

**PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED MAY 26, 2020**

**NEW ISSUE (SERIAL) BONDS**

**Rating: See "Rating" herein**

*In the opinion of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, Bond Counsel, based upon an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions, and assuming among other matters, the accuracy of certain representations and compliance with certain covenants, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. In the further opinion of Bond Counsel, interest on the Bonds is not a specific preference item for purposes of the Federal alternative minimum tax. Bond Counsel is also of the opinion that interest on the Bonds is exempt from personal income taxes imposed by the State of New York or any political subdivision thereof (including The City of New York). Bond Counsel expresses no opinion regarding any other tax consequences related to the ownership or disposition of, or the amount, accrual or receipt of interest on, the Bonds. See "Tax Matters" herein.*

*The Bonds WILL NOT be designated by the District as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" pursuant to Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.*

**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK**

**\$12,000,000\***

**SCHOOL DISTRICT (SERIAL) BONDS, 2020  
(the "Bonds")**

**Date of Issue:** Date of Delivery

**Maturity Dates:** June 15, 2021 – 2050

The Bonds are general obligations of the Rye Neck Union Free School District, in Westchester County, New York (the "District"), and will contain a pledge of the faith and credit of the District for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds 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. (See "Tax Levy Limitation Law" herein).

The Bonds will be subject to optional redemption prior to maturity (see "Optional Redemption" herein).

The Bonds will be issued as registered bonds, registered to the Depository Trust Company ("DTC" or the "Securities Depository").

The Bonds will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC in New York, New York, which will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases will be made in book-entry form, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof. Purchasers of the Bonds will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest in the Bonds. Payments of principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made by the District to DTC, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to its Participants, for subsequent distribution to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds.

The Bonds will be dated their date of delivery and will bear interest from that date until maturity at the annual rate or rates as shown on the inside cover page hereof, payable semiannually on June 15 and December 15 in each year until maturity, commencing June 15, 2021. The Bonds will mature annually on June 15 in each year until maturity, as shown on the inside cover page hereof.

The Bonds are offered when, as and if issued and received by the purchaser and subject to the approval of the legality thereof by Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, New York, New York, Bond Counsel. It is anticipated that the Bonds will be available for delivery through the facilities of DTC on or about June 16, 2020 in New York, New York.

THIS PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT IS IN A FORM DEEMED FINAL BY THE DISTRICT FOR PURPOSES OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE 15c2-12 (THE "RULE") EXCEPT FOR CERTAIN INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULE AND THAT WILL BE SUPPLIED WHEN THIS PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT IS UPDATED FOLLOWING THE SALE OF THE BONDS. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT'S AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE FOR THE BONDS AS DESCRIBED IN THE RULE, SEE "DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING" HEREIN.

Dated: June \_\_, 2020

\* Preliminary, subject to change.

This Preliminary Official Statement and the information contained in it are subject to completion and amendment in a final Official Statement. This Preliminary Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, and there may not be any sale of the Bonds offered by this Preliminary Official Statement, in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to the registration or qualification under the securities laws of that jurisdiction.

The Bonds will mature on June 15 in each year, subject to optional redemption, as set forth below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Amount*</u>	<u>Coupon</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>CUSIP***</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Amount*</u>	<u>Coupon</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>CUSIP***</u>
2021	\$315,000				2036**	\$390,000			
2022	315,000				2037**	400,000			
2023	320,000				2038**	405,000			
2024	325,000				2039**	415,000			
2025	325,000				2040**	425,000			
2026	330,000				2041**	435,000			
2027	335,000				2042**	445,000			
2028	340,000				2043**	455,000			
2029**	345,000				2044**	465,000			
2030**	350,000				2045**	475,000			
2031**	355,000				2046**	485,000			
2032**	360,000				2047**	500,000			
2033**	370,000				2048**	510,000			
2034**	375,000				2049**	520,000			
2035**	380,000				2050**	535,000			

\* The principal amounts of the Bonds are subject to adjustment following the sale of the Bonds, pursuant to the terms of the accompanying Notice of Bond Sale.

\*\* The Bonds maturing in the year 2029 and thereafter will be subject to optional redemption prior to maturity, as described herein. See "Optional Redemption" herein.

\*\*\* CUSIP numbers have been assigned by an independent company not affiliated with the District and are included solely for the convenience of the holders of the Bonds. The District is not responsible for the selection or uses of these CUSIP numbers and no representation is made to their correctness on the Bonds or as indicated above.

**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Pietro Fasolino  
President**

Jennifer Rubin..... Vice President  
Deborah Aulfinger ..... Trustee  
Gloria Golle ..... Trustee  
Patty Nashelsky..... Trustee  
Steve Silva ..... Trustee

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Dr. Barbara Ferraro..... Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Kimberly Bucci..... Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance  
Carolyn Mahar ..... District Treasurer  
Mary Ellen Chiera..... District Clerk

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**BOND COUNSEL**

**ORRICK HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP**  
New York, New York

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**MUNICIPAL ADVISOR**



**CAPITAL MARKETS ADVISORS, LLC**  
*Long Island \* Hudson Valley \* Southern Tier \* Western New York*  
**(516) 570-0340**

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 foregoing. 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 hereon.

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**OFFICIAL STATEMENT  
RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF  
RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK  
\$12,000,000\*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT (SERIAL) BONDS, 2020  
(the "Bonds")**

This Official Statement (the "Official Statement"), which includes the cover page, inside cover page, and appendices hereto, presents certain information relating to the Rye Neck Union Free School District, Westchester County, State of New York (the "District," "County" and "State" respectively), in connection with the sale of \$12,000,000\* School District (Serial) Bonds, 2020 (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.

**THE BONDS**

***Description***

The Bonds are dated their date of delivery and will bear interest from such date until maturity at the annual rate or rates as specified on the inside cover page hereof, payable semiannually on June 15 and December 15 in each year until maturity, commencing June 15, 2021. The Bonds will mature annually on June 15 in each year until maturity, as specified on the inside cover page hereof. The Bonds are subject to optional redemption prior to maturity. (See "Optional Redemption" herein.)

The Bonds will be issued as registered bonds, registered to the Depository Trust Company ("DTC").

The Bonds will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC in New York, New York, which will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases will be made in book-entry form, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof. Purchasers of the Bonds will not receive certificates representing their ownership interest in the Bonds. Payments of principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made by the District to DTC, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to its Participants, for subsequent distribution to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds.

The record date for payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be the last business day of the calendar month preceding each interest payment date.

***Authority for and Purpose of the Bonds***

The Bonds are issued pursuant to the State Constitution and statutes of the State, including among others, the District Law and the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State and a bond resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education of the District on February 28, 2018 to finance the costs of the construction of additions to and reconstruction of various District facilities (the "Project"). The proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will be used to provide additional original financing for the Project.

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\* Preliminary, subject to change.

### ***Optional Redemption***

The Bonds maturing on or before June 15, 2028 are not subject to redemption prior to maturity. The Bonds maturing on or after June 15, 2029 will be subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the District, on any date on or after June 15, 2028, 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), at the redemption price equal to the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption.

The District may select the maturities of the Bonds to be redeemed prior to maturity and the amount to be redeemed of each maturity selected, as the District shall determine to be in the best interest of the District at the time of such 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 more than sixty (60) days nor less than thirty (30) days prior to such date. Notice of redemption having been given as aforesaid, the Bonds so called for redemption shall, on the date of redemption set forth in such call for redemption, become due and payable, together with accrued interest to such redemption date, and interest shall cease to be paid thereon after such redemption date.

### ***Nature of Obligation***

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

Holders of any series of notes or bonds of the District may bring an action or commence a proceeding in accordance with the civil practice law and rules to enforce the rights of the holders of such series of notes or bonds.

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 thereof and the interest thereon as required by the Constitution and laws of the State. For the payment of such principal and interest, the District has power and statutory authorization to levy ad valorem taxes on all real property within the District subject to such taxation by the District, without limitation as to rate or amount.

Although the State Legislature is restricted by Article VIII, Section 12 of the State Constitution from imposing limitations on the power to raise taxes to pay “interest on or principal of indebtedness theretofore contracted” prior to the effective date of any such legislation, the New York State Legislature may from time to time impose additional limitations or requirements on the ability to increase a real property tax levy or on the methodology, exclusions or other restrictions of various aspects of real property taxation (as well as on the ability to issue new indebtedness). On June 24, 2011, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 was signed into law by the Governor (the “Tax Levy Limitation Law”). The Tax Levy Limitation Law applies to local governments and school districts in the State (with certain exceptions) and imposes additional procedural requirements on the ability of municipalities and school districts to levy certain year-to-year increases in real property taxes.

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 is required to raise real estate taxes, and without specification, other revenues, if such levy is necessary to repay such indebtedness. While the Tax Levy Limitation Law imposes a statutory limitation on the District’s power to increase its annual tax levy with the amount of such increase limited by the formulas set forth in the Tax Levy Limitation Law, it also provides the procedural method to surmount that limitation. See “Tax Levy Limitation Law,” herein.

The Constitutionally-mandated general obligation pledge of municipalities and school districts in New York State has been interpreted by the Court of Appeals, the State’s highest court, in Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corporation for the City of New York, 40 N.Y.2d 731 (1976), as follows:

“A pledge of the city’s faith and credit is both a commitment to pay and a commitment of the city’s revenue generating powers to produce the funds to pay. Hence, an obligation containing a pledge of the City’s “faith and credit” is secured by a promise both to pay and to use in good faith

the city's general revenue powers to produce sufficient funds to pay the principal and interest of the obligation as it becomes due. That is why both words, "faith" and "credit" are used and they are not tautological. That is what the words say and this is what the courts have held they mean...So, too, although the Legislature is given the duty to restrict municipalities in order to prevent abuses in taxation, assessment, and in contracting of indebtedness, it may not constrict the City's power to levy taxes on real estate for the payment of interest on or principal of indebtedness previously contracted...While phrased in permissive language, these provisions, when read together with the requirement of the pledge and faith and credit, express a constitutional imperative: debt obligations must be paid, even if tax limits be exceeded".

In addition, the Court of Appeals in the Flushing National Bank case has held that the payment of debt service on outstanding general obligation bonds and notes takes precedence over fiscal emergencies and the police power of political subdivisions in New York State.

The pledge has generally been understood as a promise to levy property taxes without limitation as to rate or amount to the extent necessary to cover debt service due to language in Article VIII Section 10 of the Constitution which provides an exclusion for debt service from Constitutional limitations on the amount of a real property tax levy, insuring the availability of the levy of property tax revenues to pay debt service. As the Flushing National Bank Court noted, the term "faith and credit" in its context is "not qualified in any way". Indeed, in Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corp., 40 N.Y.2d 1088 (1977), the Court of Appeals described the pledge as a direct constitutional mandate. In Quirk v. Municipal Assistance Corp., 41 N.Y.2d 644 (1977), the Court of Appeals stated that, while holders of general obligation debt did not have a right to particular revenues such as sales tax, "with respect to traditional real estate tax levies, the noteholders are constitutionally protected against an attempt by the State to deprive the city of those revenues to meet its obligations." According to the Court in Quirk, the State Constitution "requires the city to raise real estate taxes, and without specification other revenues, if such a levy be necessary to repay indebtedness."

In addition, the Constitution of the State requires that every county, city, town, village, and school district in the State provide annually by appropriation for the payment of all interest and principal on its serial bonds and certain other obligations, and that, if at any time the respective appropriating authorities shall fail to make such appropriation, a sufficient sum shall be set apart from the first revenues thereafter received and shall be applied to such purposes. In the event that an appropriating authority were to make an appropriation for debt service and then decline to expend it for that purpose, this provision would not apply. However, the Constitution of the State does also provide that the fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village, or school district may be required to set apart and apply such first revenues at the suit of any holder of any such obligations.

In Quirk v. Municipal Assistance Corp., 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 New York 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 not be interpreted by a court of competent jurisdiction to include a constitutional or statutory lien upon any particular revenues.

While the courts in New York 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.

### ***Book-Entry System***

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Such Bonds will be issued as fully-registered bonds registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully registered bond certificate will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds and deposited with DTC.

DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing

corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC’s participants (“Direct Participants”) deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants’ accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (“DTCC”). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly (“Indirect Participants”). 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](http://www.dtcc.com) and [www.dtc.org](http://www.dtc.org).

Purchases of the Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC’s records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each bond (“Beneficial Owner”) is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants’ records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC’s partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of the Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC’s records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

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.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds within an issue are being redeemed, DTC’s practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such issue to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Bonds unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC’s (Money Market Instruments (MMI) Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the District 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 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 or the District, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest 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.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC’s book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the District believes to be reliable, but the District takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Source: The Depository Trust Company

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE SECTION CONCERNING DTC AND DTC'S BOOKENTRY 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, ANY 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 CANNOT AND DOES NOT GIVE ANY ASSURANCES THAT DTC, DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC WILL DISTRIBUTE TO THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS OF THE BONDS (1) PAYMENTS OF PRINCIPAL OF OR INTEREST OR REDEMPTION PREMIUM ON THE BONDS (2) CONFIRMATIONS OF THEIR OWNERSHIP INTERESTS IN THE BONDS OR (3) OTHER NOTICES SENT TO DTC OR CEDE & CO., ITS PARTNERSHIP NOMINEE, AS THE REGISTERED OWNER OF THE BONDS, OR THAT THEY WILL DO SO ON A TIMELY BASIS, OR THAT DTC, DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS WILL SERVE AND ACT IN THE MANNER DESCRIBED IN THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

THE DISTRICT WILL NOT HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY OR OBLIGATIONS TO DTC, THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS, THE INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OR THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS WITH RESPECT TO (1) THE ACCURACY OF ANY RECORDS MAINTAINED BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC; (2) THE PAYMENT BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OF ANY AMOUNT DUE TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER IN RESPECT OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF OR INTEREST OR REDEMPTION PREMIUM ON THE BONDS; (3) THE DELIVERY BY DTC OR ANY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OR INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS OF DTC OF ANY NOTICE TO ANY BENEFICIAL OWNER THAT IS REQUIRED OR PERMITTED TO BE GIVEN TO OWNERS; OR (4) ANY CONSENT GIVEN OR OTHER ACTION TAKEN BY DTC AS THE REGISTERED HOLDER OF THE BONDS.

## **SPECIAL PROVISIONS AFFECTING REMEDIES UPON DEFAULT**

**State Aid Intercept For School Districts.** In the event of a default in the payment of the principal of and/or interest on the Bonds, the State Comptroller is required to withhold, under certain conditions prescribed by Section 99-b of the State Finance Law, state aid and assistance to the School District and to apply the amount thereof so withheld to the payment of such defaulted principal and/or interest, which requirement constitutes a covenant by the State with the holders from time to time of the Bonds. The covenant between the State of New York and the purchasers and the holders and owners from time to time of the notes and bonds issued by the school districts in the State for school purposes provides that it will not repeal, revoke or rescind the provisions of Section 99-b, 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 issued by a school district for school purposes shall file with the State Comptroller a verified statement describing such bond 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. Such investigation by the State Comptroller shall cover the current status with respect to the payment of principal of and interest on all outstanding bonds of such school district issued for school purposes and the statement prepared and filed by the State Comptroller shall set forth a description of all such bonds 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 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 bonds shall be forwarded promptly to the paying agent or agents for the bonds in default of such school district for the sole purpose of the payment of defaulted principal of and interest on such bonds. If any of such successive allotments, apportionments or payments of such State Aid so deducted or withheld shall be less than the amount of all principal and interest on the bonds 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 in default payable to such paying agent bears to the total amount of the principal and interest then in default on such bonds 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 pursuant to said Section 99-b.

**General Municipal Law Contract Creditors' Provision.** Each Bond when duly issued and paid for will constitute a contract between the District and the holder thereof. Under current law, provision is made for contract creditors of the District to enforce payments upon such contracts, if necessary, through court action. Section 3-a of the General Municipal Law provides, subject to exceptions not pertinent, that the rate of interest to be paid by the District upon any judgment or accrued claim against it on an amount adjudged due to a creditor shall not exceed nine per centum per annum from the date due to the date of payment. This provision might be construed to have application to the holders of the Bonds in the event of a default in the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds.

**Execution/Attachment of Municipal Property.** 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, although judicial mandates have been issued to officials to appropriate and pay judgments out of certain funds or the proceeds of a tax levy. In accordance with the general rule with respect to municipalities, judgments against the District may not be enforced by levy and execution against property owned by the District.

**Authority to File For Municipal Bankruptcy.** The Federal Bankruptcy Code allows public bodies, such as the counties, cities, towns and villages, recourse to the protection of a Federal Court for the purpose of adjusting outstanding indebtedness. Section 85.80 of the Local Finance Law contains specific authorization for 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 be made so applicable in the future.

**State Debt Moratorium Law.** There are separate State law provisions regarding debt service moratoriums enacted into law in 1975.

At the Extraordinary Session of the State Legislature held in November, 1975, legislation was enacted which purported to suspend the right to commence or continue an action in any court to collect or enforce certain shortterm obligations of The City of New York. The effect of such act was to create a three-year moratorium on actions to enforce the payment of such obligations. On November 19, 1976, the Court of Appeals, the State's highest court, declared such act to be invalid on the ground that it violates the provisions of the State Constitution requiring a pledge by such City of its faith and credit for the payment of obligations.

As a result of the Court of Appeals decision in Flushing National Bank v. Municipal Assistance Corporation for the City of New York, 40 N.Y.2d 731 (1976), the constitutionality of that portion of Title 6-A of Article 2 of the Local Finance Law, as described below, 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.

**Right of Municipality or State to Declare a Municipal Financial Emergency and Stay Claims Under State Debt Moratorium Law.** The State Legislature is authorized to declare by special act that a state of financial emergency exists in any county, city, town or village. (The provision does not by its terms apply to school districts or fire districts.) In addition, the State Legislature may authorize by special act establishment of an "emergency financial control board" for any county, city, town or village upon determination that such a state of financial emergency exists. Thereafter, unless such special act provides otherwise, a voluntary petition to stay claims may be filed by any such municipality (or by its emergency financial control board in the event said board requests the municipality to petition and the municipality fails to do so within five days thereafter). A petition filed in supreme court in the county in which the municipality is located in accordance with the requirements of Title 6-A of the Local Finance Law ("Title 6-A") effectively prohibits the doing of any act for ninety days in the payment of claims against the municipality, including payment of debt service on outstanding indebtedness.

This includes staying the commencement or continuation of any court proceedings seeking payment of debt service due, the assessment, levy or collection of taxes by or for the municipality or the application of any funds, property, receivables or revenues of the municipality to the payment of debt service. The stay can be vacated under certain circumstances with provisions for the payment of amounts due or overdue upon a demand for payment in accordance with the statutory provisions set forth therein. The filing of a petition may be accompanied with a proposed repayment plan which, upon court order approving the plan, may extend any stay in the payment of claims against the municipality for such "additional period of time as is required to carry out fully all the terms and provisions of the plan with respect to those creditors who accept the plan or any benefits thereunder." Court approval is conditioned, after a hearing, upon certain findings as provided in Title 6-A.

A proposed plan can be modified prior to court approval or disapproval. After approval, modification is not permissible without court order after a hearing. If not approved, the proposed plan must be amended within ten days or else the stay is vacated and claims, including debt service due or overdue, must be paid. It is at the discretion of the court to permit additional filings of amended plans and continuation of any stay during such time. A stay may be vacated or modified by the court upon motion of any creditor if the court finds after a hearing that the municipality has failed to comply with a material provision of an accepted repayment plan or that due to a "material change in circumstances" the repayment plan is no longer in compliance with statutory requirements.

Once an approved repayment plan has been completed, the court, after a hearing upon motion of any creditor, or a motion of the municipality or its emergency financial control board, will enter an order vacating any stay then in effect and enjoining of creditors who accepted the plan or any benefits thereunder from commencing or continuing any court action, proceeding or other act described in Title 6-A relating to any debt included in the plan.

Title 6-A requires notice to all creditors of each material step in the proceedings. Court determinations adverse to the municipality or its financial emergency control board are appealable as of right to the appellate division in the judicial department in which the court is located and thereafter, if necessary, to the Court of Appeals. Such appeals stay the judgment or appealed from and all other actions, special proceedings or acts within the scope of Section 85.30 of Title 6-A pending the hearing and determination of the appeals.

Whether Title 6-A is valid under the Constitutional provisions regarding the payment of debt service is not known. However, based upon the decision in the Flushing National Bank case described above, its validity is subject to doubt.

While the State Legislature has from time to time adopted legislation in response to a municipal fiscal emergency and established public benefit corporations with a broad range of financial control and oversight powers to oversee such municipalities, generally such legislation has provided that the provisions of Title 6-A are not applicable during any period of time that such a public benefit corporation has outstanding indebtedness issued on behalf of such municipality.

**Fiscal Stress and State Emergency Financial Control Boards.** Pursuant to Article IX Section 2(b)(2) of the State Constitution, any local government in the State may request the intervention of the State in its “property, affairs and government” by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of its legislative body or on request of its chief executive officer concurred in by a majority of such membership. This has resulted in the adoption of special acts for the establishment of public benefit corporations with varying degrees of authority to control the finances (including debt issuance) of the cities of Buffalo, Troy and Yonkers and the County of Nassau. The specific authority, powers and composition of the financial control boards established by these acts varies based upon circumstances and needs. Generally, the State legislature has granted such boards the power to approve or disapprove budget and financial plans and to issue debt on behalf of the municipality, as well as to impose wage and/or hiring freezes and approve collective bargaining agreements in certain cases. Implementation is left to the discretion of the board of the public benefit corporation. Such a State financial control board was first established for New York City in 1975. In addition, on a certificate of necessity of the governor reciting facts which in the judgment of governor constitute an emergency requiring enactment of such laws, with the concurrences of two-thirds of the members elected in each house of the State legislature, the State is authorized to intervene in the “property, affairs and governments” of local government units. This occurred in the case of the County of Erie in 2005. The authority of the State to intervene in the financial affairs of local government is further supported by Article VIII, Section 12 of the Constitution which declares it to be the duty of the State legislature to restrict, subject to other provisions of the Constitution, the power of taxation, assessment, borrowing money and contracting indebtedness and loaning the credit of counties, cities, towns and villages so as to prevent abuses in taxation and assessment and in contracting indebtedness by them.

In 2013, the State established a new state advisory board to assist counties, cities, towns and villages in financial distress. The Financial Restructuring Board for Local Governments (the “FRB”), is authorized to conduct a comprehensive review of the finances and operations of any such municipality deemed by the FRB to be fiscally eligible for its services upon request by resolution of the municipal legislative body and concurrence of its chief executive. The FRB is authorized to make recommendations for, but cannot compel improvement of fiscal stability, management and delivery of municipal services, including shared services opportunities, and is authorized to offer grants and/or loans of up to \$5,000,000 through a Local Government Performance and Efficiency Program to undertake certain recommendations. If a municipality agrees to undertake the FRB recommendations, it will be automatically bound to fulfill the terms in order to receive the aid.

The FRB is also authorized to serve as an alternative arbitration panel for binding arbitration.

Although from time to time there have been proposals for the creation of a statewide financial control board with broad authority over local governments in the State, the FRB does not have emergency financial control board powers to intervene such as the public benefit corporations established by special acts as described above.

School districts and fire districts are not eligible for FRB assistance.

**Constitutional Non-Appropriation Provision.** There is in the Constitution of the State, Article VIII, Section 2, the following provision relating to the annual appropriation of monies for the payment of due principal of and interest on indebtedness of every county, city, town, village and school district in the State: “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. See “General Municipal Law Contract Creditors’ Provision” herein.

The Constitutional provision providing for first revenue set asides does not apply to tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes or bond anticipation notes.

**Default Litigation.** In prior years, certain events and legislation affecting a holder’s remedies upon default have resulted in litigation. While courts of final jurisdiction have upheld and sustained the rights of noteholders, such courts might hold that future events including financial crises as they may occur in the State and in political subdivisions of the State, 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. See “Nature of Obligation” and “State Debt Moratorium Law” herein.

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

## **MARKET FACTORS AFFECTING FINANCINGS OF THE STATE AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF THE STATE**

The financial and economic condition of the District as well as the market for the Bonds could be affected by a variety of factors, some of which are beyond the District’s control. There can be no assurance that adverse events in the State and in other jurisdictions, including, for example, the seeking by a municipality or large taxable property owner of remedies pursuant to the Federal Bankruptcy Code or otherwise, will not occur which might affect the market price of and the market for the Bonds. If a significant default or other financial crisis should occur in the affairs of the State or another jurisdiction or any of its agencies or political subdivisions thereby further impairing the acceptability of obligations issued by borrowers within the State, both the ability of the District to arrange for additional borrowings, and the market for and market value of outstanding debt obligations, including the Bonds, could be adversely affected.

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 therefor. 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 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 therefor. (See “State Aid” and “Events Affecting New York School Districts” herein).

Should the District fail to receive monies expected from the State in the amounts and at the times expected, the District is permitted to issue revenue anticipation notes in anticipation of the receipt of delayed State aid.

If and when a holder of any of the Bonds should elect to sell a Bond prior to its maturity, there can be no assurance that a market shall have been established, maintained and be in existence for the purchase and sale of any of the Bonds. In addition, the price and principal value of the Bonds is dependent on the prevailing level of interest rates; if interest rates rise, the price of a bond or note will decline, causing the bondholder or noteholder to incur a potential capital loss if such bond or note is sold prior to its maturity.

Amendments to the U.S. Internal Revenue Code could reduce or eliminate the favorable tax treatment granted to municipal debt, including the Bonds and other debt issued by the District. Any such future legislation would have an adverse effect on the market value of the Bonds (See “Tax Matters” herein).

The enactment of Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 on June 24, 2011, which imposes a tax levy limitation upon municipalities, school districts, including the District, and fire districts in the State could have an impact upon operations of the District and as a result, the market price for the Bonds. (See “Tax Levy Limitation Law,” herein.)

### ***Effect of COVID-19***

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”) has affected travel, commerce and financial markets globally, and is widely expected to affect national, state and local economies. The degree of any such impact to the District’s operations and finances is extremely difficult to predict due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 outbreak, including uncertainties relating to its (i) duration, (ii) severity and (iii) ultimate geographic spread, as well as with regard to what actions may be taken by governmental authorities to contain or mitigate its impact. Nonetheless, there can be no assurances that the spread of COVID-19 will not materially adversely impact the financial condition of the District. (See “State Aid” and “Events Affecting New York School Districts” herein.)

## **TAX MATTERS**

In the opinion of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP (“Bond Counsel”), based upon an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings, and court decisions, and assuming, among other matters, the accuracy of certain representations and compliance with certain covenants, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the “Code”) and is exempt from personal income taxes imposed by the State of New York or any political subdivision thereof (including The City of New York). Bond Counsel is of the further opinion that interest on the Bonds is not a specific preference item for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax. A complete copy of the proposed form of opinion of Bond Counsel is set forth in Appendix D hereto.

The Code imposes various restrictions, conditions and requirements relating to the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on obligations such as the Bonds. The District has covenanted to comply with certain restrictions designed to insure that interest on the Bonds will not be included in federal gross income. Failure to comply with these covenants may result in interest on the Bonds being included in gross income for federal income tax purposes possibly, from the date of original issuance of the Bonds. The opinion of Bond Counsel assumes compliance with these covenants. Bond Counsel has not undertaken to determine (or to inform any person) whether any actions taken (or not taken) or events occurring (or not occurring) after the date of issuance of the Bonds may adversely affect the value of, or the tax status of interest on, the Bonds. Further, no assurance can be given that pending or future legislation or amendments to the Code, if enacted into law, or any proposed legislation or amendments to the Code, will not adversely affect the value of, or the tax status of interest on, the Bonds.

Certain requirements and procedures contained or referred to in the Arbitrage Certificate, and other relevant documents may be changed and certain actions (including, without limitation, economic defeasance of the Bonds) may be taken or omitted under the circumstances and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such documents. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to any Bonds or the interest thereon if any such change occurs or action is taken or omitted.

Although Bond Counsel is of the opinion that interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is exempt from income taxes imposed by the State of New York or any political subdivision thereof (including The City of New York), the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual amount or receipt of interest on, the Bonds will depend upon the particular tax status of the Owner or the Owner's other items of income or deduction. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion regarding any such other tax consequences.

Future legislative proposals, if enacted into law, clarification of the Code or court decisions may cause interest on the Bonds to be subject, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, to federal income taxation or to be subject to or exempted from state income taxation, or otherwise prevent Beneficial Owners from realizing the full current benefit of the tax status of such interest. For example, legislative proposals have been made in recent years that would limit the exclusion from gross income of interest on obligations like the Bonds to some extent for taxpayers who are individuals and whose income is subject to higher marginal income tax rates. The introduction or enactment of any such legislative proposals, or clarification of the Code or court decisions may also affect, perhaps significantly, the market price for, or marketability of, the Bonds. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding any the potential impact of pending or proposed federal or state tax legislation, regulations or litigation, as to which Bond Counsel is expected expresses no opinion.

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

Legal matters incident to the authorization, issuance and sale of the Notes are subject to the approving legal opinion of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, Bond Counsel. Bond Counsel's opinion will be in substantially the form attached hereto as Appendix D.

## **LITIGATION**

The District is subject to a number of lawsuits in the ordinary conduct of its affairs. The District does not believe, however, that such suits, individually or in the aggregate, are likely to have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the District.

There are currently pending certiorari proceedings, the results of which could require the payment of future tax refunds by the District if existing assessment rolls are modified based on the outcome of the litigation proceedings. However, the amount of these possible refunds cannot be determined at the present time. Any payments resulting from adverse decisions will be funded in the year the payment is made. In addition, the Local Finance Law authorizes financing of such refunded payments.

There is no action, suit, proceedings or investigation, at law or in equity, before or by any court, public board or body pending or, to the best knowledge of the District, threatened against or affecting the District to restrain or enjoin the issuance, sale or delivery of the Bonds or the levy and collection of taxes or assessments to pay same, or in any way contesting or affecting the validity of the Bonds or any proceedings or authority of the District take with respect to the authorization, issuance or sale of the Bonds or contesting the corporate existence or boundaries of the District.

## **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 successful 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.

## **DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING**

In accordance with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12, as the same may be amended or officially interpreted from time to time (the “Rule”), promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”), the District has agreed to provide, or cause to be provided,

(1) to the Electronic Municipal Market Access (“EMMA”) system of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (“MSRB”) or any other entity designated or authorized by the Commission to receive reports pursuant to the Rule, during each fiscal year in which the Bonds are outstanding, (i) certain annual financial information and operating data for the preceding fiscal year in a form generally consistent with the information contained or cross-referenced in the final Official Statement dated June 4, 2020 of the District relating to the Bonds under the headings “THE DISTRICT”, “TAX MATTERS”, “DISTRICT INDEBTEDNESS”, “LITIGATION” and all Appendices (other than any related to bond insurance) by the end of the sixth month following the end of each succeeding fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, and (ii) a copy of the audited financial statement, if any, (prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in effect at the time of the audit) for the preceding fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020; such audit, if any, will be so provided on or prior to the later of either the end of the sixth month of each such succeeding fiscal year or, if an audited financial statement is not available at that time, within sixty days following receipt by the District of its audited financial statement for the preceding fiscal year, but, in any event, not later than the last business day of each such succeeding fiscal year; and provided further, in the event that the audited financial statement for any fiscal year is not available by the end of the sixth month following the end of any such succeeding fiscal year, unaudited financial statements in the form provided to the State, if available, will be provided no later than said date; provided however, that provision of unaudited financial statements in any year shall be further conditioned upon a determination by the District of whether such provision is compliant with the requirements of 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;

(2) timely notice, not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of such event, of the occurrence of any of the following events:

(i) principal and interest payment delinquencies; (ii) non-payment related defaults, if material; (iii) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties; (iv) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties; (v) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform; (vi) 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 Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds; (vii) modifications to rights of Bondholders, if material; (viii) Bond calls, if material, and tender offers; (ix) defeasances; (x) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material; (xi) rating changes; (xii) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the District; (xiii) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the District or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the District, 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; and (xiv) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material; (xv) incurrence of a “Financial Obligation” (as defined in the Rule) of the District, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of the District, any of which affect Bond holders, if material; and (xvi) default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of the District, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

Event (iii) is included pursuant to a letter for the SEC staff to the National Association of Bond Lawyers dated September 19, 1995. However, event (iii) is not applicable, since no “debt service reserves” will be established for the Bonds.

With respect to event (iv) the District does not undertake to provide any notice with respect to credit enhancement added after the primary offering of the Bonds.

With respect to event (xii) 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 District 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 District, 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 District.

With respect to events (xv) and (xvi) above, the term “Financial Obligation” means a (a) debt obligation; (b) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (c) guarantee of (a) or (b). The term Financial Obligation shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule.

The District may provide notice of the occurrence of certain other events, in addition to those listed above, if it determines that any such other event is material with respect to the Bonds; but the District does not undertake to commit to provide any such notice of the occurrence of any event except those events listed above; and

(3) in a timely manner, notice of a failure to provide the annual financial information and operating data and such audited financial statement by the date specified.

The District’s Undertaking shall remain in full force and effect until such time as the principal of, redemption premiums, if any, and interest on the Bonds shall have been paid in full or in the event that those portions of the Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 (“Rule 15c2-12”) which require the Undertaking, or such provision, as the case may be, do not or no longer apply to the Bonds. The sole and exclusive remedy for breach or default under the Undertaking is an action to compel specific performance of the undertakings of the District, and no person or entity, including a Holder of the Bonds, shall be entitled to recover monetary damages thereunder under any circumstances. Any failure by the District to comply with the Undertaking will not constitute a default with respect to the Bonds.

The District reserves the right to amend or modify the Undertaking under certain circumstances set forth therein; provided that any such amendment or modification will be done in a manner consistent with Rule 15c2-12, as amended.

The District is in compliance in all material respects with all previous undertakings made pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 during each of the past five years.

## **RATING**

The District has applied to Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) for a rating on the Bonds. Such application is pending at this time.

On May 16, 2019, Moody’s assigned an underlying rating of “Aa1” to the uninsured, outstanding bonded indebtedness of the District.

Such rating reflects only the views of such organization and any desired explanation of the significance of such rating should be obtained from the rating agency furnishing the same, at the following address: Moody’s Investors Service, Inc., 7 World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10007. There can be no assurance that such rating will continue for any specified period of time or that such rating will not be revised or withdrawn, if in the judgment of Moody’s circumstances so warrant. Any such change or withdrawal of such rating may have an adverse effect on the market price of the Bonds or the availability of a secondary market for the Bonds.

## **MUNICIPAL ADVISOR**

Capital Markets Advisors, LLC has acted as Municipal Advisor to the District in connection with the sale of the Bonds. In preparing the Official Statement, the Municipal Advisor has relied upon governmental officials, and other sources, who have access to relevant data to provide accurate information for the Official Statement, and the Municipal Advisor has not been engaged, nor has it undertaken, to independently verify the accuracy of such information. The Municipal Advisor is not a public accounting firm and has not been engaged by the District to compile, review, examine or audit any information in the Official Statement in accordance with accounting standards. The Municipal Advisor is an independent advisory firm and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, trading or distributing municipal securities or other public securities and therefore will not participate in the underwriting of the Bonds.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

So far as any statements made in this Official Statement involve matters of opinion or estimates, whether or not so expressly stated, they are set forth as such and not as representations of fact, and no representation is made that any of the opinions or estimates will be realized. Neither this Official Statement nor any statement which may have been made orally or in writing is to be construed as a contract with the holders of the Bonds. Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP expresses no opinion on the accuracy or completeness of any documents prepared by or on behalf of the District for use in connection with the offer and sale of the Bonds, including this Official Statement.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

This Official Statement does not include the financial data of any political subdivision of the State of New York having power to levy taxes within the District, except as expressed in the calculation of estimated "Overlapping and Underlying Debt", herein.

Additional information may be obtained from the District's Assistant Superintendent for Business, Dr. Kimberly Bucci, Rye Neck Union Free School District, and (914) 777-5210 or from the District's Municipal Advisor, Capital Markets Advisors, LLC at (516) 570-0340.

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

This Official Statement has been prepared only in connection with the sale of the Bonds by the District and may not be reproduced or used in whole or in part for any other purpose.

Orrick, Herington & Sutcliffe LLP, New York, New York, Bond Counsel to the District, expresses no opinion as to the accuracy or completeness of the information in any documents prepared by or on behalf of the District for use in connection with the offer and sale of the Bonds, including but not limited to, the financial or statistical information in this Official Statement.

References herein to the Constitution of the State and various State and federal laws are only brief outlines of certain provisions thereof and do not purport to summarize or describe all of such provisions.

Concurrently with the delivery of the Bonds, the District will furnish a certificate to the effect that as of the date of the Official Statement, the Official Statement did not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements herein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made,

not misleading, subject to a limitation as to information in the Official Statement obtained from sources other than the District.

The Official Statement is submitted only in connection with the sale of the Bonds by the District and may not be reproduced or used in whole or in part for any other purpose.

Capital Markets Advisors, LLC may place a copy of this Official Statement on its website at [www.capmark.org](http://www.capmark.org). 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. Capital Markets Advisors, LLC 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 Capital Markets Advisors, LLC assumes any liability or responsibility for errors or omissions on such website. Further, Capital Markets Advisors, LLC 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. Capital Markets Advisors, LLC and the District also assume no liability or responsibility for any errors or omissions or for any updates to dated website information.

This Official Statement has been duly executed and delivered by the Vice President of the Board of Education.

RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Rubin  
Vice President of the Board of Education

DATED: June \_\_\_\_, 2020

**APPENDIX A**

**THE DISTRICT**

## **THE DISTRICT**

### ***General Information***

According to the 2018 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, the District has a population of 8,672 and is located in Westchester County, New York, approximately 26 miles northeast of New York City. It is located partially within the City of Rye, New York, (the “City”) in the section of the City known as Greenhaven. The rest of the District is located within the Village of Mamaroneck (the “Village”) and the Town of Rye (the “Town”).

This well-established residential area is mainly populated by commuters who are in the professions and arts or who hold executive and administrative positions in business and industry. Residential development is generally above average with a large portion of the homes valued at \$600,000 or more. In addition to single family housing, the District has several luxury apartment complexes.

The residents of the District have an extensive transportation network at their disposal. The New England Thruway (Interstate 95) dissects the District, which affords its residents high speed highway access to numerous nearby highways, including the Hutchinson River Parkway, the Merritt Parkway in Connecticut and the Cross-Westchester Expressway (I-287) which ultimately connects with the New York State Thruway (I-87) to the west. There is also an extensive network of State, County and Town roads, including Boston-Post Road (U.S. Route 1). Electrified Rail Service is available to Mid-town Manhattan and points north and east from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro-North Division) which operates a station in the District.

### ***Financial Organization***

Pursuant to the Local Finance Law, the President of the Board of Education is the chief fiscal officer of the District. However, certain of the financial functions of the District are the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools, Assistant Superintendent for Business, District Treasurer and District Clerk.

### ***Budgetary Procedure***

Pursuant to the Education Law, the District's Board of Education generally prepares or causes to be prepared a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. The budget, effective for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 1998, must consist of three parts: program, administration and capital. During November and December the tentative budget is developed and refined in consultation with school administrators. At the March and April meetings of the Board of Education, the proposed budget is discussed and further refined. The tentative budget is adopted by the Board at its April meeting and submitted to referendum at the Annual Meeting held on the third Tuesday of May. Residents of the District who are qualified to vote may participate in the referendum. Prior to the Annual Meeting a public hearing on the proposed budget is held.

The District's budget is subject to the provisions of Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, 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 “Tax Levy Limitation Law,” herein.

The voters of the District adopted the budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year on May 21, 2019. See Appendix B for summaries of the 2019-2020 adopted budget and the 2020-2021 proposed budget for which the voting to adopt is expected to take place on June 9, 2020.

### ***Financial Statements and Accounting Procedures***

The District retains independent Certified Public Accountants. The last audited report covers the period ending June 30, 2019. Copies of the report may be examined at the District office. In addition, the State Comptroller's office, i.e., the Department of Audit and Control, periodically performs a compliance review to ascertain whether the District has complied with the requirements of various State and Federal statutes. (See “The State Comptroller's Fiscal Stress Monitoring System and Compliance Reviews” herein.)

## ***School Enrollment Trends***

The following table presents the past and projected enrollment for the District.

<b><u>School Enrollment Trends</u></b>			
<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>Ending June 30:</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u> <u>Ending June 30:</u>	<u>Projected</u> <u>Enrollment</u>
2016	1,574	2021	1,586
2017	1,632	2022	1,588
2018	1,605	2023	1,592
2019	1,572	2024	1,610
2020	1,580	2025	1,604

Source: District Officials.

## ***District Facilities***

The District operates four schools and one administration building. Statistics relating to each are shown below.

<b><u>School Statistics</u></b>		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Year Built</u>
F.E. Bellows Elementary School	525	1922
Daniel Warren Elementary School	369	1930
Rye Neck Middle/High School	1,958	1972
Rye Neck Administration	-	1969

Source: District Officials

## ***Employees***

The number of persons employed by the District, the collective bargaining agents, if any, which represent them and the dates of expiration of the various collective bargaining agreements are as follows:

<b><u>Employees</u></b>		
<u>Number of</u> <u>Employees</u>	<u>Employee Unit</u>	<u>Contract</u> <u>Expiration Date</u>
149	Rye Neck Teachers Association	6/30/21
22	Rye Neck Clerical Association	6/30/20*
15	CSEA Custodians	6/30/22
48	Rye Neck Teachers Assistants/Aides	6/30/20*

\* Currently in negotiations.

## ***Employee Pension Benefits***

New York State Certified employees (teachers and administrators) are members of the New York State Teachers Retirement System ("TRS"). 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. New ERS employees will now contribute 3% of

their salaries and new TRS employees will 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. The 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 will be 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.

Legislation was enacted that permitted school districts to amortize a portion of its annual employer pension payment to the ERS only. Under such legislation, school districts that choose to amortize were required to set aside and reserve funds with the ERS for certain future rate increases. The District has not amortized any of its employer pension payments pursuant to this legislation.

In Spring 2013, the State and TRS approved a Stable Contribution Option ("SCO") that gives school districts the ability to better manage the spikes in Actuarially Required Contribution rates ("ARCs"). ERS followed suit and modified its existing ERS SCO. Each plan allows school districts to pay the SCO amount in lieu of the ARC amount, which is higher, and defer the difference in payment amounts.

The State Legislature previously passed legislation allowing employers to prepare for future ERS contributions increases by establishing a retirement contribution reserve fund. In the Spring of 2017, the State Assembly and Senate each proposed similar legislation to allow eligible participating employers of the TRS the option to establish a retirement contribution reserve sub-fund with respect to contributions for TRS. There can be no assurance as to if or when the State Legislature will pass the proposed legislation.

The TRS SCO deferral plan is available to school districts for up to 7 years. Under the TRS SCO plan, payment of the deferred amount will commence in year six of the program (2018-19) and continue for five years. School districts can elect to no longer participate in the plan at any time, resume paying the ARC and begin repayment of deferred amounts over five years. Under the ERS SCO, payment of deferred amounts begins the year immediately following the deferral and the repayment period is 12 years. Once made, the election to participate in the ERS SCO is permanent. However, the school districts can choose not to defer payment in any given year. In both plans, interest on the deferred amounts is based on the yield of 10-year U.S. Treasury securities plus 1%. The District has not amortized any of its employer pension payments as part of the SCO 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 such a fund on June 30, 2019 with an initial transfer of \$346,000.

### ***Other Post Employment Benefits***

The District implemented GASB Statement No. 75 ("GASB 75") of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB"), which replaces GASB Statement No. 45 as of fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. GASB 75 requires state

and local governments to account for and report their costs associated with post-retirement healthcare benefits and other non-pension benefits, known as other post-employment benefits (“OPEB”). GASB 75 generally requires that employers account for and report the annual cost of OPEB and the outstanding obligations and commitments related to OPEB similarly to GASB Statement No. 68 reporting requirements for pensions.

GASB 75 requires state and local governments to measure a defined benefit OPEB plan as the portion of the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided to current active and inactive employees, attributable to past periods of service in order to calculate the total OPEB liability. Total OPEB liability generally is required to be determined through an actuarial valuation using a measurement date that is no earlier than the end of the employer’s prior fiscal year and no later than the end of the employer’s current fiscal year.

GASB 75 requires that most changes in the OPEB liability be included in OPEB expense in the period of the changes. Based on the results of an actuarial valuation, certain changes in the OPEB liability are required to be included in OPEB expense over current and future years.

The District’s total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2019 was \$61,947,804 using a discount rate of 3.50% and actuarial assumptions and other inputs as described in the District’s June 30, 2019 audited financial statements.

Should the District be required to fund the total 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. At the present time, however, there is no current or planned requirement for the District to partially fund its OPEB liability.

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 will continue funding this expenditure on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Legislation has been previously introduced to create an optional investment pool to help the State and local governments fund retiree health insurance and OPEB. The proposed legislation would authorize the creation of irrevocable OPEB trusts so that the State and its local governments can help fund their OPEB liabilities, 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, designate the president of the Civil Service Commission as the trustee of the State’s OPEB trust and the governing boards as trustee for local governments and allow school districts to transfer certain excess reserve balances to an OPEB trust once it is established. Under the proposed legislation, there would be no limits on how much a local government can deposit into the trust. Such legislation has not heretofore been enacted. The District cannot predict whether such legislation will be reintroduced and enacted into law in the foreseeable future.

### ***Investment Policy Permitted Investments***

Pursuant to the statutes of the State of New York, the District is permitted to invest only in the following investments: (1) special time deposits in, or certificates of deposits issued by, a bank or trust company located and authorized to do business in the State of New York; (2) obligations of the United States of America; (3) obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States of America where the payment of principal and interest is guaranteed by the United States of America; (4) obligations of the State of New York; (5) with the approval of the New York State Comptroller, tax anticipation notes and revenue anticipation notes issued by any New York municipality or district corporation, other than the District; (6) obligations of New York public benefit corporations which are made lawful investments in which the District may invest pursuant to another provision of law; (7) certain certificates of participation issued on behalf of political subdivisions of the State of New York; and (8) in the case of District moneys held in certain reserve funds established pursuant to law, obligations issued by the District. These statutes further require that all bank deposits, in excess of the amount insured under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, be secured by a pledge of eligible securities, an eligible surety bond or an eligible letter of credit, as those terms are defined in the law.

The District has an adopted investment policy that complies with the statutes as stated above.

## FINANCIAL FACTORS

### *Real Property Taxes*

The District derives a major portion of its revenues from a tax on real property (see "Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance" in Appendix B, herein). Property taxes accounted for 90.76% of total general fund revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, while State aid accounted for 5.83%.

The following table sets forth total general fund revenues and real property tax revenues during the last five audited fiscal years, the amount budgeted for the current fiscal year and the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Fiscal Year <u>Ending June 30:</u>	<u>Revenues</u>		
	Total <u>Revenues</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	Real Property <u>Taxes</u> <sup>(2)</sup>	Real Property <u>Taxes to</u> <u>Revenues</u>
2015	\$38,509,025	\$35,577,531	92.39%
2016	38,688,725	35,828,951	92.61
2017	38,830,232	35,946,021	92.57
2018	39,293,149	36,205,603	92.14
2019	41,131,957	37,330,817	90.76
2020 (Adopted Budget)	43,095,212	38,580,261	89.52
2021 (Proposed Budget)	44,545,814	39,999,300	89.79

(1) General Fund.

(2) Inclusive of STAR aid payments.

Source: Audited Financial Statements and Adopted and Preliminary Budgets of the District. Table itself is not audited.

### *State Aid*

The District also receives State aid pursuant to formulas and payment schedules set forth by the State.

The following table sets forth total general fund revenues and State aid revenues during the last five audited fiscal years, the amount budgeted for the current fiscal year and the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Fiscal Year <u>Ending June 30:</u>	<u>State Aid</u>		
	Total <u>Revenues</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>State Aid</u>	<u>State Aid</u> <u>to Revenues</u>
2015	\$38,509,025	\$2,206,905	5.73%
2016	38,688,725	2,163,563	5.59
2017	38,830,232	2,258,005	5.82
2018	39,293,149	2,318,852	5.90
2019	41,131,957	2,397,262	5.83
2020 (Adopted Budget)	43,095,212	2,689,451	6.24
2021 (Proposed Budget)	44,545,814	2,291,090	5.14

(1) General Fund.

Source: Audited Financial Statements and Adopted and Preliminary Budgets of the District. Table itself is not audited.

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 District received timely STAR aid from the State for the current fiscal year in January 2020.

The amount of State aid to school districts is dependent in part upon the financial condition of the State. Currently, due the outbreak of COVID-19 the State has declared a state of emergency and the Governor has taken steps designed to mitigate the spread and impacts of COVID-19, including closing schools and non-essential businesses.

The outbreak of COVID-19 and the dramatic steps taken by the State to address it are expected to negatively impact the State's economy and financial condition. The full impact of COVID-19 upon the State is not expected to be known for some time; however, it is anticipated that the State will be required to take certain gap-closing actions. 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 2020-2021 Adopted Budget authorizes the State's Budget Director to make periodic adjustments to nearly all State spending, including State Aid, in the event that actual State revenues come in below 99% percent of estimates or if actual disbursements exceed 101% of estimates. Specifically, the legislation provides that the State Budget Director will determine whether the State's 2020-2021 budget is balanced during three "measurement periods": April 1 to April 30, May 1 to June 30, and July 1 to Dec. 31. According to the legislation, if "a General Fund imbalance has occurred during any Measurement Period," the State's Budget Director will be empowered to "adjust or reduce any general fund and/or state special revenue fund appropriation . . . and related cash disbursement by any amount needed to maintain a balanced budget," and "such adjustments or reductions shall be done uniformly across the board to the extent practicably or by specific appropriations as needed." The legislation further provides that prior to making any adjustments or reductions, the State's Budget Director must notify the Legislature in writing and the Legislature has 10 days following receipt of such notice to prepare and approve its own plan. If the Legislature fails to approve its own plan, the Budget Director's reductions take effect automatically. (See "Event Affecting New York School Districts" herein).

It is anticipated that the State Budget Director's powers discussed herein will be activated and across-the-board and targeted reductions to local aid programs will be taken to close a substantial portion of the State fiscal year 2021 budget gap caused by the receipts shortfall. On April 25, 2020 the New York State Division of the Budget announced that the State fiscal year 2021 Enacted State Budget Financial Plan (the "Financial Plan"), projects a \$13.3 billion shortfall as a direct consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, in the absence of Federal assistance, initial budget control actions are expected to significantly reduce State spending in several areas, including "aid-to-localities," a broad spending category that includes funding for health care, K-12 schools, and higher education as well as support for local governments, public transit systems, and not-for-profits. Reduced receipts are expected to carry through each subsequent year of the four year Financial Plan through State fiscal year 2024. Reductions or delays in the payment of State aid could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State. (See "Event Affecting New York School Districts" herein).

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 the adoption of the State budget. 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, 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 the current Congress. Current federal aid projections, and the assumptions on which they rely, are subject to revision in the future as a result of changes in federal policy, the general condition of the global and national economies and other circumstances, including the diversion of federal resources to address the current COVID-19 outbreak.

The federal government may enact budgetary changes or take other actions that adversely affect State finances. State legislation adopted with the State's 2019-2020 Budget continued authorization for a process by which the State would manage significant reductions in federal aid during Federal fiscal year 2020. Specifically, the legislation allowed the State Budget Director to prepare a plan for consideration by the State Legislature in the event that the federal government (i) reduced federal financial participation in Medicaid funding to the State or its subdivisions by \$850 million or more; or (ii) reduced federal financial participation of other federal aid funding to the State that affects the State Operating Funds financial plan by \$850 million or more, exclusive of any cuts to Medicaid. Each limit is triggered separately. The plan prepared by the State Budget Director must equally and proportionately reduce appropriations and cash disbursements in the State's General Fund and State Special Revenue Funds. Upon receipt of the plan, the State Legislature has 90 days to prepare its own corrective action

plan, which may be adopted by concurrent resolution passed by both houses, or the plan submitted by the State Budget Director takes effect automatically.

On December 22, 2017, President Trump signed into law the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (H.R. 1, P.L. 115-97), making major changes to the Federal Internal Revenue Code, most of which are effective in the 2018 tax year. The new federal tax law makes extensive changes to federal personal income taxes, corporate income taxes, and estate taxes, and the deductibility of various taxes and interest costs. The State's income tax system interacts with the federal system in numerous ways. The federal changes are expected to have significant flow-through effects on State tax burdens and revenues. The State's 2018-2019 Enacted Budget includes legislation decoupling certain linkages between federal and local income tax and corporate taxes, increasing the opportunities for charitable contributions, and providing an option to employers to shift to an employer compensation tax and reduce State personal income taxes. In addition, the State's 2018-2019 Enacted Budget includes legislation that grants localities the option to establish local charitable funds that would provide taxpayers with a credit against their property taxes. In response to various state initiatives following changes to federal taxes and deductibility, the Department of Treasury (Treasury Department) and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) have proposed regulations addressing state initiatives that would seek to circumvent the new statutory limitation on state and local tax deductions and characterization of payments for federal income tax purposes. At this time, the District does not have plans to establish a local charitable fund.

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.

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.

*Litigation regarding apportionment of State aid.* In January 2001, the State Supreme Court issued a decision in *Campaign for Fiscal Equity ("CFE") v. State of 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 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 enacted in the wake of the decision in *Campaign for Fiscal Equity ("CFE") v. State of New York*, included increased accountability for expenditure of State funds and collapsing over 30 categories of school aid into one classroom operating formula referred to as foundation aid. Foundation aid prioritizes funding distribution based upon student need.

Litigation is continuing however as a statewide lawsuit entitled *NYSER v. State of New York* has been filed recently on behalf of the State's public school students. The lawsuit asserts that the State has failed to comply with the decision of the New York State Court of Appeals in *CFE v. State of New York*. The complaint asks the court for an order requiring the State to immediately discontinue the cap on State aid increases and the supermajority requirements regarding increases in local property tax levies. The complaint also asks the court to order the State to develop a new methodology for determining the actual costs of providing all students the opportunity for a sound basic education, revise the State funding formulas to ensure that all schools receive sufficient resources, and ensure a system of accountability that measures whether every school has sufficient resources and that all students are, in fact, receiving the opportunity to obtain a sound basic education. On June 27, 2017, the Court of Appeals ruled that NYSER's claims that students in New York City and Syracuse are being denied the opportunity for a sound basic education could go to trial and that NYSER could rely upon the CFE decision in its arguments. It is not possible to predict the outcome of this litigation.

## ***Events Affecting 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 increases established in more recent years. However, as discussed below the COVID-19 outbreak has affected and is expected to continue to affect State aid to school district.

*School district fiscal year (2014-2015):* The State Legislature adopted the State budget on March 31, 2014. The budget included an increase of \$1.1 billion in State aid for school districts.

*School district fiscal year (2015-2016):* The State Legislature adopted the State budget on March 31, 2015. The budget included an increase of \$1.4 billion in State aid for school districts that was tied to changes in the teacher evaluation and tenure process.

*School district fiscal year (2016-2017):* The State Legislature adopted the State budget on March 31, 2016. The budget included an increase of \$991 million in State aid for school districts over the State's 2015-16 Enacted Budget, \$863 million of which consisted of traditional operating aid. In addition to the \$408 million of expense based aid, the State's 2016-17 Enacted Budget included a \$266 million increase in Foundation Aid and a \$189 million restoration to the Gap Elimination Adjustment. The majority of the remaining increase related to (\$100 million) Community Schools Aid, a newly adopted aid category, to support school districts that wish to create community schools. The funds may only be used for certain purposes such as providing health, mental health and nutritional services to students and their families.

*School district fiscal year (2017-2018):* The State's 2017-18 Enacted Budget provided for school aid of approximately \$25.8 billion, an increase of \$1.1 billion in school aid spending from the State's 2016-17 Enacted Budget. 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 was the State's usual practice. Transportation aid increased by 5.5% and building aid increased by 4.8%. The State 2017-18 Enacted Budget continued to link school aid increases for 2017-18 and 2018-19 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 (2018-2019):* The State's 2018-2019 Enacted 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 has the State's usual practice. Transportation aid increased by 5.2% and building aid increased by 4.7%. The State 2018-2019 Enacted Budget continued to link school aid increases for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 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 (2019-2020):* For the 2019-20 school year, the State's Enacted Budget includes 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 are 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 will increase by approximately 4.5% and building aid will increase by approximately 3.7%. The State 2019-2020 Enacted Budget continues 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 is 3.7 percent lower than in the State's 2019-2020 Enacted Budget but is offset in part with increased Federal support. This reduction in State Operating Funds support will be 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 is expected to total \$27.9 billion, an annual increase of approximately \$100 million or 0.4 percent. The State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget continues prior year funding levels for existing programs, including Foundation Aid, Community Schools and Universal Prekindergarten. The 2020-2021 Enacted Budget also provides 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 is continued under existing aid formulas. Out-year growth in School

Aid reflects current projections of the ten-year average growth in State personal income. The State's 2020-2021 Enacted Budget authorizes the State's Budget Director to make periodic adjustments to State Aid, in the event that actual State revenues come 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.

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 or in future fiscal years. However, 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 "Market Factors Affecting Financing of the State and School Districts of the State" herein).

*Gap Elimination Aid:* The State provides annual State aid to school districts in the State, including the District, on the basis of various formulas. Due to the State's own budgetary crisis in 2009 and to assist the State in mitigating the impacts of its own revenue shortfall, the State reduced the allocation of State aid to school districts as part of a program known as the Gap Elimination Adjustment ("GEA"). The GEA was a negative number (funds that were deducted from the State aid originally due to the District under existing State aid formulas). The District's State aid was reduced as a result of the GEA program starting in 2009. Subsequent State budgets decreased the amount of the GEA deduction and the Adopted Budget for the State's 2016-2017 fiscal year included the elimination of the remaining balance of the GEA.

The Smart Schools Bond Act (the "SSBA") was passed as part of the Enacted 2014-2015 State Budget. The Smart Schools Bond Act authorizes the issuance of \$2 billion of general obligation bonds to finance improved educational technology and infrastructure to improve learning and opportunity for students throughout the State. The SSBA requires that a Review Board review and approve districts' Smart Schools Investment Plan before any funds may be made available for the program.

### ***The State Comptroller's Fiscal Stress Monitoring System and 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 ("OSC") has developed a Fiscal Stress Monitoring System ("FSMS") to provide independent, objectively measured and quantifiable information to school district 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 district's ST-3 report filed with the State Education Department annually, and each municipality's annual report filed with the State Comptroller. 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 the State Comptroller designates the District as "no designation."

See the State Comptroller's official website for more information on FSMS. Reference to this website implies no warranty of accuracy of information therein, nor inclusion herein.

In addition, the District is subject to periodic audit by the State Comptroller to review compliance with legal requirements and the rules and regulations established by the State. For audit year 2016 the State Comptroller released a report with findings related to procedures to safeguard sensitive data store on District computer systems for the period July 1, 2014 and March 31, 2016.

See the State Comptroller's official website for more information on FSMS and local government audits. Reference to this website implies no warranty of accuracy of information therein, nor inclusion herein.

## ***General Fund Operations***

Appendix B sets forth the General Fund operations for each of the last five fiscal years, which are derived from the District's Audited Financial Statements.

## ***Other Revenues***

In addition to property taxes and State aid, the District receives other revenues from miscellaneous sources as shown in Appendix B.

***Sales Tax*** The County presently imposes a 1 1/2% County-wide sales and use tax on all retail sales. This, in addition to the present 4% State sales tax and 3/8% sales tax levied in the Metropolitan Transportation Authority District, provides a minimum combined sales tax in the County of 5 7/8%. In addition, the cities in the County have the power under State law to impose by local law and State legislative enactment their own sales and use taxes. At present, such taxes are imposed at a rate of 2% in the City of White Plains and at 2.5% in Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, and Yonkers.

Effective March 2004, the State Legislature authorized an additional 1/2% sales tax for the County to impose in localities other than cities which have their own sales tax. The additional 1/2% sales tax is to be apportioned between the County (70%), school districts in the County (10%), and towns, villages, and cities in the County which have not imposed sales taxes (20%). The legislation authorizing the additional 1/2% sales tax expires on May 31, 2020.

For fiscal years 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 the District received \$450,037, \$454,633, \$459,370, \$481,770, and \$505,398 in sales tax revenues, respectively. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, sales tax revenues are likely to substantially decrease throughout the County and it is not possible for the District to predict aggregate receipts for the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 fiscal years. (See "Effects of COVID-19", "State Aid" and "Events Affecting New York School Districts" herein.)

## ***Independent Audits***

The District retains the firm of Nawrocki Smith to audit its financial statements. Appendix B to this Official Statement presents excerpts from the District's most recent audited reports covering the last five fiscal years. In addition, the District is subject to audit by the State Comptroller to review compliance with legal requirements and the rules and regulations established by the State.

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## TAX INFORMATION

### *Real Property Tax Assessment and Rates*

The following table sets forth the assessed and full valuation of taxable real property, the District's real property tax levy and rates of tax per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

#### Real Property Tax Assessment and Rates (fiscal years ending June 30:)

##### City of Rye

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u> <sup>(2)</sup>
Assessed Value	\$13,486,988	\$13,335,176	\$12,826,438	\$12,206,780	\$11,994,875
Equalization Rate	1.91%	1.71%	1.64%	1.53%	1.56%
Full Value	706,125,026	779,834,854	782,099,878	797,828,758	768,902,244
Total Tax Levy	11,937,087	11,867,958	11,986,923	12,252,983	12,237,042
Tax Rate <sup>(1)</sup>	885.08	889.97	934.55	997.31	1,013.69

##### Town of Rye

Assessed Value	\$1,355,080,152	\$1,518,114,417	\$1,516,225,229	\$1,649,614,823	\$1,684,558,969
Equalization Rate	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Full Value	1,355,080,152	1,518,114,417	1,516,225,229	1,649,614,823	1,684,614,823
Total Tax Levy	23,891,759	24,077,987	24,218,550	26,327,278	27,762,258
Tax Rate <sup>(1)</sup>	17.63	15.86	15.97	15.46	16.00

##### Total

Assessed Value	\$1,368,567,140	\$1,531,449,593	\$1,529,051,667	\$1,661,821,603	\$1,696,553,844
Full Value	2,061,205,178	2,297,949,271	2,298,325,107	2,447,443,581	2,453,461,213
Tax Levy	35,828,846	35,945,945	36,205,473	38,580,261	39,999,300

(1) Per \$1,000 Full Value.

(2) Proposed Budget

Source: New York State Department of Real Property Services and District Officials.

### ***Tax Limit***

The Constitution does not limit the amount that may be raised by the District-wide tax levy on real estate in any fiscal year. However, the Tax Levy Limit Law imposes a statutory limit on the amount of real property taxes that a school district may levy. (See "The Tax Levy Limit Law" herein).

### ***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 or notes issued to finance voter approved capital expenditures (such as the Bonds), 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. (See "Nature of Obligation" herein).

### **Real Property Tax Rebate**

Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2014 ("Chapter 59"), included provisions which provided a refundable personal income tax credit to real property taxpayers in school districts and certain municipal units of government. Real property owners in school districts were eligible for this credit in the 2014 and 2015 taxable years of those property owners. Real property taxpayers in certain other municipal units of government were eligible for this credit in the 2015 and 2016 taxable years of those real property taxpayers. The eligibility of real property taxpayers for the tax credit in each year depended on such jurisdiction's compliance with the provisions of the Tax Levy Limitation Law. School districts budgets must have complied in their 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years. Other municipal units of government must have had their budgets in compliance for their 2015 and 2016 fiscal years. Such budgets must have been within the tax cap limits set by the Tax Levy Limit Law for the real property taxpayers to be eligible for this personal income tax credit. The affected jurisdictions included counties, cities (other than any city with a population of one million or more and its counties), towns, villages, school districts (other than the dependent school districts of New York City, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Yonkers, the latter four of which were indirectly affected by applicability to their respective city) and independent special districts.

Certain additional restrictions on the amount of the personal income tax credit were set forth in Chapter 59 in order for the tax cap to qualify as one which would have provided the tax credit benefit to such real property taxpayers. The refundable personal income tax credit amount was increased in the second year if compliance occurred in both taxable years.

For the second taxable year of the program, the refundable personal income tax credit for real property taxpayers was additionally contingent upon adoption by the school district or municipal unit of a state approved "government efficiency plan" which demonstrated "three year savings and efficiencies of at least one per cent per year from shared services, cooperation agreements and/or mergers or efficiencies".

Municipalities, school districts and independent special districts were required to provide certification of compliance with the requirements of the new provisions to certain state officials in order to render their real property taxpayers eligible for the personal income tax credit.

While the provisions of Chapter 59 did not directly further restrict the taxing power of the affected municipalities, school districts and special districts, they did provide an incentive for such tax levies to remain with the tax cap limits established by the Tax Levy Limit Law. The District complied with the provisions of Chapter 59 and its taxpayers received the rebates provided in 2015 and 2016.

An additional real property tax rebate program applicable solely to school districts was enacted by Chapter 20 of the Laws of 2015, signed into law by the Governor on June 26, 2015 which generally extends the provisions of the program through 2019 and includes continued tax cap compliance.

### ***Tax Collection Procedure***

The City of Rye and the Town of Rye collect school taxes on behalf of the District. The City of Rye taxes are payable in two installments, the first of which is due on August 1 and may be paid through August 30 without penalty. The second installment for the City of Rye is due on November 1 and may be paid through November 30, without penalty. A penalty of 2% to 12%, depending upon payment date, is added on delinquent payments. On May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the City of Rye is obligated to make the District whole on its tax collections.

The Town of Rye taxes are payable in two installments, the first of which is due on September 1 and may be paid through September 30 without penalty. The second installment for the Town of Rye is due on January 1 and may be paid through January 31, without penalty. A penalty of 2% to 15%, depending upon payment date, is added on delinquent payments. On May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the City of Rye is obligated to make the District whole on its tax collections.

### ***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 \$65,300 for the 2016-17 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 2019-2020 Enacted State Budget makes several changes to the STAR program, which went into effect immediately. The changes are intended to encourage home owners 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.

Approximately 5.2% of the District’s 2019-2020 school tax levy was exempted by the STAR program and the District received full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State. Approximately 4.8% of the District’s 2020-2021 school tax levy will be exempted by the STAR program and the District expects to receive full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State in January 2021. (See “State Aid” herein).

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## ***Ten of the Largest Taxpayers***

The following table presents the taxable assessments of ten of the District's largest taxpayers.

<b><u>Taxable Assessments</u></b>			
<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>% of Total Assessed Valuation <sup>(1)</sup></u>
Con Edison	Utility	\$18,835,034	1.11%
Hawthorne Gardens	Apartments	8,313,900	0.49
Lawn Terrace Owners Corp.	Apartments	6,615,000	0.39
1600 Harrison LLC	Commercial	6,583,800	0.39
Evelyn Court <sup>(2)</sup>	Apartments	6,507,000	0.38
229 Union Ave. Corp. <sup>(2)</sup>	Apartments	5,692,200	0.34
Private Residence	Private Estate	5,389,100	0.32
Private Residence	Private Estate	4,807,600	0.28
Private Residence	Private Estate	4,803,900	0.28
Private Residence	Private Estate	<u>4,800,000</u>	<u>0.28</u>
Totals		<u>\$72,347,534</u>	<u>4.26%</u>

(1) The District's assessed value for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 is \$1,696,553,844.

(2) Tax certiorari pending.

Source: Office of the Assessor, Town of Rye and New York State Board of Real Property Services.

## **DISTRICT INDEBTEDNESS**

### ***Constitutional and Statutory Requirements***

The New York State Constitution limits the power of the District (and other municipalities and certain school districts of the State) to issue obligations and to otherwise 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 within three fiscal year periods, 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; no installment may be more than fifty per centum in excess of the smallest prior installment, unless the District has authorized and utilized 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, as has been noted under "Nature of Obligation", 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. It may however institute general statutory requirements relating to real property tax increases. (See "Tax Levy Limitation 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 Board of Education, as the finance board of the District, has the power to enact tax and revenue anticipation note resolutions. Such resolutions may authorize the issuance of tax and revenue anticipation notes in an aggregate principal amount necessary to fund anticipated cash flow deficits but in no event exceeding the amount of real property taxes levied or state aid to be received, less any notes previously issued and less the amount of such revenue previously received by the District.

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 and notes to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the District, pursuant to the Local Finance Law.

The Local Finance Law also provides for a twenty-day statute of limitations after publication of a bond resolution which, in effect, estops thereafter legal challenges to the validity of obligations authorized by such bond resolution except for alleged constitutional violations. The District is in compliance with this procedure with respect to the Bonds.

***Debt Limit.*** Pursuant to the Local Finance Law, the District has the power to contract indebtedness for any District purpose authorized by the Legislature of the State of New York provided the aggregate amount thereof shall not exceed ten per centum of the full valuation of taxable real estate of the District and subject to certain enumerated exclusions and deductions such as State aid for building purposes. The constitutional and statutory method for determining full valuation consists of 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 Office of Real Property Services. The State Legislature is required to prescribe the manner by which such ratio shall be determined by such authority.

## ***Statutory Debt Limit and Net Indebtedness***

Following is a summary of indebtedness, debt limit and net debt contracting margin of the District as of May 26, 2020.

### **Statutory Debt Limit and Net Indebtedness**

Full Valuation of Taxable Real Property		\$2,453,461,213
Debt Limit (10% of Full Valuation)		245,346,121
Outstanding Indebtedness (Principal Only):		
Bonds:	\$14,120,000	
Bond Anticipation Notes:	<u>0</u>	
Total Gross Indebtedness		14,120,000
Less Exclusion and Deductions:		0
Total Net Indebtedness		<u>14,120,000</u>
Net Debt-Contracting Margin		<u>\$ 231,226,121</u>
Percentage of Debt-Contracting Margin Exhausted		<u>5.76%</u>

## ***Bond Anticipation Notes***

The District does not currently have any bond anticipation notes outstanding.

## ***Revenue and Tax Anticipation Notes***

The District has not issued tax anticipation notes in recent years and has not issued revenue anticipation notes in over twenty (20) years. Although the District currently has no plans of issuing such notes in the foreseeable future, the District cannot predict the effects of COVID-19 and could need to borrow in anticipation of taxes or other revenues (such as State aid) if such effects are substantial. (See “Effects of COVID-19”, “State Aid” and “Events Affecting New York School Districts” herein.)

## ***Authorized and Unissued Debt***

In February 2018 and 2020, voters approved capital improvement plans totaling \$30.5 million to reconstruct roofs and related improvements at various District buildings and construct additions to and reconstruct the Middle School/High School, including construction of a Middle School gymnasium and related improvements. The District currently has \$24,225,000 authorized but unissued debt pursuant to such improvement plan.

## ***Trend of Capital Indebtedness***

The following table sets forth the amount of direct capital indebtedness outstanding for each of the last five fiscal years ended June 30:

	<b><u>Direct Capital Indebtedness Outstanding</u></b>				
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Bonds:	\$13,900,000	\$12,620,000	\$11,290,000	\$10,295,000	\$15,185,000
Bonds Anticipation Notes:	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	<u>\$13,900,000</u>	<u>\$12,620,000</u>	<u>\$11,290,000</u>	<u>\$10,295,000</u>	<u>\$15,185,000</u>

Source: Audited Financial Statements of the District. Summary itself not audited.

## ***Installment Purchase Agreements***

The following table shows the payment requirements on the District's outstanding installment purchase agreement secured to fund the cost of equipment and improvements related to an energy performance contract.

	<b><u>Energy Performance Contract Principal and Interest Maturity Table</u></b>		
<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total Debt Service <sup>(1)</sup></u>
2020 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$110,922	\$34,630	\$145,552
2021	113,633	31,919	145,552
2022	116,411	29,141	145,552
2023	119,257	26,295	145,552
2024	122,173	23,379	145,552
2025-2029	657,155	70,605	727,760
2030-2031	<u>213,129</u>	<u>5,199</u>	<u>218,328</u>
Totals	<u>\$1,452,680</u>	<u>\$ 221,168</u>	<u>\$1,673,848</u>

(1) For the entire fiscal year.

Source: Audited Financial Statements of the District. This summary is not audited.

***Overlapping and Underlying Debt***

In addition to the District, other political subdivisions have the power to issue bonds and to levy taxes or cause taxes to be levied on taxable real property in the District. The real property taxpayers of the District are responsible for a proportionate share of outstanding debt obligations of these subdivisions. Such taxpayers' share of overlapping and underlying debt is based on the amount of the District's equalized property values taken as a percentage of each separate unit's total values. The following table presents the amount of overlapping and underlying debt and the District's share of this debt. Authorized but unissued debt has not been included.

**Statement of Direct and Overlapping Indebtedness**

	Net Debt		District Share	
	<u>Outstanding</u>	<u>As of:</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Westchester County	\$810,526,569	4/14/20	1.61%	\$ 13,049,478
Town of Rye	6,800,000	9/17/19	20.90	1,421,200
City of Rye	7,865,000	5/16/19	10.50	825,825
Village of Mamaroneck	33,316,477	2/26/20	33.30	<u>11,094,387</u>
Total Net Overlapping Debt				<u>\$23,390,890</u>
Total Net Direct Debt				<u>14,120,000</u>
Total Net Direct and Overlapping Debt				<u>\$40,510,890</u>

Source: Data provided by County and City Officials.

***Debt Ratios***

The following table presents certain debt ratios relating to the District's direct and overlapping indebtedness.

	<b><u>Debt Ratios</u></b>		
	<u>Amount</u>	Debt Per <u>Capita<sup>(1)</sup></u>	Debt to <u>Full Value<sup>(2)</sup></u>
Net Direct Debt	\$ 14,120,000	\$1,628.23	0.58%
Net Direct and Overlapping Debt	40,510,890	4,671.46	1.65

(1) The population of the District is estimated by District officials to be approximately 8,672.

(2) The District's full value of taxable real property for fiscal year 2019-2020 is \$2,453,461,213.

Source: Data provided by New York State Department of Real Property Services; New York State Department of Labor; Bureau of Statistics; County, City and District Officials.

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## ***Debt Service Schedule***

The following table shows the debt service requirements to maturity on the District's outstanding bonded indebtedness for the future fiscal years, exclusive of the Bonds, and exclusive of economically defeased obligations.

### **Bond Principal and Interest Maturity Table**

Fiscal Year <u>Ending June 30</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	Total <u>Debt Service<sup>(1)</sup></u>
2020 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$1,430,000	\$475,610	\$1,905,610
2021	1,470,000	422,548	1,892,548
2022	1,515,000	370,710	1,885,710
2023	1,180,000	326,172	1,506,172
2024	1,205,000	287,273	1,492,273
2025	1,245,000	246,172	1,491,172
2026	1,285,000	203,493	1,488,493
2027	1,315,000	158,761	1,473,761
2028	1,350,000	116,502	1,466,502
2029	1,090,000	75,813	1,165,813
2030	410,000	48,875	458,875
2031	415,000	40,162	455,162
2032	420,000	30,825	450,825
2033	425,000	21,375	446,375
2034	<u>430,000</u>	<u>10,750</u>	<u>440,750</u>
Totals	<u>\$15,185,000</u>	<u>\$2,835,041</u>	<u>\$18,020,041</u>

(1) For the entire fiscal year.

Source: Audited Financial Statements of the District. Table itself is not audited.

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## ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

### *Largest Employers*

#### Largest Employers

<u>Employers</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Estimated Number Of Employees</u>
Rye Neck UFSD	Education	245
TCI Cablevision	Utility	190
Remodeling Consultants	Contracting	150
Village of Mamaroneck	Government	150
Toyota City	Commercial	45
Save-A-Tree	Contracting	35
Derecktor Shipyards	Boat Storage	35

Source: District Officials.

### *Population*

The District estimates its population to be approximately 8,672. Data contained in the following tables is not necessarily representative of the District.

#### Population Trend

	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>Percentage Change 2000/2010</u>	<u>Percentage Change 2010/2018</u>
County	923,459	949,113	967,612	2.8%	2.0
State	18,976,457	19,378,102	19,542,209	2.1	0.9

Source: New York State Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics and 2018 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.

### *Income*

The following table presents median family income for the County and State. Data contained in the following table is not necessarily representative of the District.

#### Median Family Income

<u>Year</u>	<u>Westchester County</u>	<u>New York State</u>
2000	\$63,582	\$43,393
2010	79,619	55,603
2018	92,758	65,323

Source: New York State Department of Commerce; New York State Department of Economic Development.

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## ***Employment and Unemployment***

The following tables provide information concerning employment and unemployment in the County and State. Data contained in the following table is not necessarily representative of the District.

### **Civilian Labor Force**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Westchester County</u>	<u>New York State</u>
2015	478,400	9,558,800
2016	477,700	9,551,900
2017	480,700	9,549,100
2018	482,100	9,521,900
2019	484,400	9,514,400

Source: New York State Department of Labor; Bureau of Statistics. Information not seasonally adjusted.

### **Yearly Average Unemployment Rates**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Westchester County</u>	<u>New York State</u>
2015	4.5%	5.3%
2016	4.3	4.9
2017	4.5	4.7
2018	3.9	4.1
2019	3.8	4.0

Source: New York State Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Information not seasonally adjusted.

### **Monthly Unemployment Rates <sup>(1)</sup>**

<u>Month</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>
April 2019	3.3%	3.6%
May	3.4	3.6
June	3.7	3.8
July	4.0	4.2
August	4.1	4.1
September	3.7	3.6
October	3.7	3.7
November	3.6	3.6
December	3.8	3.7
January 2020	4.0	4.1
February	3.9	3.9
March	4.1	4.4

(1) April and May figures not available as of the date of this Official Statement.

Source: New York State Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Information not seasonally adjusted.

**END OF APPENDIX A**

**APPENDIX B**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET SUMMARIES**

**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Budgets - General Fund  
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:

	Adopted Budget <u>2020</u>	Proposed Budget <u>2021</u>
Revenues:		
Real Property Taxes	\$38,580,261	\$39,999,300
Non-Property Tax Items	500,000	475,000
Other Sources	259,500	172,000
Interfund Transfers	505,000	847,424
State Aid Sources	2,689,451	2,291,090
Appropriated Fund Balance	<u>561,000</u>	<u>761,000</u>
Total Revenues	<u><u>\$43,095,212</u></u>	<u><u>\$44,545,814</u></u>
Expenditures:		
General Support	\$4,906,197	\$4,976,362
Instruction	25,129,079	25,472,757
Transportation	1,003,569	1,016,334
Employee Benefits	9,853,417	10,308,860
Interfund Transfers	35,000	40,000
Debt Service	<u>2,167,950</u>	<u>2,731,503</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$43,095,212</u></u>	<u><u>\$44,545,814</u></u>

Source: Adopted and Proposed Budgets of the District.

**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Balance Sheet

General Fund

Fiscal Year Ended June 30:

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Assets:		
Cash and Equivalents	\$11,554,333	\$13,452,644
Investments	0	0
State and Federal Aid Receivable	215,927	331,568
Due from other Funds	376,901	348,334
Due from other Governments	0	484
Due from Fiduciary Funds	170,000	0
Prepaid Expenditures	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$12,317,161</u></u>	<u><u>\$14,133,030</u></u>
Liabilities and Fund Equity		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$325,953	\$321,441
Accrued Liabilities	0	120,402
Due to Other Funds	62,338	0
Due to Retirement Systems	2,030,733	2,281,309
Due to Other Governments	<u>50,921</u>	<u>3,092</u>
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$2,469,945</u></u>	<u><u>\$2,726,244</u></u>
Fund Equity		
Nonspendable	\$0	\$0
Restricted	6,983,912	8,027,230
Assigned	1,208,336	1,655,921
Unassigned	<u>1,654,968</u>	<u>1,723,635</u>
Total Fund Equity	<u><u>\$9,847,216</u></u>	<u><u>\$11,406,786</u></u>
Total Liabilities & Fund Equity	<u><u>\$12,317,161</u></u>	<u><u>\$14,133,030</u></u>

Source: Audited Financial Statements of the District.  
Summary itself not audited.

**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance  
General Fund  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Revenues:					
Real Property Taxes	\$33,008,233	\$33,050,311	\$33,313,675	\$33,776,798	\$35,031,419
Other Tax Items	2,569,298	2,778,640	2,632,346	2,428,805	2,299,398
Non-Property Taxes	450,037	454,633	459,370	481,770	505,398
Charges for Services	69,793	66,289	885	667	79,536
Use of Money and Property	42,236	36,350	50,167	164,360	366,862
Sale of Property and Compensation for Loss	1,727	3,850	6,567	13,480	0
Miscellaneous	155,174	127,046	109,217	108,417	452,082
State Aid	2,206,905	2,163,563	2,258,005	2,318,852	2,397,262
Federal Aid	5,622	8,043	0	0	0
Total Revenues	<u>\$38,509,025</u>	<u>\$38,688,725</u>	<u>\$38,830,232</u>	<u>\$39,293,149</u>	<u>\$41,131,957</u>
Expenditures:					
General Government Support	\$4,342,999	\$4,495,752	\$4,474,009	\$4,540,919	\$4,859,227
Instruction	22,172,768	21,502,791	22,899,781	22,964,263	22,837,208
Pupil Transportation	649,227	674,554	707,149	708,340	775,363
Employee Benefits	9,469,064	8,923,844	8,675,797	8,733,421	9,372,205
Debt Service	1,873,999	1,681,829	1,836,900	1,465,825	1,838,503
Total Expenditures	<u>\$38,508,057</u>	<u>\$37,278,770</u>	<u>\$38,593,636</u>	<u>\$38,412,768</u>	<u>\$39,682,506</u>
Excess (Def) of Revenues Over Expenditures	968	1,409,955	236,596	880,381	1,449,451
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Bond Premium	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers In	-	-	-	150,000	145,453
Operating Transfers Out	(151,900)	(68,023)	(14,365)	(43,581)	(35,334)
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>(151,900)</u>	<u>(68,023)</u>	<u>(14,365)</u>	<u>106,419</u>	<u>110,119</u>
Excess (Def) of Revenues & Other Sources Over Expenditures & Other Uses	(150,932)	1,341,932	222,231	986,800	1,559,570
Fund Balance - Beg. of Year	7,447,185	7,296,253	8,638,185	8,860,416	9,847,216
Adjustments (Net)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Fund Balance - End of Year	<u>\$7,296,253</u>	<u>\$8,638,185</u>	<u>\$8,860,416</u>	<u>\$9,847,216</u>	<u>\$11,406,786</u>

Source: Audited Financial Statements of the District.  
Summary itself not audited.

**APPENDIX C**

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019\***

**CAN BE ACCESSED ON THE ELECTRONIC MUNICIPAL MARKET ACCESS  
("EMMA") WEBSITE  
OF THE MUNICIPAL SECURITIES RULEMAKING BOARD ("MSRB")  
AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

**<https://emma.msrb.org/ER1382659.pdf>**

**The audited financial statements referenced above are hereby incorporated into this  
Official Statement.**

**\* Such Financial Statements and opinion are intended to be representative only as of the date thereof. O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP, has not been requested by the District to further review and/or update such Financial Statements or opinion in connection with the preparation and dissemination of this Official Statement.**

**APPENDIX D**

**FORM OF BOND COUNSEL'S LEGAL OPINION**

[FORM OF BOND COUNSEL OPINION]

June 16, 2020

Rye Neck Union Free School District,  
County of Westchester,  
State of New York

RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT, WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL DISTRICT (SERIAL) BONDS, 2020

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have been requested to render our opinion as to the validity of an issue of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ School District (Serial) Bonds, 2020 (the "Obligations"), of the Rye Neck Union Free School District, Westchester County, New York (the "Obligor"), dated June 16, 2020, initially issued in registered form in denominations such that one bond shall be issued for each maturity of bonds in such amounts as hereinafter set forth, bearing interest at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ centum (\_\_\_\_\_% ) per annum as to bonds maturing in each of the years 20\_\_ to 20\_\_, both inclusive, payable on June 15, 2021 and semi-annually thereafter on December 15 and June 15, and maturing in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on June 15, 20\_\_ and \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on June 15 in each of the years 20\_\_ to 20\_\_, both inclusive.

The Obligations maturing on or before June 15, 2028 are not be subject to redemption prior to their stated maturity. The Obligations maturing on or after June 15, 2029 will be subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the Obligor, on any date on or after June 15, 2028, in whole or in part, and if part, in any order of their maturity and in any amount within a maturity (selected by lot within a maturity) at the redemption price equal to the principal amount of the bonds to be redeemed, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption.

We have examined:

- (1) the Constitution and statutes of the State of New York;
- (2) the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, including particularly Sections 103 and 141 through 150 thereof, and the applicable regulations of the United States Treasury Department promulgated thereunder (collectively, the "Code");
- (3) an arbitrage certificate executed on behalf of the Obligor which includes, among other things, covenants, relating to compliance with the Code, with the owners of the Obligations that the Obligor will, among other things, (i) take all actions on its part necessary to cause interest on the Obligations not to be includable in the gross income of the owners thereof for Federal income tax purposes, including, without limitation, restricting, to the extent necessary, the yield on investments made with the proceeds of the Obligations and investment earnings thereon, making required payments to the Federal government, if any, and maintaining books and records in a specified manner, where appropriate, and (ii) refrain from taking any action which would cause interest on the Obligations to be includable in the gross income of the owners thereof for Federal income tax purposes, including, without limitation, refraining from spending the proceeds of the Obligations and investment earnings thereon on certain specified purposes (the "Arbitrage Certificate"); and
- (4) a certificate executed on behalf of the Obligor which includes, among other things, a statement that compliance with such covenants is not prohibited by, or violative of, any provision of local or special law, regulation or resolution applicable to the Obligor.

We also have examined a certified copy of proceedings of the finance board of the Obligor and other proofs authorizing and relating to the issuance of the Obligations, including the form of the Obligations. In rendering the opinions expressed herein we have assumed (i) the accuracy and truthfulness of all public

records, documents and proceedings, including factual information, expectations and statements contained therein, examined by us which have been executed or certified by public officials acting within the scope of their official capacities, and have not verified the accuracy or truthfulness thereof, and (ii) compliance by the Obligor with the covenants contained in the Arbitrage Certificate. We also have assumed the genuineness of the signatures appearing upon such public records, documents and proceedings and the certifications thereof.

In our opinion:

- (a) The Obligations have been authorized and issued in accordance with the Constitution and statutes of the State of New York and constitute valid and legally binding general obligations of the Obligor, all the taxable real property within which is subject to the levy of ad valorem taxes to pay the Obligations and interest thereon, without limitation as to rate or amount; provided, however, that the enforceability (but not the validity) of the Obligations: (i) may be limited by any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or other law now existing or hereafter enacted by said State or the Federal government affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights, and (ii) may be subject to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases.
- (b) The Obligor has the power to comply with its covenants with respect to compliance with the Code as such covenants relate to the Obligations; provided, however, that the enforceability (but not the validity) of such covenants may be limited by any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency or other law now existing or hereafter enacted by said State or the Federal government affecting the enforcement of creditors' rights.
- (c) Interest on the Obligations is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and is exempt from personal income taxes imposed by the State of New York and any political subdivision thereof (including The City of New York). Interest on the Obligations is not a specific preference item for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax. We express no opinion regarding other tax consequences related to the ownership or disposition of, or the amount, accrual or receipt of interest on, the Obligations.

Certain agreements, requirements and procedures contained or referred to in the Arbitrage Certificate and other relevant documents may be changed and certain actions (including, without limitation, economic defeasance of the Obligations) may be taken or omitted under the circumstances and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such documents.

The opinions expressed herein are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. Such opinions may be affected by actions taken or omitted or events occurring after the date hereof. Accordingly, this opinion is not intended to, and may not, be relied upon in connection with any such actions, events or matters. Our engagement with respect to the Obligations has concluded with their issuance, and we disclaim any obligation to update this opinion. We have assumed, without undertaking to verify, the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the documents. Furthermore, we have assumed compliance with all covenants and agreements contained in the Arbitrage Certificate, including without limitation covenants and agreements compliance with which is necessary to assure that future actions, omissions or events will not cause interest on the Obligations to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes. We call attention to the fact that the rights and obligations under the Obligations and the Arbitrage Certificate and their enforceability may be subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, arrangement, fraudulent conveyance, moratorium or other laws relating to or affecting creditors' rights, to the application of equitable principles, to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases and to the limitations on legal remedies against municipal corporations such as the Obligor in the State of New York. We express no opinion with respect to any indemnification, contribution, penalty, choice of law, choice of forum, choice of venue, or waiver provisions contained in the foregoing documents.

The scope of our engagement in relation to the issuance of the Obligations has extended solely to the examination of the facts and law incident to rendering the opinions expressed herein. Such opinions are not intended and should not be construed to express or imply any conclusion that the amount of real property subject to taxation within the boundaries of the Obligor, together with other legally available sources of revenue, if any, will be sufficient to enable the Obligor to pay the principal of or interest on the Obligations as the same respectively become due and payable. Reference should be made to the Official Statement prepared by the Obligor in relation to the Obligations for factual information which, in the judgment of the Obligor, could materially affect the ability of the Obligor to pay such principal and interest. While we have participated in the preparation of such Official Statement, we have not verified the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the factual information contained therein and, accordingly, we express no opinion as to whether the Obligor, in connection with the sale of the Obligations, has made any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary in order to make any statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

Very truly yours,

/s/ ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP