



October 2, 2023

To the Board of Education and Ms. Christine S. Costa, Assistant Superintendent for Business Cold Spring Harbor Central School District 75 Goose Hill Road Cold Spring Harbor, NY 17724

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the fiduciary fund of Cold Spring Harbor Central School District (the "District") as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. Given these limitations during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

However, during our audit we became aware of other matters that we believe represent opportunities for strengthening internal controls and operating efficiency. The recommendations that accompany this letter summarize our comments and suggestions concerning these matters.

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## **CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

#### **Capital Asset Additions**

During our current year audit it was noted that current year capital asset additions had not been tagged as District property and inventoried in a timely manner. We recommend that all capital asset additions above the District's established thresholds be tagged and inventoried as District property in a timely manner to ensure the proper tracking and safeguarding of the District's capital assets.

# **FUND BALANCE MANAGEMENT**

#### Fund Balance - Unassigned

During our current year audit, we noted the District's unassigned fund balance exceeded 4.00% of the 2023-2024 budget. NYS Real Property Tax Law 1318 limits the amount of unassigned fund balance in the general fund to an amount not greater than 4.00% of the District's budget for the ensuing fiscal year. It is noted the District is aware and has taken this step in order to meet their legal obligation to pay settlements relates to two Child Victims Act cases against the District. The District plans to utilize the excess unassigned fund balance towards the first settlement payments due on or before October 4, 2023. We recommend the District continue to monitor its fund balance moving forward in order to ensure compliance with NYS Real Property Tax Law 1318.

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This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Education, the audit committee, management, federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

R.S. Abrams & Co., LLP

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