

PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED FEBRUARY 14, 2024

NEW ISSUE - SERIAL BONDS

**BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY BONDS
RATING – MOODY’S INVESTOR SERVICE “ ”
See “Bond Rating”, herein**

In the opinion of Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, Bond Counsel to the District, under existing statutes and court decisions and assuming continuing compliance with certain tax certifications described herein, (i) interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and (ii) interest on the Bonds is not treated as a preference item in calculating the alternative minimum tax under the Code, however, interest on the Bonds is included in the “adjusted financial statement income” of certain corporations that are subject to the alternative minimum tax under Section 55 of the Code. In addition, in the opinion of Bond Counsel to the District, under existing statutes, interest on the Bonds is exempt from personal income taxes of New York State and its political subdivisions, including The City of New York. (See “Tax Matters” herein).

*The District will **NOT** designate the Bonds as “qualified tax-exempt obligations” pursuant to the provisions of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.*

**MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUFFOLK COUNTY
(the “District”)**

**\$15,000,000 SCHOOL DISTRICT SERIAL BONDS – 2024
(the “Bonds”)**

See Bond Maturity Schedule Herein

The Bonds are general obligations of the District and will contain a pledge of the faith and credit of the District for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon and, unless paid from other sources, the Bonds are payable from ad valorem taxes which may be levied upon all the taxable real property within the District without limitation as to rate or amount.

The Bonds maturing on March 15, 2031 and thereafter are subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the District, as a whole or in part, on any date on or after March 15, 2030. (See “Optional Redemption” under “THE BONDS,” herein.)

The Bonds will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York (“DTC”) as book-entry bonds. DTC will act as the securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases of the Bonds may be made in denominations of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof. Bondholders will not receive certificates representing their respective interests in the Bonds purchased. Payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made by the District to DTC which will in turn remit such payment to its Participants for subsequent distribution to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds in accordance with standing instructions and customary practices. Payment to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of the DTC Participant or Indirect Participant and not of DTC or the District, subject to any statutory and regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. (See “Description of Book-Entry-Only System” under “THE BONDS,” herein.)

Proposals for the Bonds will be received at 11:00 A.M. (Prevailing Time) on February 29, 2024 at the offices of Munistat Services, Inc., 12 Roosevelt Avenue, Port Jefferson Station, New York 11776.

The Bonds are offered subject to the final approving opinion of Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, New York, New York, Bond Counsel, and certain other conditions. It is expected that delivery of the Bonds in book-entry form will be made through the facilities of DTC on or about March 15, 2024 in New York, New York.

THIS PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT IS IN A FORM “DEEMED FINAL” BY THE DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE 15c2-12 (THE “RULE”). FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT’S AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE FOR THE BONDS, AS DESCRIBED IN THE RULE, SEE “DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING” HEREIN.

February , 2024

**MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK**

\$15,000,000 SCHOOL DISTRICT SERIAL BONDS – 2024

BOND MATURITY SCHEDULE

Dated: Date of Delivery

Principal Due: March 15, 2026-2053, inclusive
Interest Due: September 15, 2024, and semiannually thereafter on March 15 and September 15 in each year until maturity.

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Maturity</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Price or Yield</u>	<u>CUSIP #</u>
\$825,000	March 15, 2026			
825,000	March 15, 2027			
825,000	March 15, 2028			
825,000	March 15, 2029			
825,000	March 15, 2030			
850,000	March 15, 2031*			
850,000	March 15, 2032*			
850,000	March 15, 2033*			
850,000	March 15, 2034*			
850,000	March 15, 2035*			
850,000	March 15, 2036*			
850,000	March 15, 2037*			
850,000	March 15, 2038*			
850,000	March 15, 2039*			
850,000	March 15, 2040*			
175,000	March 15, 2041*			
175,000	March 15, 2042*			
175,000	March 15, 2043*			
175,000	March 15, 2044*			
175,000	March 15, 2045*			
175,000	March 15, 2046*			
175,000	March 15, 2047*			
175,000	March 15, 2048*			
175,000	March 15, 2049*			
200,000	March 15, 2050*			
200,000	March 15, 2051*			
200,000	March 15, 2052*			
200,000	March 15, 2053*			

*Subject to optional redemption prior to maturity.



**MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK**

7 Memorial Drive
Miller Place, NY 11764
Telephone: (631) 474-2700
Fax: (631) 331-8832

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Lisa Reitan, President
Bryan Makarius, Vice President

John Galligan
Andrea Spaniolas
Johanna Testa

Seth Lipshie, Superintendent
Colleen V. Card, School Business Official
Patricia Morbillo, District Clerk
Madison LePage, District Treasurer

School District Attorney

Guercio & Guercio
Farmingdale, New York

* * *

BOND COUNSEL

Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP
New York, New York

* * *

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR



12 Roosevelt Avenue
Port Jefferson Station, N.Y. 11776
(631) 331-8888

E-mail: info@munistat.com
Website: <https://www.munistat.com>

No dealer, broker, salesman or other person has been authorized by the District to give any information or to make any representations, other than those contained in this Official Statement and if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the District. 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 by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such offer, solicitation or sale. The information set forth herein has been obtained by the District from sources which are believed to be reliable but it is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness. 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 the affairs of the District since the date hereof.

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OFFICIAL STATEMENT

MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

Relating To

\$15,000,000 SCHOOL DISTRICT SERIAL BONDS – 2024 (the "Bonds")

This Official Statement, including the cover page, inside cover page and appendix hereto, present certain information relating to the Miller Place Union Free School District, Suffolk County, State of New York (the "District," "County" and "State," respectively) in connection with the sale of \$15,000,000 School District Serial Bonds – 2024 (the "Bonds").

All quotations from and summaries and explanations of provisions of the Constitution and laws of the State and acts and proceedings of the District contained herein do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the official compilations thereof and all references to the Bonds and the proceedings of the District relating thereto are qualified in their entirety by reference to the definitive form of the Bonds and such proceedings.

This Official Statement should be read with the understanding that the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic has affected education, travel, commerce, financial markets globally and economic growth worldwide. Accordingly, the District's overall economic situation and outlook (and all of the specific District-related information contained herein) should be carefully reviewed, evaluated and understood in the full light of this world-wide event. (See "*RISK FACTORS*" and "*IMPACT OF COVID-19*" herein.)

THE BONDS

Description of the Bonds

The Bonds will be dated the date of delivery, and will mature on March 15 in each of the years 2026 to 2053, inclusive, in the principal amounts as set forth on the inside cover page hereof. Interest on the Bonds will be payable September 15, 2024 and semiannually thereafter on March 15 and September 15 in each year until maturity.

The Bonds will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC") as book-entry bonds. DTC will act as the securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases of the Bonds may be made in denominations of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof. Bondholders will not receive certificates representing their respective interests in the Bonds purchased. Payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made by the District to DTC which will in turn remit such payment to its Participants for subsequent distribution to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds in accordance with standing instructions and customary practices. Payment to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of the DTC Participant or Indirect Participant and not of DTC or the District, subject to any statutory and regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. (See "*Book-Entry-Only System*" under "THE BONDS," herein.)

The Record Date of the Bonds will be the last business day of the calendar month immediately preceding each interest payment date.

The District will act as Paying Agent for the Bonds. The District's contact information is as follows: Ms. Colleen Card, School Business Official, Miller Place Union Free School District, 7 Memorial Drive, Miller Place, NY 11764, telephone number (631) 474-2700, Fax (631) 331-8832 and email: ccard@millerplace.k12.ny.us.

Optional Redemption

The Bonds maturing on or before March 15, 2030 will not be subject to redemption prior to maturity. The Bonds maturing on March 15, 2031 and thereafter will be subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the District, in whole or in part, and if in part, in any order of their maturity and in any amount within a maturity (selected by lot within a maturity), on any date on or after March 15, 2030, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed plus accrued interest to the date of redemption.

If less than all of the Bonds of any maturity are to be redeemed prior to maturity, the particular Bonds of such maturity to be redeemed shall be selected by the District by lot in any customary manner of selection as determined by the District. Notice of such call for redemption shall be given by mailing such notice to the registered owner not less than thirty (30) days nor less than sixty (60) days prior to the date set for such redemption. Notice of redemption having been given as aforesaid, the bonds so called for redemption shall, on the date for redemption set forth in such call for redemption, become due and payable together with interest to such redemption date. Interest shall cease to be paid thereon after such redemption date.

Description of Book-Entry System

DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Such Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities, 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 and deposited with DTC.

DTC is 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 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" and together with Direct Participant, the "Participants"). Effective August 9, 2011, Standard & Poor's assigns a rating of "AA+" to DTC. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com and www.dtc.org.

Purchases of 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 or Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest 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 the Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co., or such other DTC nominee do not affect 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 accounts of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Beneficial Owners of the Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them or 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 the Beneficial Owners. 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.

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 Issuer 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).

Principal and interest 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 District on the payable date, in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by 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 Participant and not of DTC (nor its nominee) or the District, 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 District, 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 depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the District. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, bond certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The District 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 to DTC.

Source: The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York.

The information contained in the above section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sample offering document language supplied by DTC, but the District takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof. In addition, the District will not have any responsibility or obligation to participants, to indirect participants or to any beneficial owner with respect to: (i) the accuracy of any records maintained by DTC, and participant or any indirect participant; (ii) the payments by DTC or any participant or any indirect participant of any amount with respect to the principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on the bonds or (iii) any notice which is permitted or required to be given to Bondowners.

THE DISTRICT WILL NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATIONS TO PARTICIPANTS, TO INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER WITH RESPECT TO (I) THE ACCURACY OF ANY RECORDS MAINTAINED BY DTC, ANY PARTICIPANTS, OR ANY INDIRECT PARTICIPANT; (II) THE PAYMENT BY DTC OR ANY PARTICIPANT OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANT OR ANY AMOUNT WITH RESPECT TO THE PRINCIPAL OF OR INTEREST ON THE BONDS; (III) ANY NOTICE WHICH IS PERMITTED OR REQUIRED TO BE GIVEN TO HOLDERS; OR (IV) THE SELECTION OF THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS TO RECEIVE PAYMENT IN THE EVENT OF ANY PARTIAL REDEMPTION OF THE BONDS; OR (V) ANY CONSENT GIVEN OR OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY DTC AS HOLDER.

THE DISTRICT CANNOT AND DOES NOT GIVE ANY ASSURANCES THAT DTC WILL DISTRIBUTE TO DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR THAT DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS WILL DISTRIBUTE TO THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OF THE BONDS (I) PAYMENTS OF THE PRINCIPAL OF OR INTEREST ON THE BONDS; (II) CONFIRMATION OF THEIR OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN THE BONDS; OR (III) REDEMPTION OR OTHER NOTICES SENT TO DTC OR CEDE & CO. AS NOMINEE, AS REGISTERED OWNER OF THE BONDS, OR THAT THEY WILL DO SO ON A TIMELY BASIS, OR THAT DTC, DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS WILL SO SERVE AND ACT IN THE MANNER DESCRIBED IN THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

Certificated Bonds

DTC may discontinue providing its services with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving notice to the District and discharging its responsibilities with respect thereto under applicable law, or the District may terminate its participation in the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC at any time. In the event that such book-entry-only system is discontinued, and a replacement book-entry securities depository is not appointed, the Bonds will be issued in registered form in denominations of \$5,000, or integral multiples thereof. Principal of and interest on the Bonds when due will be payable at the principal corporate trust office of a bank or trust company to be named by the District as the fiscal agent; certificated Bonds may be transferred or exchanged at no cost to the owner of such bonds at any time prior to maturity at the corporate trust office of the fiscal agent for bonds of the same or any other authorized denomination or denominations in the same aggregate principal amount upon the terms set forth in the certificate of the President of the Board of Education authorizing the sale of the Bonds and fixing the details thereof and in accordance with the Local Finance Law.

Authorization and Purpose

The Bonds are being issued in accordance with the Constitution and statutes of the State of New York including the Education Law and the Local Finance Law and the bond resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education of the District on November 17, 2021 authorizing the issuance of \$30,000,000 bonds to finance the cost the construction of alterations and improvements to District buildings and/or sites thereof following the approval of a proposition by a majority of the qualified voters of the District voting thereon at the Special District Meeting held on October 19, 2021. The Bonds will finance \$15,000,000 of such authorization.

For further information regarding bond authorizations of the District for capital purposes and other matters relating thereto see “*INDEBTEDNESS OF THE DISTRICT*”, herein.

Security and Source of Payment

Each Bond when duly issued and paid for will constitute a contract between the District and the holder thereof.

The Bonds will be general obligations of the District and will contain a pledge of the faith and credit of the District for the payment of the principal of and interest thereon. For the payment of such principal and interest, the District has power and statutory authorization to levy ad valorem taxes on all real property in the District subject to taxation without limitation as to rate or amount.

Under the Constitution of the State, the District is required to pledge its faith and credit for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, and the State is specifically precluded from restricting the power of the District to levy taxes on real estate therefor. Chapter 97 of the New York Laws of 2011, as amended, (the “Tax Levy Limit Law”) imposes a limitation on the power of local governments and school districts, including the District, to increase their annual tax levy above a certain specified amount. However, the Tax Levy Limit Law expressly provides an exception from the annual tax levy limitation for any taxes levied to pay debt service on bonds or notes issued to finance voter approved capital expenditures or the refinancing or refunding of such bonds or notes. As the Bonds are being issued to finance voter-approved capital expenditures, the Bonds qualify for such exception to the Tax Levy Limit Law annual tax levy limitation. The exclusion does NOT apply to taxes to pay debt service on tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes, budget notes and deficiency notes; and any obligations issued to finance deficits and certain judgments, including tax certiorari refund payments. (See “*The Tax Levy Limit Law*” herein.)

REMEDIES UPON DEFAULT

Neither the Bonds, nor the proceedings with respect thereto, specifically provide any remedies which would be available to owners of the Bonds should the District default in the payment of principal of or interest on the Bonds, nor do they contain any provisions for the appointment of a trustee to enforce the interests of the owners of the Bonds upon the occurrence of any such default. The Bonds are general obligation contracts between the District and the owners for which the faith and credit of the District are pledged and while remedies for enforcement of payment are not expressly included in the District’s contract with such owners, any permanent repeal by statute or constitutional amendment of a bondholder’s and/or noteholder’s remedial right to judicial enforcement of the contract should, in the opinion of Bond Counsel, be held unconstitutional.

Upon default in the payment of principal of or interest on the Bonds at the suit of the owner, a Court has the power, in proper and appropriate proceedings, to render judgment against the District. The present statute limits interest on the amount adjudged due to contract creditors to nine per centum per annum from the date due to the date of payment. As a general rule, property and funds of a municipal corporation serving the public welfare and interest have not been judicially subjected to execution or attachment to satisfy a judgment. A Court also has the power, in proper and appropriate proceedings, to order payment of a judgment on such bonds or notes from funds lawfully available therefor or, in the absence thereof, to order the District to take all lawful action to obtain the same, including the raising of the required amount in the next annual tax levy. In exercising its

discretion as to whether to issue such an order, the Court may take into account all relevant factors, including the current operating needs of the District and the availability and adequacy of other remedies. Upon any default in the payment of the principal of or interest on the Bonds, the owner of such Bonds could, among other remedies, seek to obtain a writ of mandamus from a Court ordering the governing body of the District to assess, levy and collect an ad valorem tax, upon all taxable property of the District subject to taxation by the District sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same shall come due and payable (and interest from the due date to date of payment) and otherwise to observe the covenants contained in the Bonds and the proceedings with respect thereto all of which are included in the contract with the owners of the Bonds. The mandamus remedy, however, may be impracticable and difficult to enforce. Further, the right to enforce payment of the principal of or interest on the Bonds may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and similar laws and equitable principles, which may limit the specific enforcement of certain remedies.

In 1976, the New York Court of Appeals, the State's highest court, held in *Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corporation for the City of New York*, 40 N.Y.2d 731 (1976), that the New York State legislation purporting to postpone the payment of debt service on New York City obligations was an unconstitutional moratorium in violation of the New York State constitutional faith and credit mandate included in all municipal debt obligations. While that case can be viewed as a precedent for protecting the remedies of Bondholders, there can be no assurance as to what a Court may determine with respect to future events, including financial crises as they may occur in the State and in municipalities of the State, that require the exercise by the State of its emergency and police powers to assure the continuation of essential public services. (See also, *Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corporation for the City of New York*, 40 N.Y.2d 1088 (1977), where the Court of Appeals described the pledge as a direct Constitutional mandate.)

As a result of the Court of Appeals decision, the constitutionality of that portion of Title 6-A of Article 2 of the Local Finance Law enacted at the 1975 Extraordinary Session of the State legislature authorizing any county, city, town or village with respect to which the State has declared a financial emergency to petition the State Supreme Court to stay the enforcement against such municipality of any claim for payment relating to any contract, debt or obligation of the municipality during the emergency period, is subject to doubt. In any event, no such emergency has been declared with respect to the District.

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2 of the State Constitution, the District is required to provide an annual appropriation of monies for the payment of due and payable principal of and interest on indebtedness. Specifically, this constitutional provision states: "If at any time the respective appropriating authorities shall fail to make such appropriations, a sufficient sum shall be set apart from the first revenues thereafter received and shall be applied to such purposes. The fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village or school district may be required to set aside and apply such revenues as aforesaid at the suit of any holder of obligations issued for any such indebtedness." This constitutes a specific non-exclusive constitutional remedy against a defaulting municipality or school district; however, it does not apply in a context in which monies have been appropriated for debt service but the appropriating authorities decline to use such monies to pay debt service. However, Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State also provides that the fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village or school district may be required to set apart and apply such revenues at the suit of any holder of any obligations of indebtedness issued with the pledge of the faith of the credit of such political subdivision. In *Quirk v. Municipal Assistance Corp.*, 41 N.Y.2d 644 (1977), the Court of Appeals described this as a "first lien" on revenues, but one that does not give holders a right to any particular revenues. It should thus be noted that the pledge of the faith and credit of a political subdivision in the State is a pledge of an issuer of a general obligation bond or note to use its general revenue powers, including, but not limited to, its property tax levy, to pay debt service on such obligations, but that such pledge may or may not be interpreted by a court of competent jurisdiction to include a constitutional or statutory lien upon any particular revenues. The Constitutional provision providing for first revenue set asides does not apply to tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes or bond anticipation notes.

While the courts in the State have historically been protective of the rights of holders of general obligation debt of political subdivisions, it is not possible to predict what a future court might hold.

In prior years, certain events and legislation affecting a holder's remedies upon default have resulted in litigation. While courts of final jurisdiction have generally upheld and sustained the rights of bondholders and/or noteholders, such courts might hold that future events, including a financial crisis as such may occur in the State or in political subdivisions of the State, may require the exercise by the State or its political subdivisions of emergency and police powers to assure the continuation of essential public services prior to the payment of debt service.

SECTION 99-B OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW APPLICABLE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Section 99-b of the State Finance Law (the "SFL") provides for a covenant between the State and the purchasers and the holders and owners from time to time of the bonds and notes issued by school districts in the State for school purposes that it will not repeal, revoke or rescind the provisions of Section 99-b of the SFL, or amend or modify the same so as to limit, impair or impede the rights and remedies granted thereby.

Said section provides that in the event a holder or owner of any bond or note issued by a school district for school purposes shall file with the State Comptroller, a verified statement describing such bond or note and alleging default in the payment thereof or the interest thereon or both, it shall be the duty of the State Comptroller to immediately investigate the circumstances of the alleged default and prepare and file in his office a certificate setting forth his determinations with respect thereto and to serve a copy thereof by registered mail upon the chief fiscal officer of the school district which issued the bond or note. Such investigation by the State Comptroller shall set forth a description of all such bonds and notes of the school district found to be in default and the amount of principal and interest thereon past due.

Upon the filing of such a certificate in the office of the State Comptroller, he shall thereafter deduct and withhold from the next succeeding allotment, apportionment or payment of such State aid or assistance due to such school district such amount thereof as may be required to pay (a) the school district's contribution to the State Teachers' Retirement System, and (b) the principal of and interest on such bonds and notes of such school district then in default. In the event such State aid or assistance initially so withheld shall be insufficient to pay said amounts in full, the State Comptroller shall similarly deduct and withhold from each succeeding allotment, apportionment or payment of such State aid or assistance due such school district such amount or amounts thereof as may be required to cure such default. Allotments, apportionments and payments of such State aid so deducted or withheld by the State Comptroller for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds and notes shall be forwarded promptly to the paying agent or agents for the bonds and notes in default of such school district for the sole purpose of the payment of defaulted principal of and interest on such bonds or notes. If any such successive allotments, apportionments or payment of such State aid so deducted or withheld shall be less than the amount of all principal and interest on the bonds and notes in default with respect to which the same was so deducted or withheld, then the State Comptroller shall promptly forward to each paying agent an amount in the proportion that the amount of such bonds and notes in default payable to such paying agent bears to the total amount of the principal and interest then in default on such bonds and notes of such school district. The State Comptroller shall promptly notify the chief fiscal officer of such school district of any payment or payments made to any paying agent or agents of defaulted bonds or notes pursuant to said section of the SFL.

Such 99-b of the SFL is applicable to the Bonds.

NO PAST DUE DEBT

No principal or interest payment on District indebtedness is past due. The District has never defaulted in the payment of the principal of and/or interest on any indebtedness.

BANKRUPTCY

The Federal Bankruptcy Code (Chapter IX) allows public bodies, such as municipalities, recourse to the protection of a Federal Court for the purpose of adjusting outstanding indebtedness. Title 6-A of the Local Finance Law specifically authorizes any municipality in the State or its emergency control board to file a petition under any provision of Federal bankruptcy law for the composition or adjustment of municipal indebtedness. While this Local Finance Law provision does not apply to school districts, there can be no assurance that it will not become applicable in the future. As such, the undertakings of the District should be considered with reference, specifically, to Chapter IX, and, in general, to other bankruptcy laws affecting creditors' rights and municipalities. Bankruptcy proceedings by the District if authorized by the State in the future could have adverse effects on bondholders and/or noteholders including (a) delay in the enforcement of their remedies, (b) subordination of their claims to those supplying goods and services to the District after the initiation of bankruptcy proceedings and to the administrative expenses of bankruptcy proceedings and (c) imposition without their consent of a reorganization plan reducing or delaying payment of the Bonds.

The above references to said Chapter IX are not to be construed as an indication that the State will consent in the future to the right of the District to file a petition with any United States district court or court of bankruptcy under any provision of the laws of the United States, now or hereafter in effect for the composition or adjustment of municipal indebtedness or that the District is currently considering or expects to resort to the provisions of Chapter IX if authorized to do so in the future.

THE DISTRICT

Description

The District is located in the northwestern part of the Town of Brookhaven (the “Town”), Suffolk County, New York. Professional offices and commercial centers in Port Jefferson, Smithtown and Patchogue are within close proximity.

The area is largely residential in character. Considerable commercial development has taken place in recent years, located mostly on New York State Route 25A and North Country Road. Route 25A is the main road artery in the School District, and it generally bisects the School District on an east-west axis.

Residential construction continues at a moderate pace. Residents find employment with the District, and, among other places, at nearby industrial plants, Brookhaven National Laboratory, The Internal Revenue Center in Holtsville and Smith Haven Shopping Mall complex.

Vehicular transportation is served by a network of Town, County and State roads, including the Long Island Expressway. Rail transportation is provided by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Long Island Rail Road) at nearby Port Jefferson.

Recreational facilities, available to residents of the District, include Town beaches and marinas.

Higher education facilities are available in the immediate area, including The State University of New York at Stony Brook and Suffolk County Community College.

Police protection is provided by the County of Suffolk and fire protection is provided primarily by the Miller Place Fire District.

District Organization

The Board of Education, which is the policy-making body of the District, consists of five members with overlapping three-year terms so that as nearly as possible an equal number shall be elected to the Board each year. The President and the Vice President are selected by the Board members.

The administrative officers of the District, whose duty it is to implement the policies of the Board of Education and who are appointed by the Board, include the Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent, School Business Official, the District Clerk, and the District Treasurer.

Enrollment History

The following table presents the past and current school enrollment for the District.

<u>School Year</u>	<u>School Enrollment</u>
2017-2018	2,662
2018-2019	2,588
2019-2020	2,591
2020-2021	2,507
2021-2022	2,458
2022-2023	2,428
2023-2024	2,397

Source: District Officials.

District Facilities

The District operates five schools and offices; statistics relating to each are shown below.

<u>Name of School</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Date of Construction</u>	<u>Date of Last Addition</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Andrew Muller Primary School	UPK-2	1968	2019	795
North Country Road Middle School	6-8	1937	2011	750
Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School	3-5	1979	2011	800
Miller Place High School	9-12	1972	2011	1,341
Administration Building	-	2012	-	-

Employees

The collective bargaining agents, if any, which represent employees and the dates of expirations of the various collective bargaining agreements are as follows:

<u>Name of Union</u>	<u>Expiration Date of Contract</u>	<u>Approx. No. of Members</u>
Miller Place Teachers Association	06/30/2025	215
Miller Place Nurses Association	06/30/2025	4
Miller Place Administrators Association	06/30/2026	15
CSEA - Secretarial & Clerical	06/30/2025	98
CSEA - Operations Unit	06/30/2027	44

ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Population Trends

The following table sets forth population statistics.

<u>Year</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Town of Brookhaven</u>	<u>Suffolk County</u>
2000	-	448,248	1,419,369
2010	15,879	486,040	1,493,350
2020	16,141	485,773	1,525,920
2021	15,953	485,421	1,526,344

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census and Decennial Census.

Income Data

Income Data is available for the District as such. The information set forth below with respect to such Town, County and State is included for information purposes only. It should not be implied from the inclusion of such data in this Statement that the District is necessarily representative of the Town, County or State or vice versa.

	Per Capita Money Income				
	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021^a</u>
District	-	-	\$38,017	50,268	50,333
Town of Brookhaven	\$16,726	\$24,191	33,324	42,388	45,136
Suffolk County	18,481	26,577	35,755	46,466	51,222
New York State	16,501	23,389	30,948	40,898	43,078

	Median Household Income				
	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021^a</u>
District	-	-	\$99,806	\$123,984	\$126,018
Town of Brookhaven	\$47,074	\$62,475	81,937	100,061	101,733
Suffolk County	49,128	65,288	84,506	105,362	113,683
New York State	32,965	43,393	55,603	71,117	74,314

Source: United States Bureau of the Census.

a. Based on American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate (2017-2021).

Selected Listing of Larger Employers in the Town of Brookhaven ^a (As of 2023)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Estimated Number of Employees</u>
State University at Stony Brook	Education	14,000
Stony Brook University Medical Center	Medical Center	7,500
Brookhaven National Laboratory	Laboratory	3,000
John T. Mather Hospital	Hospital	1,967
Zebra Technologies	Commercial	1,800
Brookhaven Memorial Hospital	Hospital	1,730
St. Charles Hospital	Hospital	1,400
Three Village Central School District	Education	1,298
Quality King Distributors	Commercial	900
William Floyd Union Free School District	Education	860
Amneal Pharmaceuticals	Commercial	780

Source: Town of Brookhaven Division of Economic Development.

a. Not necessarily representative of the District.

Unemployment Rate Statistics

Unemployment statistics are not available for the District as such. The smallest area for which such statistics are available (which includes the District) is the Town of Brookhaven. The information set forth below with respect to such Town, the County and the State is included for information purposes only. It should not be implied from the inclusion of such data in this Statement that the District is necessarily representative of the Town, the County, or the State, or vice versa.

<u>Annual Averages:</u>	<u>Town of Brookhaven (%)</u>	<u>Suffolk County (%)</u>	<u>New York State (%)</u>
2017	4.5	4.5	4.7
2018	3.9	3.9	4.1
2019	3.7	3.7	4.4
2020	8.2	8.5	10.0
2021	4.8	4.9	7.2
2022	3.1	3.1	4.1
2023 (10 Month Average) ^a	3.1	3.1	4.2

Source: Department of Labor, State of New York

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE DISTRICT

Constitutional and Statutory Requirements

The New York State Constitution and Local Finance Law limit the power of the District (and other municipalities and school districts of the State) to issue obligations and to contract indebtedness. Such constitutional and statutory limitations include the following, in summary form, and are generally applicable to the District and the Bonds:

Purpose and Pledge. The District shall not give or loan any money or property to or in aid of any individual, or private corporation or private undertaking or give or loan its credit to or in aid of any of the foregoing or any public corporation.

The District may contract indebtedness only for a District purpose and shall pledge its faith and credit for the payment of principal of and interest thereon.

Payment and Maturity. Except for certain short-term indebtedness contracted in anticipation of taxes or to be paid in one of the two fiscal years immediately succeeding the fiscal year in which such indebtedness was contracted, indebtedness shall be paid in annual installments commencing no later than two years after the date such indebtedness shall have been contracted and ending no later than the period of probable usefulness of the object or purpose determined by statute or in the alternative the weighted average maturity of the several objects or purposes for which indebtedness is to be contracted; no installment may be more than fifty per centum in excess of the smallest prior installment, unless the District has authorized the issuance of indebtedness having substantially level or declining annual debt service. The District is required to provide an annual appropriation for the payment of interest due during the year on its indebtedness and for the amounts required in such year for amortization and redemption of its serial bonds, bond anticipation notes and capital notes.

General. The District is further subject to constitutional limitation by the general constitutionally imposed duty on the State Legislature to restrict the power of taxation and contracting indebtedness to prevent abuses in the exercise of such power; however, the State Legislature is prohibited by a specific constitutional provision from restricting the power of the District to levy taxes on real estate for the payment of interest on or principal of indebtedness theretofore contracted. There is no constitutional limitation on the amount that may be raised by the District by tax on real estate in any fiscal year to pay principal of and interest on all indebtedness. However, the Tax Levy Limit Law imposes a statutory limitation on the power of the District to increase its annual tax levy. (See “*The Tax Levy Limit Law*” herein).

Statutory Procedure

In general, the State Legislature has, by the enactment of the Local Finance Law, authorized the powers and procedure for the District to borrow and incur indebtedness subject, of course, to the constitutional provisions set forth above. The power to spend money, however, generally derives from other law, including the Education Law.

The District is generally required by such laws to submit propositions for the expenditure of money for capital purposes to the qualified electors of the District. Upon approval thereby, the Board of Education may adopt a bond resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes in anticipation of the bonds. With respect to certain school building construction projects, the District is not permitted to spend in excess of \$100,000 until the plans and specifications for such project have been approved by the Commissioner of Education of the State.

The Local Finance Law also provides for a twenty-day statute of limitations after publication of a bond resolution (in summary or in full), together with a statutory notice which, in effect, estops thereafter legal challenges to the validity of obligations authorized by such bond resolution except for alleged constitutional violations. Except on rare occasions the District complies with this estoppel procedure. It is a procedure that is recommended by Bond Counsel, but it is not an absolute legal requirement.

The Board of Education, as the finance board of the District, also has the power to authorize the sale and issuance of bonds and notes, including the Bonds. However, such finance board may delegate the power to sell the Bonds to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the District, pursuant to the Local Finance Law.

Debt Limit. Pursuant to the Local Finance Law, the District has the power to contract indebtedness for any school district purpose authorized by the Legislature of the State of New York provided the aggregate principal amount thereof shall not exceed ten per centum of the full valuation of the taxable real estate of the District and subject to certain enumerated deductions such as State aid for building purposes. The constitutional and statutory method for determining full valuation is by taking the assessed valuation of taxable real estate for the last completed assessment roll and applying thereto the ratio (equalization rate) which such assessed valuation bears to the full valuation; such ratio is determined by the State Board of Real Property Services. The Legislature also is required to prescribe the manner by which such ratio shall be determined by such authority.

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Computation of Debt Limit and Debt Contracting Margin
(As February 14, 2024)

<u>In Town of:</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>State Equalization Rate</u>	<u>Full Valuation</u>
Brookhaven (2023-2024) ^a	\$17,126,529	0.54%	<u>\$3,171,579,444</u>
Debt Limit - 10% of Average Full Valuation			\$317,157,944
Inclusions: ^b			
Outstanding Bonds			\$20,950,000
Bond Anticipation Notes			<u>0</u>
Total Indebtedness Before Issuing the Bonds			<u>20,950,000</u>
Exclusions (Estimated Building Aid) ^c			<u>15,169,039</u>
Total Net Indebtedness			<u>5,780,961</u>
Net Debt Contracting Margin			<u><u>\$311,376,983</u></u>
Per Cent of Debt Contracting Margin Exhausted			1.82%

a. The latest completed assessment roll for which a State Equalization Rate has been established.

b. Tax Anticipation Notes, Energy Performance Lease and Revenue Anticipation Notes are not included in computation of the debt contracting margin of the District.

c. Represents estimate of moneys receivable by the District from the State as an apportionment for debt service for school building purposes, based on the most recent information received by the District from the State Department of Education. The amount shown is not necessarily the amount the District will ultimately receive. The District has not applied for a building aid exclusion certificate from the Commissioner of Education and therefore may not exclude such amount from its total indebtedness on the Debt Statement form required to be filed with the Office of the State Comptroller when bonds are to be issued.

Trend of Outstanding Indebtedness ^a
As at June 30:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Bonds	\$24,630,000	\$22,475,000	\$20,430,000	\$18,280,000	\$21,300,000
BANs	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	<u>\$24,630,000</u>	<u>\$22,475,000</u>	<u>\$20,430,000</u>	<u>\$18,280,000</u>	<u>\$21,300,000</u>

a. Table does not include Energy Performance Contract debt.

Details of Short-Term Indebtedness Outstanding

As of the date of this Statement, the District has tax anticipation notes outstanding in the amount of \$12,000,000 which mature on June 24, 2024. Such amount is expected to be paid in full with the receipt of the District's tax levy.

Debt Service Requirements - Outstanding Bonds ^a

Fiscal Year Ending <u>June 30:</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 2,305,000	\$ 871,440	\$ 3,176,440
2025	2,225,000	703,769	2,928,769
2026	2,300,000	611,494	2,911,494
2027	2,370,000	515,413	2,885,413
2028	2,440,000	415,619	2,855,619
2029	2,510,000	312,369	2,822,369
2030	2,560,000	235,869	2,795,869
2031	445,000	157,131	602,131
2032	445,000	142,581	587,581
2033	450,000	127,868	577,868
2034	485,000	112,397	597,397
2035	490,000	95,954	585,954
2036	520,000	78,370	598,370
2037	525,000	59,679	584,679
2038	530,000	40,269	570,269
2039	165,000	26,826	191,826
2040	170,000	19,624	189,624
2041	180,000	12,031	192,031
2042	185,000	4,047	189,047
Total:	<u>\$21,300,000</u>	<u>\$4,542,750</u>	<u>\$25,842,750</u>

a. Does not include payments made to date.

Debt Service Requirements – 2012 Energy Performance Contract ^a

Fiscal Year Ending <u>June 30:</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 223,976	\$22,766	\$ 246,742
2025	229,137	17,605	246,742
2026	234,417	12,325	246,742
2027	239,819	6,923	246,742
2028	121,974	1,397	123,371
Total:	<u>\$1,049,323</u>	<u>\$61,016</u>	<u>\$1,110,339</u>

a. Does not include payments made to date.

Debt Service Requirements – 2017 Energy Performance Contract ^a

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 279,978	\$ 67,758	\$ 347,736
2025	286,616	61,120	347,736
2026	293,412	54,324	347,736
2027	300,368	47,368	347,736
2028	307,489	40,247	347,736
2029	314,780	32,956	347,736
2030	322,243	25,493	347,736
2031	329,883	17,853	347,736
2032	337,704	10,032	347,736
2033	171,843	2,025	173,868
Total:	<u>\$2,944,316</u>	<u>\$359,176</u>	<u>\$3,303,492</u>

a. Does not include payments made to date.

Tax Anticipation Notes

The District has generally found it necessary to borrow from time to time in anticipation of taxes, which borrowing is necessitated by the schedule of real property tax payments.

The following is a history of such tax anticipation note borrowings for the five most recent fiscal years:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Maturity</u>
2020	\$11,000,000	08/28/2019	06/25/2020
2021	12,000,000	08/27/2020	06/25/2021
2022	12,000,000	09/09/2021	06/24/2022
2023	12,000,000	08/30/2022	06/28/2023
2024	12,000,000	09/05/2023	06/24/2024

Authorized and Unissued Debt

As of the date of this Statement, the District has authorized and unissued debt outstanding, in the amount of \$25,000,000 for capital improvements to various buildings. The Bonds will finance \$15,000,000 of such authorization.

Calculation of Estimated Overlapping and Underlying Indebtedness

<u>Overlapping Units</u>	<u>Date of Report</u>	<u>Percentage Applicable (%)</u>	<u>Applicable Total Indebtedness</u>	<u>Applicable Net Indebtedness</u>
County of Suffolk	06/30/2022	0.79	\$10,791,077	\$ 9,404,375
Town of Brookhaven	06/29/2023	3.69	16,852,584	16,852,584
Miller Place Fire District	07/01/2023	100.00	145,000	145,000
Sound Beach Fire District	07/01/2023	5.00	112,000	112,000
Totals			<u>\$27,900,661</u>	<u>\$26,513,959</u>

Sources: Annual Reports of the respective units for the most recently completed fiscal year on file with the Office of the State Comptroller or more recently published Official Statements.

Debt Ratios
(As of February 14, 2024)

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Per Capita</u> ^a	<u>Percentage of Full Value (%)</u> ^b
Total Direct Debt	\$20,950,000	\$1,313	0.66
Net Direct Debt	5,780,961	362	0.18
Total Direct & Applicable Total Overlapping Debt	48,850,661	3,062	1.54
Net Direct & Applicable Net Overlapping Debt	32,294,920	2,024	1.02

a. Current population of the District is 15,953.

b. The full valuation of taxable property for 2023-24 is \$3,171,579,444.

FINANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Impact of COVID-19

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Act of 2021 (“ARPA”). Included in this bill was \$350 billion in direct aid to state and local governments. Payments to local governments will be made in two tranches, the first half 60 days after enactment and the second half one year later. The funding is available through, and must be spent by, September 30, 2026.

Specifically, eligible uses of the aid include: (i) revenue replacement for the provision of government services to the extent the reduction in revenue is due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent fiscal year prior to the emergency; (ii) premium pay for essential workers; (iii) assistance to small business, households, and hard-hit industries, and economic recovery and (iv) investments in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure. The bill also contains two restrictions on eligible uses: (i) funds cannot be used to directly or indirectly offset tax reductions or delay a tax increase; and (ii) funds cannot be deposited into any pension fund.

The District has received \$209,733 in CARES Act funding in fiscal year 2020-2021 and has been allocated \$260,712 in fiscal year 2021-2022 for the GEER grant. The District is expected to receive a total of \$1,962,017 through CRRSA and \$1,227,328 through ARP funding. See also “*State Aid*” herein.

Independent Audit

The financial affairs of the District are subject to periodic compliance review by the Office of the State Comptroller to ascertain whether the District has complied with the requirements of various state and federal statutes. The financial statements of the District are audited each year by an independent public accountant. The last such audit covers the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. A copy of such report is included herein as Appendix B.

Investment Policy

Pursuant to State law, including Sections 10 and 11 of the GML, the District is generally permitted to deposit moneys in banks or trust companies located and authorized to do business in the State. All such deposits, including special time deposit accounts and certificates of deposit, in excess of the amount insured under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, are required to be secured in accordance with the provisions of and subject to the limitations of Section 10 of the GML.

The District may also temporarily invest moneys in: (1) obligations of the United States of America; (2) obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States of America; (3) obligations of the State of New York; (4) with the approval of the New York State Comptroller, in tax anticipation notes or revenue anticipation notes issued by any municipality, school district, or district corporation, other than those notes issued by the District, itself; (5) certificates of participation issued in connection with installment purchase agreements entered into by political subdivisions of the State pursuant to Section 109-b(10) of the GML; (6) obligations of a New York public benefit corporation which are made lawful investments for municipalities pursuant to the enabling statute of such public benefit corporation; or (7) in the case of moneys held in certain reserve funds established by the District pursuant to law, in obligations of the District.

All of the foregoing investments are required to be payable or redeemable at the option of the owner within such times as the proceeds will be needed to meet expenditures for purposes for which the moneys were provided and, in the case of obligations purchased with the proceeds of bonds or notes, shall be payable or redeemable in any event, at the option of the owner, within two years of the date of purchase. Unless registered or inscribed in the name of the District, such instruments and investments must be purchased through, delivered to and held in custody of a bank or trust company in the State pursuant to a written custodial agreement as provided by Section 10 of the GML.

The Board of Education of the District has adopted an investment policy and such policy conforms with applicable laws of the State governing the deposit and investment of public moneys. All deposits and investments of the District are made in accordance with such policy.

Fund Structure and Accounts

The General Fund is the general operating fund for the District and is used to account for substantially all revenues and expenditures of the District. The District also maintains a special aid fund and school lunch fund. In addition, a capital projects fund is used to record capital facility projects, while a trust and agency fund accounts for assets received by the District in a fiduciary capacity.

Basis of Accounting

The district-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported on the accrual basis of accounting using the economic resources measurement focus. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash transaction takes place. Nonexchange transaction, in which the District gives or receives value without directly receiving or giving equal value in exchange, include real property taxes, grants and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from real property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied and the related expenditures are incurred.

The fund statements are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting using the current financial resources measurement focus. Revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The District considers all revenue reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within 180 days after the end of the fiscal year, except for real property taxes, which are considered to be available if they are collected within 60 days after the end of the fiscal year.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Source: Audited Financials of the District.

Budget Process

The District's fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. Starting in the fall or winter of each year, the District's financial plan and enrollment projection are reviewed and updated and the first draft of the next year's proposed budget is developed by the District office staff. During the winter and early spring, the budget is developed and refined in conjunction with the school building principals and department supervisors. The District's budget is subject to the provisions of the Tax Levy Limit Law, which imposes a limitation on the amount of real property taxes that a school district may levy, and by law is submitted to voter referendum on the third Tuesday of May each year. (See "*The Levy Limit Law*" herein).

On May 16, 2023, a majority of the voters of the District approved the District's budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Summaries of the District's Adopted Budgets for the fiscal years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 may be found in Appendix A, herein.

Revenues

The District receives most of its revenue from a real property tax on all non-exempt real property situated within the District and State aid. A summary of such revenues for the five most recently completed fiscal years may be found in Appendix A.

Real Property Taxes

See "*Tax Information*" herein.

State Aid

The District receives appropriations from the State of State aid for operating, building and other purposes at various times throughout its fiscal year, pursuant to formulas and payment schedules set forth by statute. While the State has a constitutional duty to maintain and support a system of free common schools that provides a “sound basic education” to children of the State, there can be no assurance that the State appropriation for State aid to school districts will be continued in future years, either pursuant to existing formulas or in any form whatsoever. State aid appropriated and apportioned to the school districts can be paid only if the State has such monies available for such payment.

The following table sets forth the percentage of the District’s General Fund revenue comprised of State aid for each of the fiscal years 2019 through 2023, and the amounts budgeted for 2024.

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>General Fund Total Revenue</u>	<u>State Aid</u>	<u>State Aid to Revenues (%)</u>
2019	\$70,140,751	\$22,888,488	32.63
2020	70,977,329	22,944,962	32.33
2021	72,303,200	23,739,263	32.83
2022	72,450,590	22,573,568	31.16
2023	74,456,857	22,714,343	30.51
2024 (Budgeted) ^a	80,364,624	24,691,286	30.72

Source: Audited Financial Statements of the District and Adopted Budgets of the District.

a. Budgeted revenues include the application of reserves and fund balance.

In addition to the amount of State Aid budgeted annually by the District, the State makes payments of STAR aid representing tax savings provided by school districts to their taxpayers under the STAR Program (See “*STAR – School Tax Exemption*” herein).

The amount of State aid to school districts is dependent in part upon the financial condition of the State. Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 the State initially declared a state of emergency and the Governor took steps designed to mitigate the spread and impacts of COVID-19 including closing schools and non-essential businesses for an extended period. The use of federal stimulus funds has allowed the State to avoid gap closing measurements; however, the State may be required to implement gap closing measurements in the future. Such actions may include, but are not limited to: reductions in State agency operations and/or delays or reductions in payments to local governments or other recipients of State aid including school districts in the State. If this were to occur, reductions in the payment of State aid could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State, including the District.

The State’s 2023-24 Enacted Budget provides \$34.5 billion in State funding to school districts for the 2023-24 school year the highest level of State aid ever. This represents a year-to-year funding increase of \$3.1 billion or 10.0% and includes \$24.1 billion of Foundation Aid which increased 12.8% from 2022-23. The 2023-24 school year increase in Foundation Aid is to complete the three-year phase-in of full funding of the current Foundation Aid formula.

The State’s 2023-24 Enacted Budget also increases the State’s annual investment in prekindergarten to \$1.2 billion, an increase of \$125 million, or 9.09%. The Budget also includes a total of \$20 million in grant funding to support the establishment of new early college high school programs.

The amount of State aid to school districts can vary from year to year and is dependent in part upon the financial condition of the State. During the 2011 to 2019 fiscal years of the State, State aid to school districts was paid in a timely manner; however, during the State’s 2010 and 2020 fiscal years, State budgetary restrictions resulted in delayed payments of State aid to school districts in the State. In addition, the availability of State aid and the timeliness of payment of State aid to school districts could be affected by a delay in adoption of the State budget, which is due at the start of the State’s fiscal year of April 1. The State’s budget has been adopted by April 1 or shortly thereafter for over ten (10) years. The State’s 2023-24 Executive Budget was adopted on May 2, 2023. No assurance can be given that the State will not experience delays in the adoption of the budget in future fiscal years. Significant delays in the adoption of the State budget could result in delayed payment of State aid to school districts in the State which could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State.

The State receives a substantial amount of federal aid for health care, education, transportation and other governmental purposes, as well as federal funding to respond to, and recover from, the COVID-19 pandemic, severe weather events and other disasters. Many of the policies that drive this federal aid may be subject to change under the federal administration and Congress. Current federal aid projections, and the assumptions on which they rely, are subject to revisions. Reductions in federal funding levels could have a materially adverse impact on the State budget.

In addition to the potential fiscal impact of policies that may be proposed and adopted by the federal administration and Congress, the State budget may be adversely affected by other actions taken by the federal government, including audits, disallowances, and changes to federal participation rates or other Medicaid rules.

There can be no assurance that the State's financial position will not change materially and adversely from current projections. If this were to occur, the State would be required to take additional gap-closing actions. Such actions may include, but are not limited to: reductions in State agency operations; delays or reductions in payments to local governments or other recipients of State aid including school districts in the State. Reductions in the payment of state aid could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State.

Should the District fail to receive State aid expected from the State in the amounts and at the times expected, occasioned by a delay in the payment of such monies or by a mid-year reduction in State aid, the District is authorized by the Local Finance law to provide operating funds by borrowing in anticipation of the receipt of uncollected State Aid.

State Aid Litigation

In January 2001, the State Supreme Court issued a decision in Campaign for Fiscal Equity v. New York mandating that the system of apportionment of State aid to school districts within the State be restructured by the Governor and the State Legislature. On June 25, 2002, the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court reversed that decision. On June 26, 2003, the State Court of Appeals, the highest court in the State, reversed the Appellate Division, holding that the State must, by July 30, 2004, ascertain the actual cost of providing a sound basic education, enact reforms to the system of school funding and ensure a system of accountability for such reforms. The Court of Appeals further modified the decision of the Appellate Division by deciding against a Statewide remedy and instead limited its ruling solely to the New York City school system.

After further litigation, on appeal in 2006, the Court of Appeals held that \$1.93 billion of additional funds for the New York City schools – as initially proposed by the Governor and presented to the Legislature as an amount sufficient to provide a sound basic education – was reasonably determined. State legislative reforms in the wake of The Campaign for Fiscal Equity decision included increased accountability for expenditure of State funds and collapsing over 30 categories of school aid for school districts in the State into one classroom operating formula referred to as Foundation Aid. The stated purpose of Foundation Aid is to prioritize funding distribution based upon student need. As a result of the Court of Appeals ruling schools were to receive \$5.5 billion increase in foundation aid over a four fiscal year phase-in covering 2007 to 2011.

In school district fiscal year 2009-2010, foundation aid funding was frozen by the State Legislature to the prior fiscal year level, and in the fiscal year thereafter foundation aid funding was reduced through a “gap elimination adjustment” as described above, and other aid adjustments. The final phase-in of foundation aid as originally projected is now complete. (See also “School district fiscal year (2023-2024)” under the subheading “Events Affecting State Aid to New York School Districts” herein.)

A case related to the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, Inc. v. State of New York was heard on appeal on May 30, 2017 in New Yorkers for Students' Educational Rights v. State of New York (“NYSER”) and a consolidated case on the right to a sound basic education. The NYSER lawsuit asserts that the State has failed to comply with the original decision in the Court of Appeals in the Campaign for Fiscal Equity case, and asks the Court of Appeals to require the State to develop new methodologies, formulas and mechanisms for determining State aid, to fully fund the foundation aid formula, to eliminate the supermajority requirement for voter approval of budgets which increase school district property tax levies above the property tax cap limitation, and related matters. On June 27, 2017, the Court of Appeals held that the plaintiffs causes of action were properly dismissed by the earlier Appellate Division decision except insofar as two causes of action regarding accountability mechanisms and sufficient State funding for a “sound basic education” as applicable solely to the school districts in New York City and Syracuse. The Court emphasized its previous ruling in the CFE case that absent “gross education inadequacies”, claims regarding State funding for a “sound basic education” must be made on a district-by-district basis based on the specific facts therein. On October 14, 2021 Governor Kathy Hochul announced that New York State has reached an agreement to settle and discontinue the New Yorkers for Students' Educational Rights v. New York State case, following through on the State's commitment to fully fund the current Foundation Aid formula to New York's school districts over three years and ending the State's prior opposition to providing this much-needed funding to our students. The litigation, which has been ongoing since 2014, sought to require New York State to fully fund the Foundation Aid formula that was put into place following the historic Campaign for Fiscal Equity cases, and had been previously opposed by the State. Foundation Aid was created in 2007 and takes school district wealth and student need into account to create an equitable distribution of state funding to schools, however, New York State has never fully funded Foundation Aid. The new settlement requires New York State to

phase-in full funding of Foundation Aid by the FY 2024 budget. In the FY 2022 Enacted State Budget approved in April 2021, the Executive and Legislature agreed to fully fund Foundation Aid by the FY 2024 budget and enshrined this commitment into law. A breakdown of Foundation Aid funding is set forth below:

- FY 2022: \$19.8 billion, covering 30% of the existing shortfall
- FY 2023: Approximately \$21.3 billion, covering 50% of the anticipated shortfall
- FY 2024: Approximately \$23.2 billion, eliminating the anticipated shortfall, and funding the full amount of Foundation Aid for all school districts

Events Affecting State Aid to New York School Districts

Following a State budgetary crisis in 2009, State aid to school districts in the State decreased for a number of years with substantial increases established in more recent years.

School district fiscal year (2018-2019): The State's 2018-2019 Budget provided for school aid of approximately \$26.7 billion, an increase of approximately \$1.0 billion in school aid spending from the 2017-2018 school year. The majority of the increases were targeted to high need school districts. Expense-based aids to support school construction, pupil transportation, BOCES and special education were continued in full, as is the State's usual practice. Transportation aid increased by 5.2% and building aid increased by 4.7%. The State 2018-2019 Budget continued to link school aid increases for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 to teacher and principal evaluation plans.

School district fiscal year (2019-2020): The State's 2019-2020 school year, the State's Enacted Budget included a total of \$27.9 billion for School Aid, a year-to-year funding increase of approximately \$1.2 billion. The majority of the increases were targeted to high need school districts. Expense-based aids to support school construction, pupil transportation, BOCES and special education will continue in full, as is the State's usual practice. Transportation aid increased by approximately 4.5% and building aid increased by approximately 3.7%. The State 2019-2020 Enacted Budget continued to link school aid increases for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 to teacher and principal evaluation plans approved by September 1 of the current year in compliance with Education Law Section 3012-d.

School district fiscal year (2020-2021): Due to the anticipated impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on State revenues, State aid in the State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget was 3.7 percent lower than in the State's 2019-2020 Enacted Budget but was offset in part with increased Federal support. This reduction in State Operating Funds support was offset by approximately \$1.1 billion in funding provided to the State through the Federal CARES Act, including the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Education Relief Fund and the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund. With these Federal funds, State aid in the school district fiscal year 2020-2021 was expected to total \$27.9 billion, an annual increase of approximately \$100 million or 0.4 percent. The State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget continued prior year funding levels for existing programs, including Foundation Aid, Community Schools and Universal Prekindergarten. The 2020-2021 Enacted Budget also provided over \$200 million in support for competitive grant programs, including \$1 million for development of a new Civics Education curriculum and \$10 million for a Student Mental Health program. Funding for expense-based aids, such as Building Aid, Transportation Aid, and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) Aid was continued under existing aid formulas. Out-year growth in School Aid reflect current projections of the ten-year average growth in State personal income. The State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget authorized the State's Budget Director to make periodic adjustments to State Aid, in the event that actual State revenues came in below 99% percent of estimates or if actual disbursements exceed 101% of estimates. See "*State Aid*" herein for a discussion of this provision set forth in the State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget and recent releases by the State regarding the projected revenue shortfalls in such budget.

School district fiscal year (2021-2022): For the 2021-2022 school year, the State's Enacted budget provided \$29.5 billion in State funding to school districts for the 2021-2022 school year through School Aid, the highest level of State aid ever, supporting the operational costs of school districts that educate 2.5 million students statewide. This investment represented an increase of 11.3% (\$3.0 billion) compared to the 2020-2021 school year, including a \$1.4 billion (7.6%) Foundation Aid increase. The Enacted budget allocated \$13 billion of federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief and Governor's Emergency Education Relief funds to public schools. This funding, available for use over multiple years, will help schools safely reopen for in-person instruction, address learning loss, and respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs due to the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Budget allocated \$629 million of these funds to school districts as targeted grants to support efforts to address learning loss through activities such as summer enrichment and comprehensive after-school programs. In addition, the Budget used \$105 million of federal funds to expand access to full-day prekindergarten programs for four-year-old children in school districts statewide in the 2021-2022 school year.

School district fiscal year (2022-2023): For the 2022-2023 Enacted Budget provided \$31.5 billion in State funding to school districts for the 2022-23 school year, the highest level of State aid ever. This represented an increase of \$2.1 billion or 7.2% compared to the 2021-2022 school year and includes a \$1.5 billion or 7.7 percent Foundation Aid increase. The State's 2022-2023 Enacted Budget also programed \$14 billion of federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief and Governor's Emergency Education Relief funds to public schools. This funding, available for use over multiple years, was designed to assist schools to reopen for in-person instruction, address learning loss, and respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs due to the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. The State's 2022-23 Enacted Budget allocated \$100 million over two years for a new State matching fund for school districts with the highest needs to support efforts to address student well-being and learning loss. In addition, the State's 2022-23 Enacted Budget increased federal funds by \$125 million to expand access to full-day prekindergarten programs for four-year old children in school districts statewide in the 2022-23 school year.

School district fiscal year (2023-2024): For the 2023-2024 school year, the Enacted Budget provides \$34.5 billion in State funding to school districts for the 2023-24 school year the highest level of State aid ever. This represents a year-to-year funding increase of \$3.1 billion or 10.00% and include \$24.1 billion of Foundation Aid which increased 12.8% from 2022-23. The 2022-23 school year increase in Foundation Aid is to complete the three-year phase-in of full funding of the current Foundation aid formula. The Executive Budget also increases the State's annual investment in prekindergarten to \$1.2 billion, an increase of \$125 million, or 9.09%. The budget also includes a total of \$20 million in grant funding to support the establishment of new early college high school programs.

The District cannot predict at this time whether there will be any reductions in and/or delays in the receipt of State aid during the remainder of the current fiscal year. The District believes that it would mitigate the impact of any delays or the reduction in State aid by reducing expenditures, increasing revenues, appropriating other available funds on hand, and/or by any combination of the foregoing. (See also "*Risk Factors*").

Expenditures

The major categories of expenditure for the District are General Support, Instruction, Employee Benefits, Pupil Transportation and Debt Service. A summary of the expenditures for the five most recently completed fiscal years may be found in Appendix A.

The State Comptroller's Fiscal Stress Monitoring System and OSC Compliance Reviews

The New York State Comptroller has reported that New York State's school districts and municipalities are facing significant fiscal challenges. As a result, the Office of the State Comptroller has developed a Fiscal Stress Monitoring System ("FSMS") to provide independent, objectively measured and quantifiable information to school districts and municipal officials, taxpayers and policy makers regarding the various levels of fiscal stress under which the State's school districts and municipalities are operating.

The fiscal stress scores are based on financial information submitted as part of each school ST-3 report filed with the State Education Department annually, and each municipality's annual report filed with the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC). Using financial indicators that include year-end fund balance, cash position and patterns of operating deficits, the system creates an overall fiscal stress score which classifies whether a school district or municipality is in "significant fiscal stress", in "moderate fiscal stress," as "susceptible to fiscal stress" or "no designation". Entities that do not accumulate the number of points that would place them in a stress category will receive a financial score but will be classified in a category of "no designation." This classification should not be interpreted to imply that the entity is completely free of fiscal stress conditions. Rather, the entity's financial information, when objectively scored according to the FSMS criteria, did not generate sufficient points to place them in one of the three established stress categories.

The most current applicable report of OSC designates the District as "No Designation" (Fiscal Score: 0.0%; Environmental Score: 0.0%). More information on the FSMS may be obtained from the Office of the State Comptroller.

In addition, OSC helps local government officials manage government resources efficiently and effectively. The Comptroller oversees the fiscal affairs of local governments statewide, as well as compliance with relevant statutes and observance of good business practices. This fiscal oversight is accomplished, in part, through its audits, which identify opportunities for improving operations and governance. The most recent audit was released on July, 2016. The purpose of the audit was to examine the District's check signing for appropriate use and compliance with the District policies for the period July 1, 2015 through November 30, 2016. The complete report, along with the District's response, may be found on the OSC's official website.

References to websites and/or website addresses presented herein are for informational purposes only. Unless specified otherwise, such websites and the information or links contained therein are not incorporated into, and are not part of, this Official Statement.

Employee Pension System

System (“TRS”). Employer pension payments to the TRS are generally deducted from State aid payments. All non-NYS certified/civil service employees of the District eligible for pension or retirement benefits under the Retirement and Social Security Law of the State of New York are members of the New York State and Local Employee's Retirement System (“ERS”). Both the TRS and ERS are non-contributory with respect to members hired prior to July 1, 1976. Other than as discussed below, all members of the respective systems hired on or after July 1, 1976 with less than 10 year's full-time service contribute 3% of their gross annual salary toward the cost of retirement programs.

On December 10, 2009, the Governor signed in to law a new Tier 5. The law is effective for new ERS and TRS employees hired after January 1, 2010 and before March 31, 2012. ERS employees contribute 3% of their salaries and TRS employees contribute 3.5% of their salaries. There is no provision for these employee contributions to cease after a certain period of service.

On March 16, 2012, Governor Cuomo signed into law Chapter 18 of the Laws of 2012, which legislation provides for a new Tier 6 for employees hired after April 1, 2012. This new pension tier has progressive employee contribution rates between 3% and 6% and such employee contributions continue so long as the employee continues to accumulate pension credits; it increases the retirement age for new employees from 62 to 63 and includes provisions allowing early retirement with penalties. Under Tier 6, the pension multiplier is 1.75% for the first 20 years of service and 2% thereafter; vesting will occur after 10 years; the time period for calculation of final average salary is increased from three years to five years; and the amount of overtime to be used to determine an employee's pension is capped at \$15,000, indexed for inflation, for civilian and non-uniform employees and at 15% of base pay for uniformed employees outside of New York City. It also includes a voluntary, portable, defined contribution plan option for new non-union employees with salaries of \$75,000 or more.

Under current law, the employer pension payments for a given fiscal year are based on the value of the pension fund on the prior April 1 thus enabling the District to more accurately include the cost of the employer pension payment in its budget for the ensuing year. In addition, the District is required to make a minimum contribution of 4.5% of payroll every year, including years in which the investment performance of the fund would make a lower payment possible. The annual employer pension payment is due on February 1 of each year.

Due to poor performance of the investment portfolio of TRS and ERS during the recent financial crisis, the employer contribution rates for required pension payments to the TRS and ERS increased substantially. To help mitigate the impact of such increases, various forms of legislation have been enacted that permitted school districts to amortize a portion of its annual employer pension payments. The District has not amortized any of its employer pension payments pursuant to such legislation and expects to continue to pay all payments in full when due.

The State's 2019-2020 Enacted Budget, which was signed into law as Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2019, includes a provision that will allow school districts in the State to establish a reserve fund for the purpose of funding the cost of TRS contributions, as a sub-fund of retirement contribution reserve funds presently authorized for amounts payable to the ERS by a school district. School districts will be permitted to pay into such reserve fund during any particular fiscal year, an amount not to exceed two percent of the total compensation or salaries of all district-employed teachers who are members of the TRS paid during the immediately preceding fiscal year; provided that the balance of such fund may not exceed ten percent of the total compensation or salaries of all district-employed teachers who are members of the TRS paid during the immediately preceding fiscal year. The District established a TRS reserve fund in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

The following chart represents the ERS and TRS required contributions for each of the last five completed fiscal years and the budgeted amount for the current fiscal year.

Fiscal Year Ending <u>June 30:</u>	<u>TRS</u>	<u>ERS</u>
2019	\$3,114,221	\$941,758
2020	2,744,419	954,115
2021	2,749,583	860,942
2022	2,737,483	793,783
2023	2,833,138	698,111
2024 (Budgeted)	3,052,225	928,283

Source: District Officials.

Other Post-Employment Benefits

The District provides post-retirement healthcare benefits to various categories of former employees. These costs may be expected to rise substantially in the future. School districts and Boards of Cooperative Education Services, unlike other municipal units of government in the State, have been prohibited from reducing retiree health benefits or increasing health care contributions received or paid by retirees below the level of benefits or contributions afforded to or required from active employees. This protection from unilateral reduction of benefits had been extended annually by the New York State Legislature until recently when legislation was enacted to make permanent these health insurance benefit protections for retirees. Legislative attempts to provide similar protection to retirees of other local units of government in the State have not succeeded as of the date hereof. Nevertheless, many such retirees of all varieties of municipal units in the State do presently receive such benefits.

GASB Statement No. 75 ("GASB 75") of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB"), requires state and local governments to account for and report their costs associated with post-retirement healthcare benefits and other non-pension benefits ("OPEB"). GASB 75 generally requires that employers account for and report the annual cost of the OPEB and the outstanding obligations and commitments related to OPEB in essentially the same manner as they currently do for pensions. Under previous rules, these benefits have generally been administered on a pay-as-you-go basis and have not been reported as a liability on governmental financial statements. Only current payments to existing retirees were recorded as an expense.

GASB 75 requires that state and local governments adopt the actuarial methodologies to determine annual OPEB costs. Annual OPEB cost for most employers will be based on actuarially determined amounts that, if paid on an ongoing basis, generally would provide sufficient resources to pay benefits as they come due.

During the year ended June 30, 2018, the District adopted GASB 75, which supersedes and eliminates GASB 45. Under GASB 45, based on actuarial valuation, an annual required contribution ("ARC") will be determined for each state or local government. The ARC is the sum of (a) the normal cost for the year (the present value of future benefits being earned by current employees) plus (b) amortization of the unfunded accrued liability (benefits already earned by current and former employees but not yet provided for), using an amortization period of not more than 30 years. If a municipality contributes an amount less than the ARC, a net OPEB obligation will result, which is required to be recorded as a liability on its financial statements.

GASB 75 establishes new standards for recognizing and measuring OPEB liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and expense/expenditures to provide more transparent reporting and useful information about the liability and cost of benefits. Municipalities and school districts are required to account for OPEB within the financial statements rather than only noted in the footnotes as previously required by GASB 45. It is measured as of a date no earlier than the end of the employer's prior fiscal year and no later than the employer's current fiscal year. The discount rate is based on 20-year, tax exempt general obligation municipal bonds. There is no amortization of prior service cost.

Those that have more than 200 participants are required to have a full actuarial valuation annually. Plans with fewer than 200 participants are required to have a full valuation every two years.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the District implemented GASB 75. The implementation of this Statement resulted in the reporting of the entire actuarial accrued liability for other post-employment benefits. The District's total OPEB liability at June 30, 2023 is as follows:

<u>Changes in the Total OPEB Liability</u>	<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023:</u>
Balance as of June 30, 2022	\$108,055,115
Changes for the year:	
Service Cost	3,756,701
Interest	3,903,256
Differences between actual and expected experience	1,584,244
Changes in assumptions or other outputs	10,837,336
Benefit payments	(3,127,904)
Total Changes	<u>\$16,953,633</u>
Total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023	<u><u>\$125,008,748</u></u>

The OSC has recently proposed legislation to provide the State and certain local governments with the authority to establish trusts in which to accumulate assets for OPEB and to establish an OPEB investment fund in the sole custody of the State Comptroller for the investment of OPEB assets of the State and participating eligible local governments. The District cannot predict at this time whether such proposed legislation will be enacted into law. At this time, New York State has not developed guidelines for the creation and use of irrevocable trusts for the funding of OPEB. As a result, the District has decided to continue funding the expenditure on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Should the District be required to fund its unfunded actuarial accrued OPEB liability, it could have a material adverse impact upon the District's finances and could force the District to reduce services, raise taxes or both.

TAX INFORMATION

Real Property Taxes

The District derives its power to levy an ad valorem real property tax from the State Constitution; methods and procedures to levy, collect and enforce this tax are governed by the Real Property Tax Law. Real property assessment rolls used by the District are prepared by the Town of Brookhaven. Assessment valuations are determined by the Town assessors and the State Board of Real Property Services which is responsible for certain utility and railroad property. In addition, the State Board of Real Property Services annually establishes State Equalization Rates for all localities in the State, which are determined by statistical sampling of market sales/assessment studies. The equalization rates are used in the calculation and distribution of certain State aids and are used by many localities in the calculation of debt contracting and real property taxing limitations. The District is not subject to constitutional real property taxing limitations; however, see "*The Tax Levy Limit Law*" herein for a discussion of certain statutory limitation that have been imposed.

The following table sets forth the percentage of the District's General Fund revenue (excluding other financing sources) comprised of real property taxes for each of the fiscal years 2019 through 2023 and the 2024 budgeted amounts.

Fiscal Year Ending <u>June 30:</u>	<u>Total Revenue</u>	Real Property <u>Taxes</u>	Real Property Taxes <u>to Revenues (%)</u>
2019	\$70,140,751	\$46,292,388	66.00
2020	70,977,329	46,931,435	66.12
2021	72,303,200	47,618,352	65.86
2022	72,450,590	45,042,036	62.17
2023	74,456,857	46,339,332	62.24
2024 (Budgeted) ^a	80,364,624	51,020,162	63.49

Source: Audited Financial Statements of the District and Adopted Budgets of the District.

a. Budgeted estimates for real property taxes include STAR. Budgeted estimates for total revenues include appropriations of fund balance.

Tax Collection Procedure

Property taxes for the District, together with County, Town and Fire District taxes, are collected by the Town Tax Receiver. Such taxes are due and payable in equal installments on December 1 and May 10, but may be paid without penalty by January 10 and May 31, respectively. Penalties on unpaid taxes are 1% per month from the date such taxes are due and 10% after May 31.

The Town Tax Receiver distributes the collected tax money to the Town, fire and school districts prior to distributing the balance collected to the County. Uncollected amounts are not segregated by the Receivers and any deficiency in tax collection is the County's liability. The District thereby is assured of full tax collection.

The Tax Levy Limit Law

Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, as amended, (herein referred to as the "Tax Levy Limit Law" or "Law") modified previous law by imposing a limit on the amount of real property taxes that a school district may levy.

Prior to the enactment of the Law, there was no statutory limitation on the amount of real property taxes that a school district could levy if its budget had been approved by a simple majority of its voters. In the event the budget had been defeated by the voters, the school district was required to adopt a contingency budget. Under a contingency budget, school budget increases were limited to the lesser of four percent (4%) of the prior year's budget or one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the consumer price index ("CPI").

Under the Tax Levy Limit Law, there is now a limitation on the amount of tax levy growth from one fiscal year to the next. Such limitation is the lesser of (i) 2% or (ii) the annual percentage increase in the consumer price index, subject to certain exclusions as mentioned below and as described in the Law. A budget with a tax levy that does not exceed such limit will require approval by at least 50% of the voters. Approval by at least 60% of the voters will be required for a budget with a tax levy in excess of the limit. In the event the voters reject the budget, the tax levy for the school district's budget for the ensuing fiscal year may not exceed the amount of the tax levy for the prior fiscal year. School districts will be permitted to carry forward a certain portion of their unused tax levy limitation from a prior year.

The Law permits certain significant exclusions to the tax levy limit for school districts. These include taxes to pay the local share of debt service on bonds (such as the Bonds) or notes issued to finance voter approved capital expenditures and the refinancing or refunding of such bonds or notes, certain pension cost increases, and other items enumerated in the Law. However, such exclusion does NOT apply to taxes to pay debt service on tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes, budget notes and deficiency notes; and any obligations issued to finance deficits and certain judgments, including tax certiorari refund payments.

STAR - School Tax Exemption

The STAR (School Tax Relief) program provides State-funded exemptions from school property taxes to homeowners for their primary residences. Homeowners over 65 years of age with household adjusted gross incomes, less the taxable amount of total distributions from individual retirement accounts and individual retirement annuities ("STAR Adjusted Gross Income") of \$86,000 or less, increased annually according to a cost of living adjustment, are eligible for a "full value" exemption of the first \$66,800 for the 2018-19 school year (adjusted annually). Other homeowners with household STAR Adjusted Gross income not in excess of \$500,000 are eligible for a \$30,000 "full value" exemption on their primary residence. School districts receive full reimbursement from the State for real property taxes exempted pursuant to the STAR program by the first business day in January of each year.

Part A of Chapter 60 of the Laws of 2016 of the State of New York ("Chapter 60") gradually converts the STAR program from a real property tax exemption to a personal income tax credit. Chapter 60 prohibits new STAR exemptions from being granted unless at least one of the applicants held title to the property on the taxable status date of the assessment roll that was used to levy school district taxes for the 2015-2016 school year (generally, March 1, 2015), and the property was granted a STAR exemption on that assessment roll. However, a new homeowner may receive a new personal income tax credit in the form of a check. The dollar benefit to eligible taxpayers will not change. A taxpayer who is eligible for the new credit will receive a check from the State equal to the amount by which the STAR exemption would have reduced his or her school tax bill. A homeowner who owned his or her home on the taxable status date for the assessment roll used to levy taxes for the 2015-2016 school year, and who received a STAR exemption on that roll, may continue to receive a STAR exemption on that home as long as he or she still owns and primarily resides in it. No further action is required (unless the homeowner has been receiving Basic STAR and wants to apply for Enhanced STAR, which is permissible).

The State 2017-18 Enacted Budget included changes to Chapter 60. STAR checks are now expected to be mailed out prior to the date that school taxes are payable. The amount of the check will be based on the previous year's amount adjusted by the levy growth factor used for the property tax cap. Any changes that must be made based on the final STAR credit compared to the estimate used will be factored into the subsequent year's STAR credit check or taxpayers also may account for those changes in their State income taxes.

The 2019-20 Enacted State Budget makes several changes to the STAR program, which went into effect immediately. The changes are intended to encourage homeowners to switch from the STAR exemption to the STAR credit. The income limit for the exemption has been lowered to \$250,000, compared with a \$500,000 limit for the Credit. The amount of the STAR exemption will remain the same each year, while the amount of the STAR credit can increase up to two percent annually.

The State's 2020-21 Enacted Budget withholds STAR benefits to taxpayers who are delinquent in the payment of their school taxes and maintains the income limit for the exemption to \$250,000, compared with a \$500,000 limit for the credit.

Approximately 13.86% of the District's 2022-2023 school tax levy was exempted by the STAR program and the District has received full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State. Approximately 6.9% of the District's 2023-2024 school tax levy is expected to be exempted by the STAR program and the District received full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State in January 2024. (See "*State Aid*" herein).

Valuations, Rates and Levies

The following table sets forth District's assessed and full valuations, tax rates and levies for each of the years 2020 through 2024.

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>State Equal. Rate (%)</u>	<u>Full Valuation</u>	<u>Tax Rate Per \$1,000 Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Tax Levy</u>
2020	\$17,209,970	0.79	\$2,178,477,215	272.68	\$46,928,588
2021	17,176,874	0.77	2,230,762,857	277.21	47,616,059
2022	17,139,020	0.74	2,225,846,753	284.55	48,769,567
2023	17,129,503	0.62	2,224,610,779	291.03	49,852,450
2024	17,126,529	0.54	3,171,579,444	297.43	51,020,162

Source: Town Brookhaven.

Selected Listing of Large Taxable Properties in the District 2022-2023 Assessment Roll

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>
Long Island Power Authority	Utility	\$ 359,913
Miller Place Realty LLC	Commercial	107,500
Pina Construction Corp.	Commercial	102,000
Keyspan	Utility	83,481
Giannone Spirito Miller Place LLC	Commercial	74,000
Sylvan Gardens Owners	Commercial	59,100
Shtraker Corp & Sam Weissman EM Properties	Commercial	52,960
Icky Corp.	Commercial	41,590
Verizon, New York Inc.	Utility	35,501
YFP Long Island LLC.	Commercial	24,330
North Shore Office Building, Inc.	Commercial	19,890
ASGF Realty LLC	Commercial	17,250
Biz Biz Corp & Chich Corp	Commercial	17,000
A B of Sayville LTD	Commercial	16,930
451 Miller place Plaza Inc.	Commercial	16,500
Total ^a		<u><u>\$1,027,945</u></u>

Source: Town Assessment Roll.

a. Represents 6% of the Assessed Valuation of the District for 2023-2024.

CYBERSECURITY

The District, like many other public and private entities, relies on technology to conduct its operations. As a recipient and provider of personal, private, or sensitive information the District faces multiple cyber threats including, but not limited to, hacking, viruses, malware and other attacks on computer and other sensitive digital networks and systems. To mitigate the risk of business operations impact and/or damage from cyber incidents, or cyber-attacks, the District invests in various forms of cybersecurity and operational controls; however, no assurances can be given that such security and operational control measures will be completely to guard against cyber threats and attacks. The results of any such attack could impact business operations and/or damage District digital networks and systems and the costs of remedying any such damage could be substantial. As such the district employs adequate cyber liability insurance coverage and implements risk management practices.

LITIGATION

In common with other school districts, the District from time to time receives notices of claim and is party to litigation. In the opinion of the District, after consultation with its attorney, unless otherwise set forth herein and apart from matters provided for by applicable insurance coverage, there are no significant claims or actions pending in which the District has not asserted a substantial and adequate defense, nor which, if determined against the District, would have an adverse material effect on the financial condition of the District.

RISKS FACTORS

There are certain potential risks associated with an investment in the Bonds, and investors should be thoroughly familiar with this Official Statement, including its appendices, in order to make an informed investment decision. Investors should consider, in particular, the following factors:

The District's credit rating could be affected by circumstances beyond the District's control. Economic conditions such as the rate of unemployment and inflation, termination of commercial operations by corporate taxpayers and employers, as well as natural catastrophes, could adversely affect the assessed valuation of District property and its ability to maintain fund balances and other statistical indices commensurate with its current credit rating. As a consequence, a decline in the District's credit rating could adversely affect the market value of the Bonds.

If and when an owner of any of the Bonds should elect to sell all or a part of the Bonds prior to maturity, there can be no assurance that a market will have been established, maintained and continue in existence for the purchase and sale of any of those Bonds. The market value of the Bonds is dependent upon the ability of holder to potentially incur a capital loss if such Bonds are sold prior to its maturity.

There can be no assurance that adverse events including, for example, the seeking by another municipality in the State or elsewhere of remedies pursuant to the Federal Bankruptcy Act or otherwise, will not occur which might affect the market price of and the market for the Bonds. In particular, if a significant default or other financial crisis should occur in the affairs of the State or any of its municipalities, public authorities or other political subdivisions thereby possibly further impairing the acceptability of obligations issued by those entities, both the ability of the District to arrange for additional borrowing(s) as well as the market for and market value of outstanding debt obligations, including the Bonds, could be adversely affected.

The District relies in part on State aid to fund its operations. There can be no assurance that the State appropriation for State aid to school districts will be continued in future years, either pursuant to existing formulas or in any form whatsoever. State aid appropriated and apportioned to the District can be paid only if the State has such monies available therefore. The availability of such monies and the timeliness of such payment may also be affected by a delay in the adoption of the State budget, the impact to the State's economy and financial condition due to the COVID-19 pandemic and other circumstances, including State fiscal stress. In any event, State aid appropriated and apportioned to the District can be paid only if the State has such monies available therefore. (See "*State Aid*" and "*Events Affecting New York School Districts*" herein). Should the District fail to receive State aid expected from the State in the amounts or at the times expected, occasioned by a delay in the payment of such monies or by a reduction in State aid, the District is authorized by the Local Finance Law to provide operating funds by borrowing on account of the uncollected State aid.

An outbreak of disease or similar public health threat, such as the COVID-19 outbreak, or fear of such an event, could have an adverse impact on the District's financial condition and operating results by potentially delaying the receipt of real property taxes or resulting in a delay or reduction by the State in the payment of State aid. Currently, the COVID-19 outbreak has spread globally, including to the United States, and has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. The outbreak of the disease has affected travel, commerce and financial markets globally and is widely expected to continue to affect economic growth worldwide. The spread of the outbreak or resurgence could have a material adverse effect on the State and municipalities and school districts located in the State, including the District. The District is monitoring the situation and will take such proactive measures as may be required to maintain its operations and meet its obligations. (See "*State Aid*" and "*Events Affecting New York School Districts*" herein).

Future amendments to applicable statutes whether enacted by the State or the United States of America affecting the treatment of interest paid on municipal obligations, including the Bonds, for income taxation purposes could have an adverse effect on the market value of the Bonds (see "*TAX MATTERS*" herein).

The enactment of the Tax Levy Limit Law, which imposes a tax levy limitation upon municipalities, school districts and fire districts in the State, including the District, without providing exclusion for debt service on obligations issued by municipalities and fire districts, may affect the market price and/or marketability for the Bonds. (See "*The Tax Levy Limit Law*" under "*TAX INFORMATION*" herein.)

Federal or State legislation imposing new or increased mandatory expenditures by municipalities, school districts and fire districts in the State, including the District could impair the financial condition of such entities, including the District and the ability of such entities, including the District to pay debt service on the Bonds.

TAX MATTERS

Opinion of Bond Counsel

In the opinion of Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, Bond Counsel to the District, under existing statutes and court decisions and assuming continuing compliance with certain tax certifications described herein, (i) interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and (ii) interest on the Bonds is not treated as a preference item in calculating the alternative minimum tax under the Code, however, interest on the Bonds is included in the "adjusted financial statement income" of certain corporations that are subject to the alternative minimum tax under Section 55 of the Code. The Tax Certificate of the District (the "Tax Certificate"), which will be delivered concurrently with the delivery of the Bonds, will contain provisions and procedures relating to compliance with applicable requirements of the Code. In rendering its opinion, Bond Counsel has relied on certain representations, certifications of fact, and statements of reasonable expectations made by the District in connection with the Bonds, and Bond Counsel has assumed compliance by the District with certain ongoing provisions and procedures set forth in the Tax Certificate relating to compliance with applicable requirements of the Code to assure the exclusion of interest on the Bonds from gross income under Section 103 of the Code.

In addition, in the opinion of Bond Counsel to the District, under existing statutes, interest on the Bonds is exempt from personal income taxes of New York State and its political subdivisions, including The City of New York.

Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to any other federal, state or local tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds, or the ownership or disposition thereof, except as stated above. Bond Counsel renders its opinion under existing statutes and court decisions as of the issue date, and assumes no obligation to update, revise or supplement its opinion to reflect any action thereafter taken or not taken, any fact or circumstance that may thereafter come to its attention, any change in law or interpretation thereof that may thereafter occur, or for any other reason. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to the consequence of any of the events described in the preceding sentence or the likelihood of their occurrence. In addition, Bond Counsel expresses no opinion on the effect of any action taken or not taken in reliance upon an opinion of other counsel regarding federal, state or local tax matters, including, without limitation, exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Bonds.

Certain Ongoing Federal Tax Requirements and Certifications

The Code establishes certain ongoing requirements that must be met subsequent to the issuance and delivery of the Bonds in order that interest on the Bonds be and remain excluded from gross income under Section 103 of the Code. These requirements include, but are not limited to, requirements relating to use and expenditure of gross proceeds of the Bonds, yield and other restrictions on investments of gross proceeds, and the arbitrage rebate requirement that certain excess earnings on gross proceeds be rebated to the federal government. Noncompliance with such requirements may cause interest on the Bonds to become included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactive to their issue date, irrespective of the date on which such noncompliance occurs or is discovered. The District, in executing the Tax Certificate, will certify to the effect that the District will comply with the provisions and procedures set forth therein and that it will do and perform all acts and things necessary or desirable to assure the exclusion of interest on the Bonds from gross income under Section 103 of the Code.

Certain Collateral Federal Tax Consequences

The following is a brief discussion of certain collateral federal income tax matters with respect to the Bonds. It does not purport to address all aspects of federal taxation that may be relevant to a particular owner of a Bond. Prospective investors, particularly those who may be subject to special rules, are advised to consult their own tax advisors regarding the federal tax consequences of owning and disposing of the Bonds.

Prospective owners of the Bonds should be aware that the ownership of such obligations may result in collateral federal income tax consequences to various categories of persons, such as corporations (including S corporations and foreign corporations), financial institutions, property and casualty and life insurance companies, individual recipients of Social Security and railroad retirement benefits, individuals otherwise eligible for the earned income tax credit, and taxpayers deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry obligations the interest on which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Interest on the Bonds may be taken into account in determining the tax liability of foreign corporations subject to the branch profits tax imposed by Section 884 of the Code.

Original Issue Discount

“Original issue discount” (“OID”) is the excess of the sum of all amounts payable at the stated maturity of a Bond (excluding certain “qualified stated interest” that is unconditionally payable at least annually at prescribed rates) over the issue price of that maturity. In general, the “issue price” of a maturity (a bond with the same maturity date, interest rate, and credit terms) means the first price at which at least 10 percent of such maturity was sold to the public, i.e., a purchaser who is not, directly or indirectly, a signatory to a written contract to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds. In general, the issue price for each maturity of the Bonds is expected to be the initial public offering price set forth in this Official Statement. Bond Counsel further is of the opinion that, for any Bonds having OID (a “Discount Bond”), OID that has accrued and is properly allocable to the owners of the Discount Bonds under Section 1288 of the Code is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent as other interest on the Bonds.

In general, under Section 1288 of the Code, OID on a Discount Bond accrues under a constant yield method, based on periodic compounding of interest over prescribed accrual periods using a compounding rate determined by reference to the yield on that Discount Bond. An owner’s adjusted basis in a Discount Bond is increased by accrued OID for purposes of determining gain or loss on sale, exchange, or other disposition of such Discount Bond. Accrued OID may be taken into account as an increase in the amount of tax-exempt income received or deemed to have been received for purposes of determining various other tax consequences of owning a Discount Bond even though there will not be a corresponding cash payment.

Owners of Discount Bonds should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the treatment of original issue discount for federal income tax purposes, including various special rules relating thereto, and the state and local tax consequences of acquiring, holding, and disposing of Discount Bonds.

Bond Premium

In general, if an owner acquires a Bond for a purchase price (excluding accrued interest) or otherwise at a tax basis that reflects a premium over the sum of all amounts payable on the Bond after the acquisition date (excluding certain “qualified stated interest” that is unconditionally payable at least annually at prescribed rates), that premium constitutes “bond premium” on that Bond (a “Premium Bond”). In general, under Section 171 of the Code, an owner of a Premium Bond must amortize the bond premium over the remaining term of the Premium Bond, based on the owner’s yield over the remaining term of the Premium Bond determined based on constant yield principles (in certain cases involving a Premium Bond callable prior to its stated maturity date, the amortization period and yield may be required to be determined on the basis of an earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on such bond). An owner of a Premium Bond must amortize the bond premium by offsetting the qualified stated interest allocable to each interest accrual period under the owner’s regular method of accounting against the bond premium allocable to that period. In the case of a tax-exempt Premium Bond, if the bond premium allocable to an accrual period exceeds the qualified stated interest allocable to that accrual period, the

excess is a nondeductible loss. Under certain circumstances, the owner of a Premium Bond may realize a taxable gain upon disposition of the Premium Bond even though it is sold or redeemed for an amount less than or equal to the owner's original acquisition cost. Owners of any Premium Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding the treatment of bond premium for federal income tax purposes, including various special rules relating thereto, and state and local tax consequences, in connection with the acquisition, ownership, amortization of bond premium on, sale, exchange, or other disposition of Premium Bonds.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Information reporting requirements apply to interest paid on tax-exempt obligations, including the Bonds. In general, such requirements are satisfied if the interest recipient completes and provides the payor with, a Form W-9, "Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification," or if the recipient is one of a limited class of exempt recipients. A recipient not otherwise exempt from information reporting who fails to satisfy the information reporting requirements will be subject to "backup withholding," which means that the payor is required to deduct and withhold a tax from the interest payment, calculated in the manner set forth in the Code. For the foregoing purpose, a "payor" generally refers to the person or entity from whom a recipient receives its payments of interest or who collects such payments on behalf of the recipient.

If an owner purchasing a Bond through a brokerage account has executed a Form W-9 in connection with the establishment of such account, as generally can be expected, no backup withholding should occur. In any event, backup withholding does not affect the excludability of the interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Any amounts withheld pursuant to backup withholding would be allowed as a refund or a credit against the owner's federal income tax once the required information is furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Miscellaneous

Tax legislation, administrative actions taken by tax authorities, or court decisions, whether at the federal or state level, could adversely affect the tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds under federal or state law or otherwise prevent beneficial owners of the Bonds from realizing the full current benefit of the tax status of such interest. In addition, such legislation or actions (whether currently proposed, proposed in the future, or enacted) or such decisions could affect the market price or marketability of the Bonds.

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding the foregoing matters.

LEGAL MATTERS

Legal matters incident to the authorization, issuance and sale of the Bonds are subject to the approving legal opinion of Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, New York, New York, Bond Counsel. Bond Counsel's opinion will be in substantially the form attached hereto in Appendix C.

DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING

In order to assist the purchasers of the Bonds in complying with Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Rule 15c2-12"), the District will execute an Undertaking to Provide Continuing Disclosure, the form of which is attached hereto as Appendix D.

RATING

The District has applied to Moody's Investors Service ("Moody's"), 7 WTC at Greenwich Street, New York, NY, Phone: (212) 553-4055 and Fax: (212) 298-6761 for rating on the Bonds. Such application is pending at this time. This rating will reflect only the view of such rating agency and an explanation of the significance of such rating should be obtained from the respective rating agency. There can be no assurance that such rating will not be revised or withdrawn, if in the judgement of agency circumstances so warrant. Any change or withdrawal of such rating may have an adverse effect on the market price and the availability of a secondary market for the outstanding bonds and notes of the District.

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR

Munistat Services, Inc. (the “Municipal Advisor”), is a Municipal Advisor, registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. The Municipal Advisor serves as independent municipal advisor to the District on matters relating to debt management. The Municipal Advisor is a municipal advisory and consulting organization and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, marketing, or trading municipal securities or any other negotiated instruments. The Municipal Advisor has assisted the District as to the plan of finance and the structuring of the Bonds and has reviewed and commented on certain legal documents, including this Official Statement. The advice on the plan of financing and the structuring of the Bonds was based on materials provided by the District and other sources of information believed to be reliable. The Municipal Advisor has not audited, authenticated, or otherwise verified the information provided by the District or the information set forth in this Official Statement or any other information available to the District with respect to the appropriateness, accuracy, or completeness of disclosure of such information and no guarantee, warranty, or other representation is made by the Municipal Advisor respecting the accuracy and completeness of or any other matter related to such information and this Official Statement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information may be obtained upon request from the business office of the District: Ms. Colleen Card, School Business Official, Miller Place Union Free School District, 7 Memorial Drive, Miller Place, NY 11764, telephone number (631) 474-2700, Fax (631) 331-8832 and email: ccard@millerplace.k12.ny.us or from the office of Munistat Services, Inc., 12 Roosevelt Avenue, Port Jefferson Station, New York 11776, telephone number (631) 331-8888.

Statements in the Official Statement, and the documents included by specific reference, that are not historical facts are “forward-looking statements”, within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which involve a number of risks and uncertainties, and which are based on the District’s management’s beliefs as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, the District’s management and staff. Because the statements are based on expectations about future events and economic performance and are not statements of fact, actual results may differ materially from those projected. Important factors that could cause future results to differ include legislative and regulatory changes, changes in the economy, and other factors discussed in this and other documents that the District’s files with the repositories. When used in District’s documents or oral presentation, the words “anticipate”, “believe”, “intend”, “plan”, “foresee”, “likely”, “estimate”, “expect”, “objective”, “projection”, “forecast”, “goal”, “will”, or “should”, or similar words or phrases are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

To the extent any statements made in this Official Statement involve matters of opinion or estimates whether or not expressly stated, they are set forth as such and not as representations of fact, and no representation is made that any of the statements will be realized. Neither this Official Statement nor any statement which may have been made verbally or in writing is to be construed as a contract with the holder of the Bonds.

Munistat Services, Inc. may place a copy of this Official Statement on its website at www.munistat.com. Unless this Official Statement specifically indicates otherwise, no statement on such website is included by specific reference or constitutes a part of this Official Statement. Munistat Services, Inc. has prepared such website information for convenience, but no decisions should be made in reliance upon that information. Typographical or other errors may have occurred in converting original source documents to digital format, and neither the District nor Munistat Services, Inc. assumes any liability or responsibility for errors or omissions on such website. Further, Munistat Services, Inc. and the District disclaim any duty or obligation either to update or to maintain that information or any responsibility or liability for any damages caused by viruses in the electronic files on the website. Munistat Services, Inc. and the District also assume no liability or responsibility for any errors or omissions or unauthorized editing or for any updates to dated website information.

Any statements in this Official Statement involving matters of opinion or estimates, whether or not expressly stated, are intended as such and not as representations of fact. No representation is made that any of such statements will be, in fact, realized. This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement between the District and the original purchasers or owners of any of the Bonds.

By: s/s LISA REITAN
President of the Board of Education
Miller Place Union Free School District
Miller Place, New York

February , 2024

APPENDIX A

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Balance Sheet
General Fund

	Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets:		
Cash		
Unrestricted	\$ 9,865,961	\$ 11,421,559
Restricted	10,604,596	10,649,713
Receivables		
Account Receivable	18,801	18,551
Due From Other Funds	1,722,034	1,009,945
Due From Other State and Federal	551,834	555,307
Due From Other Governments	1,841,067	1,725,363
Prepays		198,521
Total Assets	<u>\$ 24,604,293</u>	<u>\$ 25,578,959</u>
Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 1,323,121	\$ 1,512,747
Accrued Liabilities	545,686	302,811
Due to Other Funds		43,600
Due to Other Governments	2,033,235	2,269,274
Due to Teachers Retirement System	3,086,451	3,185,446
Due to Employees Retirement System	187,575	246,677
Other Liabilities	160,321	199,375
Deferred Revenues	361,379	245,211
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 7,697,768</u>	<u>\$ 8,005,141</u>
Fund Balances (Deficit):		
Nonspendable: Prepays	\$	\$ 198,521
Restricted	10,604,598	10,649,713
Assigned	3,206,801	3,518,759
Unassigned	3,095,126	3,206,825
Total Fund Balance (Deficit)	<u>\$ 16,906,525</u>	<u>\$ 17,573,818</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of		
Resources & Fund Balances	<u>\$ 24,604,293</u>	<u>\$ 25,578,959</u>

Sources: Audited Financial Statements of the District (2022-2023)

NOTE: This table NOT audited.

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes In Fund Balances
General Fund

	Fisscal Year Ending June 30:				
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Revenues:					
Real Property Taxes	\$ 41,324,484	\$ 42,690,779	\$ 43,729,812	\$ 45,042,036	\$ 46,339,332
Other Real Property Tax Items	4,967,904	4,240,656	3,888,540	3,727,678	3,513,226
Charges for Services	8,227	4,979		111,206	24,988
Use of Money and Property	322,208	315,201	61,782	30,866	604,570
Sale of Property & Comp. for Loss	12,800	6,760		29,988	697
Miscellaneous	606,970	765,616	858,153	894,623	1,189,988
State Sources	22,888,488	22,944,962	23,739,263	22,573,568	22,714,343
Medicaid Reimbursement	9,670	8,376	25,650	40,625	69,713
Total Revenues	<u>70,140,751</u>	<u>70,977,329</u>	<u>72,303,200</u>	<u>72,450,590</u>	<u>74,456,857</u>
Expenditures:					
General Support	8,822,521	7,099,253	8,080,427	7,930,716	7,983,850
Instruction	37,800,351	39,753,999	42,282,622	39,980,709	40,807,854
Pupil Transportation	3,155,381	2,844,668	3,056,960	3,503,245	3,920,284
Employee Benefits	15,213,347	14,690,782	15,595,815	15,811,639	17,060,178
Debt Service	4,276,509	3,713,210	3,724,923	3,714,528	3,846,343
Total Expenditures	<u>69,268,109</u>	<u>68,101,912</u>	<u>72,740,747</u>	<u>70,940,837</u>	<u>73,618,509</u>
Other Financing Sources & (Uses)					
Operating Transfers In	428,571	238,060	17,575		
Operating Transfers (Out)	<u>(570,170)</u>	<u>(441,890)</u>	<u>(1,423,295)</u>	<u>(437,240)</u>	<u>(287,003)</u>
Total Other Financing Sources & (Uses)	<u>(141,599)</u>	<u>(203,830)</u>	<u>(1,405,720)</u>	<u>(437,240)</u>	<u>(287,003)</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>731,043</u>	<u>2,671,587</u>	<u>(1,843,267)</u>	<u>1,072,513</u>	<u>551,345</u>
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	<u>14,274,649</u>	<u>15,005,692</u>	<u>17,677,279</u>	<u>15,834,012</u>	<u>16,906,525</u>
Period Adjustment					<u>115,948 ^a</u>
Fund Balance End of Year	<u>\$ 15,005,692</u>	<u>\$ 17,677,279</u>	<u>\$ 15,834,012</u>	<u>\$ 16,906,525</u>	<u>\$ 17,573,818</u>

a. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the District implement GASB Statement No. 87, Leases, which provides guidance for identifying certain leased assets and liabilities for leases that were previously classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows or outflows of resources based on payment provisions of the contract.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the District implemented GASB Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements, which provides guidance for identifying certain subscription based assets and liabilities that were previously classified as expenditures, and recognized as inflows or outflows of resources based on payment provisions of the contract.

Source: Audited Financial Reports of the District (2019-2023)

NOTE: Table is not audited.

Budget Summary
General Fund

	Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	
	<u>2022-2023</u> ^a	<u>2023-2024</u> ^b
Revenues:		
Real Property Taxes	\$ 49,852,450	\$ 51,020,162
Other Revenue	577,000	577,000
State Sources	23,382,852	24,691,286
Other Financing Sources & Uses		
Appropriation of Reserves	1,202,822	1,300,000
Appropriation of Reserves	2,655,101	2,655,101
fund Balance Applied - Bond Tax Levy		121,075
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Revenues	\$ 77,670,226	\$ 80,364,624
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditures:		
General Support	\$ 7,872,409	\$ 8,200,562
Instruction	43,822,285	43,389,257
Pupil Transportation	4,348,434	5,235,399
Community Service	50	50
Employee Benefits	17,695,419	19,305,439
Debt Service	3,648,630	4,150,917
Interfund Transfers	283,000	83,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	\$ 77,670,226	\$ 80,364,624
	<hr/>	<hr/>

(a) Approved by the voters of the District on May 17, 2022

(b) Approved by the voters of the District on May 16, 2023.

Source: Adopted Budgets of the District.

**MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUFFOLK COUNTY**

APPENDIX B

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

[▶ Click Here For 2023 Audit](#)

NOTE: SUCH FINANCIAL REPORT AND OPINIONS WERE PREPARED AS OF THE DATE THEREOF AND HAVE NOT BEEN REVIEWED AND/OR UPDATED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PREPARATION AND DISSEMINATION OF THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT. CONSENT OF THE AUDITORS HAS NOT BEEN REQUESTED OR OBTAINED.

APPENDIX C

FORM OF APPROVING OPINION OF BOND COUNSEL

Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP
7 World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich Street
New York, New York 10007

March 15, 2024

The Board of Education of
Miller Place Union Free School District, in the
County of Suffolk, New York

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as Bond Counsel to the Miller Place Union Free School District (the “School District”), in the County of Suffolk, New York, a school district of the State of New York, and have examined a record of proceedings relating to the authorization, sale, and issuance of the \$15,000,000 School District Serial Bonds-2024 (the “Bonds”), dated and delivered on the date hereof.

We have examined a record of proceedings relating to the Bonds for purposes of this opinion. In such examination, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals and the conformity with originals of all documents submitted to us as copies thereof.

Based upon and subject to the foregoing, and in reliance thereon, as of the date hereof, we are of the following opinions:

1. The Bonds are valid and legally binding general obligations of the School District for which the School District has validly pledged its faith and credit and, unless paid from other sources, all the taxable real property within the School District is subject to the levy of ad valorem real estate taxes to pay the Bonds and interest thereon without limitation as to rate or amount. The enforceability of rights or remedies with respect to such Bonds may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, or other laws affecting creditors’ rights or remedies heretofore or hereafter enacted.

2. Under existing statutes and court decisions and assuming continuing compliance with certain tax certifications described herein, (i) interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and (ii) interest on the Bonds is not treated as a preference item in calculating the alternative minimum tax under the Code, however interest on the Bonds is included in the “adjusted financial statement income” of certain corporations that are subject to the alternative minimum tax under Section 55 of the Code.

The Code establishes certain requirements that must be met subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds in order that the interest on the Bonds be and remain excludable from gross income under Section 103 of the Code. These requirements include, but are not limited to, requirements relating to the use and expenditure of proceeds of the Bonds, restrictions on the

investment of proceeds of the Bonds prior to expenditure and the requirement that certain earnings be rebated to the federal government. Noncompliance with such requirements may cause the interest on the Bonds to become subject to federal income taxation retroactive to the date of issuance thereof, irrespective of the date on which such noncompliance occurs or is ascertained.

On the date of issuance of the Bonds, the School District will execute a Tax Certificate relating to the Bonds containing provisions and procedures pursuant to which such requirements can be satisfied. In executing the Tax Certificate, the School District represents that it will comply with the provisions and procedures set forth therein and that it will do and perform all acts and things necessary or desirable to assure that the interest on the Bonds will, for federal income tax purposes, be excluded from gross income.

In rendering the opinion in this paragraph 2, we have relied upon and assumed (i) the material accuracy of the School District's representations, statements of intention and reasonable expectations, and certifications of fact contained in the Tax Certificate with respect to matters affecting the status of the interest on the Bonds, and (ii) compliance by the School District with the procedures and representations set forth in the Tax Certificate as to such tax matters.

3. Under existing statutes, interest on the Bonds is exempt from personal income taxes of New York State and its political subdivisions, including The City of New York.

We express no opinion as to any other federal, state or local tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds or the ownership or disposition thereof, except as stated in paragraphs 2 and 3 above. We render our opinion under existing statutes and court decisions as of the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to update, revise or supplement this opinion to reflect any action hereafter taken or not taken, any fact or circumstance that may hereafter come to our attention, any change in law or interpretation thereof that may hereafter occur, or for any other reason. We express no opinion as to the consequence of any of the events described in the preceding sentence or the likelihood of their occurrence. In addition, we express no opinion on the effect of any action taken or not taken in reliance upon an opinion of other counsel regarding federal, state or local tax matters, including, without limitation, exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Bonds.

We give no assurances as to the adequacy, sufficiency or completeness of the Preliminary Official Statement or Official Statement or any proceedings, reports, correspondence, financial statements or other documents, containing financial or other information relative to the District, which have been or may hereafter be furnished or disclosed to purchasers of ownership interests in the Bonds.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP

APPENDIX D

FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

UNDERTAKING TO PROVIDE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE

Section 1. Definitions

“Annual Information” shall mean the information specified in Section 3 hereof.

“EMMA” shall mean Electronic Municipal Market Access System implemented by the MSRB.

“Financial Obligation” shall mean “financial obligation” as such term is defined in the Rule.

“GAAP” shall mean generally accepted accounting principles as in effect from time to time in the United States.

“Holder” shall mean any registered owner of the Securities and any beneficial owner of Securities within the meaning of Rule 13d-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

“Issuer” shall mean the **Miller Place Union Free School District**, in the County of Suffolk, a school district of the State of New York.

“MSRB” shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board established in accordance with the provisions of Section 15B(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or any successor thereto or to the functions of the MSRB contemplated by this Agreement.

“Rule” shall mean Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR Part 240, §240.15c2-12), as amended, as in effect on the date of this Undertaking, including any official interpretations thereof issued either before or after the effective date of this Undertaking which are applicable to this Undertaking.

“Securities” shall mean the Issuer’s **\$15,000,000 School District Serial Bonds-2024**, dated March 15, 2024, maturing in various principal amounts on March 15 in each of the years 2026 to 2053, inclusive, and delivered on the date hereof.

Section 2. Obligation to Provide Continuing Disclosure. (a) The Issuer hereby undertakes, for the benefit of Holders of the Securities, to provide or cause to be provided to the EMMA System:

- (i) not later than the last day of the sixth month following the end of each fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the Annual Information relating to such fiscal year, together with audited financial statements of the Issuer for each fiscal year commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, if audited financial statements are then available; provided, however, that if audited financial statements are not then available, unaudited financial statements shall be provided with the Annual Information, and audited financial statements, if any, shall be delivered to the EMMA System within sixty (60) days after they become available and in no event later than the last day of the succeeding fiscal year; provided,

however, that the unaudited financial statement shall be provided for any fiscal year only if the Issuer has made a determination that providing such unaudited financial statement would be compliant with federal securities laws, including Rule 10b-5 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17 (a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933.

- (ii) in a timely manner, not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of such event, notice of any of the following events with respect to the Securities:
 - (1) principal and interest payment delinquencies;
 - (2) non-payment 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 of determinations with respect to the tax status of the Securities, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Securities;
 - (7) modifications to rights of Securities holders, if material;
 - (8) Bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
 - (9) defeasances;
 - (10) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Securities, if material;
 - (11) rating changes;
 - (12) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Issuer;

Note to clause (12): For the purposes of the event identified in clause (12) above, the event is considered to occur when any of the following occur: the appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent or similar officer for the Issuer in a proceeding under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or government authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Issuer, or if such jurisdiction has been

assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan of reorganization, arrangement or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Issuer;

- (13) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Issuer or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer, 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 or the change of name of a trustee, if material;
- (15) incurrence of a Financial Obligation of the Issuer, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of the Issuer, any of which affect security holders, if material; and
- (16) default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of the Issuer, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

- (iii) in a timely manner, not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of such event, notice of a failure to provide by the date set forth in Section 2(a)(i) hereof any Annual Information required by Section 3 hereof.

(b) Nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent the Issuer from disseminating any other information in addition to that required hereby in the manner set forth herein or in any other manner. If the Issuer disseminates any such additional information, the Issuer shall have no obligation to update such information or include it in any future materials disseminated hereunder.

(c) Nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent the Issuer from providing notice of the occurrence of certain other events, in addition to those listed above, if the Issuer determines that any such other event is material with respect to the Securities; but the Issuer does not undertake to commit to provide any such notice of the occurrence of any event except those events listed above.

Section 3. Annual Information. (a) The required Annual Information shall consist of the financial information and operating data for the preceding fiscal year, in a form generally consistent with the information contained or cross-referenced in the Issuer's final official statement relating to the Securities under the headings: "The District", "Economic and Demographic Information", "Indebtedness of the District", "Finances of the District", "Tax Information", and "Litigation", and in Appendix A.

(b) All or any portion of the Annual Information may be incorporated in the Annual Information by cross reference to any other documents that are (i) available to the public on the EMMA System or (ii) filed with the SEC. If such a document is a final official statement, it also must be available from the EMMA System.

(c) Annual Information for any fiscal year containing any modified operating data or financial information (as contemplated by Section 7(e) hereof) for such fiscal year shall explain, in narrative form, the reasons for such modification and the effect of such modification on the Annual Information being provided for such fiscal year. If a change in accounting principles is included in any such modification, such Annual Information shall present a comparison between the financial statements or information prepared on the basis of the modified accounting principles and those prepared on the basis of the former accounting principles.

Section 4. Financial Statements. The Issuer's annual financial statements for each fiscal year shall be prepared in accordance with New York State regulatory requirements or GAAP as in effect from time to time. Such financial statements shall be audited by an independent accounting firm.

Section 5. Remedies. If the Issuer shall fail to comply with any provision of this Undertaking, then any Holder of Securities may enforce, for the equal benefit and protection of all Holders similarly situated, by mandamus or other suit or proceeding at law or in equity, this Undertaking against the Issuer and any of the officers, agents and employees of the Issuer, and may compel the Issuer or any such officers, agents or employees to perform and carry out their duties under this Undertaking; provided that the sole and exclusive remedy for breach of this Undertaking shall be an action to compel specific performance of the obligations of the Issuer hereunder and no person or entity shall be entitled to recover monetary damages hereunder under any circumstances. Failure to comply with any provision of this Undertaking shall not constitute an event of default on the Securities.

Section 6. Parties in Interest. This Undertaking is executed to assist the Purchaser to comply with subsection (b)(5) of the Rule and is delivered for the benefit of the Holders. No other person shall have any right to enforce the provisions hereof or any other rights hereunder.

Section 7. Amendments. Without the consent of any holders of Securities, the Issuer at any time and from time to time may enter into any amendments or changes to this Undertaking for any of the following purposes:

- (a) to comply with or conform to any changes in Rule 15c2-12 (whether required or optional);
- (b) to add a dissemination agent for the information required to be provided hereby and to make any necessary or desirable provisions with respect thereto;

- (c) to evidence the succession of another person to the Issuer and the assumption of any such successor of the duties of the Issuer hereunder;
- (d) to add to the duties of the Issuer for the benefit of the Holders, or to surrender any right or power herein conferred upon the Issuer;
- (e) to modify the contents, presentation and format of the Annual Information from time to time to conform to changes in accounting or disclosure principles or practices and legal requirements followed by or applicable to the Issuer or to reflect changes in the identity, nature or status of the Issuer or in the business, structure or operations of the Issuer or any mergers, consolidations, acquisitions or dispositions made by or affecting any such person; provided that any such modifications shall comply with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 or Rule 15c2-12 as in effect at the time of such modification; or
- (f) to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision hereof which may be inconsistent with any other provision hereof, or to make any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under this Undertaking which, in each case, comply with Rule 15c2-12 or Rule 15c2-12 as in effect at the time of such amendment or change;

provided that no such action pursuant to this Section 7 shall adversely affect the interests of the Holders in any material respect. In making such determination, the Issuer shall rely upon an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel.

Section 8. Termination. This Undertaking shall remain in full force and effect until such time as all principal, redemption premiums, if any, and interest on the Securities shall have been paid in full or the Securities shall have otherwise been paid or legally defeased pursuant to the their terms. Upon any such legal defeasance, the Issuer shall provide notice of such defeasance to the EMMA System. Such notice shall state whether the Securities have been defeased to maturity or to redemption and the timing of such maturity or redemption.

In addition, this Agreement, or any provision hereof, shall be null and void in the event that those portions of the Rule which require this Agreement, or such provision, as the case may be, do not or no longer apply to the Securities, whether because such portions of the Rule are invalid, have been repealed, or otherwise.

Section 9. Undertaking to Constitute Written Agreement or Contract. This Undertaking shall constitute the written agreement or contract for the benefit of Holders of Securities, as contemplated under Rule 15c2-12.

Section 10. Governing Law. This Undertaking shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York determined without regard to principles of conflict of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly authorized, executed and delivered this Undertaking as of **March 15, 2024**.

MILLER PLACE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____
President of the Board of Education