# GLENBROOK HIGH SCHOOLS Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO Regular Meeting Monday, January 11, 2016

TO: Dr. Michael Riggle

## FROM: Hillarie Siena

**DATE:** January 11, 2016

**RE:** Acceptance of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2015

It is recommended that the Board of Education:

Accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ended June 30, 2015 as prepared by Miller, Cooper & Co., Ltd.

## Background

The CAFR is a thorough and detailed presentation of the district's financial condition. The report is presented in three sections: Introductory, Financial and Statistical. The Introductory section contains a transmittal letter written by management, which contains information relevant to the district's position within the community. The Financial section begins with the independent auditor's report and contains the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), financial statements, notes to the financial statements, required supplementary information and schedules. The MD&A presents a two-year comparison of summary financial data. The Statistical section completes the report, containing historical data relevant to the district's overall financial condition.

While there is no requirement that the Board of Education approve the CAFR, it has been past practice in the district to have the Board accept the financial information contained in the CAFR, as presented.

It should be noted that the district was awarded the Association of School Business Officials International Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting award for the prior year CAFR, as well as the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award. The district is in process of applying for these awards for the current year report. Attached, please find the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Northfield Township High School District 225, for the year ended June 30, 2015.



January 6, 2016

Miller, Cooper & Co., Ltd.

1751 Lake Cook Road, Suite 400

Deerfield, Illinois 60015

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the basic financial statements of Northfield Township High School District 225 (the "District") which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2015, changes in financial position, and the related notes to the basic financial statements for the year then ended, we confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation in the financial statements of financial position and changes in financial position in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of the date of this letter, the following representations made to you during your audit:

#### **Financial Statements**

- 1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit arrangement letter, dated March 17, 2015, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, referred to above, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- 2. In all instances where non-audit services were provided by Miller, Cooper & Co., Ltd., it was at our request, and we oversaw the process, evaluated the appropriateness and adequacy of the services, and made all management decisions with respect to the services. Additionally, all services were reviewed and approved by us.
- 3. There are no organizations that are a part of this reporting entity or with which we have a relationship.
- 4. We have identified for you all of our funds and governmental functions.
- 5. We have properly classified all funds and activities.
- 6. We are responsible for compliance with laws and regulations applicable to the District including adopting, approving, and amending budgets.
- 7. We have identified and disclosed to you all laws and regulations that have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 8. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.



- 9. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 10. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including useful lives of capital assets, pension obligations, and self-insurance accruals are reasonable. Included in the notes to the financial statements are the methodologies used by management to determine these estimates.
- 11. The following have been properly recorded and/or disclosed in the financial statements:
  - a. The fair value of investments.
  - b. Amounts of contractual obligations for construction and purchase of real property or equipment not included in the liabilities or encumbrances recorded on the books.
  - c. Debt issue provisions.
  - d. All leases and material amounts of rental obligations under long-term leases.
  - e. All significant estimates and material concentrations known to management that are required to be disclosed in accordance with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards. Significant estimates are estimates at the balance sheet date that could change materially within the next year. Concentrations refer to volumes of business, revenues, available sources of supply, or markets for which events could occur that would significantly disrupt normal finances within the next year.
  - f. Deposits and investment securities categories of risk.
  - g. Risk financing activities.
  - h. Interfund transactions, including interfund accounts and advances receivable and payable, sale and purchase transactions, interfund transfers, long-term loans, and guarantees, all of which have been recorded in accordance with the economic substance of the transaction and appropriately classified and reported.

## Information Provided

- 12. We have provided you with:
  - a. Access to all information, of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, including all financial records and related data of all funds and activities, including those of all special funds, programs, departments, projects, activities, etc., in existence during the period covered by your audit;
  - b. Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit;
  - c. Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence;
  - d. All minutes of the meetings of the governing board or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared;
- 13. There are no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 14. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.



- 15. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated, as a result of fraud.
- 16. We have no knowledge of allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity's financial statements involving:
  - a. Management or employees who have significant roles in the internal control.
  - b. Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 17. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the District's financial statements received in communications from employees, former employees, analysts, regulators, or others.
- 18. We have no knowledge of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 19. We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements, including disclosures and we have not consulted legal counsel concerning litigation or claims in accordance with Section 1500 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards.
- 20. We have no direct or indirect, legal or moral, obligation for any debt of any organization, public or private, that is not disclosed in the financial statements.
- 21. We are aware of no significant deficiencies, including material weaknesses, in the design or operation of internal controls that could adversely affect the District's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data.
- 22. We have no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities.
- 23. We are responsible for making the accounting estimates included in the financial statements. Those estimates reflect our judgment based on our knowledge and experience about past and current events and our assumptions about conditions we expect to exist and courses of action we expect to take. In that regard, adequate provisions have been made:
  - a. For pension obligations, postretirement benefits other than pensions, and deferred compensation agreements attributable to employee services rendered through June 30, 2015.
  - b. To record a liability for health claims incurred but not yet reported, as of June 30, 2015.
- 24. There are no:
  - a. Violations or possible violations of laws or regulations whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency. In that regard, we specifically represent that we have not been designated as, or alleged to be, a "potentially responsible party" by the Environmental Protection Agency in connection with any environmental contamination or other environmental clean-up obligations.
  - b. Material liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by Section 1500 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards.



- c. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the District is contingently liable.
- d. Arrangements with financial institutions involving compensating balances or other arrangements involving restrictions on cash balances.
- e. Lines of credit or similar arrangements.
- f. Agreements to repurchase assets previously sold.
- g. Security agreements in effect under the Uniform Commercial Code.
- h. Liens or encumbrances on assets or revenues or any assets or revenues which were pledged, as collateral, for any liability or which were subordinated in any way.
- i. Debt issue repurchase options or agreements, or sinking fund debt repurchase ordinance requirements.
- j. Authorized but unissued bonds and/or notes.
- k. Derivative financial instruments.
- 1. Special or extraordinary items.
- m. Arbitrage rebate liabilities.
- n. Investments, capital assets, intangibles, or other assets which have permanently declined in value.
- o. Debt issue provisions.
- 25. We have satisfactory title to all owned assets.
- 26. We have complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 27. Net positions (net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted) and fund balances are properly classified and, when applicable, approved.
- 28. Expenses or expenditures have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 29. Capital assets are properly capitalized, reported, and depreciated.
- 30. As discussed in Note E to the audited financial statements, net position, net pension liability, and deferred outflows as of July 1, 2014, have been restated as a result of an adjustment due to the implementation of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27 (GASB 68) and Statement No. 71, Pension Transition For Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 68 (GASB 71). We understand that your opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.
- 31. We agree with the findings of specialists in evaluating other postemployment benefit obligations and have adequately considered the qualifications of the specialists in determining the amounts and disclosures used in the financial statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give or cause any instructions to be given to specialists with respect to the values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not otherwise aware of any matters that have had an impact on the independence or objectivity of the specialists.



- 32. With respect to supplementary information presented in relation to the financial statements as a whole:
  - a. We acknowledge our responsibility for the presentation of such information.
  - b. We believe such information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
  - c. The methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period.
  - d. We are aware of no underlying significant assumptions and/or interpretations regarding measurement or presentation of such information.
  - e. There is no supplementary information that is not presented with the audited financial statements.
  - f. We also acknowledge that the Introductory and Statistical Sections (as listed in the Table of Contents) has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and that you will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.
- 33. With respect to management's discussion and analysis and the required supplementary information presented as required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America to supplement the basic financial statements:
  - a. We acknowledge our responsibility for the presentation of such required supplementary information.
  - b. We believe such required supplementary information is measured and presented in accordance with guidelines prescribed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
  - c. The methods of measurement or presentation have changed from those used in the prior period due to the implementation of GASB 68.
  - d. We are aware of no underlying significant assumptions or interpretations regarding measurement or presentation of such information, other than in regards to the assumptions applied to the schedule of changes in net pension liability and related ratios - Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, the schedule of contributions - Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, the schedule of the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability - Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois, the schedule of the District's contributions - Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois, and the schedule of funding progress - Other Postemployment Benefits.
  - e. We also acknowledge that management's discussion and analysis, the schedule of changes in net pension liability and related ratios Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, the multiyear schedule of contributions Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, the schedule of the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois, the schedule of the District's contributions Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Illinois, the schedule of funding progress Other Postemployment Benefits, and the budgetary comparison schedules and notes to required supplementary information presented have been subjected to certain limited procedures, and that you will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.



- 34. We are responsible for determining that significant events or transactions that have occurred since the balance sheet date and through the date of this letter have been recognized or disclosed in the financial statements. No events or transactions, other than those disclosed in the financial statements, have occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date and through the date of this letter that would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. We further represent that as of the date of this letter, the financial statements were complete in a form and format that complied with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and all approvals necessary for issuance of the financial statements had been obtained.
- 35. During the course of your audit, you may have accumulated records containing data that should be reflected in our books and records. All such data have been so reflected. Accordingly, copies of such records in your possession are no longer needed by us.
- 36. We believe there are no material uncorrected misstatements that would require adjustment to the financial statements, including disclosures. For purposes of this representation, we consider items to be material, regardless of their size, if they involve the misstatement or omission of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement.

In connection with your audit, conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we confirm:

- 1. We are responsible for:
  - a. Compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to Northfield Township High School District 225.
  - b. Establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting.
- 2. We have identified and disclosed to you all laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that have a direct and material effect on the determinations of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to audit objectives.
- 3. There have been no violations (or possible violations) of laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the auditor's report on noncompliance
- 4. There has been no fraud, illegal act, violation of provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse.
- 5. We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.
- 6. There have been no previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives of the audit being undertaken.
- 7. We have reviewed, approved, and take full responsibility for all non-audit services and acknowledge of the auditor's role in the preparation of the non-audit services as detailed in the engagement letter.



RELEASE OF COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT:

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 225

Michael D. K

Dr. Michael Riggle, Superintendent

Hillaine Sure

Hillarie Siena, Assistant Superintendent of Business