which substantially jeopardizes its fiscal integrity. State officials are authorized to continue such supervision for as long as any of the conditions exist and until the municipality operates for a fiscal year without incurring a cash deficit.

#### Appropriations "Cap"

The New Jersey "Cap Law" (the "Cap Law") (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.1 et seq.) places limits on municipal tax levies and expenditures. The Cap Law provides that a local unit shall limit any increase in its budget to two and one-half percent (2.5%) or the Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (as defined in the Cap Law), whichever is less, of the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions. The Cost-Of-Living Adjustment is defined as the rate of annual percentage increase, rounded to the nearest half percent, in the Implicit Price Deflator for State and Local Government Purchases of Goods and Services produced by the United States Department of Commerce for the year preceding the current year as announced by the Director. However, in each year in which the Cost-Of-Living Adjustment is equal to or less than two and one-half percent (2.5%), a local unit may, by ordinance, approved by a majority vote of the full membership of the governing body, provide that the final appropriations of the local unit for such year be increased by a percentage rate that is greater than the Cost-Of-Living Adjustment, but not more than three and one-half percent (3.5%) over the previous year's final appropriations. In addition, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a restored "CAP" banking to the Local Budget Law. Municipalities are permitted to appropriate available "CAP Bank" in either of the next two (2) succeeding years' final appropriations. Along with the permitted increases for total general appropriations there are certain items that are allowed to increase outside the "CAP".

Additionally, P.L. 2010, c.44, effective July 13, 2010, imposes a two percent (2%) cap on the tax levy of a municipality, county, fire district or solid waste collection district, with certain exceptions and subject to a number of adjustments. The exclusions from the limit include increases required to be raised for capital expenditures, including debt service, increases in pension contributions in excess of 2%, certain increases in health care over 2%, and extraordinary costs incurred by a local unit directly related to a declared emergency. The governing body of a local unit may request approval, through a public question submitted to the legal voters residing in its territory, to increase the amount to be raised by taxation, and voters may approve increases above 2% not otherwise permitted under the law by an affirmative vote of 50%.

The Division has advised that counties and municipalities must comply with both the budget "CAP" and the tax levy limitation. Neither the tax levy limitation nor the "CAP" law, however, limits the obligation of the county or municipality to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all taxable property within its boundaries to pay debt service on it bonds and notes.

#### **Tax Assessment and Collection Procedure**

Property valuations (assessments) are determined on true values as arrived at by a cost approach, market data approach and capitalization of net income (where appropriate). Current assessments are the result of new assessments on a like basis with established comparable properties for newly assessed or purchased properties. This method assures equitable treatment to like property owners. However, a divergence of the assessment ratio to true value is typically due to changes in market value over time.

Upon the filing of certified adopted budgets by the municipality's local school district and the county, the tax rate is struck by the county Board of Taxation based on the certified amounts in each of the taxing districts for collection to fund the budgets. The statutory provisions for the assessment of property, the levying of taxes and the collection thereof are set forth in N.J.S.A. 54:4-1 et seq. Special taxing districts are permitted in the State for various special services rendered to the properties located within the special districts.

Generally, tax bills are mailed annually in June of the current fiscal year. The taxes are payable in four quarterly installments on February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. The August and November tax bills are determined as the full tax levied for municipal, county and school purposes for the current municipal fiscal year, less the amount charged for the February and May installments for municipal, county and school purposes in the current fiscal year. The amounts due for the February and May installments are determined by the municipal governing body as either one-quarter or one-half of the full tax levied for municipal, county and school purposes for the preceding fiscal year.

Tax installments not paid on or before the due date are subject to interest penalties of eight percent (8%) per annum on the first \$1,500.00 of the delinquency and eighteen percent (18%) per annum on any amount in excess of \$1,500.00. Pursuant to 1991 N.J. Laws c. 75, the governing body may also fix a penalty to be charged to a taxpayer with a delinquency in excess of \$10,000.00 who fails to pay that delinquency prior to the end of the calendar year. The penalty so fixed shall not exceed six percent (6%) of the amount of the delinquency. These penalties and interest are the highest permitted under State Statutes. Delinquent taxes open for one (1) year or more are annually included in a tax sale in accordance with State Statutes.

#### Tax Appeals

State Statutes provide a taxpayer with remedial procedures for appealing an assessment deemed excessive. The taxpayer has a right to petition the county Board of Taxation on or before April 1 of the current year for review. The county Board of Taxation has the authority after a hearing to decrease or reject the appeal petition. These adjustments are usually concluded within the current tax year and reductions are shown as canceled or remitted taxes for that year. If the taxpayer feels his petition was unsatisfactorily reviewed by the county Board of Taxation, appeal may be made to the Tax Court of the State of New Jersey (the "State Tax Court") for further hearing. Some State Tax Court appeals may take several years prior to settlement and any losses in tax collections from prior years are charged directly to operations.

#### Local Fiscal Affairs Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:5-1 et seq.)

This law regulates the nonbudgetary financial activities of local governments. The chief financial officer of every local unit must file annually with the Director a verified statement of the financial condition of the local unit and all constituent boards, agencies or commissions.

An independent examination of each local unit's accounts must be performed annually by a licensed registered municipal accountant. The audit, conforming to the Division's "Requirements of Audit," includes recommendations for improvement of the local unit's financial procedures. The audit report must be filed with the Director. A synopsis of the report, together with all recommendations made, must be published in a local newspaper within thirty (30) days of the local unit's receipt of the audit report.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The audited financial statements of the Board as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 together with the notes to the financial statements have been provided by Robert A. Hulsart and Company, Wall, New Jersey (the "Auditor"), and are presented in <u>APPENDIX B</u> to this Official Statement (the "Financial Statements"). See "<u>APPENDIX B</u> - Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2014."

#### FINANCIAL ADVISOR

NW Financial Group, LLC, Hoboken, New Jersey, has served as Financial Advisor to the Board with respect to the issuance of the Bonds (the "Financial Advisor"). The Financial Advisor is not obligated to undertake, and has not undertaken, either to make an independent verification of, or to assume responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or fairness of the information contained in this Official Statement and the Appendices hereto. The Financial Advisor is an independent firm and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, trading or distributing municipal securities or other public securities.

#### LITIGATION

To the knowledge of the Board Attorney, Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey, (the "Board Attorney"), without independent inquiry or investigation and based upon the representation of the Board's Business Administrator/Board Secretary, there is no litigation of any nature now pending or threatened against the Board, restraining or enjoining the issuance or the delivery of the Bonds, or the levy or the collection of any taxes to pay the principal of or the interest on the Bonds, or in any manner questioning the authority or the proceedings for the issuance of the Bonds or for the levy or the collection of taxes, or contesting the corporate existence or the boundaries of the Board or the School District or the title of any of the present officers. To the knowledge of the Board Attorney, without independent inquiry or investigation and based upon the representation of the Board's Business Administrator/Board Secretary, no litigation is presently pending or threatened that, in the opinion of the Board Attorney, would have a materially adverse impact on the financial condition of the Board if adversely decided. A certificate to such effect will be executed by the Board Attorney and delivered to the Underwriter (as hereinafter defined) of the Bonds at the closing.

#### **TAX EXEMPTION**

#### **Federal Income Tax Treatment**

The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), establishes certain requirements which must be met at the time of, and on a continuing basis subsequent to, the issuance of the Bonds in order for the interest thereon to be and remain excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Code. Noncompliance with such requirements could cause such interest to be included in gross income for Federal income tax purposes retroactive to the date of issuance of the Bonds. The Board has covenanted to comply with the provisions of the Code applicable to the Bonds, and has covenanted not to take any action or fail to take any action that would cause interest on the Bonds to lose the exclusion from gross income under Section 103 of the Code.

In the opinion of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions, and assuming continuing compliance by the Board with the requirements of the Code described above, interest on the Bonds is not includable in gross income for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Code and is not treated as a preference item under Section 57 of the Code for purposes of computing the Federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals and corporations.

#### **Premium Bonds**

The Bonds maturing on July 15 in the years 2016 through 2021 (inclusive), July 15 in the years 2026 through 2029 (inclusive), July 15, 2031 and July 15 in the years 2033 through 2035 (inclusive)

(collectively, the "Premium Bonds"), have been sold to the public at a premium. Section 171 of the Code provides rules under which a bond premium may be amortized and a deduction allowed for the amount of the amortizable bond premium for a taxable year. Under Section 171(a)(2) of the Code, however, no deduction is allowable for the amortizable bond premium in the case of bonds, like the Premium Bonds, the interest on which is excludable from gross income. Under Section 1016(a)(5) of the Code, the purchaser's basis in a Premium Bond will be reduced by the amount of the amortizable bond premium disallowable as a deduction under Section 171(2) of the Code. Proceeds received from the sale, exchange, redemption or payment of a Premium Bond in excess of the owner's adjusted basis (as reduced pursuant to Section 1016(a)(5) of the Code), will be treated as a gain from the sale or exchange of such Premium Bonds and not as interest.

#### **Discount Bonds**

The difference between the stated principal amount of the Bonds maturing on July 15 in the years 2023 through 2025 (inclusive) (the "Discount Bonds") and their initial offering price to the public (excluding bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers), at which price a substantial amount of the Discount Bonds was sold, constitutes original issue discount which is excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes to the same extent as interest on the Discount Bonds. Further, such original issue discount accrues actuarially on a constant interest rate basis over the term of each Discount Bond and the basis of each Discount Bond acquired at such initial offering price by an initial purchaser thereof will be increased by the amount of such accrued original issue discount.

#### Additional Federal Income Tax Consequences Relating to Bonds

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should be aware that ownership of, accrual or receipt of interest on or disposition of tax-exempt obligations, such as the Bonds, may have additional Federal income tax consequences for certain taxpayers, including, without limitation, taxpayers eligible for the earned income credit, recipients of certain Social Security and Railroad Retirement benefits, taxpayers that may be deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry tax-exempt obligations, financial institutions, property and casualty insurance companies, foreign corporations and certain S corporations. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should also consult with their tax advisors with respect to the need to furnish certain taxpayer information in order to avoid backup withholding.

#### **State Taxation**

Bond Counsel is also of the opinion that interest on the Bonds, and any gain on the sale of the Bonds, are not includable in gross income under the existing New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, 1976 N.J. Laws c. 47, as amended. Except as provided above, no opinion is expressed with respect to other State and local tax consequences of owning the Bonds. See "APPENDIX C – Form of Approving Legal Opinion" for the complete text of the proposed form of Bond Counsel's approving legal opinion.

#### **Prospective Tax Law Changes**

Federal, state or local legislation, administrative pronouncements or court decisions may affect the Federal and State tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds and the State tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds, gain from the sale or other disposition of the Bonds, the market value of the Bonds or the marketability of the Bonds. The effect of any legislation, administrative pronouncements or court decisions cannot be predicted. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding such matters.

#### Other Tax Consequences

Except as described above, Bond Counsel expresses no opinion with respect to any Federal, State, local or foreign tax consequences of ownership of the Bonds. Bond Counsel renders its opinion under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions as of the date of issuance of the Bonds and assumes no obligation to update its opinion after such date of issuance to reflect any future action, fact,

circumstance, change in law or interpretation, or otherwise. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to the effect, if any, on the tax status of the interest on the Bonds paid or to be paid as a result of any action hereafter taken or not taken in reliance upon an opinion of other counsel.

See <u>APPENDIX C</u> for the complete text of the proposed form of Bond Counsel's legal opinion with respect to the Bonds.

PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF THE BONDS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISORS WITH RESPECT TO ALL TAX CONSEQUENCES (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THOSE LISTED ABOVE) OF HOLDING THE BONDS.

#### **BANK-QUALIFIED BONDS**

The Bonds will be designated as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" under Section 265 of the Code by the Issuer for an exemption from the denial of deduction for interest paid by financial institutions to purchase or carry tax-exempt obligations. The Board will furnish to the Underwriter (as herein after defined) at the time of delivery of any payment for the Bonds, a certificate executed by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Board designating the Bonds "qualified tax-exempt obligations" within the meaning of section 265(b)(3)(B)(ii) of the Code, and in such certificate the Board will represent that it reasonably expects that, collectively, neither it nor its subordinate entities, if any, will issue more than \$10,000,000 of tax-exempt obligations in the current calendar year.

The Code denies the interest deduction for certain indebtedness incurred by banks, thrift institutions and other financial institutions to purchase or to carry tax-exempt obligations. The denial to such institutions of one hundred percent (100%) of the deduction for interest paid on funds allocable to tax-exempt obligations applies to those tax-exempt obligations acquired by such institutions after August 7, 1986. For certain issues, which are eligible to be designated and which are designated by the issuer as qualified under Section 265 of the Code, eighty percent (80%) of such interest may be deducted as a business expense by such institutions.

#### **RISK TO HOLDERS OF BONDS**

It is understood that the rights of the holders of the Bonds, and the enforceability thereof, may be subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights heretofore or hereafter enacted to the extent constitutionally applicable and that their enforcement may also be subject to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases.

#### Municipal Bankruptcy

THE BOARD HAS NOT AUTHORIZED THE FILING OF A BANKRUPTCY PETITION. THIS REFERENCE TO THE BANKRUPTCY CODE OR THE STATE STATUTE SHOULD NOT CREATE ANY IMPLICATION THAT THE BOARD EXPECTS TO UTILIZE THE BENEFITS OF ITS PROVISIONS, OR THAT IF UTILIZED, SUCH ACTION WOULD BE APPROVED BY THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD, OR THAT ANY PROPOSED PLAN WOULD INCLUDE A DILUTION OF THE SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF AND SECURITY FOR THE BONDS, OR THAT THE BANKRUPTCY CODE COULD NOT BE AMENDED AFTER THE DATE HEREOF.

The undertakings of the Board should be considered with reference to 11 U.S.C. §101 et seq., as amended and supplemented (the "Bankruptcy Code"), and other bankruptcy laws affecting creditors' rights and municipalities in general. The Bankruptcy Code permits the State or any political subdivision, public agency, or instrumentality that is insolvent or unable to meet its debts to commence a voluntary bankruptcy case by filing a petition with a bankruptcy court for the purpose of effecting a plan to adjust its debts; directs such a petitioner to file with the court a list of petitioner's creditors; provides that a petition filed under this chapter shall operate as a stay of the commencement or continuation of any judicial or other proceeding against the petitioner; grants priority to certain debts owed, and provides that the plan must be accepted in writing by or on behalf of creditors holding at least two-thirds in amount and more than one-half in number of the allowed claims of at least one (1) impaired class. The Bankruptcy Code

specifically does not limit or impair the power of a state to control, by legislation or otherwise, the procedures that a political subdivision must follow in order to take advantage of the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.

The Bankruptcy Code provides that special revenue acquired by the debtor after the commencement of the case shall remain subject to any lien resulting from any security agreement entered into by such debtor before the commencement of such bankruptcy case. However, special revenues acquired by the debtor after commencement of the case shall continue to be available to pay debt service secured by those revenues. Furthermore, the Bankruptcy Code provides that a transfer of property of a debtor to or for the benefit of any holder of a bond or note, on account of such bond or note, may be avoided pursuant to certain preferential transfer provisions set forth in such act.

Reference should also be made to N.J.S.A. 52:27-40 et seq. which provides that a political subdivision, including the Board, has the power to file a petition in bankruptcy with any United States Court or court in bankruptcy under the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, for the purpose of effecting a plan of readjustment of its debts or for the composition of its debts; provided, however, the approval of the Local Finance Board, as successor to the Municipal Finance Commission, must be obtained.

#### APPROVAL OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

All legal matters incident to the authorization, the issuance, the sale and the delivery of the Bonds are subject to the approval of Bond Counsel to the Board, whose approving legal opinion will be delivered with the Bonds substantially in the form set forth as <u>APPENDIX C</u>. Certain legal matters will be passed on for the Board by its Board Attorney.

#### PREPARATION OF OFFICIAL STATEMENT

The Board hereby states that the descriptions and statements herein, including the Financial Statements, are true and correct in all material respects and it will confirm same to the Underwriter by a certificate signed by the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary. See "CERTIFICATE WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT" herein.

Bond Counsel has participated in the preparation and review of this Official Statement but has not participated in the collection of financial, statistical or demographic information contained in this Official Statement nor verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness thereof, and, accordingly, expresses no opinion or other assurance with respect thereto.

The Auditor has not participated in the preparation of the information contained in this Official Statement and has not verified the accuracy, completeness, or fairness thereof, and, accordingly, expresses no opinion or other assurance with respect thereto, but takes responsibility for the Financial Statements to the extent specified in the Independent Auditors' Report appearing in APPENDIX B hereto.

The Board Attorney has not participated in the preparation of the information contained in this Official Statement, nor has he verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness thereof, and, accordingly, expresses no opinion or other assurance with respect thereto, but has reviewed the section under the caption entitled "LITIGATION" and expresses no opinion or assurance other than that which is specifically set forth therein with respect thereto.

All other information has been obtained from sources which the Board considers to be reliable, but it makes no warranty, guarantee or other representation with respect to the accuracy and completeness of such information.

#### **RATING**

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC business (the "Rating Agency") has assigned its rating of "AA" to the Bonds based upon the creditworthiness of the School District. The Bonds are additionally secured by the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act.

The ratings reflect only the view of the Rating Agency and an explanation of the significance of such ratings may only be obtained from the Rating Agency at the following address: 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041. The Board forwarded to the Rating Agency certain information and materials concerning the Bonds and the School District. There can be no assurance that the ratings will be maintained for any given period of time or that the ratings may not be raised, lowered or withdrawn entirely if, in the Rating Agency's judgment, circumstances so warrant. Any downward change in, or withdrawal of, such ratings may have an adverse effect on the marketability or market price of the Bonds.

#### **UNDERWRITING**

The Bonds are being purchased from the Board by Janney Montgomery Scott LLC (the "Underwriter") at a price of \$8,999,676.63. The purchase price of the Bonds reflects the par amount of Bonds equal to \$8,999,000.00, minus an Underwriter's discount of \$98,690.00 plus a net original issue premium of \$99,366.63. The Underwriter is obligated to purchase all of the Bonds if any Bonds are so purchased.

The Underwriter intends to offer the Bonds to the public initially at the offering yields set forth on the cover page of this Official Statement, which may subsequently change without any requirement of prior notice. The Underwriter reserves the right to join with dealers and other underwriters in offering the Bonds to the public. The Underwriter may offer and sell Bonds to certain dealers (including dealers depositing Bonds into investment trusts) at yields higher than the public offering yields set forth on the cover page, and such public offering yields may be changed, from time to time, by the Underwriter without prior notice. The Underwriter may also receive a fee for conducting a competitive bidding process regarding the investment of certain proceeds of the Bonds.

#### SECONDARY MARKET DISCLOSURE

The Board has covenanted for the benefit of the holders and beneficial owners of the Bonds to provide certain financial information and operating data relating to the Board by no later than each January 31 after the end of each fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 (the "Annual Report"), and to provide notices of the occurrence of certain enumerated events, if material. The Annual Report will be filed by the Board with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB") or any other entity designated by the MSRB. The notices of material events will be filed by the Board with the MSRB through its Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") system and with any other entity designated by the MSRB, as applicable. The nature of the information to be contained in the Annual Report or the notices of material events is set forth in "APPENDIX D - Form of Continuing Disclosure Certificate." These covenants have been made in order to assist the underwriter in complying with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5).

Under its prior undertaking, the Board previously failed to file in a timely manner (i) operating data and (ii) annual financial statements for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. The Board had previously filed the operating data and annual financial statements for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 to another repository, of which the June 30, 2011 and 2014 information was filed in a timely manner. Additionally, the Board previously failed to file material event notices relating to ratings changes of bond insurers and other credit enhancements. Such filings have been made and the appropriate failure to file notices have been filed. The Board has engaged a professional to assist it in complying with its undertakings on a going forward basis.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Inquiries regarding this Official Statement, including information additional to that contained herein, may be directed to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Dennis W. Kotch, (732) 222-5900, or to Lisa A. Gorab, Esq., Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel to the Board, (732) 855-6459.

#### CERTIFICATE WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT

At the time of the original delivery of the Bonds, the Board will deliver a certificate of one or more of its authorized officials to the effect that he/she has examined this Official Statement (including the Appendices) and the financial and other data concerning the School District contained herein and that, to the best of his knowledge and belief, (i) this Official Statement, both as of its date and as of the date of delivery of the Bonds, does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact necessary to make the statements herein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading and (ii) between the date of the Official Statement and the date of delivery of the Bonds, there has been no material adverse change in the affairs (financial or otherwise), financial condition or results or operations of the Board except as set forth in or contemplated by the Official Statement.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement among the Board, the Underwriter and the holders of any of the Bonds. Any statements made in this Official Statement involving matters of opinion, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended merely as opinions and not as representations of fact. The information and expressions of opinion contained herein are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale of the Bonds made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Board since the date hereof.

The Board has authorized the preparation of this final Official Statement containing pertinent information relative to the Bonds, and this Official Statement is deemed to be the final Official Statement as required by Rule 15c2-12, promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended and supplemented. By awarding the Bonds to the Underwriter, the Board agrees that, within the earlier of seven (7) business days following the date of such award or to accompany the purchasers' confirmations requesting payment for the Bonds, it shall provide without cost to the Underwriter, for distribution purposes, copies of this final Official Statement. The underwriter agrees that (i) it shall accept such designation, and (ii) it shall assure the distribution of the final Official Statement.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

/s/ Dennis W. Kotch
DENNIS W. KOTCH,
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**DATED: July 16, 2015** 



#### **APPENDIX A**

Certain Economic and Demographic Information Relating to the School District and the Borough of West Long Branch



# CERTAIN ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION RELATING TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH

#### **Summary**

The public school system in the Borough of West Long Branch, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey (the "Borough"), is operated by The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed thereby), as a Type II school district. The School District is coterminous with the Borough which is approximately 2.9 square miles.

The District provides a full range of educational services appropriate to grade levels Pre-K through 8. These include regular instruction and special education for handicapped youngsters in and out of district. The district is comprised of two schools, the Frank Antonides School and the Betty McElmon Elementary School. Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, Betty McElmon Elementary will serve students from pre-kindergarten through third grade while the Frank Antonides School Services will serve students from fourth grade to eight grade.

For ninth through twelfth grades, public school students attend Shore Regional High School, a regional high school located in West Long Branch that serves students from the constituent districts Monmouth Beach, Oceanport, Sea Bright and West Long Branch. A small portion of the Borough's student population attends private schools outside of the Borough.

The Board functions independently through a nine (9) member board, elected by the School District's voters to staggered three-year terms. The Board appoints a Superintendent and a Business Administrator/Board Secretary who are responsible for budgeting, planning and operational functions of the School District.

#### **School District Enrollment**

	Average Daily	
Fiscal Year	<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
2013-2014	596	-0.19%
2012-2013	600	0%
2012-2013	600	1.02%
2011-2012	587	-1.03%
2010-2011	604	-1.10%
2009-2010	652	-1.10%
2008-2009	695	-1.07%
2007-2008	709	-1.04%
2006-2007	738	-1.09%
2005-2006	746	-1.09%

#### Staff

The Superintendent is the chief administrative officer of the School District. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary oversees the business functions of the Board and reports through the Superintendent to the Board. As of June 30, 2014, the School District employed the following staff:

<b>Description</b>	<b>Total</b>
Administrative Staff	5
Teaching/Certificated Staff	70
Teacher and Instructional Aides	9
Custodial, Security, Grounds, Transportation and	
Cafeteria Staff	16
Clerical Staff	12
TOTAL	112

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

#### **Labor Relations**

Teachers, nurses, secretaries and child study team members, who are under the supervision of the Superintendent or Business Administrator/Board Secretary, are represented by the West Long Branch Education Association (the "WLBEA"). The Board's contract with the WLBEA expires on June 30, 2017. Principals, Vice Principals and Directors are represented by the West Long Branch Administrators and Supervisors Association (the "WLBASA"). The Board's contract with the WLBASA expires on June 30, 2017. The Superintendent, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and various confidential employees are not part of the above-mentioned collective bargaining associations and are contracted through shared services with Shore Regional. The terms and conditions of these contracts for this group are set by Board resolution. The Board considers its relationship with all collective bargaining associations to be excellent.

#### **Budget Referenda History**

				Vote '	Tally
Budget Year	Budget <u>Category</u>	Tax Levy <u>Amount</u>	Election Result	Yes	<u>No</u>
2014-2015	General Fund	\$ 9,282,312	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013-2014	General Fund	9,282,312	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012-2013	General Fund	9,190,408	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011-2012	General Fund	9,010,204	Yes	458	314
2010-2011	General Fund	9,193,149	No	586	649
2009-2010	General Fund	8,969,374	No	443	465

Source: School District

#### **General Fund Revenues and Expenditures**

	Fiscal Year 2011-2012	Fiscal Year <u>2012-2013</u>	Fiscal Year <u>2013-2014</u>	
Revenues:				
Tax Levy	\$ 9,010,204	\$ 9,190,408	\$ 9,282,312	
Tuition	202,725	213,354	306,733	
Interest Earnings – Capital Reserve Fund	1,892	338	2,919	
Miscellaneous	15,085	64,798	11,063	
State Sources	897,711	1,183,235	1,127,593	
Federal Sources	485			
Capital Leases (Non-Budgeted)	118,566	200,819		
Transfers from Other Funds	135,516			
Total Revenue	10,382,184	10,852,952	10,730,620	
Expenditures:				
Instruction	3,748,537	3,830,992	4,287,436	
Support Services	5,788,409	6,349,512	6,484,809	
Capital Outlay	529,446	662,348	330,111	
Summer School	4,987	5,000	7,623	
Total Expenditures	10,071,379	10,847,852	11,109,979	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under)				
expenditures	\$ 310,805	\$ 5,100	\$ (379,359)	

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

#### **Sources of Revenue**

Fiscal Year	<b>Property</b>	State	Other State and	Federal and	Charges for		Total
<b>June 30</b>	<u>Taxes</u>	Formula Aid	Federal Aid	<b>State Grants</b>	<b>Services</b>	<b>Other</b>	Revenue
2014	\$ 9,766,036	\$ 265,495	\$862,098	\$ 520,408	\$ 306,733	\$ 26,926	\$ 11,747,696
2013	9,695,620	265,495	917,740	506,060	213,354	74,023	11,672,292
2012	9,515,416	203,354	694,357	613,977	202,725	25,543	11,255,372
2011	9,695,062		614,632	534,597		27,722	10,872,013
2010	10,040,010	303,761	614,417	603,436		71,270	11,632,894

#### **School District Debt Limit and Borrowing Margin**

The debt limitation of the School District is established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:24-19. The School District is permitted to incur debt up to three percent (3%) of the average equalized valuation of taxable property in the School District before requiring an extension of credit from the Borough and the Local Finance Board. The total equalized valuation of real property, including improvements, in the Borough for the last three (3) years and the School District's available borrowing margin as of December 31, 2014 are summarized below:

Calendar Year	<b>Amount</b>
2014	\$ 1,245,237,567
2013	1,285,964,337
2012	1,234,245,040
	\$ 3,765,446,944

Average Equalized Valuation of Taxable Property	\$ 1,255,148,981
Debt Limit (3% of average equalized valuation)	37,654,469
Total Net Debt Applicable to Limit	2,429,271
Legal Debt Margin	\$ 35,224,698

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

#### Bonds Payable (as of June 30, 2014)

Year Ending	D 1	<b>T</b> 4	(D. 4.1)
<u>June 30</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2015	\$ 410,000	\$ 59,888	\$ 469,888
2016	410,000	45,537	455,537
2017	410,000	30,675	440,675
2018	408,000	15,300	423,300
	\$ 1,638,000	<u>\$ 151,400</u>	\$ 1,789,400

### Direct and Overlapping Bonded Debt (as of December 31, 2014)

Governmental Unit	Debt Outstanding	Estimated Percentage Applicable	Estimated Share of Overlapping Debt
Debt repaid with property taxes			
Borough of West Long Branch Monmouth County General Obligation	\$ 11,210,537	100%	\$ 11,210,537
Debt	441,364,985	1.14%	5,018,651
Subtotal Overlapping Debt West Long Branch School District			16,229,188
Direct Debt			2,048,000
Total Direct and Overlapping Debt			<u>\$ 18,277,188</u>

#### INFORMATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY

#### **General Information**

West Long Branch is a Borough in Monmouth County, New Jersey, United States. As of the 2010 United States Census, the Borough's population was 8,097, reflecting a decline of 161 from the 8,258 counted in the 2000 Census, which had in turn increased by 568 from the 7,690 counted in the 1990 Census. It is the home of Monmouth University.

Prior to being called West Long Branch, the area had been called Mechanicsville from the 18<sup>th</sup> century through the Civil War, and then Branchburg in the 1870's. The name West Long Branch appears in the 1889 *Wolverton Atlas of Monmouth County*, and seems to have derived its name from its proximity to a section of the Shrewsbury River.

In 1908, the residents of what was the West Long Branch section of Eatontown thought that they were not getting a fair return on their taxes. A request was made that the West Long Branch section be separated from Eatontown. The Township of Eatontown strongly resisted as there were several large estates in the West Long Branch section that were a source of considerable taxes. An act of the New Jersey Legislature was passed on April 7, 1908, and the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders authorized an election. On May 5, 1908, the referendum was held in West Long Branch, with voters approving the separation.

#### **Form of Government**

The Borough is governed by a Mayor and six (6) members of the Borough Council. The Mayor is elected to a four-year term, while the Borough Council members are each elected to three-year staggered terms. In addition to acting as the legislative arm of the governments, each member of the Borough Council serves as a liaison to specific Borough operating departments.

#### **Retirement Systems**

All full-time permanent or qualified Borough employees who began employment after 1944 must enroll in one of two retirement systems depending upon their employment status. These systems were established by acts of the State Legislature. Benefits, contributions, means of funding and the manner of administration are set by State law. The Division of Pensions, within the New Jersey Department of Treasury (the "Division"), is the administrator of the funds with the benefit and contribution levels set by the State. The Borough is enrolled in the Public Employees' Retirement System ("PERS") and the Police and Firemen's Retirement System ("PFRS").

#### **Pension Information**

Employees, who are eligible to participate in a pension plan, are enrolled in PERS or PFRS, administered by the Division. The Division annually charges municipalities and other participating governmental units for their respective contributions to the plans based upon actuarial calculations. The employees contribute a portion of the cost. The Borough's share of pension costs in 2013, which is based upon the annual billings received from the State, amounted to \$160,349 for PERS and \$510,044 for PFRS.

#### Utilities

The Borough does not operate any utilities, but utilizes outside vendors including New Jersey Natural Gas, Jersey Central Power and Light, and Two Rivers Water Reclamation Authority.

#### **Public Safety**

The Borough has a paid police department and a volunteer fire department with two (2) companies. The Borough also has a volunteer first aid and rescue squad.

#### **Public Works**

The Borough has 9 public works employees. The Borough provides twice a week garbage collection. They maintain the Borough's sewer system infrastructure and maintain its parks. It operates a recycling depot and has once a week curbside recycling pickup. The department provides most Borough road overlay work with major road reconstruction outsourced. Roads are swept and cleared of snow and ice by the department.

#### Free Public Library

A branch of the Monmouth County Library serves the residents of the Borough.

## **Employment and Unemployment Comparisons**

For the following years, the New Jersey Department of Labor reported the following annual average employment information for the Borough, the County, and the State of New Jersey:

	<b>Total Labor</b>	<b>Employed</b>	Total	Unemployment
	<b>Force</b>	<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	Rate
<b>Borough</b>				
2013	4,299	3,919	380	8.8%
2012	3,381	3,075	306	9.1%
2011	3,328	3,038	290	8.7%
2010	3,412	3,117	295	8.6%
2009	3,434	3,142	292	8.5%
<b>County</b>				
2013	327,805	303,388	24,417	7.4%
2012	331,466	302,699	28,767	8.7%
2011	330,034	301,884	28,150	8.5%
2010	330,314	301,441	28,873	8.7%
2009	335,076	307,153	27,923	8.3%
<u>State</u>				
2013	4,537,800	4,166,000	371,800	8.2%
2012	4,561,800	4,136,900	424,800	9.3%
2011	4,535,800	4,112,200	423,600	9.4%
2010	4,545,600	4,108,700	436,900	9.6%
2009	4,544,700	4,135,900	408,800	9.0%

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Force Statistics

## Income (as of 2010)

	<b>Borough</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>State</b>
Median Household Income	\$ 96,369	\$ 82,265	\$ 71,180
Median Family Income	114,250	102,074	86,779
Per Capita Income	32,822	40,976	35,768

Source: US Bureau of the Census 2010

## Population

<u>Year</u>	Borough  Population	Percent Change	County <u>Population</u>	Percent <u>Change</u>	State <u>Population</u>	Percent Change
2010	8,097	-1.9%	630,380	2.5%	8,791,894	4.49%
2000	8,258	7.4	615,301	11.2	8,414,350	8.85
1990	7,690	4.2	553,124	9.9	7,730,188	4.96
1980	7,380	7.8	503,173	8.9	7,365,001	2.75
1970	6,845	28.3	461,849	38.1	7,168,164	18.15

Source: United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

#### **Building Permits**

	Total Residential Building Permits			
<u>Year</u>	<b>Borough</b>	<b>County</b>		
2013	34	1,663		
2012	1	1,034		
2011	60	864		
2010	124	915		
2009	11	964		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Manufacturing & Construction Division

## **Largest Taxpayers**

The ten largest taxpayers in the Borough and their assessed valuations are listed below:

	2014 Assessed	% of Total
<b>Taxpayers</b>	<b>Valuation</b>	<b>Assessed</b>
BG Monmouth, LLC	\$ 41,039,000	3.66%
Avalon West Long Branch, LLC	29,141,000	2.60%
WLB of New Jersey, LLC	21,961,300	1.96%
185 Monmouth Parkway Assoc.	14,146,900	1.26%
136 Monmouth Road Holding, LLC	6,491,800	0.58%
West Long Branch Shopping Center West Long Branch Lodging Realty,	6,216,200	0.55%
LLC	4,092,100	0.36%
MAMTA Enterprise, Inc.	5,141,900	0.46%
Cedar Village Group, LLC	4,872,300	0.43%
Schneider-Nelson Realty, LLC	4,094,900	0.37%
Total	<u>\$ 137,197,400</u>	12.23%

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District

## **Comparison of Tax Levies and Collections**

•	<u>Year</u>	Tax Levy	Cash Collections	Percentage of Collection
	2013	\$ 25,950,271	\$ 25,534,907	98.40%
	2012	25,563,538	25,011,257	97.84%
	2011	25,708,639	25,121,933	97.72%
	2010	25,133,408	24,522,945	97.57%
	2009	24,395,876	24,015,382	98.44%

Source: Borough of West Long Branch Annual Audit Report

## **Delinquent Taxes and Tax Title Liens**

<u>Year</u>	Amount of Tax <u>Title Liens</u>	Amount of Delinquent Taxes	Total <u>Delinquent</u>	% of <u>Tax Levy</u>
2013	\$ 11,892	\$ 350,376	\$ 362,268	1.40%
2012	10,528	367,703	378,231	1.09%
2011	8,890	381,961	390,851	1.52%
2010	7,258	358,105	365,363	1.45%
2009	5,653	303,394	309,047	1.27%

Source: Borough of West Long Branch Annual Audit Report

## **Property Acquired by Tax Lien Liquidation**

<u>Year</u>	<b>Amount</b>
2013	\$ 37,900
2012	37,900
2011	37,900
2010	37,900
2009	37,900

Source: Borough of West Long Branch Annual Audit Report

#### Tax Rates per \$100 of Net Valuations Taxable and Allocations

The table below lists the tax rates for the past five (5) years.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Municipal Rate</b>	<b>Local School Rate</b>	<b>County Rate</b>	<b>Total Tax Rate</b>
2014	\$ 0.692	\$ 1.294	\$ 0.345	\$ 2.331
2013	0.669	1.295	0.347	2.311
2012	0.524	1.096	0.267	1.887
2011	0.502	1.103	0.275	1.880
2010	0.469	1.100	0.280	1.849

Source: Abstract of Ratables, Monmouth County, NJ

### **Valuation of Property**

Year	Aggregate Assessed Valuation of Real <u>Property</u>	Ratio of Assessed to True Value	Aggregate True Value of Real <u>Property</u>	Equalized <u>Valuation</u>
2014	\$ 1,120,352,990	90.08%	\$ 1,243,731,116	\$ 1,249,907,428
2013	1,122,639,005	105.15%	1,067,654,784	1,295,033,160
2012	1,353,201,480	108.88%	1,242,837,509	1,249,466,213
2011	1,344,898,134	102.08%	1,317,494,254	1,324,411,595
2010	1,356,679,559	98.53%	1,376,920,287	1,384,313,775

Source: Abstract of Ratables, Monmouth County, NJ

#### **Classification of Ratables**

The table below lists the comparative assessed valuation for each classification of real property within the Borough for the past five (5) years.

	Vacant					
<b>Year</b>	<b>Land</b>	<b>Residential</b>	<b>Commercial</b>	<u>Industrial</u>	<b>Apartments</b>	<b>Total</b>
2014	\$ 12,010,700	\$ 869,108,400	\$ 203,181,800	\$ 2,730,800	\$ 31,318,600	\$ 1,119,755,900
2013	11,948,000	870,940,000	203,367,000	2,730,800	31,318,600	1,121,710,000
2012	15,459,600	1,068,747,000	235,078,900	3,254,900	28,007,600	1,352,191,500
2011	16,116,200	1,075,233,300	239,584,400	3,254,900	8,013,700	1,343,846,000
2010	18,132,300	1,082,524,800	247,955,700	3,254,900	1,907,600	1,355,418,800

Not included in the above analysis are regular farm and qualified farm ratables in the amounts of which are included in the totals but were not significant enough to break out separately.

Source: Abstract of Ratables, Monmouth County, NJ

## Borough Indebtedness as of December 31, 2013

	Gross Debt	<b>Deductions</b>	Net Debt
Local School District	\$ 2,048,000	\$ 2,048,000	\$ -
Regional School District	3,351,864	3,351,864	-
General Debt	11,581,084	370,547	11,210,537
	<u>\$ 16,980,948</u>	<u>5,770,411</u>	\$ 11,210,537

Source: Borough of West Long Branch Annual Audit Report

## **Debt Limit**

3 1/2 % of Equalized Valuation Basis	\$ 43,930,214
Net Debt	11,210,537
Remaining Borrowing Power	\$ 32,719,677
Percentage of Net Debt to Average Equalized Valuation	0.893%
Gross Debt Per Capita based on 2010 population of 8,097	\$ 2,097
Net Debt Per Capita based on 2010 population of 8,097	\$ 1,385

Source: Borough of West Long Branch Annual Audit Report

#### **APPENDIX B**

Financial Statements of the West Long Branch School District Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014



# COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

## **OF THE**

## WEST LONG BRANCH BOARD OF EDUCATION

WEST LONG BRANCH, NEW JERSEY

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

## PREPARED BY

## WEST LONG BRANCH BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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INTRODUCTORY SECTION

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## WEST LONG BRANCH BOARD OF EDUCATION

Administrative Offices
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West Long Branch, New Jersey 07764-1698
Phone (732) 222-5900
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Thomas Farrell
Superintendent of Schools

Dennis Kotch Business Administrator/Board Secretary

December 1, 2014

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education West Long Branch Public Schools West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Dear Board Members:

The comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) of the West Long Branch School District as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, is hereby submitted. Responsibility for both the accuracy of the data and completeness and fairness of the presentation, including all disclosures, rests with the management of the District. This CAFR includes the District's Basic Financial Statements prepared in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards, Board Statement 34. To the best of our knowledge and belief, the data presented in this report is accurate in all material respects and is reported in a manner designed to present fairly the financial position and results of operations of the various funds and account groups of the District. All disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain an understanding of the District's financial activities have been included.

The comprehensive annual financial report is presented in four sections: 1) introductory; 2) financial; 3) statistical; 4) single audit. The introductory section includes this transmittal letter, the District's organizational chart and a list of principal officials. The financial section includes the general-purpose financial statements and schedules, as well as the auditor's report thereon. The statistical section includes selected financial and demographic information, generally presented on a multi-year basis. The District is required to undergo an annual single audit, when applicable, in conformity with the provisions of the Single Audit Act of 1996, as amended and the US Office of Management and Budget Circular Letter A-133 "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations", and New Jersey OMB's Circular Letter 04-04, "Single audit policy for recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants, and State Aid." Information related to this single audit, including the auditor's report on the internal control structure and the compliance of with applicable laws, regulations, findings, and recommendations are included in the single audit section of this report.

#### 1) REPORTING ENTITY AND ITS SERVICES

The West Long Branch Public School District is an independent reporting entity within the criteria adopted by GASB Statement No. 14. All Funds and account groups of the District are included in this report. The West Long Branch Board of Education and its two schools constitute the District's reporting entity.

The District provides a full range of educational services appropriate to grade levels Pre-K, and K through 8. These include regular instruction and special education for handicapped youngsters in and out of district. The District completed the 2013-2014 fiscal year with an enrollment of 603 students, which reflects an increase of 2 students from the previous year's enrollment. The following details the changes in the student enrollment of the District over the last five years.

Fiscal Year	Student Enrollment	Percent Change
2013-2014	603	0.33%
2012-2013	601	(0.17%)
2011-2012	602	(2.75%)
2010-2011	619	(0.64%)
2009-2010	623	(4.44%)

#### 2) ECONOMIC CONDITION AND OUTLOOK

West Long Branch is a suburban residential community with large retail stores located at its perimeter on Route 36. Single-family home developments are occurring in the Borough. The single-family developments are not expected to have a significant impact on district enrollments. Avalon at West Long Branch is a 180 unit, four building development of loft, one bedroom, two bedrooms and three bedroom apartments, which broke ground in the spring of 2010. Although marketed to "Young Professionals", the new units may have an impact on student enrollment.

#### 3) MAJOR INITIATIVES

During the 2014-2015 school year, the district will be undertaking the following initiatives to support the seven district goals:

- 1. No increase
- 2. Realign Superintendent and Business Office Staff
- 3. Reduce audit recommendations
- 4. Improved efficiency with custodial/grounds services
- 5. Improve articulation between districts in region
- 6. Increased professional development for staff
- 7. Continue building improvements through NJSDA Rod grants

#### I. Goal Area: Educational Program

Provide an educational program that promotes excellence and delivers a strong foundation supporting academic and professional success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

• Implement New Teaching Schedule

#### I. Goal Area: Educational Program (continued)

- Raise expectations for achievement for all students and support each student in striving to reach his/her individual goals
- Implement a 5-year cycle of program review. Programs to be reviewed in 2014-2015 include Social Studies and Language Arts
- Implement district's Professional Development Plan (PDP) through alignment of curriculum to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS)
- Implement horizontal and vertical articulation designed to improve student achievement in Grade 4-6 during 2014-2015

#### II. Goal Area: Finance

Develop and implement a plan for governance and fiscal excellence through analysis of the district's business management practices, staffing requirements, and budgeting practices.

- Identify three cost saving initiatives that could be implemented without impacting the thorough and efficient education provided to the children of West Long Branch
- Seek to share more services
- Increase revenue by servicing Interlaken Borough Students
- Establish computerized accounting system for the proprietary accounts

#### III. Goal Area: Long Range Planning

Develop a culture of long range planning that supports continuous improvement while addressing the impact of declining enrollment and economically challenging times.

- Plan for implementation of the alternative
- Plan for improved test scores
- Continue to explore opportunities for shared services, improved efficiencies and cost reduction activities

#### 4) INTERNAL ACCOUNTING CONTROLS

Management of the Borough of West Long Branch School District is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure to ensure that the assets of the District are protected from loss, theft or misuse and to ensure that adequate accounting data are compiled to allow for the preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The internal control structure is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurances recognizes that (1) the cost of the control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived; and (2) the valuation costs and benefits requires estimated and judgments by management.

As a recipient of Federal and State financial assistance, the District is also responsible for reinsuring that an adequate internal control structure is in place to ensure compliance with

applicable laws and regulations related to those programs. The internal control structure is subject to periodic evaluation by District management and the auditor.

As part of the District's single audit described earlier, tests are made to determine the adequacy of the internal control structure, including that portion related to Federal and State financial assistance programs, when applicable, as well as to determine that the District has complied with applicable laws and regulations.

#### 5) **BUDGETARY CONTROLS**

In addition to internal accounting controls, the District maintains budgetary controls. The objective of these budgetary controls is to ensure compliance with legal provisions embodied in the annual appropriated budget approved by the voters of the municipality. Annual appropriated budgets are adopted for the general fund, special revenue fund and debt service fund. Projectlength budgets are approved for the capital improvements accounted for in the capital projects fund. The final budget amount, as amended for the fiscal year, is reflected in the financial section.

An encumbrance accounting system is used to record purchase commitments on a line item basis. Open encumbrances at year-end are either cancelled or are included as re-appropriation of fund balance in the subsequent year. Those amounts to be re-appropriated are reported as reservations of fund balance at June 30, 2014.

#### 6) ACCOUNTING SYSTEM AND REPORTS

The District's accounting records reflect generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), as promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The accounting system of the District is organized on the basis of funds and account groups are explained in "Notes to the Financial Statements", Note 1.

#### 7) CASH MANAGEMENT

The investment policy of the District is guided in large part by state statute as detailed in "Notes to the Financial Statements", Note 2. The District has adopted a cash management plan, which requires it to deposit public funds in public depositories protected from loss under the provisions of the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act ("GUDPA"). GUPDA was enacted in 1970 to protect the Governmental Units from a loss of funds on deposit with a failed banking institution in New Jersey. The law required governmental units to deposit public funds only in public depositories located in New Jersey where the funds are secured in accordance with the Act.

#### 8) RISK MANAGEMENT

The District carries various forms of insurance, including but not limited to general liability, automobile liability and comprehensive/collision, hazard and theft insurance on property contents, and fidelity.

#### 9) OTHER INFORMATION

Independent Audit- State statutes require an annual audit by Independent Certified Public Accountants or Registered Municipal Accountants. The Board selected the firm of Robert A. Hulsart and Company, Wall, New Jersey. In addition to meeting the requirements set forth in state statutes, the audit also was designed to meet the requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1996, as amended, and the related OMB Circular A-133 and New Jersey OMB's Circular Letter 04-04, as applicable. The auditor's report on the general-purpose financial statements and the combining and individual fund statements and schedules is included in the financial section of this report. The auditor's reports related specifically to the single audit are included in the single audit section of this report.

#### 10) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to express our appreciation to the members of the West Long Branch Board of Education for their concern in providing fiscal accountability to the citizens and taxpayers of the District, as well as contributing their full support to the development and maintenance of our financial operations. The preparation of this report could not have been accomplished without the efficient and dedicated services of our Financial and Accounting Staff.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Farrell

Superintendent of Schools

Dennis Kotch

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Harrell\_

#### WEST LONG BRANCH BOARD OF EDUCATION BOARD MEMBERS 2014

Members of the Board of Education	Term Expires
Erin Hegglin, President	2015
Susan Trocchia, Vice-President	2016
Mary Orendorff-Gassman	2015
Dr. Edwin T. Hunter	2014
Patricia Banbach0McLaughlin	2016
Brian Kramer	2015
Beth Sarfaty	2016
James Cagliostro	2014
Dr. Paul Christopher	2014

## **Other Officials**

Thomas G. Farrell, Superintendent of Schools

Dennis Kotch, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Michael Fiorillo, Principal, Frank Antonides School

James Erhardt, Principal, Betty McElmon Elementary School

George Stone, Treasurer

Viola Lordi, Esq., Solicitor

## WEST LONG BRANCH BOARD OF EDUCATION Consultants, Independent Auditor and Advisors June 30, 2014

#### **Board Attorney**

Wilentz, Goldman, and Spitzer
Viola Lordi, Esq.
Suite 900
PO Box 10
Woodbridge, NJ 07095

#### **Independent Auditor**

Robert Hulsart & Company PO Box 1409 Wall, NJ 07719

#### **Fiscal Agent**

Chase Bank 55 Water Street New York, NY 10041

#### Official Depository

Investors Bank 169 Broadway Long Branch, NJ 07740 [ THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK ]

## FINANCIAL SECTION

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## Robert A. Hulsart and Company

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

ARMOUR S. HULSART, C.P.A., R.M.A., P.S.A. (1959-1992) ROBERT A. HULSART, C.P.A., R.M.A., P.S.A. ROBERT A. HULSART, JR.,C.P.A., P.S.A.

RICHARD J. HELLENBRECHT, JR., C.P.A., P.S.A.

Telecopier: (732) 280-8888

e-mail: rah@monmouth.com 2807 Hurley Pond Road • Suite 100 P.O. Box 1409 Wall, New Jersey 07719-1409 (732) 681-4990

#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education West Long Branch School District County of Monmouth West Long Branch, New Jersey

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Board of Education of the West Long Branch School District, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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

#### **Auditors Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design 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. Accordingly we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Board of Education of the West Long Branch School District, in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, as of June 30, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Other Matters

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information as listed in the table of contents presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Government Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about 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 do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

The accompanying introductory section and other supplementary information such as the combining and individual fund financial statements, long-term debt schedules, and statistical information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standard generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the accompanying introductory section and other supplementary information such as the combining and individual fund financial statements, long-term debt schedules, and statistical information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

The accompanying introductory section and other supplementary information such as the combining and individual fund financial statements, long-term debt schedules, and statistical information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

The accompanying schedules of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance are presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations, and New Jersey OMB's Circular 04-04, Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants and State Aid respectively, and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 1, 2014 on our consideration of the West Long Branch's Board of Education internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the West Long Branch Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT A. HULSART AND COMPANY

Robert A. Hulsart Licensed Public School Accountant No. 322 Robert A. Hulsart and Company Wall Township, New Jersey

December 1, 2014

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# REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION PART I

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#### **BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH**

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

#### **UNAUDITED**

The discussion and analysis of West Long Branch School District's financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; it should be read in conjunction with the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report's (CAFR) Letter of Transmittal which is found in the Introductory Section, and the School Board's financial statements found in the Financial Section and the notes thereto.

#### **Financial Highlights**

Key Financial highlights for the 2013-2014 fiscal year is as follows:

- General revenues accounted for \$10,933,848 in revenue or 92% percent of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, operating grants and contributions, and capital grants and contributions accounted for \$984,762 or 8% percent to total revenues.
- Total position of governmental activities decreased by \$591,510.
- The School District had \$12,514,122 in expenses; only \$984,762 of these expenses was offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues (primarily property taxes) of \$10,933,848 were adequate to provide for these programs.
- The General Fund had \$10,775,960 in revenues and \$11,090,876 in expenditures. The General Fund's balance decreased \$334,019 from 2013.

#### Using this Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand West Long Branch School District as a financial whole, an entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the whole school district, presenting both an aggregate view of the School District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. In the case of West Long Branch School District, the General Fund is the most significant fund, with the Special Revenue Fund, Capital Project's Fund and Debt Service Fund also having significance.

#### Using this Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) – (Continued)

The School Board's auditor has provided assurance in his Independent Auditor's Report, located immediately preceding this Management's Discussion and Analysis, that the Basic Financial Statements are fairly stated. A user of this report should read the Independent Auditor's Report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided for each of the other parts of the Financial Section.

#### Reporting the School District as a Whole

#### Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the School District to provide programs and activities, the view of the School District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during the 2013-2014 fiscal year?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account, all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the School District's net position and changes in those assets. This change in net assets is important because it tells the reader that, for the school district as a whole, the financial positions of the School District has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, and some not. Non-financial factors include the School District's property tax base, current laws in New Jersey restricting revenue growth, facility condition, required educational programs and other factors.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the School District is divided into two distinct kinds of activities:

- Governmental activities All of the School District's programs and services are reported here including, but not limited to, instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant facilities, pupil transportation and extracurricular activities.
- Business-Type Activities This service is provided on a charge for goods or services basis to recover all the expense of the goods or services provided. The Food Service Enterprise Fund is reported as a business activity.

#### Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

The analysis of the School District's major (all) funds begins on exhibit A-1. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. The School District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the School District's most significant funds. The School District's major governmental funds are the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Capital Projects Fund and Debt Service Fund.

#### **Governmental Funds**

The School District's activities are reported in Governmental Funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in the future years. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The Governmental Fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental Fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and Governmental Funds is reconciled in the financial statements.

#### **Enterprise Fund**

The Enterprise Fund uses the same basis of accounting as business-type activities; therefore, these statements are essentially the same.

#### The School District as a Whole

Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for the fiscal years ended 2014 and 2013.

	Table 1 Net Position	
	2014	2013
Assets Current and Other Assets Capital Assets, Net	\$ 2,448,576 	2,771,383 <u>9,852,678</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 13,762,333</u>	12,624,061
<u>Liabilities</u> Long-Term Liabilities Other Liabilities	\$ 1,487,453 496,598	1,920,978 512,042
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 1,984,051</u>	<u>2,433,020</u>
Net Position Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Debt Restricted Unrestricted	\$ 9,369,388 2,011,636 397,258	7,565,021 2,478,352 147,668
Total Net Position	\$ 11,778,282	10,191,041

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal years ended 2014 and 2013.

Table 2 Changes in Net Position

	2014	2013
Revenues		
Program Revenues		
Charges for Services	\$ 413,393	337,416
Operating Grants and Contributions	571,369	1,462,339
General Revenues		
Property Taxes	9,766,036	9,687,458
Grants and Entitlements	1,172,933	287,027
Other	13,982	65,135
Total Revenues	11,937,713	11,839,375
Program Expenses		
Instruction	4,697,219	6,282,293
Support Services		
Pupils and Instructional Staff	1,544,975	1,946,186
General Administration, School Administra	ation,	
Business	4,034,793	1,312,617
Operations and Maintenance of Facilities	1,259,950	1,026,509
Pupil Transportation	729,723	639,934
Interest on Debt	97,117	87,050
Food Service	150,345	165,665
Total Expenses	12,514,122	11,460,254
Adjustment	(19,103)	And the second s
Increase in Net Position	\$ (595,512)	379,121

#### **Governmental Activities**

The unique nature of property taxes in New Jersey creates the need to routinely seek voter approval for the School District operations. Property taxes made up 83 percent of revenues for governmental activities for the West Long Branch School District for fiscal year 2014. The District's total revenues were \$11,791,370 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014.

### **Business-Type Activities**

Revenues for the District's business-type activities (food service program) were comprised of charges for services and federal and state reimbursements.

- Food service expenses exceeded revenue by \$4,002.
- Charges for services represent \$106,660 of revenue. This represents amount paid by patrons for daily food services.
- Federal and state reimbursements for food service was \$39,683.

### **Governmental Activities**

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services.

Instruction expenses include activities directly dealing with the teaching of pupils and the interaction between teacher and student, including extracurricular activities.

Pupils and instructional staff include the activities involved with assisting staff with the content and process of teaching to students, including curriculum and staff development.

General administration, school administration and business include expenses associated with administrative and financial supervision of the District.

Operation and maintenance of facilities activities involve keeping the school grounds, buildings and equipment in an effective working condition.

Curriculum and staff development includes expenses related to planning, research, development and evaluation of support services, as well as the reporting of this information internally and to the public.

Pupil transportation includes activities involved with the conveyance of students to and from school, as well as to and from school activities, as provided by state law.

Extracurricular activities includes expenses related to student activities provided by the School District which are designed to provide opportunities for students to participate in school events, public events, or a combination of these for the purposes of motivation, enjoyment and skill improvement.

Interest and fiscal charges involve the transactions associated with the payment of interest and other related charges to debt of the School District.

Other includes unallocated depreciation and amortization.

### School Board Funds

The School Board uses funds to control and manage money for particular purposes. The Fund's basic financial statements allow the School Board to demonstrate its stewardship over and accountability for resources received from the Borough of West Long Branch's taxpayer's and other entities, including the State of New Jersey and the Federal Government. These statements also allow the reader to obtain more insight into the financial workings of the School Board, and assess further the School Board's overall financial health.

As the School Board completed the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, it reported a combined net position balance of \$11,778,282. The Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities presents the reader with a detailed explanation of the differences between the net change in fund balances and changes in net position.

The School Board's budget is prepared according to New Jersey law, and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

Over the course of the year, the School Board revises its budget as it attempts to take into consideration unexpected changes in revenue and expenditures.

A schedule showing the School Board's original and final budget compared with actual operating results is provided in the section of the CAFR, entitled Budgetary Comparison Schedules. The School Board generally did better than had been budgeted in its General Fund since it practices conservative budgetary practices in which revenues are forecasted very conservatively and expenditures are budgeted with worst-case scenarios in mind.

The General Fund finished the fiscal year at \$2,387,407, a decrease of \$379,359 from 2012-2013.

### **Capital Assets**

At June 30, 2014, the School Board had approximately \$11,313,757 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, buildings, furniture, vehicles, computers, instructional equipment and other equipment. This amount is net of accumulated depreciation to date. Table II below shows the net book value of capital assets at the end of the 2014 fiscal year.

	Governmental <u>Activities</u>	Business Type <u>Activities</u>
Table II		
Capital Assets at June 30, 2014		
Land	\$ 82,140	
Site Improvements	246,696	
Buildings	10,139,756	
Machinery and Equipment	833,033	12,132
Total	<u>\$11,301,625</u>	<u>12,132</u>

### **Debt Administration**

At June 30, 2014 the School District had \$1,937,399 as outstanding debt. Of this amount \$130,580 is for compensated absences, \$168,819 is capital leases; and the balance of \$1,638,000 is for bonds for school construction.

### **Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget**

The West Long Branch School District is in good financial condition presently. Future finances are not without challenges as state funding is decreased.

The Borough of West Long Branch is primarily a residential community, with the Monmouth Park racetrack as the major ratable in the Borough. The majority of revenues needed to operate the District are derived from homeowners through property tax assessments and collections.

For the 2013-2014 school year, the School Board was able to sustain its general fund budget through the local tax levy, state education aid, federal aid, tuition and local revenue sources. Approximately 11% of the School Board's general fund revenue is from State Aid 86% of total revenue is from local tax levy, and 3% is from miscellaneous revenue, which among other things includes interest on deposits.

The \$353,021 is unrestricted net position for all governmental activities represent the accumulated results of all past years' operations. It means that if the School Board had to pay off all bills today, including all of the School Board's noncurrent liabilities such as compensated absences, the School Board would have a surplus of \$353,021.

At this time, the most important factor affecting the budget is the unsettled situation with State Aid. While State aid may be frozen, the District may experience growth in student population. The tax levy will be the area that will need to absorb any increase in budget obligations.

In conclusion, the West Long Branch School District has committed itself to financial excellence for many years. In addition, the School District's system for financial planning, budgeting, and internal financial controls are well regarded. The School District plans to continue its sound fiscal management to meet the challenge of the future.

### Contacting the School District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information contact Dennis W. Kotch, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary at West Long Branch Board of Education, 135 Locust Avenue, West Long Branch, New Jersey 07764.

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### BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### DISTRICT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – A

### STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

Exhibit A-1

### JUNE 30, 2014

	G	overnmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	(10,139)	49,280	39,141
Receivables, Net		394,227	2,735	396,962
Inventory			837	837
Restricted Assets:				-
Cash and Cash Equivalents		1,709,946		1,709,946
Capital Reserve Account - Cash		301,690		301,690
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated		82,140		82,140
Capital Assets, Net		11,219,485	12,132	11,231,617
Total Assets		13,697,349	64,984	13,762,333
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Accounts Payable	\$	-	8,615	8,615
Deferred Revenue		31,067		31,067
Accrued Interest		6,970		6,970
Noncurrent Liabilities:				
Due Within One Year		449,946		449,946
Due Beyond One Year		1,487,453		1,487,453
Total Liabilities	\$	1,975,436	8,615	1,984,051
Net Position				
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	\$	9,357,256	12,132	9,369,388
Restricted For:				
Other Purposes		2,011,636		2,011,636
Unrestricted	***************************************	353,021	44,237	397,258
Total Net Position		11,721,913	56,369	11,778,282

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Exhibit A-2 Sheet 1 of 2

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position

Program Revenues

			Operating			
		Charges for	Grants and	Governmental	<b>Business-Type</b>	
	Expenses	Services	Contributions	Activities	Activities	Total
Functions/Programs			And the property of the proper			
Governmental Activities:						
Instruction:						
Regular	\$ 3,248,440			(3,248,440)		(3.248.440)
Special Education	962,907		402,160	(560,747)		(560,747)
Other Instruction	485,872			(485,872)		(485,872)
B. Support Services:						,
F-30 Tuition	372,594	306,733		(65,861)		(65,861)
Student & Instruction Related Services	1,172,381		129,526	(1.042,855)		(1.042,855)
School Administrative Services	369,074			(369,074)		(369,074)
General and Business Administrative						ī
Services	576,943			(576,943)		(576,943)
Plant Operations and Maintenance	929,839			(929,839)		(929,839)
Pupil Transportation	729,723			(729,723)		(729,723)
Unallocated Benefits	2,444,678			(2,444,678)		(2,444,678)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	97,117			(97,117)		(97,117)
Unallocated Depreciation	644,098			(644,098)		(644,098)
Capital Outlay	330,111			(330,111)		(330,111)
Total Government Activities	12,363,777	306,733	531,686	(11,525,358)	1	(11,525,358)
Business-Type Activities:						
Food Service	150,345	106,660	39,683		(4,002)	(4,002)
Total Business-Type Activities	150,345	106,660	39,683	=======================================	(4,002)	(4,002)
Total Primary Government	12,514,122	413,393	571,369	(11,525,358)	(4,002)	(11,529,360)

Exhibit A-2 Sheet 2 of 2

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

		Q	Dominio	Net (	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Not Desition	pu .
		rrogran	rrogram Kevenues		anges in ret rosition	
			Operating			
		Charges for	Grants and	Governmental	<b>Business-Type</b>	
	Expenses	Services	Contributions	Activities	Activities	Total
General Revenues:						
Taxes:						
Property Taxes, Levied for General Purpose,						
Net				\$ 9,282,312		9,282,312
Property Taxes, Levied for Debt Service				483,724		483,724
Federal and State Aid Not Restricted				1,172,933		1,172,933
Miscellaneous				11,063		11,063
E Interest Earned				2,919		2,919
Other Financing Uses				(19,103)		(19,103)
Total General Revenues, Special Items,						
Extraordinary Items and Transfers				10,933,848		10,933,848
Change in Net Position				(591,510)	(4,002)	(595,512)
Net Position - Beginning				12,313,423	60,371	12,373,794
Net Position - Ending				\$ 11,721,913	56,369	11,778,282

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

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### FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – B

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### BALANCE SHEET

### GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

### JUNE 30, 2014

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Assets	***************************************		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,001,497		2,001,497
Due From Other Funds			-
Interfund Receivable	67,355		67,355
Receivables from Other Governments	295,805	98,422	394,227
Total Assets	\$ 2,364,657	98,422	2,463,079
Liabilities and Fund Balance			
Liabilities:			
Deferred Revenue	\$ -	31,067	31,067
Interfund Payable		67,355	67,355
Total Liabilities		98,422	98,422
Fund Balance:			
Restricted for:			
Excess Surplus-Current Year	640,832		640,832
Excess Surplus-Designated for Subsequent			
Years Expenditures	890,244		890,244
Maintenance Reserve	70,889		70,889
Capital Reserve Account	301,690		301,690
Emergency Reserve	100,541		100,541
Committed To:			
Other Purposes	32,499		32,499
Assigned To:			
Debt Service			w.
Designed by the BOE for subsequent	7,440		7,440
Years Expenditures			-
Unassigned:			
General Fund	320,522		320,522
Total Fund Balances	2,364,657		2,364,657
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 2,364,657	98,422	
Amounts reported for governmental activities in			
the Statement of Net Position (A-1) are different			
because:			
Capital assets used in governmental activities			
are not financial resources and therefore are			
not reported in the funds. The cost of the			
assets is \$18,812,128 and the accumulated			11.001.605
depreciation is \$7,510,503			11,301,625
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are			
not due and payable in the current period and			
therefore are not reported as liabilities in the			
funds. (see Note 3)			(1,937,399)
Accrued Interest			(6,970)
Accured Inicies			
Net position of governmental activities			\$ 11,721,913

Exhibit B-2 Sheet 1 of 2

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

### **GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Total Governmental Funds	9,766,036 306,733 2,919	24,007 10,099,695 1,461,172 230,503	11,791,570	3,248,440 962,907 485,872 372,504	372,394 1,172,381 369,074 576,943 929,839 729,723 2,444,678	410,000 73,725 330,111 12,106,287
Debt Service Fund	483,724	483,724	483,/24			410,000 73,725 483,725
Special Revenue Fund		12,944 12,944 288,239 230,503	531,086	402,160	129,526	531,686
General	\$ 9,282,312 306,733 2,919	9,603,027	10,773,900	3,248,440 560,747 485,872 372,504	372,394 1,042,855 369,074 576,943 929,839 729,723 2,444,678	330,111
	Revenues  Local Sources:  Local Tax Levy  Tuition  Interest Earned	Miscellaneous Total Local Sources State Sources Federal Sources	P-42  Current: December 10tal Revenues	Regular Instruction Special Education Instruction Other Instruction Support Services and Undistributed Costs:	Student and Instruction Related Services School Administrative Services Other Administrative Services Plant Operations and Maintenance Pupil Transportation Unallocated Benefits	Principal Interest and Other Charges Capital Outlay Total Expenditures

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Exhibit B-2 Sheet 2 of 2

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

### GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

Total Governmental Funds (314,917)	(19,103)	(334,020) 2,698,677	738485
Debt Service Fund (1)		(1)	
Special Revenue Fund		1	ı
<b>General Fund</b> (314,916)	(19,103)	(334,019) 2,698,676	\$ 2.364.657
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses): Adjustment to Accounts Receivable Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Net Change in Fund Balances Fund Balance - July 1	5 Fund Balance - June 30

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

### RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES

### AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Exhibit B-3

### TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

Total Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (From B-2)	\$	(334,020)
Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of		
Activities (A-2) are Different Because:		
Capital Outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures.		
However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is		
allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.		
This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in		
the period.		
Depreciation Expense		(644,098)
Repayment of bond principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds,		
but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net		
assets and is not reported in the statement of activities.		410,000
Compensated Absences		(16,422)
In the statement of activities, interest on long-term debt in the statement of		
activities is accrued, regardless of when due. In the governmental funds,		
interest is reported when due. The accrued interest is an addition in the reconciliation.	***************************************	(6,970)
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	_\$	(591,510)

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

### **STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

Exhibit B-4

### PROPRIETARY FUNDS

### **JUNE 30, 2014**

	Enterprise Fund
Assets	
Current Assets:	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 49,280
Accounts Receivable:	
Federal	2,619
State	116
Inventories	837
Total Current Assets	52,852
Noncurrent Assets:	
Equipment	77,030
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(64,898)
Total Noncurrent Assets	12,132
Total Assets	\$ 64,984
<u>Liabilities</u>	0.415
Accounts Payable	\$ 8,615
Net Position	
Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 12,132
Unrestricted	44,237
Total Net Position	\$ 56,369

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES

Exhibit B-5

### **IN FUND NET POSITION**

### **PROPRIETARY FUNDS**

### **JUNE 30, 2014**

	Enterprise Fund
Operating Revenues:	
Local Sources:	
Daily Sales	\$ 102,592
Special Functions and Miscellaneous	4,068
Total Operating Revenue	106,660
Operating Expenses:	
Cost of Sales	50,062
Salaries & Benefits	66,181
Management Fee	12,182
Supplies	7,137
Miscellaneous	11,295
Depreciation	3,488
Total Operating Expenses	150,345
Operating (Loss)/Profit	(43,685)
Non-Operating Revenues:	
State Sources:	
State Lunch Program	1,367
Federal Sources:	
Federal Lunch Program	28,802
Federal HHFKA Lunch Program	1,872
Commodities	7,642
Total Non-Operating Revenues	39,683
Change in Net Position	(4,002)
Adjustment for Fixed Assets	932
Net Position, July 1	59,439
Net Position, June 30	\$ 56,369

### **STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

Exhibit B-6

### **PROPRIETARY FUNDS**

### JUNE 30, 2014

	Enterprise Fund
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Receipts from Daily Sales	\$ 106,660
Payments to Suppliers	(136,690)
Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	(30,030)
Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities:	
Federal and State Sources	32,041
Net Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities	32,041
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,011
Cash and Cash Equivalents July 1	47,269
Cash and Cash Equivalents June 30	\$ 49,280
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Operating (Loss)/Profit	\$ (43,685)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Cash	
Provided (Used) by Operating Activities:	
Depreciation	3,488
Commodities	7,642
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:	
Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payables	(1,765)
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventories	3,754
(Increase)/Decrease in Accounts Receivable	536
Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	\$ (30,030)

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

### STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

Exhibit B-7

### **FIDUCIARY FUNDS**

### JUNE 30, 2014

	Private Purpose Scholarship Fund	
Assets:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	 10,443	11,943
Total Assets	\$ 10,443	11,943
Net Position:		
Held in Trust for Unemployment Claims		
and Other Purposes	\$ 10,443	11,943
Total Net Position	\$ 10,443	11,943

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION

### Exhibit B-8

### **FIDUCIARY FUNDS**

### **JUNE 30, 2014**

		Private Purpose Scholarship Fund	
Additions:			
Local Sources:			
Investment Earnings:			
Contributions	\$	500	18,488
Interest		25	15_
Net Investments Earnings	****	525	18,503
Total Additions	************************************	525	18,503
Deductions:			
Scholarship Awards		400	
Unemployment Claims		-	9,544
Total Deductions	We appropriate the second seco	400	9,544
Change in Net Position		125	8,959
Net Position - Beginning of Year		10,318	2,984
Net Position - End of the Year	\$	10,443	11,943

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### WEST LONG BRANCH SCHOOL DISTRICT

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### JUNE 30, 2014

### **NOTE 1:** Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the Board of Education (Board) of the West Long Branch School District (District) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the Board's accounting policies are described below.

### A. Reporting Entity:

The West Long Branch School District is a Type II district located in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey. As a Type II district, the School District functions independently through a Board of Education. The board is comprised of nine members elected to three-year terms. The purpose of the district is to educate students in grades K-8.

The primary criterion for including activities within the District's reporting entity, as set forth in Section 2100 of the GASB <u>Codification of Government Accounting and Financial</u> Reporting Standards, is whether:

- The organization is legally separate (can sue or be sued in their own name)
- The District holds the corporate powers of the organization
- The District appoints a voting majority of the organization's board
- The District is able to impose its will on the organization
- The organization has the potential to impose a financial/benefit/burden on the District
- There is a fiscal dependency by the organization on the District

### B. Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements include the statement of net assets and the statement of activities. These statements report financial information for the District as a whole excluding fiduciary activities such as student activities. Individual funds are not displayed but the statements distinguish governmental activities, generally supported by state and federal aid, tuition and county tax levies, from business-type activities generally financed in whole or in part with fees charged to external parties.

### B. Government-Wide Financial Statements (Continued)

The statement of activities reports the expenses of a given function offset by program revenues directly connected with the functional program. A function is an assembly of similar activities and may include portions of a fund or summarize more than one fund to capture the expenses and program revenues associated with a distinct functional activity. Program revenues include (1) charges for services which report fees and other charges to users of the District's services and (2) operating grants and contributions. These revenues are subject to externally imposed restrictions to these program uses. Tax levies and other revenue sources not properly included with program revenues are reported as general revenues.

### **Fund Financial Statements**

Fund financial statements are provided for governmental, proprietary and fiduciary funds. The New Jersey Department of Education (the "Department") has elected to require New Jersey districts to treat each governmental fund as a major fund in accordance with the option noted in GASB No. 34, paragraph 76. The Department believes that the presentation of all funds as major is important for public interest and to promote consistency among district financial reporting models.

### C. <u>Measurement Focus</u>, <u>Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement</u> Presentation

The financial statements of the District are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The District's reporting entity applies all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. The government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements apply Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case, GASB prevails.

The government-wide statements report using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting generally including the reclassification or elimination of internal activity (between or within funds). Proprietary and fiduciary fund financial statements also report using this same focus and basis of accounting although internal activity is not eliminated in these statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred regardless of the timing of related cash flows. County tax revenues are recognized in the year for which they are levied while grants are recognized when grantor eligibility requirements are met. The Unemployment Trust Fund recognizes employer and employee contributions in the period in which contributions are due.

Governmental fund financial statements report using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they are both measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to apply current liabilities. The District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the fiscal year. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for long-term pension and compensated absences, which are reported as expenditures in the year due.

### C. <u>Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement</u> Presentation (Continued)

Major revenue sources susceptible to accrual includes Intergovernmental revenues, and the county tax levy. In general, other revenues are recognized when cash is received.

Operating income reported in proprietary fund financial statements includes revenues and expenses related to the primary continuing operations of the fund. Principal operating revenues for proprietary funds are charges to customers for food sales and for services provided to other governmental entities. Principles operating expenses are the costs of providing goods or services and include administrative expenses and depreciation of capital assets. Other revenues and expenses are classified as non-operating in the financial statements.

### D. Fund Accounting:

The accounts of the District are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting to ensure observance of limitations and restrictions on the resources available. The principles of fund accounting require that resources be classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds or account groups in accordance with activities or objectives specified for the resources. Each fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. An account group, on the other hand, is a financial reporting device designed to provide accountability for certain assets and liabilities that are not recorded in the funds because they do not directly affect net expendable available financial resources. Funds are classified into three categories: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. Each category, in turn, is divided into separate "fund types".

### **Governmental Fund Types**

<u>General Fund</u>: The general fund is the general operating fund of the District and is used to account for all expendable financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

<u>Special Revenue Fund</u>: The District accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than expendable trust or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes in the special revenue funds.

<u>Capital Projects Fund</u>: the capital projects fund is used to account for all financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by proprietary funds).

<u>Debt Service Fund</u>: The debt service fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of principal and interest on bonds issued to finance major property acquisition, construction and improvement programs.

### **Proprietary Fund Type**

<u>Enterprise Fund</u>: To account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises, in which the intent of the District is that the costs of providing goods or services to the District on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

### D. Fund Accounting (Continued):

### **Fiduciary Fund Types**

Agency Funds (Payroll and Student Activities Fund): Agency funds are used to account for the assets that the District holds on behalf of others as their agent. Agency funds are custodial in nature and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

<u>Trust and Agency Funds</u>: The trust and agency funds are used to account for assets held by the District on behalf of outside parties, including other governments, or on behalf of other funds within the District.

Expendable Trust Fund: An expendable trust fund is accounted for in essentially the same manner as the governmental fund types, using the same measurement focus and basis of accounting. Expendable trust funds account for assets where both the principal and interest may be spent. Expendable trust funds include Unemployment Compensation Insurance.

Agency Funds (Payroll and Student Activities Fund): Agency funds are used to account for the assets that the District holds on behalf of others as their agent. Agency funds are custodial in nature and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

### E. Basis of Accounting:

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used for measuring financial position and operating results of all governmental fund types, expendable trust funds and agency funds. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt which are recorded when due.

Ad Valorem (Property) Taxes are susceptible to accrual as under New Jersey State Statute a municipality is required to remit to its school district the entire balance of taxes in the amount voted upon or certified, prior to the end of the school year. The District records the entire approved tax levy as revenue (accrued) at the start of the fiscal year, since the revenue is both measurable and available. The District is entitled to receive moneys under the established payment schedule and the unpaid amount is considered to be an "accounts receivable".

The accrual basis of accounting is used for measuring financial position and operating results of proprietary fund types and nonexpendable trust funds. Under this method, revenues are recorded in the accounting period in which they are earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred.

### F. Budgets/Budgetary Control:

Annual appropriated budgets are prepared in the spring of each year for the general, special revenue, and debt service funds. Budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting; the legal level of budgetary control is established at line item accounts within each fund. Line item accounts are defined as the lowest (most specific) level of detail as established pursuant to the minimum chart of accounts referenced in N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2(g)1. All budget amendments must be approved by School Board resolution. Budget amendments during the year ended June 30, 2014 were insignificant.

The Public School Education Act of 1975, limits the annual increase of any district's net current expense budget. The Commissioner of Education certifies the allowable amount for each district but may grant a higher level of increase if he determines that the sums so provided would be insufficient to meet the identified goals and needs of the district or that an anticipated enrollment increase requires additional funds.

The Commissioner must also review every proposed local school district budget for the next school year. He examines every item of appropriations for current expenses and budgeted capital outlay to determine their adequacy in relation to the identified needs and goals of the district. If, in his view, they are insufficient, the Commissioner must order remedial action. If necessary, he is authorized to order changes in the local district budget.

Once a budget is approved, it can be amended by transfers or additional appropriation of fund balances by approval of a majority of the members of the Board. Amendments are presented to the Board at their regular meetings. Each amendment must have Board approval. Such amendments are made before the fact, are reflected in the official minutes of the Board, and are not made after fiscal year-end as dictated by law. Individual transfers were not material in relation to the original appropriations. All uncommitted budget appropriations lapse at year-end.

### G. Encumbrances:

Under encumbrance accounting purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of resources are recorded to reserve a portion of the applicable appropriation. Open encumbrances in governmental funds other than the special revenue fund are reported as reservations of fund balances at fiscal year end as they do not constitute expenditures or liabilities but rather commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods and services.

Open encumbrances in the special revenue fund for which the District has received advances are reflected in the balance sheet as deferred revenues at fiscal year end.

The encumbered appropriation authority carries over into the next fiscal year. An entry will be made at the beginning of the next fiscal year to increase the appropriation reflected in the certified budget by the outstanding encumbrance amount as of the current fiscal year end.

### H. Short-Term Interfund Receivables/Payables:

Short-Term interfund receivables/payables represents amounts that are owed, other than charges for good or services rendered to/from a particular fund in the District and that are due within one year.

### I. <u>Inventories and Prepaid Expenses</u>

Inventories and prepaid expenses, which benefit future periods, other than those recorded in the enterprise fund are recorded as an expenditure during the year of purchase.

Enterprise fund inventories are valued at cost, which approximates market, using the first-in-first-out (FIFO) method. Prepaid expenses in the enterprise fund represent payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2014.

### J. Capital Assets and Depreciation

The District's property, buildings and improvements, equipment, vehicles, furniture and fixtures with useful lives of five years or more are stated at historical or estimated historical cost and are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Proprietary Fund capital assets are reported in its respective fund.

The District contracted with an outside service company to provide a report with a comprehensive detail of capital assets and depreciation. The report included capital assets purchased during the 2013-2014 fiscal year and prior with a historical cost of \$2,000 or more. Accumulated depreciation prior to fiscal year 2014, fiscal year 2014 depreciation expense, total accumulated depreciation and book values were also provided. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the asset value or materially extend the useful lives are not capitalized. Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method. When capital assets are disposed, the cost and applicable accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts. Estimated useful lives, in years, for depreciable assets are as follows:

Buildings and Improvements	20 - 50
Equipment and Vehicles	5 – 20
Furniture and Fixtures	5 – 20

The District is currently in the process of obtaining and installing software that will maintain proper capital asset and depreciation records.

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2014 was as follows:

### J. Capital Assets and Depreciation (Continued)

	Balance			Balance
	July 1, 2013	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Adjustments</b>	June 30, 2014
Governmental Activities: Capital Assets that are Not Being Depreciated:				
Land The Locality LA spectra New	\$ 82,140	***************************************		82,140
Total Capital Assets Not	82,140			82,140
Being Depreciated	02,140			02,140
Depreciable Assets:				
Site Improvements	130,534		393,610	524,144
Buildings	13,951,682		1,924,590	15,876,272
Equipment	2,374,774		(45,202)	2,329,572
Totals at Historical Cost	16,456,990	***************************************	<u>2,272,998</u>	18,729,988
Less: Accumulated Depreciation for: Site Improvements	(111,685)	(19,032)	(146,731)	(277,448)
Buildings	(4,812,988)	(467,403)	(456, 125)	(5,736,516)
Equipment	(1,779,716)	( <u>157,663</u> )	<u>440,840</u>	( <u>1,496,539</u> )
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(6,704,389)	( <u>644,098</u> )	<u>(162,016)</u>	(7,510,503)
Net Depreciable Assets	9,752,601	(644,098)	2,110,982	11,219,485
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 9,834,741	( <u>644,098</u> )	<u>2,110,982</u>	11,301,625
Business-Type Activities: Equipment Less: Accumulated	\$ 63,414	13,616		77,030
Depreciation for: Equipment	(37,895)	(3,488)	(23,515)	( <u>64,898</u> )
		\	,	,
Business-Type Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 25,519	10,128	( <u>23,515</u> )	12,132
Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows: Unallocated				

### K. Compensated Absences

The District accounts for compensated absences (e.g., unused vacation, sick leave) as directed by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 16 (GASB 16), "Accounting for Compensated Absences". A liability for compensated absences attributable to services already rendered and not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the employer and employee is accrued as employees earn the rights to the benefits.

District employees are granted varying amounts of vacation and sick leave in accordance with the District's personnel policy. Upon termination, employees are paid for accrued vacation. The District's policy permits employees to accumulate unused sick leave and carry forward the full amount to subsequent years. Upon retirement employees shall be paid by the District for the unused sick leave in accordance with the District's agreements with the various employee unions.

The liability for vested compensated absences of the governmental fund types is recorded in the general long-term debt account group. The current portion of the compensated absence balance is not considered material to the applicable fund total liabilities, and therefore is not shown separately from the long-term liability balance of compensated absences.

### L. Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue in the special revenue fund represents cash, which has been received but not yet earned. See note 1(e) regarding the special revenue fund.

### M. Long-Term Obligations

Long-term debt is recognized as a liability of a governmental fund when due or when resources have been accumulated in the debt service fund for payment early in the following year. For other long-term obligations, only that portion expected to be financed from expendable available financial resources is reported as a fund liability of a governmental fund. The remaining portion of such obligations is reported in the general long-term debt account group.

### N. Fund Equity

Contributed capital represents the amount of fund capital contributed to the proprietary funds from other funds. Grants, entitlements, or shared revenues which are restricted for the acquisition or construction of capital assets are also recorded as contributed capital. Reserves represent those portions of fund equity not appropriable for expenditure or legally segregated for a specific future use. Designated fund balances represent plans for future use of financial resources.

### O. Tuition Receivable

Tuition charges were established by the Board of Education based on estimated costs. The charges are subject to adjustment when the final costs have been determined.

### P. Tuition Payable

Tuition charges for the fiscal year 2013-2014 was based on rates established by the receiving district. These rates are subject to change when the actual costs have been determined.

### NOTE 2: Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents includes petty cash, change funds, amounts in deposits, and short term investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Investments are stated at cost or amortized cost, which approximates market. The Board classifies certificates of deposit, which have original maturity dates of more than three months but less than twelve months from the date of purchase, as investments.

### **Deposits**

New Jersey statutes require that school districts deposit public funds in public depositories located in New Jersey which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, or by any other agency of the United States that insures deposits made in public depositories. School districts are also permitted to deposit public funds in the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

New Jersey statutes require public depositories to maintain collateral for deposits of public funds that exceed depository insurance limits as follows:

The market value of the collateral must equal at least 5% of the average daily balance of collected public funds on deposit.

In addition to the above collateral requirement, if the public funds deposited exceed 75% of the capital funds of the depository, the depository must provide collateral having a market value at least equal to 100% of the amount exceeding 75%.

All collateral must be deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, or a banking institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System and has capital funds of not less than \$25,000.000.

### Investments

New Jersey statutes permit the Board to purchase the following types of securities:

- a. Bonds or other obligations of the United States or obligations guaranteed by the United States.
- Bonds of any Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, Federal Home
   Loan Bank, Federal National Mortgage Agency or any United
   States Bank of Cooperatives which have a maturity date not greater
   than twelve months from the date of purchase.
- c. Bonds or other obligations of the school district.

All bank deposits and investments as of the balance sheet date are classified as to credit risk by the following categories described below:

FDIC	\$	250,000
GUPDA	2	,250,798

\$ 2,500,798

### NOTE 2: Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments (Continued)

As of June 30, 2014, cash and cash equivalents and investments of the District consisted of the following:

Cash and Cash
Equivalents
\$ 2,124,503

Interest Bearing Checking Accounts

The carrying amount of the Board's cash, cash equivalents and investments at June 30, 2014 was \$2,124,503 and the bank balance was \$2,500,798. Of the bank balance \$250,000 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$2,250,798 was covered by a collateral pool maintained by the banks as required by New Jersey statutes.

### NOTE 3: General Long-Term Debt

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in the general long-term debt account group:

	Balance June 30, 2013	Additions	Deletions	Balance June 30, 2014	Long-Term Portion	2014-2015 Payment
Compensated			1		<del></del>	,,,,
Absences						
Payable	\$ 114,158	16,422		130,580	130,580	
Capital Leases	239,657		(70,838)	168,819	128,873	39,946
Bonds Payable	2,048,000	******	(410,000)	1,638,000	1,228,000	410,000
	\$ 2,401,815	<u>16,422</u>	(480,838)	1,937,399	1,487,453	<u>449,946</u>

### A. Bonds Payable

	<b>Principal</b>	<u>Interest</u>	Total
Year Ending June 30,	-		
2015	\$ 410,000	59,888	469,888
2016	410,000	45,537	455,537
2017	410,000	30,675	440,675
2018	408,000	_15,300	423,300
	<u>\$ 1,638,000</u>	<u>151,400</u>	1,789,400

Bonds issued 11/15/03 for \$5,538,000 at interest from 3.375% to 3.750% maturing 6/30/18 with a balance of \$1,638,000 at June 30, 2014.

### NOTE 3: General Long-Term Debt (Continued)

### B. Bonds Authorized But Not Issued

As of June 30, 2014, the Board had no authorized but not issued bonds.

### C. Capital Leases

2013 buses @ 2.4% interest for 5 years maturing 12/1/17 with a balance of \$168,819 at June 30, 2014.

Future Minimum Lease Payments	
2014-2015	\$ 44,828
2015-2016	44,828
2016-2017	44,828
2017-2018	44,827
	179,311
Less: Interest	(10,492)
Lease Payments	<u>\$ 168,819</u>

### NOTE 4: Pension Plans

<u>Description of Plans</u> – All required employees of the District are covered by either the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund which have been established by state statute and are administered by the New Jersey Division of Pension and Benefits (Division). According to the State of New Jersey Administrative Code, all obligations of both Systems will be assumed by the State of New Jersey should the Systems terminate. The Division issues a publicly available financial report that includes the financial statements and required supplementary information for the Public Employees Retirement System and the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund. These reports may be obtained by writing to the Division of Pensions and Benefits, P.O. Box 295, Trenton, New Jersey, 08625.

Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) – The Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund was established as of January 1, 1955, under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:66 to provide retirement benefits, death, disability and medical benefits to certain qualified members. The Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund is considered a cost-sharing multiple-employer plan with a special funding situation, as under current statute, all employer contributions are made by the State of New Jersey on behalf of the District and the system's other related non-contributing employers. Membership is mandatory for substantially all teachers or members of the professional staff certified by the State Board of Examiners, and employees of the Department of Education who have titles that are unclassified, professional and certified.

### NOTE 4: Pension Plans (Continued)

Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) – The Public Employee's Retirement System (PERS) was established as of January 1, 1955 under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:15A to provide retirement, death, disability and medical benefits to certain qualified members. The Public Employees' Retirement System is a cost-sharing multiple-employer plan. Membership is mandatory for substantially all full-time employees of the State of New Jersey or any county, municipality, school district, or public agency, provided the employee is not required to be a member of another state-administered retirement system or other state or local jurisdiction.

Vesting and Benefit Provisions – The vesting and benefit provisions for PERS are set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A and 43.3B, and N.J.S.A. 18A:6C for TPAF. All benefits vest after eight to ten years of service, except for medical benefits that vest after 25 years of service. Retirement benefits for age and service are available at age 60 and are generally determined to be 1/55 of the final average salary for each year of service credit, as defined. Final average salary equals the average salary for the final three years of service prior to retirement (or highest three years' compensation if other that the final three years). Members may seek early retirement after achieving 25 years of service credit or they may elect deferred retirement after achieving eight to ten years of service in which case benefits would begin the first day of the month after the member attains normal retirement age. The TPAF and PERS provides for specified medical benefits for members who retire after achieving 25 years of qualified service, as defined, or under the disability provisions of the System.

Members are always fully vested for their own contributions and, after three years of service credit, become vested for 2% of related interest earned on the contributions. In the case of death before retirement, members' beneficiaries are entitled to full interest credited to the members' accounts.

Significant Legislation - During the year ended June 30, 1997, legislation was enacted (Chapter 114, P.L. 1997) authorizing the New Jersey Economic Development Authority to issue bonds, notes or other obligations for the purpose of financing, in full or in part, the State of New Jersey's portion of the unfunded accrued liability under the State of New Jersey retirement systems. Additional legislation enacted during the year ended June 30, 1997 (Chapter 115, P.L. 1997) changed the asset valuation method from market related value to full-market value. This legislation also contained a provision to reduce the employee contribution rate by ½ of 1% to 4.5% for calendar years 1998 and 1999, and to allow for a reduction in the employee's rate after calendar year 1999, providing excess valuation assets are available. The legislation also provided that the District's normal contributions to the Fund may be reduced based on the revaluation of assets. Due to recognition of the bond proceeds and the change in asset valuation method as a result of enactment of Chapters 114 and 115, all unfunded accrued liabilities were eliminated, except for the unfunded liability for local early retirement incentive benefits, accordingly, the pension costs for TPAF and PERS were reduced.

<u>Contribution Requirements</u> – The contribution policy is set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A, Chapter 62, P.L. of 1994, Chapter 115, P.L. of 1997 and N.J.S.A. 18:66, and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. Plan member and employer contributions may be amended by State of New Jersey legislation. TPAF and PERS provide for employee contributions of 5% of employees' annual compensation, as defined. Employers are required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate in both TPAF and PERS. The actuarially determined contribution includes funding for both cost-of-living adjustments, noncontributory death benefits, and post-retirement medical premiums. Under current statute the District is a non-contributing employer of the TPAF.

## NOTE 4: Pension Plans (Continued)

	Three-Year Trend	<u>S</u>	
*7	Annual	Percentage	Net
Year	Pension	of APC	Pension
<b>Funding</b>	Cost (APC)	<u>Contributed</u>	<u>Obligation</u>
6/30/14	\$ 80,446	100%	0
6/30/13	98,278	100%	0
6/30/12	97,139	100%	0

Three-Year Trend Information for TPAF (Paid On-Behalf of the District)

	Annual	Percentage	Net
Year	Pension	of APC	Pension
<b>Funding</b>	Cost (APC)	<b>Contributed</b>	<b>Obligation</b>
6/30/14	\$ 424,685	100%	0
6/30/13	566,482	100%	0
6/30/12	393,243	100%	0

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, the State of New Jersey contributed \$424,685 to the TPAF for normal and post-retirement benefits on behalf of the District. Also, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:66-66 the State of New Jersey reimbursed the District \$344,141 during the year ended June 30, 2014 for the employer's share of social security contributions for TPAF members, as calculated on their base salaries. This amount has been included in the general-purpose financial statements, and the combining and individual fund and account group statements and schedules as revenue and expenditure in accordance with GASB 24.

#### NOTE 5: Post-Retirement Benefits

P.L. 1987, c. 384 and P.L. 1990, c.6 required Teachers' Pensions and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), respectively, to fund post-retirement medical benefits for those State employees who retire after accumulating 25 years of credited service or on a disability retirement. P.L. 2007, c. 103 amended the law to eliminate the funding of post-retirement medical benefits through the TPAF and PERS. It created separate funds outside of the pension plans for the funding and payment of post-retirement medical benefits for retired State employees and retired educational employees. As of June 30, 2013, there were 100,134 retirees receiving post-retirement medical benefits, and the State contributed \$1.07 billion on their behalf. The cost of these benefits is funded through contributions by the State in accordance with P.L. 1994, c.62. Funding of post-retirement medical benefits changed from a prefunding basis to a pay-as-you-go basis beginning in Fiscal Year 1994.

The State is also responsible for the cost attributable to P.L. 1992 c. 126, which provides employer paid health benefits to members of PERS and the Alternate Benefit Program who retired from a board of education or county college with 25 years of service. The State paid \$173.8 million toward Chapter 126 benefits for 17,356 eligible retired members in Fiscal Year 2013.

#### NOTE 6: Contingent Liabilities

It is the opinion of the school board officials that there is no litigation threatened or pending that would materially affect the financial position of the school district.

## NOTE 7: Equity Balance

At June 30, 2014, the General Fund equity balance was as follows:

Restricted For:	
Capital Reserve	\$ 301,690
Emergency Reserve	100,541
Maintenance Reserve	70,889
Excess Surplus – Current Year	640,832
Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Years	
Expenditures	890,244
Assigned to:	
Year-End Encumbrances	32,499
Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	7,440
Unassigned:	
General Fund	343,272
	\$ 2,387,407

Reserved for encumbrances represents outstanding purchase orders which will be rolled into the 2014-2015 budget and expended therefrom.

Reserved excess surplus represents a calculation under N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-7 which identifies an amount of surplus under the statute which must be restricted for use in the next succeeding budget.

<ul><li><u>2% Calculation of Excess Surplus</u></li><li>2013-14 Total General Fund Expenditures Per the CAFR</li></ul>	\$ 11,090,876
Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	(768,826)
Adjusted 2013-14 General Fund Expenditures	\$ 10,322,050
2% of Adjusted 2013-14 General Fund Expenditures	\$ 206,441
Enter Above or \$250,000 Whichever is Greater Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	\$ 250,000 <u>93,272</u>
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 343,272

#### NOTE 7: Equity Balance

Section 2 Total General Fund – Fund Balance @ 6-30-14	\$ 2,387,407
Decreased by: Excess Surplus Designated for Subsequent Years Expenditures	(890,244)
Maintenance Reserve	(70,889)
Capital Reserve	(301,690)
Emergency Reserve Unrestricted Fund Balance – Designated for Subsequent Years Expenditures	(100,541) (7,440)
Reserved for Encumbrances	(32,499)
Total Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 984,104
Excess Surplus - Reserved Fund Balance	\$ 640,832
Section 3	<b></b>
Excess Surplus – Current Year  Excess Surplus – Designated For Subsequent Years Expenditures	\$ 640,832 890,244
Excess Surplus - Designated For Subsequent Tears Expenditures	890,244
	\$ 1,531,076
Detail of Allowable Adjustments	
Extraordinary Aid	\$ 79,566
Non Public Transportation	13,706
	\$ 93,272
Reserves	
Capital Reserve	\$ 301,690
Emergency Reserve  Maintenance Reserve	100,541 70,889
wantenance reserve	70,009
Total Other Restricted/Reserved Fund Balance	\$ 473,120

### NOTE 8: Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

<u>Property and Liability Insurance</u> – The District maintains commercial insurance coverage for property, liability, student accident and surety bonds.

New Jersey Unemployment Compensation Insurance – The District has elected to fund its New Jersey Unemployment Compensation Insurance under the "Benefit Reimbursement Method". Under this plan, the District is required to reimburse the New Jersey Unemployment Trust Fund for benefits paid to its former employees and charged to its account with the State. The District is billed quarterly for amounts due the State. The following is a summary of District contributions, employee contributions, reimbursements to the State for benefits paid and the ending balance of the District's expendable trust fund for the current year:

#### NOTE 8: Risk Management (Continued)

	District	Employee			Ending
Fiscal Year	<b>Contributions</b>	Contributions	<u>Interest</u>	Reimbursed	<b>Balance</b>
2011-2012	\$	20,311		17,530	21,851
2012-2013		20,425		39,292	2,984
2013-2014		18,488	15	9,544	11,943

#### NOTE 9: INTERFUND RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES

The following interfunds existed at June 30, 2014:

	<u>Due To</u>	<u>Due From</u>
General Fund	\$ 67,355	
Special Revenue Fund		<u>67,355</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 67,355</u>	<u>67,355</u>

#### NOTE 10: CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT

A Capital Reserve account was established by the Borough of West Long Branch Board of Education on September 1, 2000 for the accumulation of funds for use as capital outlay expenditures in subsequent fiscal years. The capital reserve account is maintained in the general fund and its activity is included in the general fund annual budget.

Fund placed in the capital reserve account are restricted to capital projects in the district's approved Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP). Upon submission of the LRFP to the department, a district may increase the balance in the capital reserve by appropriating funds in the annual general fund budget certified for taxes. A district may also appropriate additional amounts when the express approval of the voters has been obtained either by a separate proposal at budget time or by a special question at one of the four special elections authorized pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 19:60-2. Pursuant to *N.J.A.C.* 6:23A-5.1(d) 7, the balance in the account cannot at any time exceed the local support costs of uncompleted capital projects in its approved LRFP.

The activity of the capital reserve for the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 fiscal year is as follows:

Balance July 1, 2013	\$ 301,097
Interest Earned	593
Balance June 30, 2014	\$ 301,690

#### NOTE 11: FAIR VALUES OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The following methods and assumptions were used by the West Long Branch Board of Education in estimating its fair value disclosures for financial instruments.

Cash and Cash Equivalents: The carrying amounts reported in the combined balance sheet for cash and cash equivalents are the fair values of those assets.

#### NOTE 12: FUND BALANCE APPROPRIATED

General Fund – Of the \$2,387,407 General Fund fund balance at June 30, 2014, \$32,499 is year-end encumbrances; \$301,690 has been reserved in the Capital Reserve Account; \$100,541 has been reserved as Emergency Reserve, \$70,889 is reserved for Maintenance Reserve; \$890,244 is excess surplus designated for subsequent years expenditures; \$7,440 has been appropriated and included as anticipated revenue for the year ending June 30, 2015; and \$640,832 is excess surplus – current year; and \$343,272 is unreserved and undesignated.

#### NOTE 13: ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The District receives a substantial amount of its support from federal and state governments. A significant reduction in the level of support, if this were to occur, may have an effect on the District's programs and activities.

## NOTE 14: RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In June 2009, the FASB issued FASB ASC 105, Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, which establishes the FASB Accounting Standards Codification as the sole source of authoritative generally accepted accounting principles. Pursuant to the provisions of FASB ASC 105, the District has updated references to GAAP in its financial statements issued for the period ended June 30, 2014. The adoption of FASB ASC 105 did not impact the District's financial position or results of operations.

In May 2009, the FASB updated ASC 855, Subsequent Events, which is effective for reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009. ASC 855 establishes general standards of accounting for and disclosure of events that occur after the balance sheet date, but before the financial statements are issued, or are available to be issued. The District adopted the amended sections of ASC 855 and it did not have an impact on the District's financial statements. The District evaluated all events or transactions that occurred after June 30, 2014 through December 1, 2014.

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## **APPENDIX C**

Form of Bond Counsel's Approving Legal Opinion





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2015

The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch West Long Branch, New Jersey

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have served as bond counsel in connection with the authorization, sale and issuance of \$8,999,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2015 (the "Bonds") of The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board).

The Bonds are issued pursuant to: (i) Title 18A, Chapter 24 of the New Jersey Statutes, as amended and supplemented (the "Education Law"); (ii) a proposal adopted by the Board on January 6, 2015 (the "Proposal") and approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the legal voters present and voting at a special School District election held on March 10, 2015 and (iii) a resolution adopted by the Board on June 16, 2015 (the "Resolution").

The Bonds are issued in fully registered book-entry only form, without coupons, initially registered in the name of and held by Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), an automated depository for securities and clearing house for securities transactions. Purchases of the Bonds will be made in book-entry only form in principal amounts of \$1,000 each or any integral multiple thereof with a minimum purchase of \$5,000 required, through book entries made on the books and records of DTC and its participants. So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of the Bonds. payments of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made by the Board directly to Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC. Disbursement of such payments to DTC participants is the responsibility of DTC and disbursement of such payments to the beneficial owners of the Bonds is the responsibility of DTC participants.



The Bonds are dated their date of delivery and shall bear interest from such date, which interest shall be payable commencing July 15, 2016 and semi-annually thereafter on the fifteenth day of January and July in each year, and shall mature on July 15 of the years and in the principal amounts as follows:

	Principal	Interest		Principal	Interest
<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>
2016	\$255,000	2.000%	2026	\$445,000	3.000%
2017	370,000	2.000	2027	460,000	3.000
2018	375,000	2.000	2028	475,000	3.000
2019	380,000	2.000	2029	490,000	3.000
2020	390,000	2.000	2030	505,000	3.000
2021	395,000	2.000	2031	520,000	3.250
2022	405,000	2.000	2032	535,000	3.250
2023	415,000	2.000	2033	555,000	3.500
2024	425,000	2.250	2034	575,000	3.500
2025	435,000	2.375	2035	594,000	3.500

The Bonds of this issue are subject to optional redemption prior to their stated maturities.

We have examined such matters of law, certified copies of the proceedings, including the bond referendum proceedings, and other documents and proofs relative to the issuance and sale of the Bonds as we have deemed necessary or appropriate for the purposes of the opinion rendered below. In such examination, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals and the conformity to the original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies. As to any facts material to our opinion we have, when relevant facts were not independently established, relied upon the aforesaid instruments, certificates and documents.

We are of the opinion that: (i) such proceedings and proofs show lawful authority for the sale and issuance of the Bonds pursuant to the Education Law, the Proposal and the Resolution; (ii) the Bonds are valid and legally binding obligations of the Board; and (iii) all the taxable real property within the School District is subject to the levy of *ad valorem* taxes, without limitation as to rate or amount, for the payment of principal of and interest on the Bonds.

The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), sets forth certain requirements which must be met subsequent to the issuance and delivery of the Bonds for the interest thereon to be and remain excludable from gross income for Federal income tax purposes. Noncompliance with such requirements could cause interest on the Bonds to be included in gross income for Federal income tax purposes retroactive to the date of the issuance of the Bonds. The Board has covenanted to maintain the exclusion of the interest on the Bonds from gross income for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103(a) of the Code.



In our opinion, under existing law, and assuming continuing compliance by the Board with the aforementioned covenant, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and court decisions, interest on the Bonds is not includable for Federal income tax purposes in the gross income of the owners of the Bonds pursuant to Section 103 of the Code. The Bonds are not "specified private activity bonds" within the meaning of Section 57 of the Code and, therefore, the interest on the Bonds will not be treated as a preference item for purposes of computing the Federal alternative minimum tax imposed by Section 55 of the Code. However, the interest on the Bonds owned by corporations will be included in such corporations' "adjusted current earnings" (as defined in Section 56(g) of the Code) in calculating such corporations' alternative minimum taxable income for purposes of determining the Federal alternative minimum tax.

The Bonds maturing on July 15 in the years 2016 through 2021 (inclusive), July 15 in the years 2026 through 2029 (inclusive), July 15, 2031 and July 15 in the years 2033 through 2035 (inclusive) (collectively, the "Premium Bonds"), have been sold to the public at a premium. Section 171 of the Code provides rules under which a bond premium may be amortized and a deduction allowed for the amount of the amortizable bond premium for a taxable year. Under Section 171(a)(2) of the Code, however, no deduction is allowable for the amortizable bond premium in the case of bonds, like the Premium Bonds, the interest on which is excludable from gross income. Under Section 1016(a)(5) of the Code, the purchaser's basis in a Premium Bond will be reduced by the amount of the amortizable bond premium disallowable as a deduction under Section 171(2) of the Code. Proceeds received from the sale, exchange, redemption or payment of a Premium Bond in excess of the owner's adjusted basis (as reduced pursuant to Section 1016(a)(5) of the Code), will be treated as a gain from the sale or exchange of such Premium Bonds and not as interest.

The difference between the stated principal amount of the Bonds maturing on July 15 in the years 2023 through 2025 (inclusive) (the "Discount Bonds") and their initial offering price to the public (excluding bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers), at which price a substantial amount of the Discount Bonds was sold, constitutes original issue discount which is excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes to the same extent as interest on the Discount Bonds. Further, such original issue discount accrues actuarially on a constant interest rate basis over the term of each Discount Bond and the basis of each Discount Bond acquired at such initial offering price by an initial purchaser thereof will be increased by the amount of such accrued original issue discount.

We are also of the opinion that, under existing laws of the State of New Jersey, interest on the Bonds and any gain on the sale thereof is not includable in gross income under the New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, 1976 N.J. Laws c. 47, as amended and supplemented.

We are further of the opinion that the Bonds constitute "qualified tax-exempt obligations" within the meaning of section 265(b)(3)(B) of the Code and, therefore, will be



The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2015
Page 4

treated as if they were acquired on August 7, 1986 for purposes of the limitations on deductibility by financial institutions of interest expense allocable to tax-exempt interest.

Except as stated in the preceding five (5) paragraphs, we express no opinion as to any Federal, state or local tax consequences of the ownership or disposition of the Bonds. Furthermore, we express no opinion as to any Federal, state or local tax law consequences with respect to the Bonds, or the interest thereon, if any action is taken with respect to the Bonds or the proceeds thereof upon the advice or approval of other bond counsel.

This opinion is qualified to the extent that the enforceability of the rights or remedies with respect to the Bonds may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, debt adjustment, moratorium, reorganization or other similar laws affecting creditors' rights or remedies heretofore or hereafter enacted to the extent constitutionally applicable and their enforcement may also be subject to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases.

We have examined one of the executed Bonds and, in our opinion, its form and execution are regular and proper.

Very truly yours,

WILENTZ, GOLDMAN & SPITZER, P.A.

## **APPENDIX D**

Form of Continuing Disclosure Certificate



#### CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE

This Continuing Disclosure Certificate dated as of July 28, 2015 (the "Disclosure Certificate") is executed and delivered by The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) in connection with the issuance of its \$8,999,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2015 dated their date of delivery (the "Bonds"). The Bonds are being by virtue of a proposal adopted by the Board on January 6, 2015 and approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the legal voters present and voting at a special School District election held on March 10, 2015 and pursuant to a resolution entitled, "RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF \$8,999,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2015 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THEIR SALE AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH", duly adopted by the Board on June 16, 2015 (the "Bond Resolution"). The Board covenants and agrees as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Purpose of the Disclosure Certificate. This Disclosure Certificate is being executed and delivered by the Board for the benefit of the Bondholders and Beneficial Owners of the Bonds and in order to assist the Participating Underwriter(s) in complying with the Rule (as defined below). The Board acknowledges it is an "Obligated Person" under the Rule (as defined below).

**SECTION 2.** <u>Definitions</u>. In addition to the definitions set forth in the Bond Resolution which apply to any capitalized term used in this Disclosure Certificate unless otherwise defined in this Section, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

"Annual Report" shall mean any Annual Report provided by the Board pursuant to, and as described in, Sections 3 and 4 of this Disclosure Certificate.

"Beneficial Owner" shall mean any person which (a) has the power, directly or indirectly, to vote or consent with respect to, or to dispose of ownership of any Bonds, as applicable (including persons holding Bonds, as applicable through nominees, depositories or other intermediaries), or (b) is treated as the owner of any Bonds, as applicable, for Federal income tax purposes.

"Continuing Disclosure Information" shall mean, collectively, (i) each Annual Report, (ii) any notice required to be filed by the Board with the EMMA (as defined herein) pursuant to Section 3 of this Disclosure Agreement, and (iii) any notice of a Listed Event required to be filed by the Authority with EMMA pursuant to Section 5 of this Disclosure Agreement.

"Disclosure Representative" shall mean the Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Board or his designee, or such other person as the Board shall designate in writing from time to time for the purposes of this Disclosure Certificate.

"Dissemination Agent" shall mean, initially, the Board or any Dissemination Agent subsequently designated in writing by the Board which has filed with the Board a written acceptance of such designation.

"EMMA" shall mean the Electronic Municipal Market Access system, a website created by the MSRB (as defined herein) and approved by the SEC (as defined herein) to provide a central location where investors can obtain municipal bond information including disclosure documents. The Board or the Dissemination Agent shall submit disclosure documents to EMMA as a PDF file to www.emma.msrb.org.

"Listed Events" shall mean any of the events listed in Section 5(a) of this Disclosure Certificate.

"MSRB" shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.

"Rule" shall mean Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time.

"SEC" shall mean the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

"SEC Release No. 34-59062" shall mean Release No. 34-59062 of the SEC dated December 5, 2008.

"State" shall mean the State of New Jersey.

"Underwriters" shall mean any of the original underwriters of the Bonds required to comply with the Rule in connection with the purchase of the Bonds.

**SECTION 3.** Provision of Annual Reports. (a) The Board shall provide or cause to be provided to the Dissemination Agent not later than December 31 of each year, commencing December 31, 2015 (for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015), an Annual Report which is consistent with the requirements of Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate. Each Annual Report may be submitted as a single document or as separate documents comprising a package, and may cross-reference other information as provided in Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate; provided that the audited financial statements of the Board may be submitted separately from the balance of the Annual Report; and provided, further, that if the audited financial statements of the Board are not available by December 31, the Board shall include unaudited financial statements with its Annual Report and when such audited financial statements become available to the Board, the same shall be submitted to the Dissemination Agent no later than thirty (30) days after the receipt of the same by the Board.

- (b) Not later than January 31 of each year (commencing January 31, 2016) the Dissemination Agent shall provide to EMMA a copy of the Annual Report received by the Dissemination Agent pursuant to subsection (a) hereof.
- (c) If the Board does not provide or is unable to provide an Annual Report by the applicable date required in subsection (a) above, such that the Dissemination Agent cannot file the Annual Report with EMMA in accordance with subsection (b) above, the Dissemination Agent shall send a notice of such event to EMMA in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, with copies to the Board (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board).
- (d) Each year the Dissemination Agent shall file a report with the Board (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board), certifying that the Annual Report has been provided to EMMA pursuant to this Disclosure Certificate, stating the date it was provided.
- (e) If the fiscal year of the Board changes, the Board shall give written notice of such change to the Dissemination Agent and the Dissemination Agent shall, within five (5) business days after the receipt thereof from the Board, forward a notice of such change to EMMA in the manner provided in Section 5(e) hereof.
- **SECTION 4.** Content of Annual Reports. The Board's Annual Report shall contain or incorporate by reference the following:
  - (1) The audited financial statements of the Board.

The audited financial statements are to be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

(2) The general financial information and operating data of the Board consistent with the information set forth in the Official Statement dated July 16, 2015, prepared in connection with the sale of the Bonds (the "Official Statement") in <u>Appendix A</u>.

Any or all of the items listed above may be incorporated by reference from other documents, including official statements of debt issues with respect to which the Board is an "Obligated Person" (as defined by the Rule), which have been filed with EMMA or the Securities and Exchange Commission. If the document incorporated by reference is a final official statement, it must be available from the MSRB. The Board shall clearly identify each such other document so incorporated by reference.

**SECTION 5.** Reporting of Significant Events. (a) This Section 5 shall govern the giving of notices of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds:

- (1) Principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (2) Nonpayment related defaults, if material;

- (3) Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
- (4) Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (5) Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- (6) Adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds:
- (7) Modifications to rights of Bondholders, if material;
- (8) Bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
- (9) Defeasances of the Bonds;
- (10) Release, substitution or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material
- (11) Ratings changes rating to the Bonds.
- (12) Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Board;
- (13) The consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Board or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Board, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material; and
- (14) Appointment of a successor or additional trustee for the Bonds or the change of name of a trustee for the Bonds, if material.

The Board shall, in a timely manner not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of any Listed Event, file a notice of the occurrence of such Listed Event with the MSRB in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 of this Disclosure Certificate. In determining the materiality of any of the Listed Events specified in this subsection (a) of this section 5, the Board may, but shall not be required to, rely conclusively on an opinion of counsel.

- (b) Whenever the Board has or obtains knowledge of the occurrence of any of the Listed Events, the Board shall, as soon as possible, determine if such event would constitute information material to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds.
- (c) If the Board determines that the occurrence of a Listed Event would be material to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, the Board shall promptly notify the Dissemination Agent in writing (if the Board is not the Dissemination Agent) and the Board shall instruct the Dissemination Agent to report such Listed Event and the Dissemination Agent shall report the occurrence of such Listed Event pursuant to subsection (e) hereof.
- (d) If the Board determines that the occurrence of a Listed Event would not be material to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, the Board shall promptly notify the Dissemination Agent in writing (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board) and the Dissemination Agent (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board) shall be instructed by the Board not to report the occurrence.
- (e) If the Dissemination Agent has been instructed in writing by the Board to report the occurrence of a Listed Event, the Dissemination Agent shall file a notice of such occurrence with EMMA, with a copy to the Board (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board). Notwithstanding the foregoing, notice of Listed Events described in subsections (a)(4) and (5) hereof need not be given under this subsection any earlier than the notice (if any) of the underlying event is given to the Beneficial Owner of the affected Bonds pursuant to the Bond Resolution.
- **SECTION 6.** Termination of Reporting Obligation. The Board's obligations under this Disclosure Certificate shall terminate upon the defeasance, prior redemption or payment in full of all of the Bonds or when the Board is no longer an "Obligated Person" (as defined in the Rule). The Board shall file a notice of the termination of its reporting obligations pursuant to the provisions hereof with the Dissemination Agent, which notice shall be filed with EMMA in accordance with the provisions of Section 5(e) hereof.
- **SECTION 7.** Compliance with the Rule. The Board had previously failed to comply with its previous undertakings, to provide secondary market disclosure pursuant to the Rule. As of the date hereof, however, the Board is in compliance.
- **SECTION 8.** Dissemination Agent; Compensation. The Board may, from time to time, appoint or engage a Dissemination Agent to assist it in carrying out its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate, and may discharge any such Dissemination Agent, with or without appointing a successor Dissemination Agent. The initial Dissemination Agent shall be the Board. The Board shall compensate the Dissemination Agent (which shall be appointed) for the performance of its obligations hereunder in accordance with an agreed upon fee structure.
- **SECTION 9.** Amendment; Waiver. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the Board may amend this Disclosure Certificate and any provision of this Disclosure Certificate may be waived, if such amendment or waiver

(supported by an opinion of counsel expert in Federal securities laws acceptable to the Board to the effect that such amendment or waiver would not, in and of itself, cause the undertakings herein to violate the Rule if such amendment or waiver had been effective on the date hereof) is (a) made in connection with a change in circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, change in law, or change in the identity, nature, or status of the obligated person, or type of business conducted; (b) the undertaking, as amended or waived, would have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the primary offering of the Bonds, after taking into account any amendments or interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances; and (c) the amendment or waiver does not materially impair the interests of holders, as determined either by parties unaffiliated with the Board or "Obligated Person," or by approving vote of the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, as applicable pursuant to the terms of the Bond Resolution at the time of the amendment. The Board shall give notice of such amendment or waiver to this Disclosure Certificate to the Dissemination Agent, which notice shall be filed in accordance with the provisions of Section 5 hereof. Notwithstanding the above, the addition of or change in the Dissemination Agent shall not be construed to be an amendment under the provisions hereof.

In the event of any amendment or waiver of a provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the Board shall describe such amendment in the next Annual Report, and shall include, as applicable, a narrative explanation of the reason for the amendment or waiver and its impact on the type (or in the case of a change of accounting principles, on the presentation) of financial information or operating data being presented by the Board. In addition, if the amendment relates to the accounting principles to be followed in preparing financial statements (i) notice of such change shall be given in the same manner as a Listed Event under Section 5 hereof, and (ii) the Annual Report for the year in which the change is made should present a comparison (in narrative form and also, if feasible, in quantitative form) between the financial statements as prepared on the basis of the new accounting principles and those prepared on the basis of the former accounting principles.

**SECTION 10.** Additional Information. Nothing in this Disclosure Certificate shall be deemed to prevent the Board from disseminating any other information, using the means of dissemination set forth in this Disclosure Certificate or any other means of communication, or including any other information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is required by this Disclosure Certificate. If the Board chooses to include any information in any Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event, in addition to that which is specifically required by this Disclosure Certificate, the Board shall have no obligation under this Disclosure Certificate to update such information or include it in any future Annual Report or notice of occurrence of a Listed Event.

**SECTION 11.** <u>Default</u>. In the event of a failure of the Board to comply with any provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the Holders of at least 25% aggregate principal amount of Outstanding Bonds or any Beneficial Owner of the Bonds may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandamus or specific performance by court order, to cause the Board to comply with its obligations

under this Disclosure Certificate. A default under this Disclosure Certificate shall not be deemed an Event of Default on the Bonds and the sole remedy under this Disclosure Certificate in the event of any failure of the Board to comply with this Disclosure Certificate shall be an action to compel performance.

SECTION 12. Duties, Immunities and Liabilities of the Dissemination Agent. The Dissemination Agent shall have only such duties as are specifically set forth in this Disclosure Certificate, and, to the extent permitted by law, the Board agrees to indemnify and hold the Dissemination Agent (if the Dissemination Agent is not the Board) and its respective officers, directors, employees and agents, harmless against any loss, expense and liabilities which it may incur arising out of or in the exercise or performance of its powers and duties hereunder, including the costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees) of defending against any claim of liability, but excluding liabilities due to the Dissemination Agent's gross negligence or willful misconduct. To the extent permitted by law, the Board further releases the Dissemination Agent from any liability for the disclosure of any information required by the Rule and this Disclosure Certificate. The obligations of the Board under this Section shall survive resignation or removal of the Dissemination Agent and payment of the Bonds.

**SECTION 13.** Beneficiaries. This Disclosure Certificate shall inure solely to the benefit of the Board, the Dissemination Agent, the Underwriters, and the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds, including Bondholders, and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.

**SECTION 14.** <u>Notices</u>. All notices and submissions required hereunder shall be given to the following, or their successors, by facsimile transmission (with written confirmation of receipt), followed by hard copy sent by certified or registered mail, personal delivery or recognized overnight delivery:

(a) If to the Board of Education:

The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch 135 Locust Avenue West Long Branch, New Jersey 07764 Attention: Business Administrator/Board Secretary

(b) Copies of all notices to the Dissemination Agent from time to time with respect to the Bonds, initially:

The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch 135 Locust Avenue West Long Branch, New Jersey 07764 Attention: Business Administrator/Board Secretary Each party shall give notice from time to time to the other parties, in the manner specified herein, of any change of the identity or address of anyone listed herein.

**SECTION 15.** Counterparts. This Disclosure Certificate may be executed in any number of counterparts which shall be executed by authorized signatories of the Board and the Dissemination Agent, as applicable, and all of which together shall be regarded for all purposes as one original and shall constitute and be but one and the same.

**SECTION 16.** Severability. If any one or more of the covenants or agreements in this Disclosure Certificate to be performed on the part of the Board and the Dissemination Agent should be contrary to law, then such covenant or covenants, agreement or agreements, shall be deemed severable from the remaining covenants and agreements and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this Disclosure Certificate.

**SECTION 17.** Governing Law. This Disclosure Certificate shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the Laws of the United States of America and the State of New Jersey as applicable.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST LONG BRANCH

By:\_\_\_\_\_

DENNIS W. KOTCH, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

# **EXHIBIT A**

## NOTICE TO EMMA OF FAILURE TO FILE ANNUAL REPORT

Name of Issuer:	The Board of Education of the Borough of West Long Branch in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey
Name of Issue:	\$8,999,000 School Bonds, Series 2015 Dated: July 28, 2015 (CUSIP Number: 954090BS4)
Date of Issuance:	July 28, 2015
Annual Report with re	GIVEN that the above designated Board has not provided an spect to the above-named Bonds as required by the Bond nuing Disclosure Certificate for the Bonds dated as of July 28, pard.
DATED:	
	DISSEMINATION AGENT (on behalf of the Board)

cc: The Board

