

MILLER COOPER & Co., Ltd

ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS

To the Board of Education of
Northfield Township High School District 225
Glenview, Illinois

We have audited the financial statements of Northfield Township High School District 225 (the “District”) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and have issued our report thereon dated January 6, 2016. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit

As communicated in our engagement letter dated March 17, 2015, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the provisions of the Single Audit Act, OMB Circular A-133, and OMB’s *Compliance Supplement*. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the District solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control. In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also performed tests of internal control over financial reporting and tests of compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that contribute to the evidence supporting our opinion on the financial statements. However, they do not provide a basis for opining on the District’s internal control over financial reporting or on compliance and other matters.

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

Other Information in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements

Pursuant to professional standards, our responsibility as auditors for other information in documents containing the District’s audited financial statements does not extend beyond the financial information identified in the audit report, and we are not required to perform any procedures to corroborate such other information.

Our responsibility also includes communicating to you any information which we believe is a material misstatement of fact. We are not aware of any documents that include the audited financial statements.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

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

Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team; others in our firm, as appropriate; and our firm; have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

Management and the Board have acknowledged our role in providing requested non-audit services and has taken full responsibility for these non-audit services, as detailed in the engagement letter.

Qualitative Aspects of the District's Significant Accounting Practices

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the District is included in Note A to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application, except for those described below, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Significant Accounting Policies Adopted in the Current Year

GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pension Plans – An amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*, issued in June 2012, was effective for the District beginning with its year ending June 30, 2015. The primary objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for pensions. It also improves information provided by state and local governmental employers about financial support for pensions that is provided by other entities. This Statement replaces the requirements of Statement No. 27, *Accounting for Pensions by State and Local Governmental Employers*, as well as the requirements of Statement No. 50, *Pension Disclosures*, as they relate to pensions that are provided through pension plans administered as trusts or equivalent arrangements that meet certain criteria.

GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date-an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68*, issued in November 2013, was effective for the District beginning with its year ending June 30, 2015. The objective of this Statement is to address an issue regarding application of *GASB Statement No. 68* regarding amounts associated with contributions, if any, made by a state or local government employer or nonemployer contributing entity to a defined benefit pension plan after the measurement date of the government's beginning net pension liability.

The adoption of the above statements required a restatement of net position, long-term liabilities, and deferred outflows which is addressed in an emphasis of a matter paragraph in our report. Our report is not modified as a result of this implementation.

Qualitative Aspects of the District's Significant Accounting Practices (Continued)

Significant Accounting Policies which will be Applicable in Future Years

GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, issued in February 2015, will be effective for the District beginning with its year ending June 30, 2016. The objective of this Statement is to address accounting and financial reporting issues related to fair value measurements. This Statement provides guidance for determining fair value measurement for financial reporting purposes. This Statement also provides guidance for applying fair value to certain investments and disclosures related to all fair value investments.

GASB Statement No. 73, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68*, issued in June 2015, will be effective for the District beginning with its year ending June 30, 2017. The objective of this Statement is to improve the usefulness of information about pensions included in the general purpose external financial reports of state and local governments for making decisions and assessing accountability. This Statement establishes requirements for defined benefit pensions that are not within the scope of Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, as well as for the assets accumulated for purposes of providing those pensions. In addition, it establishes requirements for defined contribution pensions that are not within the scope of Statement 68. It also amends certain provisions of Statement No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*, and Statement 68 for pension plans and pensions that are within their respective scopes.

GASB Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, issued in June 2015, will be effective for the District beginning with its year ending June 30, 2017. The objective of this Statement is to improve the usefulness of information about postemployment benefits other than pensions (other postemployment benefits or OPEB) included in the general purpose external financial reports of state and local governmental OPEB plans for making decisions and assessing accountability. This Statement replaces Statements No. 43, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, as amended, and No. 57, *OPEB Measurements by Agent Employers and Agent Multiple-Employer Plans*. It also includes requirements for defined contribution OPEB plans that replace the requirements for those OPEB plans in Statement No. 25, *Financial Reporting for Defined Benefit Pension Plans and Note Disclosures for Defined Contribution Plans*, as amended, Statement 43, and Statement No. 50, *Pension Disclosures*.

GASB Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, issued in June 2015, will be effective for the District beginning with its year ending June 30, 2018. The primary objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for postemployment benefits other than pensions (other postemployment benefits or OPEB). It also improves information provided by state and local governmental employers about financial support for OPEB that is provided by other entities. This Statement replaces the requirements of Statements No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, as amended, and No. 57, *OPEB Measurements by Agent Employers and Agent Multiple-Employer Plans*, for OPEB. Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, establishes new accounting and financial reporting requirements for OPEB plans.

GASB Statement No. 76, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments*, issued in June 2015, will be effective for the District beginning with its year ending June 30, 2016. The objective of this Statement is to identify—in the context of the current governmental financial reporting environment—the hierarchy of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). This Statement supersedes Statement No. 55, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments*.

Qualitative Aspects of the District's Significant Accounting Practices (Continued)

Significant Accounting Policies which will be Applicable in Future Years

GASB Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*, issued in August 2015, will be effective for the District beginning with its year ending June 30, 2017. The objective of this Statement is to provide financial statement users with essential information about the nature and magnitude of the reduction in tax revenues through tax abatement programs in order to better assess (a) whether current year revenues were sufficient to pay for current year services, (b) compliance with finance related legal or contractual requirements, (c) where a government's financial resources come from and how it uses them, and (d) financial position and economic condition and how they have changed over time.

The District's management has not yet determined the effect that these Statements will have on the District's financial statements.

Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are the self-insurance accruals, net pension liabilities for the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, Teachers' Retirement System, and other post-employment benefits. Included in the notes to the financial statements are the methodologies used by management to determine the estimates.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop those estimates noted above and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the District's financial statements relate to: accruals related to self-insurance and actuarial methods and assumptions regarding the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, Teachers' Retirement System, and Other Postemployment Benefit (OPEB) Plans.

Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

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

Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. There were no uncorrected misstatements.

In addition, professional standards require us to communicate to you all material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures. There were no material, corrected misstatements identified by us.

We assisted your personnel with non-audit services necessary for the preparation of the financial statements, including drafting of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and AFR, preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, assistance with the preparation of the Data Collection Form, assistance with modified accrual adjustments and GASB 34 entries, and filing the AFR with the Illinois State Board of Education.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the District's financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

Representations Requested from Management

We have requested certain written representations from management, which are included in the representation letter dated January 6, 2016.

Management's Consultations with Other Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

Other Significant Matters, Findings or Issues

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

An adverse opinion was issued on the Annual Financial Report filed with the Illinois State Board of Education. These financial statements use accounting practices prescribed by the Illinois State Board of Education, which practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

MILLER, COOPER & CO., LTD.

Miller, Cooper & Co., Ltd.

Certified Public Accountants

Deerfield, Illinois
January 6, 2016