#### PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED JULY 30, 2025

**NEW ISSUE - Book-Entry Only** 

Rating: S&P: "A+"
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; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of certain corporations for the purpose of computing the Federal alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022. 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.

\$67,891,000
SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2025
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO
IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY
(New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended)

#### **CALLABLE**

Dated: Date of Delivery Due: August 15, as shown on inside cover

The \$67,891,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2025 (the "Bonds") of The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro in the County of Burlington, 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, Brooklyn, 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 records of DTC and its participants. 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 February and August in each year, commencing August 15, 2026 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 February 1 and August 1 (the "Record Dates" for the payment of interest on the Bonds).

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

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 Taylor Law Group, LLC, New Providence, New Jersey General Counsel to the Board. Phoenix Advisors, a division of First Security Municipal Advisors, Inc., Hamilton, New Jersey, served as Municipal Advisor in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. Delivery of the Bonds in definitive form to DTC in Jersey City, New Jersey, is anticipated to occur on or about August 20, 2025.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS FOR THE BONDS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FULL NOTICE OF SALE, MUST BE MADE VIA PARITY PRIOR TO 11:00 A.M. EASTERN DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ON AUGUST 6, 2025. FOR MORE DETAILS ON HOW TO BID ELECTRONICALLY, VIEW THE FULL NOTICE OF SALE POSTED AT WWW.MUNIHUB.COM.

# \$67,891,000 THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2025

## (New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended) CALLABLE

# MATURITIES, PRINCIPAL AMOUNTS, INTEREST RATES, YIELDS AND CUSIP NUMBERS

Maturity	Principal	Interest		CUSIP
(August 15)	<u>Amounts</u>	<u>Rates</u>	<u>Yields</u>	Numbers*
2027	\$2,101,000			970599
2028	2,225,000			970599
2029	2,315,000			970599
2030	2,410,000			970599
2031	2,560,000			970599
2032	2,670,000			970599
2033	2,680,000			970599
2034	2,800,000			970599
2035	2,940,000			970599
2036	3,065,000			970599
2037	3,190,000			970599
2038	3,320,000			970599
2039	3,455,000			970599
2040	3,610,000			970599
2041	3,765,000			970599
2042	3,920,000			970599
2043	4,075,000			970599
2044	4,190,000			970599
2045	4,200,000			970599
2046	4,200,000			970599
2047	4,200,000			970599

<sup>\*</sup> A registered trademark of the American Bankers Association. CUSIP data herein is provided by CUSIP Global Services, which is managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by FactSet Research Systems Inc. The CUSIP numbers listed above are being provided solely for the convenience of Bondholders only at the time of issuance of the Bonds and the Board does not make any representation with respect to such numbers or undertake any responsibility for their accuracy now or at any time in the future. The CUSIP number for a specific maturity is subject to being changed after the issuance of the Bonds as a result of procurement of secondary market portfolio insurance or other similar enhancement by investors that is applicable to all or a portion of certain maturities of the Bonds.

# THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

President – Debra Williams Vice President – Daisy Cisse

> Michael Bird Nehemia Claude Leah Coleman Dr. Denise King April Maxwell-Henley

#### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Malcolm X. Outlaw

#### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY

Dr. Steven A. Lewis

#### **BOARD ATTORNEY**

Taylor Law Group, LLC. New Providence, New Jersey

#### **BOARD AUDITOR**

Brent W. Lee & Co., LLC Cinnaminson, New Jersey

#### **MUNICIPAL ADVISOR**

Phoenix Advisors, a division of First Security Municipal Advisors, Inc. Hamilton, 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.

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#### **OFFICIAL STATEMENT**

OF

# THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

\$67,891,000 SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2025 (NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOND RESERVE ACT, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended)

#### **CALLABLE**

#### INTRODUCTION

This Official Statement, which includes the cover page and the appendices attached hereto, has been prepared by The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro in the County of Burlington, 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 \$67,891,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2025 (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 August 15 in each of the years and in the amounts set forth on the inside 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 February and August (each an "Interest Payment Date"), commencing on August 15, 2026, in each of the years and at the interest rates set forth on the inside 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 February 1 and August 1 immediately preceding the respective Interest Payment Date (the "Record Dates"). So long as The Depository Trust Company, Brooklyn, 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 August 15, 2034 are not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities. The Bonds of this issue maturing on or after August 15, 2034 are redeemable at the option of the Board in whole or in part on any date on or after August 15, 2033 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 (2) 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 one and one-half percent (1.5%) 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 one percent (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 Treasurer of the State of New Jersey (the "State") 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 the 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.

#### **Authorization and Purpose**

The Bonds have been authorized and are issued pursuant to (i) Title 18A, Chapter 24 of the New Jersey Statutes, Chapter 271 of the Laws of 1967, as amended and supplemented, (ii) two (2) proposals adopted by the Board pursuant to a resolution adopted on January 6, 2025 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 11, 2025 and (iii) a resolution duly adopted by the Board on May 12, 2025 (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 57.5716% of the eligible costs of such Project. As such, the State has agreed to pay 57.5716% 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 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.

<sup>\*</sup> Source: The Depository Trust Company

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.

The Paying Agent, upon direction of the Board, may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry 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 its 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 its paying agent together with the duly executed assignment in form satisfactory to the Board or its paying agent; and (iii) for every exchange or registration of transfer of Bonds, the Board or its 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 seven (7) 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 to the Superintendent of Schools.

The School District is a Type II school district serving the Township of Willingboro, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey (the "Township") and provides a full range of educational services appropriate to pre-kindergarten ("Pre-K") through grade twelve (12), including regular and special education programs for the Township. The School District operates two (2) early childhood development centers, three (3) elementary schools, one (1) intermediate school, one (1) middle school, one (1) high school and one (1) alternative school. See "APPENDIX A – Certain Economic and Demographic Information Relating to the School District and the Township of Willingboro, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey."

#### 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.

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, effective April 3, 2007, 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, and 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 county commissioners 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 county commissioners and a fifth member being the county executive or the director of the board of county commissioners 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 county commissioners 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 county commissioners and a fifth member being the commissioner-director of the board of county commissioners, 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 with a board of school estimate.

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

In a Type I school district and a Type II school district with a board of school estimate, 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.

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 unless the Board has moved its annual election to November, as discussed below. 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 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 are no longer 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 Tax Levy Cap Law (as hereinafter defined).

The Board conducts its annual 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 modified accrual 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, also limited the annual increase in a school district's net budget by a spending growth limitation. The CEIFA limited the amount school districts can increase their annual current expense 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. Amendments to the CEIFA decreased the budget cap to two and one-half percent (2.5%) from three percent (3%). Budgets could also increase because of certain adjustments for enrollment increases, certain capital outlay expenditures, pupil transportation costs, and special education costs that exceeded \$40,000 per pupil. Waivers were available from the Commissioner based on increasing enrollments and other fairly narrow grounds and increases higher than the cap could be approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) at the annual school election.

P.L. 2007, c. 62, effective April 3, 2007, provided additional limitations on school district spending by limiting the amount a school district could raise for school district purposes through the property tax levy by four percent (4%) over the prior budget year's tax levy. P.L. 2007, c. 62 provided for adjustments to the cap for increases in enrollment, reductions in State aid and increased health care costs and for certain other extraordinary cost increases that required approval by the Commissioner. The bill granted discretion to the Commissioner to grant other waivers from the cap for increases in special education costs, capital outlay, and tuition charges. The Commissioner also had the ability to grant extraordinary waivers to the tax levy cap for certain other cost increases beginning in fiscal year 2009 through 2012.

P.L. 2007, c. 62 was deemed to supersede the prior limitations on the amount school districts could increase their annual current expense and capital outlay budgets created by CEIFA (as amended by P.L. 2004, c. 73, effective July 1, 2004). However, chapter 62 was in effect only through fiscal year 2012. Without an extension of chapter 62 by the legislature, the Spending Growth Limitations on the general fund and capital outlay budget would be in effect.

Debt service was not limited either by the Spending Growth Limitations or the four percent (4%) cap on the tax levy increase imposed by chapter 62.

The previous legislation was amended by P.L. 2010, c. 44, effective July 13, 2010 and became applicable to the next local budget year following enactment. This law limits the school district tax levy for the general fund budget to increases of two percent (2%) over the prior budget year with exceptions only for enrollment increases, increases for certain normal and accrued liability for pension contributions in excess of two percent (2%), certain healthcare increases, and amounts approved by a simple majority of voters voting at a special election (the "Tax Levy Cap Law"). Additionally, also becoming effective in the 2011-2012 fiscal year, a school district that has not been granted approval to exceed the tax levy cap by a separate proposal can bank the unused tax levy for use in any of the next three (3) succeeding budget years. A school district can request a use of "banked cap" only after it has fully exhausted all eligible statute spending authority in the budget year. The process for obtaining waivers from the Commissioner for additional increases over the tax levy cap or Spending Growth Limitations was eliminated under chapter 44. Notwithstanding the foregoing, under P.L. 2018, c. 67, effective July 24, 2018, which increases State

school aid to underfunded school districts and decreases state school aid to overfunded school districts, during the 2018-2019 through 2024-2025 fiscal years, SDA Districts, which are certain urban districts formerly referred to as Abbott Districts referred to herein under "SUMMARY OF STATE AID TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS", are permitted increases in the tax levy over the two percent (2%) limit to raise a general fund tax levy to an amount that does not exceed its local share of the adequacy budget.

The restrictions are solely on the tax levy for the general fund and are not applicable to the debt service fund. There are no restrictions on a local school district's ability to raise funds for debt service, and nothing would limit the obligation of a school district to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all taxable real property within the school district to pay debt service on its bonds or notes with one exception. School districts are subject to GAAP accounting, and under GAAP interest on obligations maturing within one (1) year must be treated as operating expenses. Accordingly, under the Department of Education's Chart of Accounts, interest on notes is raised in the General Fund of a school district and therefore is counted within its two percent (2%) tax levy cap on spending.

#### **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 a Type II school district with a board of school estimate), 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.

#### 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 or by the date extended by statute or by the State of New Jersey Department of Education. 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.

#### 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 financed 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 (the "EFCFA"), 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 purchase is treated as a current expense and within the cap on the school district's budget. Under the CEIFA, financed

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.

#### Financing Under County School Construction Financing Law

Recently enacted P.L. 2023, c. 311, approved January 16, 2024, as amended by P.L. 2024, c. 79, approved September 12, 2024, provides a means by which a county and a county improvement authority can assist a local school district with financing and construction of a school capital project without the school district authorizing and issuing school bonds. Under the newly enacted legislation, a school district can lease a school property to a county improvement authority, which would issue its bonds for the financing and construction of a school project. The county improvement authority would then lease the school property to the county and the county would further lease it back to the school district. The school district would be obligated to cover the cost of principal and interest on the authority bonds through its lease payments to the county, and the county would pass through the payments to the authority through its lease to the authority for the payment of the bonds. The leases would remain valid and binding and in effect until the bonds are fully paid off. When the leases expire, the school property will be fully vested in the school district. The lease payments would be outside the caps on spending and raising taxes for both the school district and the county. The obligation would not be limited by the school district's legal borrowing limit as the school district is not issuing school bonds. The law requires the annual school district lease payments to be included in each school budget over the life of the bonds. The county improvement authority bonds would receive debt service aid otherwise available to the school district project as if the school district had authorized and issued school bonds. The program requires the cooperation of the county, the county improvement authority and the school district. Under the county improvement authorities law, the county or municipality could agree to guaranty the authority bonds as well if the credit support would help reduce financing costs. The program could help school districts that otherwise have difficulty getting voter approval to be able to obtain financing at a reduced cost, as (i) the State would still pay a share of the debt service due on the improvement authority bonds for which the project is entitled under the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act and (ii) if guaranteed, the improvement authority bonds could benefit from the credit enhancement provided by a county or municipality.

#### 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 pre-kindergarten (Pre-K) through twelve (12) school district, the School District can borrow up to four percent (4%) of the average equalized valuation of taxable property in the School District. The School District has not exceeded its four percent (4%) debt limit. See "APPENDIX A – Certain Economic and Demographic Information Relating to the School District and the Township of Willingboro, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey."

#### **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 three and one-half percent (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 sixty (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 (previously called "Abbott Districts", now referred to as "SDA 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.

Since that time there has been much litigation and many cases affecting the State's responsibilities to fund public education and many legislative attempts to distribute State aid in accordance with the court cases and the constitutional requirement. The cases addressed not only current operating fund aid but also addressed the requirement to provide facilities aid as well. The legislation has included QEA, CEIFA and EFCFA. For many years aid has simply been determined in the State Budget, which itself is an act of the legislature, based upon amounts provided in prior years. The school funding formula, provided in the School Funding Reform Act of 2008, P.L. 2007, c. 260, effective January 1, 2008, attempts to remove the special status given to certain school districts known as Abbott Districts after the school funding cases and instead has funding follow students with certain needs and provides aid in a way that takes into account the ability of the local school district to raise local funds to support the budget in amounts deemed adequate to provide for a thorough and efficient education as required by the State constitution. This legislation was challenged in the Court, and the Court held that the State's then current plan for school aid was a "constitutionally adequate scheme." However, the State continued to underfund certain school districts and to overfund other school districts in its budgets based on the statutory scheme. Since 2019 and in accordance with the enactment of P.L. 2018, c. 67, effective July 24, 2018, the State has increased funding for underfunded school districts and decreased funding for overfunded school districts and will continue to do so as set forth therein. It has also provided cap relief for overfunded school districts to enable them to pick up more of the local share.

Notwithstanding over thirty-five (35) years of litigation, the State provides State aid to school districts of the State in amounts provided in the State budget each year. These now include equalization aid, special education categorical aid, transportation aid, preschool education aid, instructional supplement aid, supplemental core curriculum standards aid, distance learning network aid, bilingual aid, security aid, adjustment aid and other aid determined in the discretion of the Commissioner.

State law requires that the State will provide aid for the construction of school facilities 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 aid to which a school district is entitled is established prior to the authorization of the project. Grant funding is provided by the State upfront and debt service aid must be appropriated annually by the State.

The State has reduced debt service aid by fifteen percent (15%) annually since fiscal year 2011. As a result of the debt service aid reduction for those fiscal years, school districts received eighty-five percent (85%) of the debt service aid that they would have otherwise received. In addition, 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 each fiscal year budget since 2011 representing fifteen percent (15%) of the school district's proportionate share of the principal and interest payments on the outstanding EDA bonds issued to fund such grants.

Pursuant to P.L. 2018, c. 67, effective July 24, 2018, the School Funding Reform Act has been modified to adjust the distribution of State aid to school districts in the State ("SFRA Modification Law"). In particular, the SFRA Modification Law revises the School Funding Reform Act so that, after calculating the amount of State aid available per pupil, State aid will be distributed to each school district based on student enrollment. The SFRA Modification Law also eliminates the application of the State aid growth limit and adjustment aid, but includes a transition period for school districts that will receive less State aid. Under the SFRA Modification Law, most school districts that will receive reduced State aid resulting from the revised funding formula will be provided a seven (7) year transition period during which funding will be reduced. For those school districts where State aid will increase under the SFRA Modification Law, the transition period to increase funding will be one (1) year.

#### 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 Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, enacted December 10, 2015, 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 Township are general full faith and credit obligations.

The authorized bonded indebtedness of the Township is limited by statute, subject to certain exceptions noted below, to an amount equal to three and one-half percent (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 the Township as annually determined by the New Jersey Board of Taxation is set forth in APPENDIX A.

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 modified accrual 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 annual modified accrual 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.

#### 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 two percent (2%), certain increases in health care over two percent (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 two percent (2%) not otherwise permitted under the law by an affirmative vote of fifty percent (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 local unit, the 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 rates 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 year ended June 30, 2024 together with the notes to the financial statements have been provided by Brent W. Lee & Co., LLC, Cinnaminson, New Jersey (the "Auditor") and are presented in <u>APPENDIX B</u> to this Official Statement (the "Financial

Statements"). See "<u>APPENDIX B</u> – Financial Statements of The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro in the County of Burlington, New Jersey."

#### **MUNICIPAL ADVISOR**

Phoenix Advisors, a division of First Security Municipal Advisors, Inc., Hamilton, New Jersey, has served as Municipal Advisor to the Board in connection with the issuance of the Bonds (the "Municipal Advisor") and has assisted in matters related to the planning, structuring and terms of the Bonds. The Municipal 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 the Official Statement and the Appendices hereto. The Municipal Advisor is an Independent Registered Municipal Advisor pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Act 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, Taylor Law Group, LLC, New Providence, New Jersey (the "Board Attorney"), 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, 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. The Board received a Notice of Federal Tax Lien, dated May 22, 2025, in the amount of \$839,813.26 and has requested a collection due process hearing regarding the same. 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.

#### **Premium Bonds**

[The Bonds [maturing on August 15 in the years 20\_\_ through 20\_\_, 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**

[Bond Counsel is also of the opinion that the difference between the stated principal amount of the Bonds maturing on August 15 in the years 20\_\_ through 20\_\_, inclusive (collectively, the "Discount Bonds") and their respective initial public offering prices to the public (excluding bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters or wholesalers) at which prices a substantial amount of the [Discount] Bonds of the same maturity and interest rate were sold, constitutes original issue discount which is excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes to the same extent as interest on the Bonds. In the case of any holder of the [Discount] Bonds, the amount of such original issue discount which is treated as having accrued with respect to the [Discount] Bonds is added to the cost basis of the holder in determining, for Federal income tax purposes, gain or loss upon disposition (including sale, redemption or payment at maturity). Holders of the [Discount] Bonds should consult their tax advisors for an explanation of the original issue discount rules.]

#### 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.

#### **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.

#### **Cyber Security**

The School District relied on a large and complex technology environment to conduct its various operations. As a result, the School District faces certain cyber security threats at various times including, but not limited to, hacking, phishing, viruses, malware and other attacks on its computing and digital networks and systems. To mitigate the risks of business operations impact and/or damage from

cybersecurity incidents or cyber-attacks, the School District has invested in multiple forms of cybersecurity and operations safeguards. Specifically, the School District has an extensive security system in place, including network firewalls and established administrative rights and restrictions, with varying level of approvals, implemented entity-wide, for access to network drives and applications that are reviewed regularly to ensure proper internal control and protections and provide relevant employees and staff with cyberattack training.

#### **Climate Change**

Numerous scientific studies have detailed changing global weather patterns and the potential for increasing extreme weather events across the world. The School District cannot predict the timing, extent, or severity of climate change and its impact on its operations and finances. The School District maintains a comprehensive insurance policy and maintains adequate reserves that could be used in the event of extreme weather.

#### RECENT HEALTHCARE DEVELOPMENTS

In early March of 2020, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic following the global outbreak of COVID-19, a respiratory disease caused by a newly discovered strain of coronavirus. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national public health emergency to unlock federal funds and assistance to help states and local governments fight the pandemic. The Governor of the State declared a state of emergency and a public health emergency on March 9, 2020. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, federal and State legislation and executive orders were implemented to mitigate the spread of the disease and provide relief to State and local governments. The pandemic and certain mitigation measures altered the behavior of businesses and people with negative impacts on regional, State and local economies. The national public health emergency and the State public health emergency have since ended, while the state of emergency declared by the State and several executive orders signed by the Governor remain to manage COVID-19 on an endemic level. Depending on future circumstances, ongoing actions could be taken by State, federal and local governments and private entities to mitigate the spread and impacts of COVID-19, its variants or other critical health care challenges.

To date, the overall finances and operations of the Board have not been materially adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonetheless, the degree of any future impact to the Board's operations and finances is difficult to predict due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and any additional actions that may be taken by governmental and other health care authorities to manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, H.R. 1319 (the "Plan"), signed into law by the President of the United States on March 11, 2021, provided \$1.9 trillion in relief designed to provide funding to address the COVID-19 pandemic and alleviate the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Plan, in part, provides funding for State and local governments to offset costs to safely reopen schools during the COVID-19 pandemic and to subsidize COVID-19 testing and vaccination programs. In addition, the Plan includes \$350 billion in relief funds to public entities, such as the Board.

The Board has been awarded a total of \$12,139,579 in federal aid to address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **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 upon 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 Municipal Advisor has participated in the preparation and review of the information contained in this Official Statement, including the collection of financial, statistical and demographic information; however, it has not verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness thereof, and, accordingly, expresses no opinion or other assurance with respect thereto. Certain information set forth herein has been obtained from the Board and other sources, which are deemed reliable, but no warranty, guaranty or other representation as to the accuracy or completeness is made as to such information contained herein. There is no assurance that any of the assumptions or estimates contained herein will be realized.

The Auditor takes responsibility for the Financial Statements to the extent specified in the Independent Auditor's Report appearing in <u>APPENDIX B</u> hereto.

The Board Attorney has not participated in the preparation of the information contained in this Official Statement, nor has the Board Attorney 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**

S&P Global Ratings, acting through Standard & Poor's Financial Services, LLC (the "Rating Agency"), has assigned an underlying rating of "A+" 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 rating reflects only the view of the Rating Agency and an explanation of the significance of such rating may only be obtained from the Rating Agency. 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 rating will be maintained for any given period of time or that the rating will 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 rating may have an adverse effect on the marketability or market price of the Bonds.

#### **UNDERWRITING**

The Bonds are being purchased from the Board by \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Underwriter"), at a price of \$\_\_\_\_\_. 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 inside 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 the Bonds to certain dealers (including dealers depositing the Bonds into investment trusts) at yields higher than the public offering yields set forth on the

inside cover page, and such public offering yields may be changed, from time to time, by the Underwriter without prior notice.

#### 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, 2025 (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) (the "SEC Rule").

The Board has previously entered into secondary market disclosure undertakings in accordance with the SEC Rule. The Board appointed Phoenix Advisors, Hamilton, New Jersey to serve as continuing disclosure agent to assist in the filing of certain information on EMMA as required under its prior secondary market disclosure undertakings.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Inquiries regarding this Official Statement, including information additional to that contained herein, may be directed to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Dr. Steven A. Lewis, (609) 835-8670, or to Charles Anthony Solimine, Esq., Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel to the Board, (732) 855-6430.

#### 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 this 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 this 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 (financial or otherwise) 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 TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

DR. STEVEN A. LEWIS,
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

#### **APPENDIX A**

Certain Economic and Demographic Information Relating to the School District and the Township of Willingboro, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey



#### INFORMATION REGARDING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT<sup>1</sup>

#### **Type**

The School District is a Type II school district that is coterminous with the borders of the Township of Willingboro (the "Board"). The School District provides a full range of educational services appropriate to Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) through grade twelve (12).

The Board is composed of nine (9) members elected by the legally qualified voters in the School District to terms of three (3) years on a staggered basis. The President and Vice President are chosen for one (1) year terms from among the members of the Board.

The Board is the policy-making body of the School District and has the general responsibility for providing an education program, the power to establish policies and supervise the public schools in the School District and the responsibility to develop the annual School District budget and present it to the legally registered voters in the School District. The Board's fiscal year ends each June 30.

The Board appoints a Superintendent and Business Administrator/Board Secretary who are responsible for budgeting, planning and the operational functions of the School District. The administrative structure of the Board gives final responsibility for both the educational process and the business operation to the Superintendent.

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#### **Description of Facilities**

The Board presently operates the following school facilities:

		Student
	Grade	<b>Enrollment</b>
Facility	Level	(As of 6/30/25)
Garfield East Elementary School	PreK-K	304
Hawthorne Elementary School	1-5	369
W.R. James, Sr. Elementary School	1-5	416
J.C. Stuart Elementary School	PreK-K	373
Twin Hills Elementary School	1-5	339
James A. Cotten Intermediate School	5-6	551
Memorial Middle School	7-8	556
Willingboro High School	9-12	862
Willingboro Alternative Education Program at Levitt	6-12	47

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the School District

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: The Board, unless otherwise indicated.

#### **Pupil Enrollments**

The following table presents the historical average daily pupil enrollments for the past five (5) school years.

**Pupil Enrollments** 

School Year	<b>Enrollment</b>
2024-2025	3,817
2023-2024	3,775
2022-2023	3,525
2021-2022	3,720
2020-2021	3,909

Source: School District and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the School District

#### **Pensions**

Those employees of the School District who are eligible for pension coverage are enrolled in one of the two State-administered multi-employer pension systems (the "Pension System"). The Pension System was established by an act of the State Legislature. The Board of Trustees for the Pension System is responsible for the organization and administration of the Pension System. The two State-administered pension funds are: (1) the Teacher's Pension and Annuity Fund ("TPAF") and (2) the Public Employee's Retirement System ("PERS"). The Division of Pensions and Benefits, within the State of New Jersey Department of the Treasury (the "Division"), charges the participating school districts annually for their respective contributions. The School District raises its contributions through taxation, and the State contributes the employer's share of the annual Social Security and Pension contribution for employees enrolled in the TPAF. The Pension System is a cost-sharing multiple-employer contributory defined benefit plan. The Pension System's designated purpose is to provide retirement and medical benefits for qualified retirees and other benefits to its members. Membership in the Pension System is mandatory for substantially all full-time employees of the State 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.

#### Fiscal 2025-26 Budget

Prior to the passage of P.L. 2011, c. 202 the Board was required to submit its budget for voter approval on an annual basis. Under the Election Law (P.L. 2011, c. 202, effective January 17, 2012) if a school district has opted to move its annual election to November, it is no longer required to submit the budget to voters for approval if the budget is at or below the two-percent (2%) property tax levy cap as provided for under New Cap Law (P.L. 2010, c. 44). If a school district proposes to spend above the two-percent (2%) property tax levy cap, it is then required to submit its budget to voters at the annual school election in November. The Board has chosen under the Election Law to move its annual school election to November.

The General Fund budget is the sum of all state aid (exclusive of pension aid and social security aid) and the local tax levy (exclusive of debt service). The Board's General Fund Budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year is \$108,015,772. The major sources of revenue are \$37,645,525 from the local tax levy and \$59,129,452 from state aid.

Source: Annual User-Friendly Budget of the School District

#### **Budget History**

As noted, prior to the Board's budget for its 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Board was required to submit its budget for voter approval. A summary of the last five (5) budget years of the Board is presented below:

Budget	<b>Amount Raised</b>	Budget
<u>Year</u>	in Taxes	<b>Amount</b>
2025-2026	\$37,645,525	\$108,015,772
2024-2025	37,645,525	102,639,280
2023-2024	37,645,525	101,723,234
2022-2023	32,212,231	86,243,287
2021-2022	32,212,231	80,484,754

Source: Annual User-Friendly Budget of the School District

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#### **Financial Operations**

The following table summarizes information on the changes in general fund revenues and expenditures for the school years ending June 30, 2020 through June 30, 2024 for the general fund. Beginning with the 1993-94 fiscal year, school districts in the State of New Jersey have begun to prepare their financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States.

# GENERAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
REVENUES					
Local Sources:					
Local Tax Levy	\$37,645,525	\$32,212,231	\$32,212,231	\$32,498,982	\$32,299,836
Other Local Revenue	2,223,425	1,728,910	1,163,487	971,543	1,033,504
Total Revenues-Local Sources	39,868,950	33,941,141	33,375,718	33,470,525	33,333,340
State Sources	65,545,472	58,559,357	55,881,976	52,471,980	48,808,588
Federal Sources	130,157	184,070	132,358	176,574	149,332
Total Revenues	\$105,544,579	\$92,684,568	\$89,390,052	\$86,119,079	\$82,291,260
EXPENDITURES					
General Fund:					
Instruction	\$26,986,458	\$25,887,161	\$22,458,749	\$20,892,452	\$21,467,489
Undistributed Expenditures	74,824,875	60,593,467	58,018,494	52,836,730	51,624,946
Capital Outlay	3,552,238	<u>954,419</u>	821,194	761,989	1,440,493
Total Expenditures	105,363,571	87,435,047	81,298,437	74,491,171	74,532,928
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues					
Over/(Under) Expenditures	181,008	5,249,521	8,091,615	11,627,908	7,758,332
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Proceeds of Capital Lease	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers In	0	175,000	0	100,000	320,466
Transfers Out	<u>0</u>	(5,820,887)	(5,533,619)	(5,391,264)	(5,652,604)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	0	(5,645,887)	(5,533,619)	(5,291,264)	(5,332,138)
Net Change in Fund Balance	181,008	(396,366)	2,557,996	6,336,644	2,426,194
Fund Balance, July 1	17,259,381	17,655,747	15,097,751	8,761,107	<u>5,917,987</u>
Fund Balance, June 30	\$17,440,389	<u>\$17,259,381</u>	<u>\$17,655,747</u>	<u>\$15,097,751</u>	<u>\$8,344,181</u>

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the School District. Statement of Revenues, Expenditures Governmental Funds and Changes In Fund Balances on a GAAP basis

## **Capital Leases**

As of June 30, 2024, the Board has capital leases outstanding with payments due through year ending June 30, 2028, totaling \$519,460.

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the School District

## **Operating Leases**

As of June 30, 2024, the Board has no operating leases outstanding.

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the School District

## **Short-Term Debt**

As of June 30, 2024, the Board has no short-term debt outstanding.

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the School District

## **Long-Term Debt**

The following table outlines the outstanding long-term debt of the Board as of June 30, 2025.

Fiscal Year Ending	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$1,165,000	\$467,667	\$1,632,667
2026	1,355,000	1,159,982	2,514,982
2027	1,775,000	881,578	2,656,578
2028	1,560,000	825,405	2,385,405
2029	1,510,000	774,958	2,284,958
2030	1,525,000	724,330	2,249,330
2031	1,570,000	671,660	2,241,660
2032	1,560,000	617,290	2,177,290
2033	1,630,000	561,448	2,191,448
2034	1,750,000	501,964	2,251,964
2035	1,825,000	437,120	2,262,120
2036	1,895,000	368,113	2,263,113
<b>TOTALS</b>	<u>\$26,105,000</u>	<u>\$9,630,789</u>	<u>\$35,735,789</u>

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the School District

## **Debt Limit of the Board**

The debt limitation of the Board is established by statute (N.J.S.A. 18A:24-19). The Board is permitted to incur debt up to 4% of the average equalized valuation for the past three years (See "SUMMARY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF SCHOOL DEBT- Exceptions to Debt Limitation" herein). The following is a summation of the Board's debt limitation as of June 30, 2025:

Average Equalized Real Property Valuation (2021, 2022, and 2023)	\$2,403,279,786
School District Debt Analysis	
Permitted Debt Limitation (4% of AEVP)	\$96,131,191
Less: Bonds and Notes Authorized and Outstanding	26,105,000
Remaining Limitation of Indebtedness	\$70,026,191
Percentage of Net School Debt to Average Equalized Valuation	1.09%

Source: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the School District

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## INFORMATION REGARDING THE TOWNSHIP<sup>1</sup>

The following material presents certain economic and demographic information of the Township of Willingboro (the "Township"), in the County of Burlington (the "County"), State of New Jersey (the "State").

#### History

Settled in 1682 and incorporated in 1688, the Township has evolved from a Quaker farming community to a contemporary suburb of about 32,000 residents.

Its development has typified the strong attraction that the South Jersey area holds for residential and commercial development. The development standards adopted by the community during the late fifties remained in place throughout its development phase. Adjustments to the plan and the form of government yielded effective mechanisms to control development that reached an average of 850 new single-family homes per year during the years 1958 through 1972.

#### Form of Government

In 1960 the Township voters passed a referendum for a Council/Manager form of government, which provides for a five (5) member elected Council with public accountability for legislative authority and an appointed professional chief executive responsible to that legislative authority, which was in place January 1, 1962.

## **Pension and Retirement Systems**

Substantially all eligible employees participate in the Public Employees' Retirement System, the Police and Firemen's Retirement System or the Defined Contribution Retirement Program, which have been established by State statute and are administered by the New Jersey Division of Pensions and Benefits (the "Division"). Benefits, contributions, means of funding and the manner of administration are established pursuant to State statute. The Division annually charges municipalities and other participating governmental units for their respective contributions to the plans based upon actuarial calculations and the employees contribute a portion of the cost. Each Plan has a Board of Trustees that is primarily responsible for its administration. The Division issues a publicly available financial report that includes the financial statements and required supplementary information. This report may be obtained by writing to the Division of Pensions and Benefits, P.O. Box 295, Trenton, New Jersey 08625 or is available online at <a href="https://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/financial-reports.shtml">www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/financial-reports.shtml</a>.

The Public Employees' Retirement System ("PERS") is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan which 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. Membership is mandatory for substantially all full-time employees of the State 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 pension fund or local jurisdiction's pension fund.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: The Township, unless otherwise indicated.

The Police and Firemen's Retirement System ("PFRS") is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan which was established as of July 1, 1944, under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:16A, to provide retirement, death, disability and medical benefits to certain qualified members. Membership is mandatory for substantially all full-time county and municipal police and firemen or officer employees with police powers appointed after June 30, 1944.

The Defined Contribution Retirement Program ("DCRP") is a multiple-employer defined contribution pension fund which was established July 1, 2007, under the provisions of Chapter 92, P.L. 2007 and Chapter 103, P.L 2007, and was expanded under the provisions of Chapter 89, P.L. 2009. The DCRP provides eligible employees and their beneficiaries with a tax-sheltered, defined contribution retirement benefit, along with life insurance coverage and disability coverage.

## **Employment and Unemployment Comparisons**

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

	<b>Total Labor</b>	<b>Employed</b>	Total	Unemployment	
	<b>Force</b>	<b>Labor Force</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	Rate	
<b>Township</b>					
2024	17,312	16,270	1,042	6.0%	
2023	17,166	16,211	955	5.6%	
2022	16,724	15,926	798	4.8%	
2021	16,517	15,211	1,306	7.9%	
2020	16,457	14,761	1,696	10.3%	
<b>County</b>					
2024	248,122	237,708	10,414	4.2%	
2023	246,548	236,845	9,703	3.9%	
2022	240,684	232,054	8,630	3.6%	
2021	235,227	221,531	13,696	5.8%	
2020	232,816	213,811	19,005	8.2%	
Stata					
<u>State</u> 2024	4,898,008	4,676,064	221,944	4.5%	
2023	4,867,113	4,659,779	207,334	4.3%	
2022	4,756,002	4,572,879	183,123	3.9%	
2021	4,654,243	4,342,075	312,168	6.7%	
2020	4,643,700	4,204,301	439,399	9.5%	

Source: New Jersey Department of Labor, Office of Research and Planning, Division of Labor Market and Demographic Research, Bureau of Labor Force Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

## Income (as of 2023)

	<u>Towns hip</u>	<b>County</b>	<u>State</u>
Median Household Income	\$91,615	\$105,271	\$101,050
Median Family Income	104,669	127,277	123,892
Per Capita Income	38,494	53,077	53,118

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 2023 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

## **Population**

The following tables summarize population increases and the decreases for the Township, the County, and the State.

	Town	<u>ns hip</u>	<u>Cou</u>	<u>ınty</u>	Sta	<u>ate</u>
Year	<b>Population</b>	% Change	<b>Population</b>	% Change	<b>Population</b>	% Change
2024 est.	32,511	1.95%	475,515	2.96%	9,500,851	2.28%
2020	31,889	0.82	461,860	2.93	9,288,994	5.65
2010	31,629	-4.18	448,734	5.98	8,791,894	4.49
2000	33,008	-9.05	423,394	7.17	8,414,350	8.85
1990	36,291	-9.07	395,066	8.97	7,730,188	4.96

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

## **Largest Taxpayers**

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

	2024	% of Total
Taxpayers	<b>Assessed Valuation</b>	<b>Assessed Valuation</b>
Willingboro Square, LLC	\$15,253,000	0.82%
Radwell, Real Estate Willingboro LLC	12,000,000	0.64%
NE Willingboro LLC	8,000,000	0.43%
Willingboro Partners, LLC	6,848,000	0.37%
Amer Stores Co LLC C/O Marvin F.	5,250,000	0.28%
Avn Holdings	5,899,900	0.32%
Willingboro Equities, LLC	5,650,000	0.30%
Willingboro Associates, LLC	5,371,300	0.29%
Willingboro Partners, LLC	5,340,800	0.29%
Willingboro Associates, LLC	5,326,700	0.28%
Total	<u>\$74,939,700</u>	<u>4.01%</u>

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the School District and Municipal Tax Assessor

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

		<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Current Year</b>
<b>Year</b>	Tax Levy	<b>Collection</b>	% of Collection
2024U	\$83,419,977	\$80,892,235	96.97%
2023	82,529,864	79,780,274	96.67%
2022	76,539,429	73,956,379	96.63%
2021	75,821,644	73,325,773	96.71%
2020	75,596,024	72,406,808	95.78%

U: Unaudited

Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Township and 2024 Annual Financial Statement

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

	<b>Amount of Tax</b>	<b>Amount of</b>	Total	% of
<b>Year</b>	Title Liens	<b>Delinquent Tax</b>	<b>Delinquent</b>	Tax Levy
2024U	\$1,058,725	\$2,453,630	\$3,512,355	4.21%
2023	1,074,550	2,684,324	3,758,874	4.55%
2022	728,146	3,099,540	3,827,686	5.00%
2021	785,070	3,075,912	3,860,982	5.09%
2020	795,179	3,755,008	4,550,187	6.02%

U: Unaudited

Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Township and 2024 Annual Financial Statement

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

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2024U	\$0
2023	0
2022	0
2021	0
2020	0

U: Unaudited

Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Township and 2024 Annual Financial Statement

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

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

		Local		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Municipal</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>County</b>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$1.797	\$2.046	\$0.474	\$4.317
2023	1.817	2.054	0.414	4.285
2022	1.816	1.794	0.379	3.989
2021	1.816	1.806	0.374	3.996
2020	1.815	1.826	0.372	4.013

Source: Abstract of Ratables and State of New Jersey – Property Taxes

## **Valuation of Property**

	Aggregate Assessed	<b>Aggregate True</b>	Ratio of	Assessed	
	Valuation of	Value of	Assessed to	Value of	<b>Equalized</b>
Year	<b>Real Property</b>	Real Property	True Value	Personal Property	<b>Valuation</b>
2024	\$1,922,422,400	\$2,783,295,787	69.07%	\$79	\$2,783,295,866
2023	1,912,686,500	2,769,200,087	69.07	79	2,769,200,166
2022	1,892,378,000	2,388,461,441	79.23	99	2,388,461,540
2021	1,881,026,200	2,052,177,831	91.66	99	2,052,177,930
2020	1,874,950,700	1,929,358,613	97.18	99	1,929,358,712

Source: Abstract of Ratables and State of New Jersey – Table of Equalized Valuations

## **Classification of Ratables**

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

<b>Year</b>	Vacant Land	Residential	<u>Farm</u>	Commercial	<b>Industrial</b>	<b>Apartments</b>	<b>Total</b>
2024	\$10,030,300	\$1,725,345,800	\$399,300	\$141,106,500	\$9,583,400	\$35,957,100	\$1,922,422,400
2023	10,126,700	1,719,596,000	399,300	137,024,000	9,583,400	35,957,100	1,912,686,500
2022	10,072,700	1,711,422,600	399,300	128,847,900	9,583,400	32,052,100	1,892,378,000
2021	10,176,000	1,700,679,900	399,300	129,927,500	9,583,400	30,260,100	1,881,026,200
2020	10,176,000	1,694,233,500	399,300	130,298,400	9,583,400	30,260,100	1,874,950,700

Source: Abstract of Ratables and State of New Jersey - Property Value Classification

## **Financial Operations**

The following table summarizes the Township's Current Fund budget for the past five (5) fiscal years ending December 31. The following summary should be used in conjunction with the tables in the sourced documents from which it is derived.

## **Summary of Current Fund Budget**

Anticipated Revenues	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u> 2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
Fund Balance Utilized	\$3,200,000	\$2,905,000	\$3,500,000	\$4,200,000	\$7,660,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	6,455,617	8,334,604	7,832,851	8,454,800	8,552,745
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	3,062,000	2,200,000	2,150,000	2,100,000	2,100,000
Amount to be Raised by Taxation	34,180,383	34,360,396	34,738,149	34,533,200	34,532,255
Total Revenue:	\$46,898,000	\$47,800,000	\$48,221,000	\$49,288,000	\$52,845,000
<b>Appropriations</b>					
General Appropriations	\$35,880,104	\$36,678,128	\$37,723,315	\$39,706,388	\$42,041,592
Operations (Excluded from CAPS)	2,053,796	2,709,329	2,731,399	2,284,925	3,491,729
Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0
Judgments	0	0	15,000	0	0
Capital Improvement Fund	100,000	100,000	150,000	200,000	150,000
Municipal Debt Service	5,435,631	5,318,126	4,708,128	3,996,249	4,012,510
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	3,428,469	2,994,417	2,893,159	3,100,438	3,149,169
Total Appropriations:	\$46,898,000	<u>\$47,800,000</u>	<u>\$48,221,000</u>	<u>\$49,288,000</u>	\$52,845,000

Source: Annual Adopted Budgets of the Township

## **Fund Balance**

#### Current Fund

The following table lists the Township's fund balance and the amount utilized in the succeeding year's budget for the Current Fund for the past five (5) fiscal years ending December 31.

	Fund Balance - Current Fund					
	Balance	<b>Utilized in Budget</b>				
<b>Year</b>	<u>12/31</u>	of Succeeding Year				
2024U	\$18,872,668	\$7,660,000				
2023	17,534,576	4,200,000				
2022	11,945,482	3,500,000				
2021	8,570,590	2,905,000				
2020	7,861,959	3,200,000				

U: Unaudited

Source: Annual Audit Reports of the Township and 2024 Annual Financial Statement

## **Township Indebtedness as of December 31, 2024**

General Purpose Debt	
Serial Bonds	\$25,885,000
Bond Anticipation Notes	8,428,210
Bonds and Notes Authorized but Not Issued	4,028,069
Other Bonds, Notes and Loans	3,976,310
Total:	\$42,317,589
Local School District Debt	
Serial Bonds	\$26,105,000
Temporary Notes Issued	0
Bonds and Notes Authorized but Not Issued	$\underline{0}$
Total:	\$26,105,000
Self-Liquidating Debt	
Serial Bonds	\$0
Bond Anticipation Notes	0
Bonds and Notes Authorized but Not Issued	0
Other Bonds, Notes and Loans	<u>0</u>
Total:	\$0
TOTAL GROSS DEBT	<u>\$68,422,589</u>
Less: Statutory Deductions	
General Purpose Debt	\$3,956,268
Local School District Debt	26,105,000
Self-Liquidating Debt	0
Total:	\$30,061,268
TOTAL NET DEBT	<u>\$38,361,322</u>

Source: Annual Debt Statement of the Township

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## Overlapping Debt (as of December 31, 2024)<sup>2</sup>

	<b>Related Entity</b>	Township	Township
Name of Related Entity	<b>Debt Outstanding</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Share</b>
Local School District	\$26,105,000	100.00%	\$26,105,000
Willingboro MUA (2023)	36,903,278	100.00%	36,903,278
County	595,978,794	3.96%	23,578,389
Net Indirect Debt			\$86,586,667
Net Direct Debt			38,361,322
Total Net Direct and Indirect Debt			<u>\$124,947,988</u>

## **Debt Limit**

Average Equalized Valuation Basis (2022, 2023, 2024)	\$2,646,985,772
Permitted Debt Limitation (3 1/2%)	92,644,502
Less: Net Debt	38,361,322
Remaining Borrowing Power	<u>\$54,283,180</u>
Percentage of Net Debt to Average Equalized Valuation	1.449%
Gross Debt Per Capita based on 2023 population of 32,122	\$2,130
Net Debt Per Capita based on 2023 population of 32,122	\$1,194

Source: Annual Debt Statement of the Township

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Township percentage of County debt is based on the Township's share of total equalized valuation in the County.

## **APPENDIX B**

Financial Statements of The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro in the County of Burlington, New Jersey





#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Willingboro Township School District County of Burlington Willingboro, New Jersey 08046

## **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities and each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Willingboro Township School District (the "District"), in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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 District as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit 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; and the requirements prescribed by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### Responsibilities of Management 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 and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of

609-456-8804 39 Paddock Lane, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

#### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements (continued):**

internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, and audit requirements prescribed by the Office of School Finance Department of Education, State of new Jersey will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing* Standards and audit requirements prescribed by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion
  is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

#### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued):**

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

## **Required Supplemental Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management Discussion and Analysis and Budgetary Comparison Information, and the schedules related to accounting and reporting for pension and other post-retirement benefits, as listed on the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental 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.

## **Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The introductory section, combining statements and related major fund supporting statements and schedules, and statistical section are presented for purposes of additional analysis, as required by the Division of Administration and Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey, and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedules of federal awards and state financial assistance, as required by Title 2 *U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200*, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (*Uniform Guidance*) and New Jersey OMB's Circular 15-08, *Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants and State Aid* are presented for purposes of additional analysis and not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such 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. The 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, combining statements and related major fund supporting statements and schedules and schedules of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

#### Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the financial statements. The other information comprises the introductory, supplementary information and statistical section, as listed in the table of contents, but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

## Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated January 6, 2025 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent W. Lee

Certified Public Accountant

Licensed Public School Accountant No. 700

Cinnaminson, New Jersey January 6, 2025

## REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PART I

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

The discussion and analysis of the Willingboro Township Public School District's financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole. Readers should also review the notes to the basic financial statements and other financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's financial performance.

## Financial Highlights-2024

Net Position totaled \$40,337,102, which represents a \$6,608,210 increase from 2022-2023. The increase is mostly due to unfilled vacancies which caused a decrease in operating expenses, offset by increases in General Revenues.

The District had \$122,601,563 in revenues; general revenues accounted for \$93,477,934 in revenue or 76.25% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and operating grants and contributions accounted for \$29,123,629 or 23.75% of all revenues.

The District had \$117,771,172 in expenses; governmental activities accounted for \$114,452,790 of expenses or 97.18%. Business-type activities accounted for \$3,318,382 of expenses or 2.82%.

Among major funds, the General Fund had \$105,544,579 in revenues and \$105,363,571 in expenditures. The General Fund's fund balance is \$17,440,389

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

The annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the Willingboro Township Public School District's financial position and as an entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide a detailed look at specific financial activities.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the District, presenting both an aggregate view of the District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. Governmental fund statements tell how services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the District's most significant funds with all other non-major funds presented in total in one column. In the case of the Willingboro Township Public School District, the General Fund is by far the most significant.

#### Reporting the District as a Whole

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

This document contains all funds used by the District to provide programs and activities, viewing the District as a whole and reports the culmination of all financial transactions. The report answers the question "How We Did Financially during Fiscal Year 2024." The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of activities provides the summary. The statements include all assets and liabilities using the account 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 District's net position and changes in net position. This change in net assets is important because they report on whether the District's financial position has improved or diminished.

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

Governmental Activities - All of the District's programs and services are reported here including, instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant facilities, pupil transportation and extracurricular activities.

**Business-Type Activities** - These services are provided on a charge for goods or services basis to recover all the expense of the goods or services provided. The Food Service and Community School Enterprise Funds are reported as business activities.

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

#### **Fund Financial Statement**

The Analysis of the District's major funds provides detailed information about the District's major funds. The District's major governmental funds are the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Capital Projects Fund and Debt Service Fund.

#### **Governmental Funds**

The District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of the funds and balances left at year-end available for spending in the future years. These funds are reported using a modified accrual accounting method, 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 District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position 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. The reporting of this fund did not change with the conversion to GASB 34.

#### The District as a Whole

Table I provides a comparative summary of the District's net position for 2023 and 2024.

#### **Table I – Net Position**

The District's combined net position was \$40,337,102 on June 30, 2024. This is an increase of 19.59% from the previous fiscal year.

Net Position		30-Jun-24	30-Jun-23	
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Debt	\$	39,369,253	30,703,838	
Restricted For: Other Purposes		9,143,841	14,489,682	
Unrestricted		(8,175,992)	(11,464,628)	
Total Net Position	\$	40,337,102 \$	33,728,892	

#### **Government Activities**

Property taxes as approved by the voters of the Willingboro Township in the amount of \$39,285,308 made up 32.42% of governmental activities revenue for the fiscal year 2024. The District's total governmental activities revenues were \$121,171,597 for the year ended June 30, 2024. Federal & State Aid Not Restricted in the amount of \$65,675,629 made up 54.20% and operating grants and contributions in the amount of \$13,987,235 made up 11.54% of governmental activities revenues, respectively. The remaining 1.84% is made up of tuition received, miscellaneous income, transfer in, and decrease in pension liability.

#### **Governmental Activities Revenue for Fiscal Year 2024**

<u>Revenue</u>	<b>FY 2024</b>
Tax Levy	39,285,308
Tuition Charges	455,685
Miscellaneous	1,767,740
State Services / Local Sources	72,428,843
Federal Sources	7,234,021
Total	\$121,171,597

## **Governmental Activities Expenses for Fiscal Year 2024**

The total cost of all programs and services was \$120,979,477. Instruction and out of district tuition expenses in the amount of \$42,802,725 made up 35.38% of the governmental activities expenses.

<b>Expense</b>	<u>FY 2024</u>
Instruction	33,079,107
Out of District Placement	9,723,618
Undistributed Expenditures	66,521,586
Capital Outlay	3,923,807
Debt Service	1,650,190
Transfer to Charter School	6,081,169
Total	\$120,979,477

#### **Business-Type Activities**

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

Food service revenues did not exceed expenses. Food service had a loss of \$285,215 due to having to write off \$353,104 as uncollectible. Charges for services in the amount of \$291,808 made up 11.92% of food service program revenue. This represents the amount paid by patrons for daily food service and catering. Operating grants, contributions and interest in the amount of \$2,161,244 made up the remaining 88.08% of food service program revenue. This represents federal and state reimbursements for meals, including payments for free and reduced lunches and donated commodities.

Before and after school program revenues exceed expenses by \$174,618. Charges for services in the amount of \$746,819 makes up 100% of day care program revenue other than interest income. This represents the amount paid by patrons for tuition.

#### **Governmental Activities**

The Comparative Statement of Activities (Table 3) shows the cost of program services for 2023-2024 compared to 2022-2023.

**Table 3 – Comparative Statement of Activities** 

	2023-2024	2022-2023	<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>
Instruction (Excluding Grants)	24,199,244	20,332,492	3,866,752	19.02%
Co/Extra Curricular Activities	1,273,941	970,826	303,115	31.22%
Special Education Instruction	4,896,047	4,583,843	312,204	6.81%
Attendance, Health, Student & Related Servio	7,113,416	6,200,941	912,475	14.72%
Library com	827,185	918,797	(91,612)	-9.97%
Improvement of Instruction Services	2,463,548	1,148,513	1,315,035	114.50%
General and School Administration	3,631,917	2,949,244	682,673	23.15%
Central Services & Adm Info Technology	1,413,368	1,399,087	14,281	1.02%
Plant Operations and Maintenance	11,759,370	9,643,507	2,115,863	21.94%
Pupil Transportation	6,793,581	5,620,388	1,173,193	20.87%
Fringe Benefits	11,644,733	10,152,298	1,492,435	14.70%
Capital Outlay	3,552,238	954,419	2,597,819	272.19%
Tuition	9,723,618	9,703,770	19,848	0.20%
Debt Service	1,155,000	1,170,000	(15,000)	-1.28%
Nonbondable Capital Assets	413,741	413,741	-	0.00%
Transfer to Charter School	6,081,169	5,820,887	260,282	4.47%
Unallocated Depreciation	3,981,880	3,588,327	393,553	10.97%
Interest on Long-Term Debt	495,190	521,902	(26,712)	-5.12%
Total District Obligations	101,419,186	86,092,982	15,326,204	17.80%
Fringe Obligations of the State	13,372,970	12,856,922	516,048	4.01%
Grand Total	114,792,156	98,949,904	15,842,252	13.80%

#### Instructional Expenses:

Instructional expenses encompass all costs directly associated with the educational process, including activities aimed at teaching and supporting student learning. This category covers expenses related to the direct interaction between teachers and students, as well as instructional support activities. Additionally, it includes costs associated with extracurricular and co-curricular activities that enhance the educational experience and contribute to the overall development of students.

#### Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities:

Extracurricular and co-curricular activities involve expenses related to student engagement beyond the classroom, which are organized and supported by the District. These activities provide students with opportunities to participate in events that foster motivation, school spirit, leadership, personal growth, and skill development. These activities are designed to complement the academic curriculum and promote holistic student development through participation in school events, competitions, and public engagements.

#### Attendance, Health, Medical, and Other Support Services:

Attendance, health, medical, and other support services encompass a broad range of activities aimed at ensuring students receive the necessary instructional support and well-being services. This category includes expenditures for services that facilitate student attendance, health care, counseling, psychological support, and other services designed to enable students to fully engage in their educational experience and promote overall student welfare

Improvement of Instructional Staff:

#### Improvement of Instructional Staff:

The improvement of instructional staff involves activities focused on enhancing the effectiveness of educators through professional development and training initiatives. This includes investments in curriculum development, staff workshops, and ongoing professional learning opportunities designed to support teachers in refining their teaching strategies, improving content delivery, and maintaining high educational standards.

General Administration, School Administration, Central Services, and Administrative Information Technology:

General administration, school administration, central services, and administrative information technology refer to expenses related to the overall management and operational supervision of the District. This includes the costs of administrative oversight, policy implementation, financial management, and technology infrastructure that supports the efficient functioning of the District. The category also covers expenses related to the management of central office operations, school leadership, and the provision of information technology systems critical to the District's administrative functions.

#### Operation and Maintenance of Facilities:

Operation and maintenance of facilities refers to all activities involved in ensuring that the District's physical infrastructure—including school buildings, grounds, and equipment—remains safe, operational, and conducive to a productive learning environment. This category includes routine maintenance, repairs, upgrades, and custodial services, as well as long-term facility improvements necessary for maintaining effective and safe educational spaces for students and staff.

#### Pupil Transportation:

Pupil transportation includes all costs associated with the conveyance of students to and from school, as well as transportation to co-curricular, athletic, and field trip activities as mandated by state law. This category covers both the direct expenses of transporting students and the logistics involved in managing transportation services for various school-related activities, ensuring students' safe and timely arrival at school and participation in extracurricular programs.

#### Special Schools:

Special schools refer to alternative educational programs, including the Students with Special needs which are designed to meet the needs of students who require specialized academic services. This category encompasses the costs associated with the operation and management of these specialized educational programs, aimed at providing alternative pathways to graduation and adult education.

#### Capital Outlay:

Capital outlay includes expenditures related to the acquisition, improvement, or major repair of school facilities and educational equipment. This category encompasses both long-term investments in physical infrastructure and significant capital improvements necessary to enhance the District's educational environment. It includes construction projects, renovation costs, and the purchase of major equipment or technology.

#### **Debt Services:**

Debt services refer to the District's expenditures related to the repayment of long-term debt obligations. This includes the principal and interest payments associated with bonds or other forms of borrowing utilized to finance capital projects or other large-scale expenditures. Debt services ensure that the District meets its financial commitments and maintains fiscal responsibility in the management of public funds.

#### The District's Funds

Information about the District's major funds starts on page 28 these funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues of \$121,171,597.

As demonstrated by the various statements and schedules included in the financial section of this report, the District continues to meet its responsibility for sound financial management. The following schedules present a summary of the revenues of the governmental funds for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023 and the amount of increases and decreases in relation to prior year expenditures.

#### Instruction

Increased by \$3,866,752

The increase is attributed to the implementation of new Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs, as well as the addition of new teachers and materials purchased for newly created classrooms.

#### **Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities**

*Increased by \$303,115* 

This increase reflects the additional expenses associated with enhancing and expanding co-curricular and extracurricular programming.

#### **Special Education Instruction**

Increased by \$312,204

The increase is due to the hiring of additional staff to support the growing needs of students in special education programs.

#### **Library and Media Services**

Decreased by \$91,612

The decrease is the result of a reduction in staff through retirement, which contributed to a lower operational cost for library and media services.

#### **Improvement of Instructional Services**

*Increased by \$1,315,035* 

This increase is primarily driven by enhanced staffing and professional development/training programs aimed at improving instructional quality district-wide.

#### **General and School Administration**

*Increased by* \$682,673

The increase in general and school administration costs reflects additional expenses related to administrative staffing and district-wide operational improvements.

#### **Central Services and Administrative Information Technology**

Increased by \$14,281

The modest increase in central services and IT costs is due to continued investment in administrative systems and technology upgrades.

#### Plant Operation and Required Maintenance

Increased by \$2,115,863

The significant increase is attributed to facility upgrades, including improvements in the district's physical plant and infrastructure maintenance.

#### **Pupil Transportation**

*Increased by \$1,173,193* 

The increase in pupil transportation costs is largely due to rising fuel prices and the implementation of new transportation contra

#### **Fringe Benefits**

Increased by \$1,492,435

This increase reflects rising costs associated with employee benefits, including health insurance, pensions, and other fringe benefit expenses.

#### **Tuition**

Increased by \$19,848

The modest increase in tuition costs is attributed to adjustments in out-of-district placements and specialized educational programs.

#### The District's Funds

Information about the District's major funds starts on page 28. These funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues of \$121,171,597.

As demonstrated by the various statements and schedules included in the financial section of this report, the district continues to meet its responsibility for sound financial management. The following schedules present a summary of the revenues of the governmental funds for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023 and the amount of increases and decreases in relation to prior year expenditures.

#### **Comparative Summary of Revenues**

	2023	- 2024	•	2022 -	- 2023	•	Increase (Decrease)
Revenues	Amount	Percent of Total		Amount	Percent of Total	•	from 2022-23 to 2023-24
Local Sources	\$ 41,690,917	34.4	\$	35,804,411	33.2	\$	5,886,506
State Sources	72,246,659	59.6		62,990,229	58.4		9,256,430
Federal Sources	7,234,021	6.0	_	9,030,160	8.4	_	(1,796,139)
	\$ 121,171,597	100.0	\$	107,824,800	100.0	\$	13,346,797

There was an increase in Local Funding of \$5,886,506.

There was an overall increase in funding for State Sources in the amount of \$9,256,430.

There was a decrease in funding for Federal Sources in the amount of \$1,796,139.

#### **General Fund Budgeting Highlights**

The District's budget is prepared according to New Jersey law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of revenues, expenditures and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

During the course of the fiscal year 2024, the district amended its General Fund budget as appropriated. Transfers from one program to another must be approved by the Board of Education.

At the end of the fiscal year 2024, the District had \$122,835,858 invested in land, buildings, furniture and equipment and vehicles. Table 4 shows fiscal 2024 balances compared to 2023.

Table 4 - Capital Assets at June 30

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Land/Sites	\$ 1,430,025	\$ 1,430,025
Buildings and Improvements	113,874,781	108,010,516
Machinery and Equipment	16,441,712	13,395,317
Right-of-use Asset	1,310,218	1,376,260
Totals	\$ 133,056,736	\$ 124,212,118

Overall capital assets increased from fiscal year 2023 to fiscal year 2024 primarily due to facility upgrades and new machinery and equipment.

#### For the Future

The Willingboro Board of Education continues to emphasize the improvement of instruction and student achievement. Programs implemented during the past five years were supported in the 2023-2024 Budgets with emphasis on improving test scores. The Board will continue to support funding to improve the centralized student enrollment center; the summer curriculum development program; improved delivery of services in Math and Language Arts; and special education classes at the elementary level.

#### 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 District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, you may contact Dr. Steven Lewis, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Willingboro Township Public Schools, Country Club Administration Building, 440 Beverly-Rancocas Road, Willingboro, New Jersey 08046.

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**BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

A. District – Wide Financial Statements

## WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2024

ASSETS	GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES		TOTAL
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 17,036	,385 974,153	\$ 18,010,538
Receivables, Net (Note 3)	4,951		5,388,494
Inventory	,	19,060	19,060
Restricted Cash & Cash Equivalents	2,218		2,218,597
Capital Assets, Net (Note 4)	52,654		52,980,116
, , ,		•	
Total Assets	76,861	,649 1,755,156	78,616,805
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCE	ES		
Bond Discount on Debt Refunding	67	,606	67,606
Related to Pension (Note 7)	341		355,286
reduced to 1 emision (1 total 1)	311	11,231	333,200
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	408	,641 14,251	422,892
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	5,008	,094 208,194	5,216,288
Accrued Interest		,889	155,889
Due to Other Governments	1,086		1,086,593
Internal Balances	(736)		1,080,393
Unearned Revenue	1,947		1,962,618
Noncurrent Liabilities (Note 6):	1,547	,393 13,023	1,902,016
Due Within One Year	3,468	072	3,468,973
Due Beyond One Year	25,117		25,233,178
Due Beyond One Teal	23,117	,236 113,940	23,233,176
Total Liabilities	36,048	,318 1,075,221	37,123,539
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Related to Pension (Note 7)	1,563	,265 15,791	1,579,056
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	1,563	,265 15,791	1,579,056
NET POSITION			
Not Investment in Conital Assets	20.044	100 205 145	20 260 252
Net Investment in Capital Assets Restricted For:	39,044	,108 325,145	39,369,253
	5 926	014	5 926 014
Excess Surplus	5,836		5,836,914
Capital Reserve	1,687		1,687,261
Maintenance Reserve		,673	511,673
Unemployment Compensation		,657	710,657
Debt Service Fund		,854	139,854
Scholarships		,290	46,290
Student Activities		,192 242) 252 250	211,192
Unrestricted	(8,529)	,242) 353,250	(8,175,992)
Total Net Position	\$ 39,658	,707 678,395	\$ 40,337,102

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

WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

		PROGRA	PROGRAM REVENUES	NET (EXPENSE) REVI	NET (EXPENSE) REVENUE AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION	N NET POSITION
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	EXPENSES	CHARGES FOR SERVICES	OPERATING GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	BUSINESS- TYPE ACTIVITIES	TOTAL
Governmental Activities: Instruction:						
Regular Special Education	\$ 30,393,216 4,896,047	101,323	6,092,649	(24,199,244) (4,896,047)	<b>∽</b>	(24,199,244) (4,896,047)
Other Special Instruction Other Instruction	1,273,941			(1,273,941)		(1,273,941)
Support Services & Undistributed Costs:	017 0010	407 444		(000 000 00		(200 0)
Tuttion Attendance & Social Work Services	9,723,618 547,170	455,685		(9,267,933) $(547,170)$		(9,267,933) $(547,170)$
Health Services	1,027,019			(1,027,019)		(1,027,019)
Student & Instruction Related						
Services	11,405,258	182,184	7,501,498	(3,721,576)		(3,721,576)
Educational Media Services/						
School Library	827,185			(827,185)		(827,185)
Instructional Staff Training	1,979,104			(1,979,104)		(1,979,104)
School Administrative Services	651,312			(651,312)		(651,312)
Other Administrative Services	2,444,683			(2,444,683)		(2,444,683)
Central Services	1,413,368			(1,413,368)		(1,413,368)
Plant Operations & Maintenance	11,120,637			(11,120,637)		(11,120,637)
Pupil Transportation	6,769,081			(6,769,081)		(6,769,081)
Unallocated Benefits	23,413,966		13,372,970	(10,040,996)		(10,040,996)
Charter School	6,081,169			(6,081,169)		(6,081,169)
Interest on Long-Term Debt	486,016			(486,016)		(486,016)

EXHIBIT A-2 (Page 2 of 2)

WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

		PROGR/	PROGRAM REVENUES	NET (EXPEN	ISE) REVEN	NET (EXPENSE) REVENUE AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION	NET POSITION
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS	EXPENSES	CHARGES FOR SERVICES	OPERATING GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	ENTAL	BUSINESS- TYPE ACTIVITIES	TOTAL
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 114,452,790	739,192	26,967,117	(86,7	(86,746,481)	\$	(86,746,481)
Business-Type Activities: Food Service Day Care Program	2,738,267	291,808	2,156,512			(289,947) 166,704	(289,947)
Total Business-Type Activities	3,318,382	1,038,627	2,156,512			(123,243)	(123,243)
Total Primary Government	\$ 117,771,172	1,777,819	29,123,629	(86,7	(86,746,481)	(123,243)	(86,869,724)
General Revenues: Taxes:							
Property Taxes, Levied for General Purposes, Net	urposes, Net			37,6	37,645,525		37,645,525
Taxes Levied for Debt Service				1,6	1,639,783		1,639,783
Federal & State Aid Not Restricted				52,5	52,513,563		52,513,563
Investment Earnings						12,646	12,646
Miscellaneous Income				1,6	1,666,417		1,666,417
Total General Revenues, Special Items, Extraordinary Items & Transfers	traordinary Items & T	Fransfers		7,56	93,465,288	12,646	93,477,934
Change In Net Position				6,5	6,718,807	(110,597)	6,608,210
Net Position - July 1				32,9	32,939,900	788,992	33,728,892
Net Position - Ending				\$ 39,6	39,658,707	678,395 \$	40,337,102

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

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**B. Fund Financial Statements** 

# WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET JUNE 30, 2024

	001(200,20						
	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL		
Assets:	A 17 710 002	2 204 572	10.662	120.054	# 10 <b>25</b> 1 00 <b>2</b>		
Cash & Cash Equivalents Due From Other Funds	\$ 16,710,893	2,384,572	19,663	139,854	\$19,254,982		
Receivables From Other	1,419,975	33,237	112,899		1,566,111		
Governments	1,490,094	2,994,523			4,484,617		
Other Receivables	356,132	110,947			467,079		
Total Assets	19,977,094	5,523,279	132.562	139.854	25,772,789		
1'1'''' 0 E 1D1							
Liabilities & Fund Balances: Liabilities:							
Accounts Payable	1,891,365	2,686,722			4,578,087		
Payable to Other Governments	1,091,303	16,766			16,766		
Payroll Deductions & Withholdings Payable	420.007	10,700					
	430,007	(21.060			430,007		
Interfund Payable Unearned Revenue	198,987	631,060			830,047		
Unearned Revenue	16,346	1,931,249			1,947,595		
Total Liabilities	2,536,705	5,265,797			7,802,502		
Frond Deleverer							
Fund Balances: Restricted For:							
Excess Surplus	2 221 720				2 221 720		
Excess Surplus Excess Surplus Designated	2,231,730				2,231,730		
for Subsequent Year's							
Expenditures	2,965,955				2,965,955		
Additional Excess Surplus Designated	2,903,933				2,903,933		
for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	639,229				639,229		
Capital Reserve	1,687,261				1,687,261		
Maintenance Reserve	511,673				511,673		
Unemployment Compensation	710,657				710,657		
Debt Service Fund	710,037			139,854	139,854		
Scholarships		46,290		137,034	46,290		
Student Activities		211,192			211,192		
Special Revenue Fund		211,172			211,172		
Committed to:							
Other Purposes			132,562		132,562		
Unassigned:			132,302		132,302		
General Fund	8,693,884				8,693,884		
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				-,,-		
Total Fund Balances	17,440,389	257,482	132,562	139,854	17,970,287		
Total Liabilities & Fund Balances	\$ 19.977.094	5.523.279	132.562	139.854	:		
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of net position (A-1)							
Amounts reported for <i>governmental activities</i> in the statement of net position (A-1) are different because:							
are different because:  Capital assets used in gavernmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the							
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the							
funds. The cost of the assets is \$131,817,658 and the accumulated depreciation is \$79,162,687.							
Deferred Outflows related to pension contributions subequent to the Net Pension Liability measurement date							
and other deferred items are not current financial resources and therefore are not report in the fund statements.							
Deferred Inflows related to pension actuarial gains from experience and differences in actual							
return and assumed returns and other deferred items are not reported as liabilities in the fund statements.							
Discount on School Refunding Bonds (amortized as i							
		Deferred Char	_		73,240		
			lated Amortizat	tion	(5,634)		
Accrued pension contributions for June 30, 2024 plan	n year are not paid	d with current					
economic resources and are therefore not reported a	s a loiability in th	ne funds, but ar	e inculuded in	accounts			
payable in the government-wide statement of net po	sition.				(1,069,827)		
Accrued Interest is not recorded in the fund statement					(155,889)		
Long-term liabilities, including compensated absence	s, bonds & equip	ment lease pay	able, & lease of	oligations,			
are not due and payable in the current period and the	nerefore are not re	eported as liabi	lities in the fun	ds			
(see Illustrative Note 6)					(28,586,211)		
NAME OF THE OWNER OF THE OWNER OF THE OWNER OF THE OWNER					<b>#20</b> (50 505		
Net Position of Governmental Activities					\$39.658.707		

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

## WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Revenues:	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
Local Tax Levy	\$37,645,525			1,639,783	\$ 39,285,308
Tuition Charges	455,685			1,039,783	455,685
Unrestricted Miscellaneous Revenue	1,767,740				1,767,740
Local Sources	1,/0/,/40	182,184			182,184
State Sources	65,545,472	6,701,187			72,246,659
Federal Sources	130,157	7,103,864			7,234,021
1 caciai sources	150,157	7,103,001			7,23 1,021
Total Revenues	105,544,579	13,987,235		1,639,783	121,171,597
Expenditures:					
Current:	20.017.470	( 002 (40			26 000 110
Regular Instruction	20,816,470 4,896,047	6,092,649			26,909,119
Special Education Instruction Other Instruction	1,273,941				4,896,047 1,273,941
Support Services & Undistributed Costs:	1,2/3,941				1,2/3,941
Tuition	9,723,618				9,723,618
Attendance & Social Work Services	547,170				547,170
Health Services	1,027,019				1,027,019
Student & Instruction Related Services	5,539,227	7,501,498			13,040,725
Educational Media Services/School Library	827,185	7,501,150			827,185
Instructional Staff Training	2,463,548				2,463,548
General Administrative Services	882,350				882,350
Other Administrative Services	2,749,567				2,749,567
Central Services	1,413,368				1,413,368
Plant Operations & Maintenance	11,759,370				11,759,370
Pupil Transportation	6,793,581				6,793,581
Unallocated Benefits	25,017,703				25,017,703
Scholarships Awarded					
Debt Service:					
Principal				1,155,000	1,155,000
Interest				495,190	495,190
Capital Outlay	3,552,238	371,569			3,923,807
Transfer to Charter School	6,081,169				6,081,169
Total Expenditures	105,363,571	13,965,716		1,650,190	120,979,477
Excess/(Deficiency) of Revenues					
Over/(Under) Expenditures	181,008	21,519		(10,407)	192,120
(/ <u>-</u>		= - 1,0 - 2		(-3,.37)	->-,0
Fund Balance - July 1	17,259,381	235,963	132,562	150,261	17,778,167
·	17,207,001	233,703			1,,,,0,10,
Fund Balance - June 30	\$17,440,389	257,482	132,562	139,854	\$ 17,970,287

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

# WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Total Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (From B-2)		\$ 192,120
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:		
Capital Outlays Adjustment per District Appraisal Depreciation Expense	3,851,870 3,753,670 (3,981,880)	3,623,660
Repayment of loan and bond principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position and is not reported in the statement of activities.		1,155,000
Repayment of lease obligation principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position and is not reported in the statement of activities.  Right-to -Use Asset Adjustment Current Year	274,237	274,237
The issuance of long-term debt (bonds) provides current financial resources to government funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial		
resources of the governmental funds. Neiter transaction, however, has any effect on net position Also, governmental funds report the effects of discounts and similar items when debt is issufficient whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items.	tion. ued,	(5,634)
Accrued interest is not recorded in the governmental funds, but is expensed in the statement of net position.		
Current Year Prior Year	(155,889) 165,063	9,174
In the statement of activities, certain operating expenses, e.g., compensated absences (vacations) are measured by the amounts earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are reported in the amount of financial resources used/(paid). When the earned amount exceeds the paid amount, the difference is a reduction in the reconciliation (-); when the paid amount exceeds the earned amount the difference is an addition to the reconciliation (+).  Prior Year Compensated Absences  Current Year Compensated Absences	1,164,168 (1,278,644)	(114,476)
Pension contributions are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the contributions are adjusted for acturial valuation adjustments, including services and interest costs, administrative costs, investment returns, and experience/assumptions. This is the amount by which net pension		
liability and deferred inflows/outflows related to pension changed during the period.	_	1,584,726
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	=	\$ 6,718,807

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

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**Proprietary Funds** 

# WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPRIETARY FUNDS STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2024

	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES - ENTERPRISE FUNDS				
ASSETS	;	FOOD SERVICE	DAY CARE		TOTAL
Current Assets: Cash & Cash Equivalents Interfund Accounts Receivable Due from Other Governments	\$	226,280 68,689	747,873	\$	974,153 68,689
Other Accounts Receivable Inventories		386,631 28,330 19,060	21,837		386,631 50,167 19,060
Total Current Assets		728,990	769,710		1,498,700
Noncurrent Assets: Furniture, Machinery & Equipment Less: Accumulated Depreciation		1,222,470 903,124	16,609 10,810		1,239,079 913,934
Total Noncurrent Assets		319,346	5,799		325,145
Total Assets		1,048,336	775,509		1,823,845
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Related to Pension			14,251		14,251
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources			14,251		14,251
LIABILITIES					
Current Liabilities: Accounts Payable Interfund Accounts Payable Unearned Revenue		208,194 508,895	295,858 15,023		208,194 804,753 15,023
Total Current Liabilities		717,089	310,881		1,027,970
Long Term Liabilities: Pension Liability			115,940		115,940
Total Long Term Liabilities			115,940		115,940
Total Liabilities		717,089	426,821		1,143,910
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Related to Pension			15,791		15,791
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources			15,791		15,791
NET POSITION					
Net Investment in Capital Assets Unrestricted		319,346 11,901	5,799 341,349		325,145 353,250
Total Net Position	\$	331,247	347,148	\$	678,395

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

# WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPRIETARY FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES - ENTERPRISE FUNDS		
	FOOD	DAY	
	SERVICE	CARE	TOTAL
Operating Revenues:			
Charges for Services:			
Daily Sales - Reimbursable Programs	\$ -		\$ -
Daily Sales - Nonreimbursable Programs	291,808		291,808
Tuition & Fees		746,819	746,819
Total Operating Revenues	291,808	746,819	1,038,627
Operating Expenses:			
Cost of Sales - Reimbursable Programs	690,784		690,784
Cost of Sales - Non-Reimbursable Programs	162,036		162,036
Salaries	925,591	476,101	1,401,692
Management Fee	163,525		163,525
Employee Benefits	174,494	51,805	226,299
Cleaning, Repair & Maintenance Services			
Travel Services	1,241	9,590	10,831
Purchased Services	28,650	4,880	33,530
Insurance	33,886		33,886
Supplies and Materials	333,936	12,549	346,485
Miscellaneous	46,164		46,164
Rent	150,000	25,000	175,000
Depreciation	27,960	190	28,150
Total Operating Expenses	2,738,267	580,115	3,318,382
Operating Income/(Loss)	(2,446,459)	166,704	(2,279,755)
Nonoperating Revenues/(Expenses):			
State Sources:			
State School Lunch Program	55,199		55,199
State School Breakfast Program	10,953		10,953
Supply Chain Assistance	91,260		91,260
Federal Sources:			
National School Lunch Program	1,247,223		1,247,223
National School Snack Program	51,088		51,088
National School Breakfast Program	485,618		485,618
Food Distribution Program	215,171		215,171
Interest & Investment Revenue	4,732	7,914	12,646
Total Nonoperating Revenues/(Expenses)	2,161,244	7,914	2,169,158
Change in Net Position	(285,215)	174,618	(110,597)
Total Net Position - Beginning	616,462	172,530	788,992
Total Net Position - Ending	\$ 331,247	347,148	\$ 678,395

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

# WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPRIETARY FUNDS STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	BU	SINESS-TYPE ENTERPRISI	E FUNDS	
		FOOD SERVICE	DAY CARE	TOTAL
Cash Flows From Operating Activities:	,	SERVICE	CAICL	TOTAL
Receipts from Customers	\$	620,257	736,956	\$ 1,357,213
Payments to Employees		(925,591)	(476,101)	(1,401,692)
Payments for Employee Benefits		(174,494)	(51,805)	(226,299)
Payments to Suppliers		(1,589,509)	(37,712)	(1,627,221)
Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Operating				
Activities		(2,069,337)	171,338	(1,897,999)
Cash Flows From Noncapital Financing Activities:				
State Sources		157,412		157,412
Federal Sources		1,783,929		1,783,929
N-4 C1, D d- d//Ud\ l N 4-1				
Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Noncapital Financing Activities		1,941,341		1,941,341
Timanoing Activities		1,541,541		1,771,571
Cash Flows From Capital & Related Financing Activities:				
Acquisition of Property, Plant & Equipment		(5,720)	(5,989)	(11,709)
Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Capital &				
Related Financing Activities		(5,720)	(5,989)	(11,709)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities: Interest & Dividends		4,732	7,914	12,646
interest & Dividends		7,732	7,714	12,040
Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Investing				
Investing Activities		4,732	7,914	12,646
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents		(128,984)	173,263	44,279
Balances - Beginning of Year		355,264	574,610	929,874
D-1 F-1-fV	¢	226 280	747 072	¢ 074152
Balances - End of Year	7	226,280	747,873	\$ 974,153
Reconciliation of Operating Income/(Loss) to Net C	ash	Provided/(Used	l) by Operating	<b>Activities:</b>
Operating Income/(Loss)	\$	(2,446,459)	166,704	\$ (2,279,755)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income/(Loss)				
to Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Operating Activities:		•= 0.50	100	• • • • • •
Depreciation & Net Amortization		27,960	190	28,150
Commodities Received Increase/(Decrease) in Unearned Revenue		215,171	1,269	215,171 1,269
(Increase)/Decrease in Accounts Receivable, Net		101,060	(11,132)	89,928
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventories		7,439	(11,132)	7,439
Increase/(Decrease) in Interfund Payable		12,218	31,390	43,608
Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable		13,274	(17,083)	(3,809)
Total Adjustments		377,122	4,634	381,756
Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Operating Activities	\$	(2,069,337)	171,338	\$ (1,897,999)

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

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**Fiduciary Fund** 

**Not Applicable** 

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying financial statements of the Willingboro Township Board of Education have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The following is a summary of more significant accounting policies.

#### **Reporting Entity**

The Willingboro Township Board of Education is a Type II district located in the County of Burlington, 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 appointed to three-year terms. These terms are staggered so that three members' terms expire each year. The District provides a full range of educational services appropriate to grade levels K through 12. These include regular, vocational, as well as special education for handicapped youngsters. The Willingboro Township Board of Education has an approximate enrollment at June 30, 2024 of 3,775 students.

# **Component Unit**

The primary criterion for including activities within the District's reporting entity, as set forth in Section 2100 of the GASB Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial 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

Based on the aforementioned criteria, the District has no component units.

# Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

**District-Wide Financial Statements** – The School District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, and financial statements, which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by property taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. Likewise, the primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

#### Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation (continued):

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and, therefore, clearly identifiable to a particular function. It is the policy of the School District to not allocate indirect expenses to functions in the statement or activities. Program revenues include (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Property taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

In regards to the fund financial statements, the School District segregates transactions related to certain functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund financial statements report detailed information about the School District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a single column.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. The Burlington County Board of Taxation is responsible for the assessment of properties, and the respective municipal tax collector is responsible for the collection of property taxes. Assessments are certified and property taxes are levied on January 1. Property tax payments are due February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. Unpaid property taxes are considered delinquent the following January 1 and are then subject to municipal lien. In accordance with New Jersey State Statute, the School District is entitled to receive moneys under an estimated payment schedule, and any unpaid amount is considered as an accounts receivable. The governing body of each municipality is required to pay over to the School District, within (40) days after the beginning of the school year, Twenty percent (20%) of the moneys from school tax due. Thereafter, but prior to the last day of the school year, the municipality must pay the balance of moneys from school tax due for school purposes in such amounts as requested, with certain limitations, from time to time by the School District, within thirty days after each request.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when they are deemed both available and measurable. Available means when revenues are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the School District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within sixty (60) days of the current fiscal year. Measurable means that the amount of revenue can be determined. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgements, are recorded only when payment is due.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

#### Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation (continued):

Property taxes, tuition, reimbursable-type grants, and interest associated with the current fiscal year are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal year. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the School District.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements — The Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal year-end. Principal revenue sources considered susceptible to accrual include federal and state grants, interest on investments, tuition and transportation. Other revenues are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the state.

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

#### **Fund Accounting:**

The accounts of the Willingboro Township Board of Education 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 in accordance with activities or objectives specified for the resources. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the District that are utilized are as follows:

#### **Governmental Funds**

**General Fund** - The general fund is the general operating fund of the Willingboro Township Board of Education and is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Included are certain expenditures for vehicles and movable instructional or non-instructional equipment which are classified in the Capital Outlay sub-fund.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

#### **Governmental Funds (continued):**

As required by the New Jersey Department of Education Willingboro Township Board of Education includes budgeted Capital Outlay in this fund. Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as they pertain to governmental entities state that General Fund resources may be used to directly finance capital outlays for long-lived improvements as long as the resources in such cases are derived exclusively from unrestricted revenues.

Resources for budgeted capital outlay purposes are normally derived from State of New Jersey Aid, interest earnings and appropriated fund balance. Expenditures are those that result in the acquisition of or additions to capital assets for land, existing buildings, improvements of grounds, construction of buildings, additions to or remodeling of buildings and the purchase of built-in equipment. These resources can be transferred from and to Current Expense by board resolution.

**Special Revenue Fund** - The Special Revenue Fund is used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue from State and Federal Government, (other than major capital projects, Debt Service or the Enterprise Funds) and local appropriations that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

Capital Projects Fund - 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).

**Debt Service Fund** - 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**

Proprietary funds are used to account for the School District's ongoing organizations and activities, which are operated and financed in a manner similar to those found in the private sector. The measurement focus is upon the determination of net income. Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. All items not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses. The following is a description of the Proprietary Funds of the District:

**Enterprise** - The enterprise fund is used to account for the operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to a private business enterprise. The costs of providing goods or services are financed primarily through user charges; or, where the District has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability or other purposes.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

#### **Fund Accounting (continued):**

#### **Proprietary Fund (continued):**

The District's Enterprise Fund is comprised of the Food Service Fund and Day Care Fund.

All Proprietary funds are accounted for on a cost of services or "capital maintenance" measurement focus. This means that all assets and all liabilities, whether current or noncurrent, associated with their activity are included on their balance sheets. Their reported fund equity (net total assets) is segregated into contributed capital and unreserved retained earnings, if applicable. Proprietary fund type operating statements present increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses) in net position.

Depreciation of all exhaustive capital assets used by proprietary funds is charged as an expense against their operations. Accumulated depreciation is reported on proprietary fund balance sheets. Depreciation has been provided over the estimated useful lives using the straight-line-method. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Food Service Fund & Day Care Fund:

Equipment 5 Years Light Trucks & Vehicle 5 Years Heavy Trucks & Vehicle 5 Years

# **Fiduciary Fund**

Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held by a governmental entity for other parties (either as trustee or as an agent) and that cannot be used to finance the governmental entity's own operating programs.

### **Basis of Accounting:**

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds and private purpose trust funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

All proprietary funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of these funds are included on the balance sheet. Proprietary fund-type operating statements present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net position.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

#### **Basis of Accounting (continued):**

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used for measuring financial position and operating results of all governmental fund types, expendable trust 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. State equalization monies are recognized as revenue during the period in which they are appropriated. A one-year availability period is used for revenue recognition for all other governmental fund revenues. 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.

In its accounting and financial reporting, the Willingboro Township Board of Education follows the pronouncements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and the pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) and its predecessor organizations issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless they conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The Willingboro Township Board of Education's proprietary funds have elected not to apply the standards issued by FASB after November 30, 1989.

The accrual basis of accounting is used for measuring financial position and operating results of proprietary fund types and private purpose trust funds. Under this method, revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they are earned and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

### **Budgets/Budgetary Control:**

Annual appropriated budgets are prepared in the spring of each year for the general, special revenue and debt service funds. The budgets are submitted to the county office and are voted upon at the annual school election on the first Tuesday in November. 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:23-1.2*. All budget amendments must be approved by School Board resolution.

Formal budgetary integration into the accounting system is employed as a management control device during the year. For governmental funds there are no substantial differences between the budgetary basis of accounting and generally accepted accounting principles with the exception of the legally mandated revenue recognition of the last state aid payment for budgetary purposes only and the special revenue fund as noted below. Encumbrance accounting is also employed as an extension of formal budgetary integration in the governmental fund types. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

# WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

## **Budgets/Budgetary Control: (continued):**

The accounting records of the special revenue fund are maintained on the grant accounting budgetary basis. The grant accounting budgetary basis differs from GAAP in that the grant accounting budgetary basis recognizes encumbrances as expenditures and also recognizes the related revenues, whereas the GAAP basis does not. Sufficient supplemental records are maintained to allow for the presentation of GAAP basis financial reports.

The budget, as detailed on Exhibit C-1, includes all amendments to the adopted budget, if any.

The following presents a reconciliation of the special revenue fund revenues and expenditures from the budgetary basis of accounting as presented in the Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual — General, Special Revenues and Debt Service Funds to the GAAP basis of accounting as presented in the Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - All Governmental Fund Types:

# Notes to Required Supplementary information Budgetary Comparison Schedule

Explanation of Differences between Budgetary Inflows and Outflows and GAAP Revenues and Expenditures.

Expenditures.	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund
Sources/Inflows of Resources		
Actual amounts (budgetary) "revenues" from the budgetary comparison schedules	\$106,214,203	\$13,987,235
Difference — Budget to GAAP:		
State aid payment recognized for GAAP statements in the current year, previously recognized		
for budgetary purposes State aid payment recognized for budgetary	4,731,068	
purposes, not recognized for GAAP Statements until the subsequent year	(5,400,692)	
Total revenue as reported on the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances -		
governmental funds	<u>\$105,544,579</u>	<u>\$13,987,235</u>

# WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

## Budgets/Budgetary Control: (continued):

	General Fund	<b>Special Revenue Fund</b>
Uses/Outflows of Resources		
Actual amounts (budgetary basis) "total outflows"		
from the budgetary comparison schedule	\$99,282,402	<u>\$13,965,716</u>
Encumbrances for supplies and equipment ordered		
but not received are reported in the year the order		
is placed for budgetary purposes, but in the year the		
supplies are received for financial reporting purposes		·
Total expenditures as reported on the statement of		
revenues, expenditures and changes in fund	***	<b></b>
balances - governmental funds	<u>\$99,282,402</u>	<u>\$13,965,716</u>

#### **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 Willingboro Township Board of Education 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.

# Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments:

Cash and Cash equivalents include petty cash, change funds, cash in banks and all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase and are stated at cost plus accrued interest. U.S. Treasury and agency obligations and certificates of deposit with maturities of one year or less when purchased are stated at cost. All other investments are stated at fair value.

New Jersey School Districts are limited as to the types of investments and types of financial institutions they may invest *in. N.J.S.18A:20-37* provides a list of permissible investments that may be purchased by New Jersey school districts.

Additionally, the District has adopted a cash management plan that requires it to deposit public funds in public depositories protected from loss under the provisions of the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act ("GUDPA"). GUDPA was enacted in 1970 to protect Governmental Units from loss of funds on deposit with a failed banking institution in New Jersey.

# WILLINGBORO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

## Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments (continued):

*N.J.S.A.17:9-41* et. Seq. establishes the requirements for the security of deposits of governmental units. The statute requires that no governmental unit shall deposit public funds in a public depository unless such funds are secured in accordance with the Act. Public depositories include Savings and Loan institutions, banks (both state and national banks) and savings banks the deposits of which are federally insured. All public depositories must pledge collateral, having a market value at least equal to five percent of the average daily balance of collected public funds, to secure the deposits of Governmental Units. If a public depository fails, the collateral it has pledged, plus the collateral of all other public depositories, is available to pay the full amount of their deposits to the Governmental Units.

# **Tuition Receivable/Payable**

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.

These adjustments are recorded upon certification by the State Board of Education, which is normally three years following the contract year. The cumulative adjustments through June 30, 2024, which have not been recorded, are not determinable.

The tuition rate adjustments for the years 2021-2022 have been established. According to the School District's records, these amounts are adjustments in the financial statements.

#### **Inventories & Prepaid Expenses**

Inventories are valued at cost, which approximates market. The costs are determined on a first-in, first-out method.

The cost of inventories in governmental fund types is recorded as expenditures when purchased rather than when consumed.

Prepaid expenses, which benefit future periods, other than those recorded in the enterprise funds, are recorded as expenditure during the year of purchase. Prepaid expenses in the enterprise fund represent payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2024.

### Short-Term Interfund Receivables/Payables

Short-term interfund receivables/payables represent amounts that are owed, other than charges for goods or services rendered to/from a particular fund in the Willingboro Township Board of Education and that are due within one year.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

#### **Capital Assets:**

General capital assets acquired or constructed during the year are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the district-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the District as assets, which have a cost in excess of \$2,000 at the date of acquisition and a useful life of one year or more. Donated capital assets are valued at their acquisition value on the date received. The general capital assets acquired or constructed were valued by an independent appraisal company. General capital assets, such as land and buildings, are valued at the historical cost basis and through estimated procedures performed by an independent appraisal company, respectively.

General capital assets are reflected as expenditures in the applicable governmental funds. Depreciation expense is recorded in the district-wide financial statements as well as the proprietary fund. Capital assets are depreciated on the straight-line method over the assets' estimated useful life. There is no depreciation recorded for land and construction in progress. Generally estimated useful lives are as follows:

Machinery & Equipment 3 - 20 Years Building & Other Improvements 7 - 60 Years Infrastructure 30 Years

# **Accrued Salaries and Wages**

District employees, who provide services to the District over the ten-month academic year and extended eleven-month calendar, do not have the option to have their salaries disbursed during the entire twelve-month year. Therefore, there is no accrual as of June 30, 2024 for such salaries.

### **Compensated Absences**

Compensated absences are those absences for which employees will be paid, such as vacation, sick leave and sabbatical leave. A liability for compensated absences that are attributable to services already rendered, and that are not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the District and its employees, is accrued as the employees earn the rights to the benefits. Compensated absences that relate to future services, or that are contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the District and its employees, are accounted for in the period in which such services are rendered or in which such events take place.

In the District-Wide financial statements, under governmental activities, compensated absences are reported as an expenditure and noncurrent liabilities.

#### **Unearned Revenue**

Unearned revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied and is recorded as a liability until the revenue is both measurable and the District is eligible to realize the revenue.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

#### **Long-term Obligations**

In district-wide financial statements, under governmental activities, long-term debt is recognized as a liability in the general fund as debt is incurred.

#### Leases

The District is a lessee for various equipment. The District recognizes a lease liability – finance purchase and a capital asset or recognizes a lease liability – right-to-use asset in the District-wide financial statements based on the criteria dictated in GASB Statement No. 87 – Leases.

## **Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements**

A Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangement (SBITA) is a contract that conveys control of the right to use another party's information technology (IT) software, alone or in combination with tangible capital assets, as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The District has subscribed into several short-term SBITAs lasting no more than one year. The District has elected to expense the subscription payments on a monthly basis as when they become due.

# **Fund Balance Disclosure**

In accordance with Government Accounting Standards Board, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, the Willingboro Township Board of Education classifies governmental fund balances as follow:

- <u>Non-spendable</u> includes fund balance amount that cannot be spent either because it is not in spendable form or because legal or contractual constraints.
- Restricted includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are externally imposed by external parties, constitutional provision or enabling legislation.
- <u>Committed</u> includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision making authority and does not lapse at year-end.
- <u>Assigned</u> includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that
  are neither considered restricted or committed. Fund Balance may be assigned by the Business
  Administrator.
- <u>Unassigned</u> includes balance within the General Fund which has not been classified within the above mentioned categories and negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

The Willingboro Township Board of Education uses restricted/committed amounts to be spent first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance are available, unless prohibited by law or regulation. Additionally, the Willingboro Township Board of Education would first use committed, then assigned and lastly unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued):

#### **Net Position**

Net position, represents the difference between summation of assets and deferred outflows of resources, and the summation of liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net position is classified in the following three components:

- <u>Net Investment in Capital Assets</u> This component represents capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, net of outstanding balances of borrowings used for acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets, plus any unspent bond proceeds.
- Restricted Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.
- <u>Unrestricted</u> Net position is reported as unrestricted when it does not meet the criteria of the other two components of net position.

### **Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Principles**

#### Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

The following GASB Statements became effective for the year ended June 30, 2024:

Statement No. 100, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections. Statement No. 100 improves the clarity of the accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections, which will result in greater consistency in application in practice. Statement No. 100 is effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2023. Management does not expect this Statement to have a material impact on the District's financial statements.

#### Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

The GASB has issued the following Statements which will become effective in future years as shown below:

Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. Statement No. 101 aligns the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. Statement No. 101 is effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2023. Management does not expect this Statement to have a material impact on the District's financial statements.

Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*. Statement No. 102 will improve financial reporting by providing users of financial statements with essential information that currently is not often provided. Statement No. 102 is effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2024. Management has not yet determined the potential impact on the District's financial statements.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Principles (continued):

# Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements (continued):

Statement No. 103, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*. Statement No. 103 improves key components of the financial reporting model to enhance its effectiveness in providing information that is essential for decision making and assessing a government's accountability. Statement No. 103 is effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2025. Management has not yet determined the potential impact on the District's financial statements.

Statement No. 104, *Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets*. Statement No. 104 provides users of government financial statements with essential information about certain types of capital assets. Statement No. 104 is effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2025. Management has not yet determined the potential impact on the District's financial statements.

#### Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments

The District is governed by the deposit and investment limitations of New Jersey state law. The Deposits and investments held at June 30, 2024, and reported at fair value are as follows:

Туре	Carrying Value
Deposits	
Demand Deposits	\$20,229,135
Total Deposits	\$20,229,135
Reconciliation of Statements of Net Position:	
Governmental Funds	\$19,254,982
Enterprise Funds	974,153
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$20,229,135

Custodial Credit Risk — Deposits in financial institutions, reported as components of cash, cash equivalents and investments had a bank balance of \$30,390,894 at June 30, 2024. Of the bank balance \$250,000 was fully insured by the FDIC (Federal Depository Insurance Corporation) and \$30,140,894 was secured by a collateral pool held by the bank, but not in the District's name, as required by New Jersey's Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA). The Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act is more fully described under section "Concentration of Investment Credit Risk" of these financial statements.

**Investment Interest Rate Risk** — The District has no formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. Maturities of investment held at June 30, 2024 are provided in the above schedule.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments (continued):

**Investment Credit Risk** — The District has no investment policy that limits its investment choices other than the limitation of state law as follows:

- Bonds or other obligations of the United States of America or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America;
- Government money market mutual funds;
- Any obligation that a federal agency or federal instrumentality has issued in accordance with an
  act of Congress, which security has a maturity date not greater than 397 days from the date of
  purchase, provided that such obligations bear a fixed rate of interest not dependent on any index
  or other external factor;
- Bonds or other obligations of the District or bonds or other obligations of the local unit or units within which the District is located;
- Bonds or other obligations, having a maturity date of not more than 397 days from the date of
  purchase, approved by the Division of Investment in the Department of Treasury for investment
  by the District;
- Local Governments investment pools;
- Deposits with the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. 1977, c.281; or
- Agreements for the repurchase of fully collateralized securities with certain limitations.

**Concentration of Investment Credit Risk** — The District places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

The District has deposited cash in 2024 with an approved public fund depository qualified under the provisions of the Government Unit Deposit Protection Act. In addition to savings and checking accounts the District invests monies in certificates of deposits.

The Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act P.L. 1970, Chapter 236, was passed to afford protection against bankruptcy or default by a depository. C.17:9-42 provides that no governmental unit shall deposit funds in a public depository unless such funds are secured in accordance with this act. C.17:9-42 provides that every public depository having public funds on deposit shall, as security for such deposits, maintain eligible collateral having a market value at least equal to either (1) 5% of the average daily balance of collected public fluids on deposit during the 6 month period ending on the next preceding valuation date (June 30 or December 31) or (2) at the election of the depository, at least equal to 5% of the average balance of collected public funds on deposit on the first, eighth, fifteenth, and twenty-second days of each month in the 6 month period ending on the next preceding valuation date (June 30 or December 31). No public depository shall be required to maintain any eligible collateral

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents and Investments (continued):

# **Concentration of Investment Credit Risk (continued):**

pursuant to this act as security for any deposit or deposits of any governmental unit to the extent such deposits are insured by F.D.1.C. or any other U.S. agency which insures public depository funds.

No public depository shall at any time receive and hold on deposit for any period in excess of 15 days public funds of a governmental unit(s) which, in the aggregate, exceed 75% of the capital funds of the depository, unless such depository shall, in addition to the security required to be maintained under the paragraph above, secure such excess by eligible collateral with a market value at least equal to 100% of such excess.

In the event of a default, the Commissioner of Banking within 20 days after the default occurrence shall ascertain the amount of public funds on deposit in the defaulting depository and the amounts covered by federal deposit insurance and certify the amounts to each affected governmental unit. Within 10 days after receipt of this certification, each unit shall furnish to the Commissioner verified statements of its public deposits. The Commissioner shall ascertain the amount derived or to be derived from the liquidation of the collateral maintained by the defaulting depository and shall distribute such proceeds pro rata among the governmental units to satisfy the net deposit liabilities to such units.

If the proceeds of the sale of the collateral are insufficient to pay in full the liability to all affected governmental units, the Commissioner shall assess the deficiency against all other public depositories having public funds on deposit determined by a formula determined by law. All sums collected by the Commissioner shall be paid to the governmental units having deposits in the defaulting depository in the proportion that the net deposit liability to each such governmental unit bears to the aggregate of the net deposit liabilities to all such governmental units.

If the proceeds of the sale of the collateral are insufficient to pay in full the liability to all affected governmental units, the Commissioner shall assess the deficiency against all other public depositories having public funds on deposit determined by a formula determined by law. All sums collected by the Commissioner shall be paid to the governmental units having deposits in the defaulting depository in the proportion that the net deposit liability to each such governmental unit bears to the aggregate of the net deposit liabilities to all such governmental units.

All public depositories are required to furnish information and reports dealing with public funds on deposit every six months, June 30th and December 31st, with the Commissioner of Banking. Any public depository which refuses or neglects to give any information so requested may be excluded by the Commissioner from the right to receive public funds for deposit until such time as the Commissioner shall acknowledge that such depository has furnished the information requested.

Upon review and approval of the Certification Statement that the public depository complies with statutory requirements, the Commissioner issues forms approving the bank as a municipal depository. The District should request copies of these approval forms semiannually to assure that all depositories are complying with requirements.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Note 3. Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivables at June 30, 2024 consisted of accounts and intergovernmental grants. All intergovernmental receivables are considered collectible in full due to the stable condition of state programs and the current fiscal year guarantee of federal funds.

Accounts receivable at June 30, 2024 for the School District's individual major funds, in aggregate, are as follows:

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Proprietary Fund	Total
State Aid Federal Aid Other	\$ 1,476,819 13,275 356,132	8,106 2,986,417 <u>110,947</u>	14,922 371,709 <u>50,167</u>	\$ 1,499,847 3,371,401 517,246
Total	<u>\$ 1,846,226</u>	3,105,470	436,798	\$ <u>5,388,494</u>

# **Note 4. Capital Assets:**

The following schedule is a summarization of the capital assets by source for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024:

,	June 30, 2023	Additions	Deletions	June 30, 2024
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>				
Capital Assets, not being Deprecia	ated:			
Land	\$ 1,430,025			\$ 1,430,025
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:	:			
Building & Improvements	108,010,516	5,864,265		113,874,781
Machinery & Equipment	13,395,317	1,807,317		15,202,634
Right-to-Use Assets	1,376,260		(66,042)	1,310,218
Total Capital Assets Being			, , , , ,	
Depreciated	122,782,093	7,671,582	(66,042)	130,387,633
Less: Accumulated Depreciation: Land				
Building & Improvements	(65,910,785)	(3,173,540)		(69,084,325)
Machinery & Equipment	(8,681,290)	(595,637)		(9,276,927)
Right-to-Use Assets	(588,732)	(278,745)	66,042	(801,435)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(75,180,807)	(4,047,922)	66,042	(79,162,687)
Net Capital Assets Being Depreciated/Amortized	47,601,286	3,623,660	-	51,224,946
Total Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 49,031,311	3,623,660	-	\$ 52,654,971

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 4. Capital Assets (continued):

The following schedule is a summarization of the proprietary fund capital assets recorded at historical cost by source for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024:

	June 30, 2023	Additions	Deletions	June 30, 2024
<b>Business-Type Activities:</b>				
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Machinery & Equipment:				
Food Service	\$1,216,750	5,720		\$1,222,470
Day Care	10,620	5,989	-	16,609
Total Capital Assets Being				
Depreciated	1,227,370	11,709		1,239,079
Less: Accumulated Depreciation: Machinery & Equipment:				
Food Service	(875,164)	(27,960)		(903,124)
Day Care	(10,620)	(190)	-	(10,810)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(885,784)	(28,150)		(913,934)
Net Capital Assets Being Depreciated	341,586	(16,441)	-	325,145
Total Business-Type Activities				
Capital Assets, Net	\$ 341,586	(16,441)	<u>-</u>	\$ 325,145

#### Note 5. Leases

### Lease Liability: Right-to-Use Asset Agreements

The District has entered into right-of-use lease arrangements for copiers and a mailing machine with various terms and interest rates. The District is required to make monthly principal and interest payments. The District leases both the copiers and mailing machine under various terms under long-term, noncancelable lease agreements. The leases expire at various dates through 2028 with no renewal options.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 5. Leases (continued):

The principal and interest costs for such leases for governmental funds were \$321,224 for the year ended June 30, 2024. Total future minimum lease payments under lease agreements are as follows:

Governmental Activities

Year Ending June 30,	<u>Principal</u>	Interest	<u>Total</u>		
2025	159,423	33,431	192,854		
2026	130,151	23,540	153,691		
2027	140,651	13,039	153,690		
2028	<u>89,235</u>	2,457	91,692		
Total Minimum Lease Payment	\$ 519,460	72,467	\$ 591,927		

The lease agreements qualify as right-to-use-assets for accounting purposes and therefore, have been recorded at the present value of their future minimum lease payments as the date of their inception. The assets acquired through right-to-use asset lease agreements are as follows:

	Governmental
	<u>Activities</u>
Right-to-Use-Assets:	
Equipment	\$ 1,310,218
Less: Accumulated Amortization	(801,435)
	\$ 508,783

# Note 6. Long-Term Debt

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in the long-term debt:

	Balance		Retired/	Balance	<b>Due Within</b>
	6/30/23	Increases	<b>Decreases</b>	6/30/24	One Year
Compensated					
Absences Payable	\$ 1,164,168	114,476		1,278,644	\$ 993,546
Pension Liability	11,933,575		455,468	11,478,107	1,147,634
Lease Payable	793,697		274,237	519,460	162,793
Bonds Payable	16,465,000		1,155,000	15,310,000	1,165,000
·					
Total	\$30,356,440	114,476	1,884,705	28,586,211	\$3,468,973

Compensated absences and net pension liability are liquidated by the general fund. The District elected to record \$1,147,634 as due within one year from the reported noncurrent liability of \$11,578,107 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability as measured as of June 30, 2023.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 6. Long-Term Debt (continued):

# A. Bonds Payable

The voters of the municipality through referendums authorize bonds in accordance with state law. All bonds are retired in serial installments within the statutory period of usefulness. Bonds issued by the District are general obligation bonds. At June 30, 2024, bonds payable consisted of the following issues:

Purpose	Interest	Maturity	Amount	Amount
	Rate	Date	Issued	Outstanding
2019 Refunding Bonds	2.574% -3.372%	3/1/2036	19,550,000	\$ 15,310,000

Principal and interest due on the outstanding serial bonds are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Principal	Intere	st	Total
2025	\$ 1,165,000	\$ 467,	667 \$	1,632,667
2026	1,165,000	437,	580	1,602,680
2027	1,215,000	406,	527	1,621,527
2028	1,230,000	372,	505	1,602,605
2029	1,245,000	337,0	033	1,582,033
2030-2034	6,415,000	1,115,	193	7,530,193
2035-2036	2,875,000	146,	308	3,021,008
Total	\$ 15,310,000	\$ 3,282,7	713 \$	18,592,713

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### **Note 7. Pension Plans**

Plan Descriptions — Substantially all of the 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. In addition, several District employees participate in the Defined Contribution Retirement Program (DCRP), which is a defined contribution pension plan. This plan is administered by the State of New Jersey Division of Pensions and Benefits.

#### **Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF)**

The Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with a special-funding situation, by which the State of New Jersey (the State) is responsible to fund 100% of the employer contributions, excluding any local employer early retirement incentive (ERI) contributions. TPAF is administered by the State of New Jersey, Division of Pensions and Benefits (the Division). For additional information about TPAF, please refer to Division's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) which can be found at http://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/financial-reports.shtml.

The vesting and benefit provisions are set by N.J.S.A. 18A:66. TPAF provides retirement, death, and disability benefits. All benefits vest after ten years of service, except for medical benefits, which vest after 25 years of service or under the disability provisions of TPAF. 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.

The following represents the membership tiers for TPAF:

<u>Tier</u>	<u>Definition</u>
1	Members who were enrolled prior to July 1, 2007
2	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after July 1, 2007 and prior to November 2, 2008
3	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after November 2, 2008 and prior to May 22, 2010
4	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after May 22, 2010 and prior to June 28, 2011
5	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after June 28, 2011

Service retirement benefits of 1/55th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tiers 1 and 2 members upon reaching age 60 and to tier 3 members upon reaching age 62. Service retirement benefits of 1/60th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tier 4 members upon reaching age 62 and tier 5 members upon reaching age 65. Early retirement benefits are available to tiers 1 and 2 members before reaching age 60, tiers 3 and 4 with 25 years or more of service credit before age 62, and tier 5 before age 65 with 30 or more years of service credit. Benefits are reduced by a fraction of a percent for each month that a member retires prior to the retirement age for his/her respective tier. Deferred retirement is available to members who have at least 10 years of service credit and have not reached the service retirement age for the respective tier.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

# Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) (continued):

The contribution policy for TPAF is set by *N.J.S.A 18A:66* and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. State legislation has modified the amount that is contributed by the State. The State's pension contribution is based on an actuarially determined amount, which includes the employer portion of the normal cost and an amortization of the unfunded accrued liability. Funding for noncontributory group insurance benefits is based on actual claims paid. For fiscal year 2024, the State's pension contribution was less than the actuarial determined amount.

Under current statute, all employer contributions are made by the State of New Jersey on-behalf of the School District and all other related non-contributing employers. No normal or accrued liability contribution by the School District has been required over the several preceding fiscal years.

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and additions to/deductions from the TPAF's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the TPAF. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the District recognized pension expense and related revenue of \$2,628,710 for support provided by the State. Although the district does not report net pension liability or deferred outflows or inflows related to the TPAF, the following schedule illustrates the collective net pension liability and deferred items and the State's portion of the net pension liability associated with the district.

The collective amounts are the total of all New Jersey Local governments participating in the TPAF plan.

	Measurement Date
	6/30/23
Collective deferred outflows of resources	\$ 2,413,548,676
Collective deferred inflows of resources	14,741,373,312
Collective net pension liability (Non-	
Employer – State of New Jersey)	51,032,669,551
State's portion of net pension liability	
that was associated with the district	107,001,296
State's portion of the net pension liability	
That was associated with the district as a percentage of collective net liability	.2096721514%

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

# **Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) (continued):**

**Actuarial Assumptions**-The total pension liability for the June 30, 2023 measurement date was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2023. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods in the measurement:

Inflation rate

Price 2.75% Wage 3.25%

Salary increases: 2.75 - 4.25%

Based on years of service

Investment rate of return 7.00%

Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Above-Median Income Employee mortality table with a 93.9% adjustment for males and 85.3% adjustment for females, with future improvement from the base year 2010 on a generational basis. Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 teachers above-Median Income Healthy Retiree mortality table with a 114.7% adjustment for males and 99.6% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base of 2010 on a generational basis. Disability mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Non-safety Disabled Retiree mortality table with a 106.3% adjustment for males and 100.3% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Mortality improvement is based on Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return - In accordance with State statute, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments (7.00% at June 30, 2023) is determined by the State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the Division of Investments and Division of Pensions and Benefits, the board of trustees and the actuaries. The long-term expected rate of return was determined using a building block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in TPAF's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) (continued):

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
US Equity	28.00%	8.98%
Non-U.S. Developed Market Equity	12.75%	9.22%
International Small Cap Equity	1.25%	9.22%
Emerging Market Equity	5.50%	11.13%
Private Equity	13.00%	12.50%
Real Estate	8.00%	8.58%
Real Assets	3.00%	8.40%
High Yield	4.50%	6.97%
Private Credit	8.00%	9.20%
Investment Grade Credit	7.00%	5.19%
Cash Equivalents	2.00%	3.31%
U.S Treasuries	4.00%	3.31%
Risk Mitigation Strategies	3.00%	6.21%

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current member contribution rates and that contributions from employers and the non-employer contributing entity will be made based on 100% of the actuarially determined contributions for the State employer and 100% of actuarially determined contributions for local employers. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied to all projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the School District's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – As previously mentioned, TPAF has a special funding situation where the State pays 100% of the School District's annual required contribution. The following represents the State's proportionate share of the net pension liability, attributable to the School District calculated using the discount rate of 7.00% as well as what the State's proportionate share of the net pension liability, attributable to the School District's would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rate:

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

### Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) (continued):

	1% Decre <u>(6.00</u>	ease	Discou	rent nt Rate <u>0%)</u>		1% ncrease <u>8.00%)</u>
District's Proportionate Share	¢		¢		¢	
of the Net Pension Liability	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
State of New Jersey's Proportionate						
Share of Net Pension Liability	106.17	2.045	107 (	201.206	00	0.52.260
Associated with the District	<u>126,17</u>	<u>3,945</u>	107,0	001,296	90,	853,369
	\$ 126,17	3,94 <u>5</u>	<u>\$107,0</u>	001,296	<u>\$ 90,</u>	853,369

**Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position** - For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and additions to/deductions from the TPAF's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the TPAF. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

# **Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS)**

**Plan Description** - The State of New Jersey, Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of New Jersey, Division of Pensions and Benefits (the Division). For additional information about PERS, please refer to the Division's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) which can be found at www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/financial-reports.shtml.

The vesting and benefit provisions are set by *N.J.S.A.* 43:15A. PERS provides retirement, death and disability benefits. All benefits vest after ten years of service, except for medical benefits, which vest after 25 years of service or under the disability provisions of PERS.

The following represents the membership tiers for PERS:

<u>Tier</u>	<u>Definition</u>
1	Members who were enrolled prior to July 1, 2007
2	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after July 1, 2007 and prior to November 2, 2008
3	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after November 2, 2008 and prior to May 22, 2010
4	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after May 22, 2010 and prior to June 28, 2011
5	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after June 28, 2011

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

#### Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) (continued):

Service retirement benefits of 1/55th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tiers 1 and 2 members upon reaching age 60 and to tier 3 members upon reaching age 62. Service retirement benefits of 1/60th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tier 4 members upon reaching age 62 and tier 5 members upon reaching age 65. Early retirement benefits are available to tiers 1 and 2 members before reaching age 60, tiers 3 and 4 before age 62 with 25 or more years of service credit and tier 5 with 30 or more years of service credit before age 65. Benefits are reduced by a fraction of a percent for each month that a member retires prior to the age at which a member can receive full early retirement benefits in accordance with their respective tier. Tier 1 members can receive an unreduced benefit from age 55 to age 60 if they have at least 25 years of service. Deferred retirement is available to members who have at least 10 years of service credit and have not reached the service retirement age for the respective tier.

The contribution policy for PERS is set by *N.J.S.A. 15A* and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. State legislation has modified the amount that is contributed by the State. The State's pension contribution is based on an actuarially determined amount which includes the employer portion of the normal cost and an amortization of the unfunded accrued liability. Funding for noncontributory group insurance benefits is based on actual claims paid. For fiscal year 2023, the State's pension contribution was more than the actuarial determined amount.

The local employers' contribution amounts are based on an actuarially determined rate which includes the normal cost and unfunded accrued liability. Chapter 19, P.L. 2009 provided an option for local employers of PERS to contribute 50% of the normal and accrued liability contribution amounts certified for payments due in State fiscal year 2009. Such employers will be credited with the full payment and any such amounts will not be included in their unfunded liability. The actuaries will determine the unfunded liability of those retirement systems, by employer, for the reduced normal and accrued liability contributions provided under this law. This unfunded liability will be paid by the employer in level annual payments over a period of 15 years beginning with the payments due in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012 and will be adjusted by the rate of return on the actuarial value of assets. Board of Education contributions to PERS amounted to \$1.069,826 for 2024.

The employee contribution rate is 7.5% of the base salary as of July 1, 2018.

**Net Pension Liability and Pension Expense** - At June 30, 2024, the District's proportionate share of the PERS net pension liability is valued to be \$11,594,047. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined using update procedures to roll forward the total pension liability from an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2022, to the measurement date of June 30, 2023. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Board of Education's actual contributions to the plan relative to the total of all participating employers' contributions for the year ended June 30, 2023. The District's proportion measured as of June 30, 2023, was .0800452062%, which was an increase of .00017% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

# Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

# Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) (continued):

Measurement Date

Actuarial valuation date June 30, 2023

Net Pension Liability \$ 11,594,047

District's portion of the Plan's total

Net Pension Liability 0.08005%

**Actuarial Assumptions** – The collective total pension liability for the June 30, 2023 measurement date was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2023. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions:

**Inflation Rate** 

Price 2.75% Wage 3.25%

Salary Increases: 2.75 - 6.55%

Based on years of service

Investment Rate of Return 7.00%

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

#### Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

#### Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) (continued):

Pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Employee mortality table with an 82.2% adjustment for males and 101.4% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Below-Median Income Healthy Retiree mortality table with a 91.4% adjustment for males and 99.7% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base tear of 2010 on a generational basis. Disability retirement rates used to value disabled retirees were based on the Pub-2010 Non-Safety Disabled Retiree mortality table with a 127.7% adjustment for males and 117.2% adjustment for females, and with future improvement from the base year of 2010 on a generational basis. Mortality improvement is based on Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2022 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

In accordance with State statute, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments (7.00% at June 30, 2023) is determined by the State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the Division of Investments and Division of Pensions and Benefits, the board of trustees and the actuaries. The long-term expected rate of return was determined using a building block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic rates of return for each major asset class included in PERS's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
US Equity	28.00%	8.98%
Non-U.S. Developed Market Equity	12.75%	9.22%
International Small Cap Equity	1.25%	9.22%
Emerging Market Equity	5.50%	11.13%
Private Equity	13.00%	12.50%
Real Estate	8.00%	8.58%
Real Assets	3.00%	8.40%
High Yield	4.50%	6.97%
Private Credit	8.00%	9.20%
Investment Grade Credit	7.00%	5.19%
Cash Equivalents	2.00%	3.31%
U.S. Treasuries	4.00%	3.31%
Risk Mitigation Strategies	3.00%	6.21%
-	100.00%	

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

### Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) (continued):

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current member contribution rates and that contributions from employers and the non-employer contributing entity will be made based on 100% of the actuarially determined contributions for the State employer and 100% of actuarially determined contributions for local employers. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied to all projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Board of Education's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	At 1% decrease (6.00%)	At current discount rate (7.00%)	At 1% increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate Share of pension liability	\$ 15,092,982	<u>\$ 11,594,047</u>	<u>\$ 8,615,990</u>

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the PERS and additions to/deductions from PERS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, the District recognized pension expense (benefit) of \$(530,906) at June 30, 2024, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to PERS from the following sources:

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

	Deferred Outflows of Resources		Deferred Inflows of Resources	
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	110,854	\$	47,393
Changes of assumptions		25,470		702,649
Net difference between projected and actual earnings				
on pension plan investments		53,392		
Changes in proportion and differences between				
District contributions and proportionate share of				
contributions		165,570		829,014
District contributions subsequent to the				
measurement date		1,069,827		-
Total				
	\$	1,425,113	\$	1,579,056

### **Additional Information**

Collective balances at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

	6/30/24
Collective deferred outflows of resources	\$ 1,080,204,730
Collective deferred inflows of resources	\$ 1,780,216,457
Collective net pension liability	\$14,606,489,066
District's Proportion	.0800452062%
District 8 I repetition	.000073200270

\$1,425,113 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

•	Year Ended June 30:
2024	\$(1,336,895)
2025	(746,204)
2026	1,042,770
2027	(186,615)
2028	3,174
Thereafte	r
	_
Total	\$ <u>(1,223,770)</u>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 7. Pension Plans (continued):

The previous amounts do not include Township-specific deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to changes in proportion. These amounts should be recognized (amortized) by the Township over the average of the expected remaining service lives of all plan members, which is 5.08, 5.04, 5.13, 5.16, 5.21, and 5.63 for the years 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, and 2018, respectively.

## **Special Funding Situation**

Under N.J.S.A. 43:15A-15, local participating employers are responsible for their own contributions based on actuarially determined amounts, except where legislation was passed that legally obligated the State if certain circumstances occurred. The legislation, which legally obligates the State, are Chapter 366, P.L. 2001 and Chapter 133, P.L. 2001. The amounts contributed on behalf of the local participating employers under the legislation directly to the plan (except for employer specific financed amounts), there is no net pension liability or deferred outflows or inflows to report in the financial statements of the local participating employers related to the legislation. The District's proportionate share of nonemployer contributions and pension expense and related revenue is \$36,157 for the period June 30, 2023.

Additional detailed information about the pension plans is available in the separately issued State of New Jersey Divisions of Pensions and Benefits financial report at <a href="http://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/gasb-68-rpts.shtml">http://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions/gasb-68-rpts.shtml</a>

**Defined Contribution Retirement Plan (DCRP)** - The Defined Contribution Retirement Program (DCRP) was established as of July 1, 2007 under the provisions of Chapter 92, P.L. 2007 and Chapter 103, P.L. 2007 (N.J.S.A. 43:15C-1 et seq.). The DCRP is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined contribution pension fund. The DCRP provides eligible members, and their beneficiaries with a tax-sheltered, defined contribution retirement benefit, along with life insurance and disability coverage. Vesting and benefit provisions are established by N. J.S.A. 43:15C-1 et. seq.

The contribution requirements of plan members are determined by state statute. In accordance with Chapter 92, P.L. 2007 and Chapter 103, P.L. 2007, plan members are required to contribute 5.5% of their annual covered salary. The State Treasurer has the right under current law to make temporary reductions in member rates based on the existence of surplus plan assets in the retirement system; however, statute also requires the return to the normal rate when such surplus pension assets no longer exist. The District's contributions, equal to the required contribution for June 30, 2024 is \$13,453.

### **Note 8. Post-Retirement Benefits**

Pension and Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Obligations in Fiscal Year 2022 the State funded the various defined benefit pension systems at 108 percent of the full actuarially determined contributions. Employer contributions to the pension plans are calculated per the requirements of the governing State statutes using generally accepted actuarial procedures and practices. The actuarial funding method used to determine the State's contributions is a matter of State law. Any change to the funding method requires the approval of the State Legislature and the Governor. The amount the State actually contributes to the pension plan may differ from the actuarially determined contributions of the pension plans because the State's contribution to the pension plans is subject to the appropriation of

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### Note 8. Post-Retirement Benefits (continued):

the State Legislature and actions by the Governor. GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, requires participating employers to recognize their proportionate share of the collective net pension liability. Under the new statement, the calculation of the pension liability was changed to a more conservative methodology and each employer was allocated a proportional share of the pension plans' net pension liability. The State's share of the net pension liability, based on a measurement date of June 30, 2021, which is required to be recorded on the financial statements, is \$75.1 billion. The Fiscal Year 2023 projected aggregate State contribution to the pension plans of \$6.8 billion represents 104 percent of the actuarially determined contribution. The State provides post-retirement medical (PRM) benefits for certain State and other retired employees meeting the service credit eligibility requirements. In Fiscal Year 2022, the State paid PRM benefits for 161,238 State and local retirees. The State funds post-retirement medical benefits on a "pay-as-you-go" basis, which means that the State does not prefund, or otherwise establish a reserve or other pool of assets against the PRM expenses that the State may incur in future years. For Fiscal Year 2022, the State contributed \$1.9 billion to pay for "pay-as-you-go" PRM benefit costs incurred by covered populations, a slight increase from \$1.8 billion in Fiscal Year 2021. The State has appropriated \$2.1 billion in Fiscal Year 2023 as the State's contribution to fund increases in prescription drugs and medical claims costs. In accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, the State is required to quantify and disclose its obligations to pay Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) to retired plan members. This new standard supersedes the previously issued guidance, GASB Statement No. 45, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, effective for Fiscal Year 2018. The 7 State is now required to accrue a liability in all instances where statutory language names the State as the legal obligor for benefit payments. The Fiscal Year 2022 State OPEB liability to provide these benefits is \$88.9 billion, a decrease of \$12.7 billion, or 12.5 percent from the \$101.6 billion liability recorded in Fiscal Year 2021. Additional information on Pensions and OPEB can be accessed on the Division of Pensions & Benefits Financial Reports webpage: https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/financial-reports.shtml.

The State of New Jersey reports a liability as a result of its statutory requirements to pay other postemployment (health) benefits for State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan. The State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan is a multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan that is administered on a pay-as-you-go basis. Accordingly, no assets are accumulated in a qualifying trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for the Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions. The State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan provides medical, prescription drug, and Medicare Part B reimbursement to retirees and their covered dependents of local education employers.

The employer contributions for the participating local education employers are legally required to be funded by the State of New Jersey in accordance with N.J.S.A 52:14-17.32f. According to N.J.S.A 52:14-17.32f, the State provides employer-paid coverage to employees who retire from a board of education or county college with 25 years or more of service credit in, or retires on a disability pension from, one or more of the following plans: the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF), the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), the Police and Firemen Retirement System (PFRS), or the Alternate Benefit Program (ABP). Pursuant to Chapter 78, P.L, 2011, future retirees eligible for

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### Note 8. Post-Retirement Benefits (continued):

postretirement medical coverage who have less than 20 years of creditable service on June 28, 2011 will be required to pay a percentage of the cost of their health care coverage in retirement provided they retire with 25 or more years of pension service credit. The percentage of the premium for which the retiree will be responsible will be determined based on the retiree's annual retirement benefit and level of coverage.

The total non-employer OPEB liability does not include certain other postemployment benefit obligations that are provided by the local education employers. The reporting of these benefits is the responsibility of the individual local education employers.

The School Employees Health Benefits Program (SEHBP) Act is found in New Jersey Statutes Annotated, Title 52, Article 17.25 et. seq. Rules governing the operation and administration of the program are found in Title 17, Chapter 9 of the New Jersey Administrative Code.

No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASBS No. 75.

The measurement date under GASB 75 is the date in which the discount rate, the balance sheet liabilities and income statement entries are reported. GASB 75 allows for the measurement date to be equal to any day in the fiscal year. The State of New Jersey has decided to choose the GASB 75 measurement date in the beginning of the fiscal year. The measurement date for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 GASB 75 valuation is June 30, 2023.

**Total Non-employer OPEB Liability** - The State, a non-employer contributing entity, is the only entity that has a legal obligation to make employer contributions to OPEB for qualified retired PERS and TPAF participants. The LEA's proportionate share percentage determined under paragraphs 193 and 203 through 205 of GASBS No. 75 is zero percent. Accordingly, the LEA did not recognize any portion of the collective net OPEB liability on the Statement of Net Position.

Accordingly, the following OPEB liability note information is reported at the State's level and is not specific to the board of education/board of trustees. Note that actual numbers will be published in the NJ State's ACFR at (<a href="http://www.nj.gov/treasury/omb/acfr.shtml">http://www.nj.gov/treasury/omb/acfr.shtml</a>.

Actuarial assumptions and other imputes. The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation reported by the State in the State's most recently issued ACFR was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### Note 8. Post-Retirement Benefits (continued):

**Total Non-employer OPEB Liability** \$52,361,668,239

	TPAF/ABP	<u>PERS</u>	<u>PFRS</u>
Salary Increases:	2.75 – 4.25% Based on years	2.75 – 6.55% Based on years	3.25–16.25% Based on years
	of service	of service	of service

Preretirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Healthy "Teachers" (TPAF/ABP), "General" (PERS), and "Safety" (PFRS) classification headcount-weighted mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using Scale MP-2021. Postretirement mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 "General" classification headcount-weighted mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using Scale MP-2021. Disability mortality was based on the Pub-2010 "General" classification headcount-weighted disabled mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using Scale MP-2021 for current disabled retirees. Future disabled retirees was based on the Pub-2010 "Safety" (PRFS), "General" (PERS), and "Teacher" (TPAF/ABP) classification headcount-weighted disabled mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on the results of the TPAF, PERS and PFRS experience studies prepared for July 1, 2018 to June 2021.

100% of active members are considered to participate in the Plan upon retirement.

**OPEB Obligation and OPEB Expense** - The State's proportionate share of the total Other Post-Employment Benefits Obligations, attributable to the School District as of June 30, 2023 was \$151,905,029. The School District's proportionate share was \$0.

The OPEB Obligation was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB Obligation used to calculate the OPEB Obligation was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2023. The State's proportionate share of the OPEB Obligation associated with the District was based on projection of the State's long-term contributions to the OPEB plan associated with the District relative to the projected contributions by the State associated with all participating school districts, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2023, the State proportionate share of the OPEB Obligation attributable to the School District was 0.002901073%, which was a decrease of 0.00011% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### Note 8. Post-Retirement Benefits (continued):

District's change in the Total OPEB liability reported by the State of New Jersey is as follows:

		Total OPEB <u>Liability</u>
Balance at 6/30/22 (Measurement Date)	\$	152,554,341
Service Cost		5,168,626
Interest on the Total OPEB Liability		5,349,909
Changes of Benefit Terms		-
Differences between Expected and		
Actual Experience		(7,440,782)
Changes of Assumptions		306,178
Gross Benefit Payments		(4,170,342)
Contributions From Members	_	137,099
Net Changes		(649,312)
Balance at 6/30/23 (Measurement Date)	\$_	151,905,029

There has been no change of benefit terms in the retirees' share of health insurance premiums from 2022 to 2023.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the State of New Jersey recognized an OPEB expense in the amount of \$(596,097) for the State's proportionate share of the OPEB expense attributable to the School District. This OPEB expense was based on the OPEB plans June 30, 2023 measurement date.

**Health Care Trend Assumptions** – For pre-Medicare medical benefits, the trend rate is initially 6.50% and decreases to a 4.50% long-term trend rate after nine years. For post-65 medical benefits PPO, the trend is increasing to 14.8% in fiscal year 2026, and decreases to 4.50% in fiscal year 2033. For prescription drug benefits, the initial trend rate is 9.50% and decreases to a 4.50% long-term trend rate after seven years. For Medicare Part B reimbursement, the trend rate is 5.00%.

**Discount Rate** – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 3.65%. This represents the municipal bond return rate as chosen by the Division. The source is the Bond Buyer Go 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index, which includes tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher. As the long-term rate of return is less than the municipal bond rate, it is not considered in the calculation of the discount rate, rather the discount rate is set at the municipal bond rate.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### Note 8. Post-Retirement Benefits (continued):

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the total OPEB liability of the District for school board retirees, as well as what the District's total OPEB liability for school board would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current discount rate as of June 30, 2023:

	1% Decrease (2.65%)	Discount Rate (3.65%)	1% Increase (4.65%)
Total OPEB Liability (School Retirees)	\$ 178,082,568	\$ 151,905,029	\$ 130,887,504

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates. The following presents the total OPEB liability of the District, as well as what the District's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates as of June 30, 2022:

	Healthcare Cost  1% Decrease Trend Rates		1% Increase	
Total OPEB Liability (School Retirees)	\$ 125,558,791	\$ 151,905,029	\$ 186,512,412	

**OPEB** expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB - For the year ended June 30, 2023, the board of education recognized OPEB expense of \$(956,097) determined by the State as the total OPEB liability for benefits provided through a defined benefit OPEB plan that is not administered through a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASBS No. 75 and in which there is a special funding situation.

In accordance with GASBS No. 75, the Willingboro School District's proportionate share of school retirees OPEB is zero, there is no recognition of the allocation of proportionate share of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. At June 30, 2023, the State reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to retired school employee's OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows	Deferred Inflows
	of Resources	of Resources
Difference Between Actual and		
Expected Experience	\$ 7,639,717,639	\$(13,791,541,217)
Changes of Assumptions or Inputs	7,445,895,322	(14,449,948,556)
Total	\$ <u>15,085,612,961</u>	\$ ( <u>28,241,489,773)</u>

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 8. Post-Retirement Benefits (continued):

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to retired school employee's OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year	r End	ed June 30:
2024	\$	(757,536)
2025		(757,536)
2026		(658,405)
2027		(388,171)
2028		(79,454)
Thereafter	_	(1,175,513)
Total	\$	(3,816,615)

(Contributions made after the measurement date are reported as deferred outflow of resources but are not amortized in the expense.)

## Plan Membership

At June 30, 2022, the Program membership consisted of the following:

	June 30, 2022
Active Plan Members	217,212
Inactive Plan Members or Beneficiaries	
Currently Receiving Benefits	152,383
	369,595

## Note 9. 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.

**Property and Liability Insurance** — The District maintains commercial insurance coverage for property, liability, student accident and surety bonds. A complete schedule of insurance coverage can be found in the Statistical Section of this Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The District made no changes to the insurance coverage from prior year. There was no insurance settlements that exceeded the District's coverage for the past three (3) years.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 9. Risk Management (continued):

New Jersey Unemployment Compensation Insurance — The District has elected to fund their 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 to the State. The following is a summary of School District contributions, reimbursements to the State for benefits paid and the ending balance of the School District's expendable trust fund for the current and previous two years:

Fiscal Year	District Contributions	Interest Earned	Amount Reimbursed	Ending Balance
2022-2023	\$252,896	\$ 7,231	\$ 185,668	\$609,334
2021-2022	90,944	360	28,336	534,875
2020-2021	193,600	530	139,149	471,907

## Note 10. Contingent Liabilities

The Board of Education is involved in several claims and lawsuits incidental to its operations. In the opinion of the Administration and legal council, the ultimate resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the District.

## Note 11. 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, could have an effect on the District's programs and activities.

## Note 12. Interfund Receivables and Payables

The following interfund balances remained on the balance sheet at June 30, 2024:

Fund	Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable
General	\$ 1,419,975	\$ 198,987
Special Revenue	33,237	631,060
Capital Projects	112,899	- -
Day Care		295,858
Food Service	68,689	508,895
Total	<u>\$ 1,634,800</u>	<u>\$ 1,634,800</u>

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 12. Interfund Receivables and Payables (continued):

The interfund receivables and payables above predominately resulted from payments made by certain funds on behalf of other funds. During the fiscal year 2025, the District expects to liquidate such interfunds, depending upon the availability of cash flow.

### **Note 13. Fund Balance Appropriated**

General Fund (Exhibit B-1) — Of the \$17,440,389 General Fund balance at June 30, 2024, \$2,231,730 has been restricted for Excess Surplus; \$2,965,955 has been restricted for Excess Surplus Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures; \$639,229 has been restricted for Additional Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures; \$1,687,261 has been restricted for Capital Reserve; \$511,673 has been restricted for Maintenance Reserve; \$710,657 has been restricted for Unemployment Compensation and \$8,693,884 is unassigned.

## **Note 14. Deferred Compensation**

The Board offers its employees a choice of the following deferred compensation plans created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b). The plans, which are administered by the entities listed below, permits participants to defer a portion of their salary until future years. Amounts deferred under the plans are not available to employees until termination, retirement, death or unforeseeable emergency. The plan administrators are as follows:

AXA Equitable Life Insurance
Oppenheimer Funds
Valic
ING

Lincoln Investment Planning Midland Metropolitan Life Insurance ReliaStar Life Insurance

### **Note 15. 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 vacation and sick leave in varying amounts under the District's personnel policies. In the event of termination, an employee is reimbursed for accumulated vacation.

Sick leave benefits provide for specified dollar amount per sick day accumulated and begin vesting with the employee after one year of service.

The liability for vested compensated absences of the governmental fund types is recorded in the statement of net position under governmental activities. The current portion of the compensated absence balance is not considered material to the applicable fund total liabilities, and is therefore not shown separately from the long-term liability balance of compensated absences. The amount at June 30, 2024 is \$1,278,644.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 15. Compensated Absences (continued):

The liability for vested compensated absences of the proprietary fund types is recorded within those funds as the benefits accrue to employees. As of June 30, 2024, no liability existed for compensated absences in the proprietary fund types.

## Note 16. Calculation of Excess Surplus

In accordance with *N.J.S.A.18A:7F-7*, as amended by P.L. 2005, c.73 (S1701), the designation for Restricted Fund Balance — Excess Surplus is a required calculation pursuant to the New Jersey Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996 (CEIFA). New Jersey school districts are required to reserve General Fund balance at the fiscal year-end of June 30 if they did not appropriate a required minimum amount as budgeted fund balance in their subsequent years' budget. The excess fund balance at June 30, 2024 is \$5,836,914 of which \$3,605,184 was appropriated in the 2024-2025 budget. The balance of \$2,231,730 will be appropriated in 2025-2026.

### **Note 17. Tax Abatements**

As defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), a tax abatement is an agreement between a government and an individual or entity in which the government promises to forgo tax revenues and the individual or entity promises to subsequently take a specific action that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the government of its citizens. School districts are not authorized by New Jersey statute to enter into tax abatement agreements. However, the county or municipality in which the school district is situated may have entered into tax abatement agreements, and that potential must be disclosed in these financial statements. If the county or municipality entered into tax abatement agreements, those agreements will not directly affect the school district's local tax revenue because N.J.S.A. 54:4-75 and N.J.S.A. 54:4-76 require that amounts so forgiven must effectively be recouped from other taxpayers and remitted to the school district.

For a local school district board of education or board of school estimate that has elected to raise minimum tax levy using the required local share provisions at N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5(b), the loss of revenue resulting from the municipality or county having entered into a tax abatement agreement is indeterminate due to the complex nature of the calculation of required local share performed by the New Jersey Department of Education based upon district property value and wealth.

The Township of Willingboro (Municipality) provides for long-term tax exemptions, as authorized by New Jersey State Statutes. N.J.S.A. 40A:20-1 et seq. sets forth the criteria and mechanism by which property taxes can and are abated. The exemptions provided by the Municipality are for affordable housing and other permitted purposes. Taxes abated include municipal, local school, and county taxes.

The Municipality recognized revenue of \$249,437 from the annual service charge in lieu of payment of taxes in 2023. The assessed value on these exemption properties amounted to \$26,918,800 which would have resulted in 2024 taxes billed in full of \$1,162,085. A portion of the \$550,759 abatement would have been allocated to the District.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

### **Note 18. Fund Balances**

As stated in Note 1, the restricted fund balance classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes. Such restrictions, or constraints, are placed on the use of resources by either of the following: (1) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Specific restrictions of the School District's fund balance are summarized as follows:

#### **General Fund**

**Capital Reserve** - As of June 30, 2024, the balance in the capital reserve account is \$1,687,261. These funds are restricted for future capital outlay expenditures for capital projects in the School District's approved Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP).

**Maintenance Reserve** - As of June 30, 2024, the in the maintenance reserve account is \$511,673. These funds are restricted for the required maintenance of school facilities in accordance with the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act (EFCFA) N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-9 as amended by P.L. 2004, c. 73 (S1701).

**Unemployment Compensation** – As of June 30, 2024 the balance in the Unemployment Compensation account is \$710,657. Refer to Note 9 for further information pertaining to the unemployment compensation account.

#### **Special Revenue Fund**

**Student Activities** – In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.12(c), each school district shall ensure through adoption of a formal board policy that all financial and bookkeeping controls are adequate to ensure appropriate fiscal accountability and sound business practices for funds collected for student activities. As such, borrowing from student activity funds is prohibited. The balance of these funds as of June 30, 2024 is \$211,192.

## **Capital Projects Fund**

Committed to Other Purposes – The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the School District's highest level of decision making authority, which, for the School District, is the Board of Education. Such formal action consists of an affirmative vote by the Board of Education, memorialized by the adoption of a resolution. Once committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Education removes, or changes, the specified use by taking the same type action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those funds. As of June 30, 2024 the balance for these funds is \$132,562.

#### **Debt Service Fund**

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.6, a district board of education shall appropriate annually all debt service fund balances in the budget certified for taxes unless expressly authorized and documented by the voters in a bond referendum. As a result, the School District has not appropriated any funds from the balance of \$139,854 to be included as anticipated revenue for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2024

## Note 18. Fund Balances (continued):

### Unassigned

As stated in note 1, the unassigned fund balance classification represents fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes. The School District's unassigned fund balance as of June 30, 2024 is \$8,693,884.

#### Note 19. Deficit Unrestricted Net Position

The District has a deficit in unrestricted net position of \$8,529,242, as reported in the statement of net position (accrual basis). The deficits resulted from recording the June 2024 state aid payments in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A: 22-44.2 which provides that in the event state school aid payments are not made until the following school budget year, districts must record the state aid payments as revenue, for budget purposes only, in the current school budget year. For intergovernmental transactions, GASB Statement No. 33 requires recognition (revenue, expenditure, asset, liability) should be in symmetry, i.e., if one government recognizes an asset, the other government recognizes a liability. Since the State is recording the June state aid payments in the subsequent fiscal year, the school district cannot recognize the June state aid payments on the GAAP financial statements until the year the State records the payable. Also contributing to the deficit in net position is the amount of compensated absences, \$1,278,644 and pension liability, \$11,478,107 both recorded on the accrual basis. While reflected as liabilities, the obligations will not be funded until a future date coincident with termination and/or retirement of services. Due to the resulting timing differences, the deficits do not alone indicate that the district is facing financial difficulties.

## Note 20. Subsequent Events

Management has reviewed and evaluated all events and transactions that occurred between June 30, 2024 and January 6, 2025, the date that the financial statements were available for issuance, for possible disclosure and recognition in the financial statements. No items have come to the attention of the School District that would require disclosure.

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## **APPENDIX C**

Form of Bond Counsel's Approving Legal Opinion





90 Woodbridge Center Drive Suite 900 Box 10 Woodbridge, NJ 07095-0958 732.636.8000

, 2025

The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro Willingboro, New Jersey

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have served as bond counsel in connection with the authorization, sale and issuance of \$67,891,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2025 (the "Bonds") of The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro in the County of Burlington, 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) two (2) proposals adopted by the Board on January 6, 2025 (the "Proposals") 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 11, 2025 and (iii) a resolution duly adopted by the Board on May 12, 2025 (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, Brooklyn, 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 August 15, 2026 and semi-annually thereafter on the fifteenth day of February and August in each year until maturity or prior redemption, and shall mature on August 15 of the years and in the principal amounts as follows:



The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro
\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025
Page 2

	Principal	Interest		Principal	Interest
<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Rate</u>
2027	\$2,201,000		2038	\$3,320,000	
2028	2,225,000		2039	3,455,000	
2029	2,315,000		2040	3,610,000	
2030	2,410,000		2041	3,765,000	
2031	2,560,000		2042	3,920,000	
2032	2,670,000		2043	4,075,000	
2033	2,680,000		2044	4,190,000	
2034	2,800,000		2045	4,200,000	
2035	2,940,000		2046	4,200,000	
2036	3,065,000		2047	4,200,000	
2037	3,190,000				

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 Proposals 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.



The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 Page 3

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; however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of certain corporations for the purpose of computing the alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022.

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.

[The Bonds maturing on August 15 in the years 20\_\_ through 20\_\_, inclusive (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.]

[We are also of the opinion that the difference between the stated principal amount of the Bonds maturing on August 15 in the years 20\_\_ through 20\_\_, inclusive (the "[Discount] Bonds") and their respective initial offering prices 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 of the same maturity and interest rate were 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.]

Except as stated in the preceding 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



The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 Page 4

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 "Disclosure Certificate") is executed and delivered by The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro in the County of Burlington, 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 \$67,891,000 aggregate principal amount of School Bonds, Series 2025 dated their date of delivery (the "Bonds"). The Bonds are being issued by virtue of two (2) proposals adopted by the Board on January 6, 2025 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 11, 2025 and pursuant to a resolution entitled, "RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF \$67.891.000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SCHOOL BONDS, SERIES 2025 OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THEIR SALE AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH", duly adopted by the Board on May 12, 2025 (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 Board with EMMA pursuant to Section 5 of this Disclosure Agreement.

"Disclosure Representative" shall mean the Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Board or his/her 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.

*"Financial Obligation"* shall mean a: (a) debt obligation; (b) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (c) guarantee of (a) or (b) listed hereinabove. The term "Financial Obligation" shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB (as defined below) consistent with the Rule (as defined below).

"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, 2025 (for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025), 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 <u>provided</u>, <u>further</u>, 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, 2026) 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, in a timely manner, 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 (or unaudited financial statements if audited financial statements are not then available, which audited financial statements will be delivered when and if available).

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 August 6, 2025, prepared in connection with the sale of the Bonds (the "Official Statement") in <u>Appendix A</u> under the sections relating to (1) Board indebtedness; (2) property valuation information; and (3) tax rate, levy and collection data.

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;

- (14) Appointment of a successor or additional trustee for the Bonds or the change of name of a trustee for the Bonds, if material;
- (15) Incurrence of a financial obligation, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation, any of which affect Bondholders, if material; and
- (16) Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a financial obligation, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

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)(8) and (9) 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.** <u>Termination of Reporting Obligation</u>. 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.** <u>Dissemination Agent; Compensation</u>. 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 8. 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 Notwithstanding the above, the addition of or change in the Section 5 hereof. 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 9.** 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 10.** <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 11. 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 12.** 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 13.** <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 Township of Willingboro 440 Beverly Rancocas Road Willingboro, New Jersey 08046 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 Township of Willingboro 440 Beverly Rancocas Road Willingboro, New Jersey 08046 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 14.** 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 15.** 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 16.** 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 TOWNSHIP OF WILLINGBORO IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY

Ву:	
	DR. STEVEN A. LEWIS,
	Business Administrator/
	Board Secretary

## **EXHIBIT A**

## NOTICE TO EMMA OF FAILURE TO FILE ANNUAL REPORT

Name of Issuer:	The Board of Education of the Township of Willingboro in the County of Burlington, New Jersey			
Name of Issue:	\$67,891,000 School Bonds, Series 2025 Dated:, 2025 (CUSIP Number: 970599)			
Date of Issuance:	, 2025			
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above designated Board has not provided an Annual Report with respect to the above-named Bonds as required by the Bond Resolution and a Continuing Disclosure Certificate for the Bonds dated as of, 2025 executed by the Board.				
DATED:	<del></del>			
	DISSEMINATION AGENT (on behalf of the Board)			
cc: The Board				

