

This Preliminary Official Statement and the information contained herein are subject to completion or amendment without notice. Under no circumstances shall this Preliminary Official Statement constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the securities in any jurisdiction in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such jurisdiction.

## PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED JANUARY 9, 2018

### RENEWAL ISSUE: BANK QUALIFIED

### BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES

*In the opinion of Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, Bond Counsel to the District, under existing statutes and court decisions and assuming continuing compliance with certain tax certifications described herein, (i) interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and (ii) interest on the Notes is not treated as a preference item in calculating the alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals under the Code. In addition, in the opinion of Bond Counsel to the District, under existing statutes, interest on the Notes is exempt from personal income taxes of New York State and its political subdivisions, including The City of New York. See "Tax Matters" herein.*

*The District will designate the Notes as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" pursuant to the provisions of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.*

## BLIND BROOK-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK

### \$2,100,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES – 2018 (the "Notes")

**Date of Issue: January 25, 2018**

**Maturity Date: January 25, 2019**

The Notes are general obligations of the Blind Brook-Rye Union Free School District, 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 Notes, and, unless paid from other sources, the Notes are payable from ad valorem taxes which may be levied upon all the taxable real property within the District without limitation as to rate or amount.

The Notes will not be subject to redemption prior to maturity.

At the option of the purchaser, the Notes will be issued in (i) registered form, registered in the name of the successful bidder(s) or (ii) registered book-entry form registered to Cede & Co., as the partnership nominee for The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC").

If the Notes are registered in the name of the successful bidder, a single note certificate will be issued for those Notes bearing the same rate of interest in the aggregate principal amount awarded to such purchaser at such interest rate. Principal of and interest on such Notes will be payable in Federal Funds by the District, at such bank or trust company located and authorized to do business in the State of New York as selected by the successful bidders.

If the Notes are issued in book-entry form, such notes will be delivered to DTC, which will act as securities depository for the Notes. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their interest in the Notes. Individual purchases may be made in denominations of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof. A single note certificate will be issued for those Notes bearing the same rate of interest and CUSIP number in the aggregate principal amount awarded to such purchaser(s) at such interest rate. Principal of and interest on said Notes will be paid in Federal Funds by the District to Cede & Co., as nominee for DTC, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to its participants for subsequent distribution to the beneficial owners of the Notes as described herein. Transfer of principal and interest payments to beneficial owners by participants of DTC will be the responsibility of such participants and other nominees of beneficial owners. The District will not be responsible or liable for payments by DTC to its participants or by DTC participants to beneficial owners or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing the records maintained by DTC, its participants or persons acting through such participants. (See "Book-Entry-Only System" herein).

The Notes are offered subject to the final approving opinion of Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, New York, New York, Bond Counsel, and certain other conditions. Capital Markets, LLC has served as Municipal Advisor to the District in connection with the issuance of the Notes. It is expected that delivery of the Notes will be made in New York, New York or as otherwise agreed on or about the Date of Issue specified above.

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"). FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT'S AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE FOR THE NOTES AS DESCRIBED IN THE RULE, SEE "DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING" HEREIN.

January \_\_, 2018

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

President  
JEFFREY DIAMOND

Vice President  
RYAN GOLDSTEIN

Board Members:

DANIEL C. SAVITT  
JEN SCHLACTUS  
ASHLEY R. WELDE

Superintendent of Schools  
DR. JONATHAN ROSS

District Clerk  
VIVIAN GROCCIA

District Treasurer  
VIVIAN GROCCIA

Bond Counsel  
HAWKINS DELAFIELD & WOOD LLP  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

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FINANCIAL ADVISOR



CAPITAL MARKETS ADVISORS, LLC  
Hudson Valley \* Long Island \* New York City \* Southern Tier \* Western New York  
(516) 274-4501

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 Notes by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such offer, solicitation or sale. The information set forth herein has been obtained by the District from sources which are believed to be reliable but it is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness. The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the District since the date hereof.

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## OFFICIAL STATEMENT

### \$2,100,000 Bond Anticipation Notes - 2018

This Official Statement including the cover page, inside cover page and appendices hereto has been prepared by the Blind Brook-Rye Union Free School District, in the County of Westchester, New York (the "District," "County" and "State," respectively) and presents certain information relating to the District's \$2,100,000 Bond Anticipation Notes- 2018 (the "Notes").

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 Notes and the proceedings of the District relating thereto are qualified in their entirety by reference to the definitive forms of the Notes and such proceedings.

## THE NOTES

### Description of the Notes

The Notes will be dated and will mature, without option of prior redemption, as reflected on the cover page hereof.

The District will act as Paying Agent for any Notes issued in book-entry form and the purchaser(s) will serve as paying agent for the Notes registered in the name of the purchaser(s). Paying agent fees, if any, will be paid by the purchaser(s). The District's contact information is as follows: Jonathan Ross, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, 390 North Ridge Street, Rye Brook, NY 10573, Phone: (914)-937-3600x3022, [jross@blindbrook.org](mailto:jross@blindbrook.org).

### Authority For and Purpose of the Issue

The Notes are issued pursuant to the Constitution, the laws of the State, including, among others, the Local Finance Law and Education Law, and a bond resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education on November 6, 2017, following approval of the Bond Proposition by a majority of the qualified voters of the District voting at a Special District Meeting duly called and held on October 17, 2017. Said bond resolution authorizes the issuance of \$44,700,000 serial bonds to pay the cost of construction of alterations and improvements to District buildings and sites thereof. The proceeds of the Notes will provide initial financing for this project.

### Nature of Obligation

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

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

Under the Constitution of the State, the District is required to pledge its faith and credit for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes, and the State is specifically precluded from restricting the power of the District to levy taxes on real estate for the payment of interest on or principal of indebtedness therefore contracted. However, Chapter 97 of the New York Laws of 2011, as amended (the "*Tax Levy Limit Law*"), imposes a statutory limitation on the power of local governments and school districts, including the District, to increase their annual tax levy, with the amount of such year to year increase limited by the formulas set forth in said Tax Levy Limit Law. The Tax Levy Limit Law also provides the procedural method to overcome that limitation. In addition, the Tax Levy Limit Law expressly provides an exclusion from the annual tax levy limitation for any taxes levied to pay the local share of debt service on bonds or notes issued to finance voter approved capital expenditures, or the refinancing or refunding of such bonds or notes. As the Notes are being issued to finance voter approved capital expenditures or refinance notes issued to finance voter approved capital expenditures, the Notes qualify for such exception to the Tax Levy Limit Law. The exclusion does NOT apply to taxes to pay debt service on

tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes, budget notes and deficiency notes; and any obligations issued to finance deficits and certain judgments, including tax certiorari refund payments. (See “*The Tax Levy Limit Law*” herein.)

## REMEDIES UPON DEFAULT

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

Upon default in the payment of principal of or interest on the Notes at the suit of the owner, a Court has the power, in proper and appropriate proceedings, to render judgment against the District. The present statute limits interest on the amount adjudged due to contract creditors to nine per centum per annum from the date due to the date of payment. As a general rule, property and funds of a municipal corporation serving the public welfare and interest have not been judicially subjected to execution or attachment to satisfy a judgment. A Court also has the power, in proper and appropriate proceedings, to order payment of a judgment on such bonds or notes from funds lawfully available therefor or, in the absence thereof, to order the District to take all lawful action to obtain the same, including the raising of the required amount in the next annual tax levy. In exercising its discretion as to whether to issue such an order, the Court may take into account all relevant factors, including the current operating needs of the District and the availability and adequacy of other remedies. Upon any default in the payment of the principal of or interest on the Notes, the owners of such Notes could, among other remedies, seek to obtain a writ of mandamus from a Court ordering the governing body of the District to assess, levy and collect an ad valorem tax, upon all taxable property of the District subject to taxation by the District sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes as the same shall come due and payable (and interest from the due date to date of payment) and otherwise to observe the covenants contained in the Notes and the proceedings with respect thereto all of which are included in the contract with the owners of the Notes. The mandamus remedy, however, may be impracticable and difficult to enforce. Further, the right to enforce payment of the principal of or interest on the Notes may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and similar laws and equitable principles, which may limit the specific enforcement of certain remedies.

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

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

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2 of the State Constitution, the District is required to provide an annual appropriation of monies for the payment of due and payable principal of and interest on indebtedness. Specifically this constitutional provision states: “If at any time the respective appropriating authorities shall fail to make such appropriations, a sufficient sum shall be set apart from the first revenues thereafter received and shall be applied to such purposes. The fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village or school district may be required to set aside and apply such revenues as aforesaid at the suit of any holder of obligations issued for any such indebtedness.” This constitutes a specific non-exclusive constitutional

remedy against a defaulting municipality or school district; however, it does not apply in a context in which monies have been appropriated for debt service but the appropriating authorities decline to use such monies to pay debt service. However, Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State also provides that the fiscal officer of any county, city, town, village or school district may be required to set apart and apply such revenues at the suit of any holder of any obligations of indebtedness issued with the pledge of the faith of the credit of such political subdivision. In *Quirk v. Municipal Assistance Corp.*, 41 N.Y.2d 644 (1977), the Court of Appeals described this as a "first lien" on revenues, but one that does not give holders a right to any particular revenues. It should thus be noted that the pledge of the faith and credit of a political subdivision in the State is a pledge of an issuer of a general obligation bond or note to use its general revenue powers, including, but not limited to, its property tax levy, to pay debt service on such obligations, but that such pledge may or may not be interpreted by a court of competent jurisdiction to include a constitutional or statutory lien upon any particular revenues. The Constitutional provision providing for first revenue set asides does not apply to tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes or bond anticipation notes.

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

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

#### **SECTION 99-B OF THE STATE FINANCE LAW**

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

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

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

## **NO PAST DUE DEBT**

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

## **BANKRUPTCY**

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

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

## **BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM**

In the event that the Notes are issued in registered book-entry form, DTC will act as securities depository for the Notes and the Notes will be issued as fully-registered Notes 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 note certificate will be issued for each Note bearing the same rate of interest and CUSIP number and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world's largest depository, 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 Notes under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Notes 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 Notes 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 Notes, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Notes is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Notes 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 Notes 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 Notes; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Notes 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 Securities 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 Notes unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's 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 Notes are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Principal and interest payments on the Notes 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 Notes 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-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, bond certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.

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.

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Source: The Depository Trust Company



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

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

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

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

The District is dependent in part upon financial assistance from the State in the form of State aid as well as grants and loans to be received ("State Aid"). The District's receipt of State aid may be delayed as a result of the State's failure to adopt its budget timely and/or to appropriate State Aid to municipalities and school districts. Should the District fail to receive all or a portion of the amounts of State Aid expected to be received from the State in the amounts and at the times anticipated, occasioned by a delay in the payment of such moneys or by a reduction in State Aid or its elimination, the District is authorized pursuant to the Local Finance Law ("LFL") to provide operating funds by borrowing in anticipation of the receipt of such uncollected State Aid, however, there can be no assurance that, in such event, the District will have market access for any such borrowing on a cost effective basis. The elimination of or any substantial reduction in State Aid would likely have a materially adverse effect upon the District requiring either a counterbalancing increase in revenues from other sources to the extent available or a curtailment of expenditures. (See also "*State Aid*" herein.)

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

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

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

## **THE STATE COMPTROLLER'S FISCAL STRESS MONITORING SYSTEM**

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.

## **TAX MATTERS**

### **Opinion of Bond Counsel**

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

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

Bond Counsel expresses no opinion regarding any other Federal or state tax consequences with respect to the Notes. Bond Counsel renders its opinion under existing statutes and court decisions as of the issue date, and assumes no obligation to update, revise or supplement its opinion after the issue date to reflect any action hereafter taken or not taken, or any facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to its attention, or changes in law or in interpretations thereof that may hereafter occur, or for any other reason. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion on the effect of any action hereafter taken or not taken in reliance upon an opinion of other counsel on the exclusion from gross income for Federal income tax purposes of

### **Certain Ongoing Federal Tax Requirements and Certifications**

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

## **Certain Collateral Federal Tax Consequences**

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

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

### **Original Issue Discount**

“Original issue discount” (“OID”) is the excess of the sum of all amounts payable at the stated maturity of a Note (excluding certain “qualified stated interest” that is unconditionally payable at least annually at prescribed rates) over the issue price of that maturity. In general, the “issue price” of a maturity means the first price at which a substantial amount of the Notes of that maturity was sold (excluding sales to bond houses, brokers, or similar persons acting in the capacity as underwriters, placement agents, or wholesalers). In general, the issue price for each maturity of the Notes is expected to be the initial public offering price set forth in this Official Statement. Bond Counsel further is of the opinion that, for any Note having OID (a “Discount Note”), OID that has accrued and is properly allocable to the owners of the Discount Notes under Section 1288 of the Code is excludable from gross income for Federal income tax purposes to the same extent as other interest on the Notes.

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

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

### **Note Premium**

In general, if an owner acquires a Note for a purchase price (excluding accrued interest) or otherwise at a tax basis that reflects a premium over the sum of all amounts payable on the Note after the acquisition date (excluding certain “qualified stated interest” that is unconditionally payable at least annually at prescribed rates), that premium constitutes “note premium” on that Note (a “Premium Note”). In general, under Section 171 of the Code, an owner of a Premium Note must amortize the note premium over the remaining term of the Premium Note, based on the owner’s yield over the remaining term of the Premium Note, determined based on constant yield principles (in certain cases involving a Premium Note callable prior to its stated maturity date, the amortization period and yield may be required to be determined on the basis of an earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on such Premium Note). An owner of a Premium Note must amortize the note premium by offsetting the qualified stated interest allocable to each interest accrual period under the owner’s regular method of accounting against the note premium allocable to that period. In the case of a tax-exempt Premium Note, if the note premium allocable to an accrual period exceeds the qualified stated interest allocable to that accrual period, the excess is a nondeductible loss. Under certain circumstances, the owner of a Premium Note may realize a taxable gain upon disposition of the Premium Note even though it is sold or redeemed for an amount less than or equal to the owner’s original acquisition cost. Owners of any Premium Notes should consult their own tax advisors regarding the treatment of note premium for Federal income tax purposes, including various special rules relating thereto, and state and local tax consequences, in

connection with the acquisition, ownership, amortization of note premium on, sale, exchange, or other disposition of Premium Notes.

### **Information Reporting and Backup Withholding**

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

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

### **Miscellaneous**

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

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

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

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

## **LITIGATION**

In common with other school districts, the District from time to time receives notices of claim and is party to litigation. In the opinion of the School District Attorney, unless otherwise set forth herein and apart from matters provided for by applicable insurance coverage, there are no claims or actions pending which, if determined against the District, would have an adverse material effect on the financial condition of the District.

The District's two largest taxpayers have filed tax certiorari petitions under Article 7 of the Real Property Tax Law. Such petitions allege that property values as previously determined are excessive and request assessment reductions and a refund of property taxes previously paid. The aggregate amount of tax refunds claimed, including costs incidental thereto, is \$4,752,354. The District expects to enter into consent judgments with both taxpayers and on January 8, 2018, the Board of Education has adopted a bond resolution to finance said tax refunds. The District expects to finance such judgments in early 2018.

## **DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING**

In order to assist the purchasers in complying with Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (“Rule 15c2-12”) with respect to the Notes, the District will execute a Certificate to Provide Notices of Events, the form of which is attached hereto as Appendix E.

### **Compliance History**

On September 3, 2014, the District filed a material event notice with EMMA regarding the change to the underlying rating of the District by Moody’s Investors Service, as a result of the recalibration of the U.S. municipal ratings from a municipal scale to the global scale in 2010, which resulted in a recalibrated rating of “Aa3”. As this was a system wide recalibration by Moody’s, and not considered an upgrade, a material event notice was not filed at the time.

On September 3, 2014 the District filed a material event notices with EMMA regarding the current ratings of the bond insurer of past bonds issued by the District. Since the fall of 2008, there have been over forty ratings actions on bond insurers by Moody’s, Standard and Poor’s (S&P) and Fitch Ratings (Fitch). Due to widespread knowledge of the downgrades to the bond insurer, material event notices were not filed in each instance.

The District has reviewed and modified its continuing disclosure practices to ensure that all annual filings and material event notices are filed in a timely manner and, to the extent necessary, has also corrected any past failures to file.

## **RATING**

The District did not apply to Moody’s Investor’s Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) for a rating on the Notes.

The District’s underlying credit rating from Moody’s is “Aa2”.

Such ratings reflect only the view of such organization, and an explanation of the significance of such rating may be obtained only from such rating agency, at the following address: Moody’s Investors Service, Inc., 7 World Trade Center at 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 such Notes or the availability of a secondary market for the Notes.

## **MUNICIPAL ADVISOR**

Capital Markets Advisors, LLC, Great Neck and New York, New York, (the “Municipal Advisor”) is an independent municipal advisor registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. The Municipal Advisor has served as the independent financial advisor to the District in connection with this transaction.

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. 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 not a law firm and does not provide legal advice with respect to this or any debt offerings of the District. 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 Notes.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Periodic public reports relating to the financial condition of the District, its operations and the balances, receipts and disbursements of the various funds of the District are available for public inspection at the business office of the District.

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 Purchasers or holders of any of the Notes.

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 sourced 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 disclaims any duty or obligation either to update or to maintain the 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 assumes no liability or responsibility for any errors or omissions or for any updates to dated website information.

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

Additional information may be obtained upon request from Capital Markets Advisors, LLC 516-274-4501 or from the District's Superintendent of Schools (914)-937-3600x3022.

**Dated: January \_\_\_\_, 2018**

**By: JEFFREY DIAMOND  
President of the Board of Education  
and Chief Fiscal Officer**

**APPENDIX A**

**THE DISTRICT**

## DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT

### General Information

The District, with a population of 6,405 people according to the 2014 US Census, is located wholly within the Village of Rye Brook in south-eastern Westchester County (the “County”), approximately 25 miles from Mid-Town Manhattan. An upper middle-class community, nearly all residents of the District are executives or professionals. The District is comprised mainly of single-family homes, with some condominium development and light industry, consisting mainly of office complexes. The Westchester County Airport is partially located within the boundaries of the District.

Municipal services such as water, sewer, police and fire protection are provided to the residents of the District by the Village of Rye Brook (the “Village”). Gas service is provided by Con Edison of New York and electric service is provided by the Power Authority of the Sate of New York, while telephone access is provided by Verizon and Cablevision.

The residents of the District have an excellent transportation network at their disposal. The Hutchinson River Parkway bisects the District, which affords its residents high speed highway access to numerous nearby highways, including 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 and the New England Thruway (I-95) to the east. Electrified Rail Service is available from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro-North Division), which operates stations in nearby Port Chester and Rye.

### Unemployment Rate Statistics

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

	<u>Year Average</u>								
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>				
Westchester County	7.3%	6.2%	5.1%	4.5%	4.2%				
New York State	8.5%	7.7%	6.3%	5.3%	4.8%				
	<u>2017 Monthly Figures</u>								
	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	
Westchester County	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	4.5%	4.6%	4.6%	4.5%	4.4%	
New York State	4.4%	4.2%	4.3%	4.5%	4.9%	4.9%	4.7%	4.6%	

Source: State of New York, Department of Labor. (Note: Figures not seasonally adjusted).



**Ten Largest Taxpayers**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	2017 <u>Assessed Value</u>
Doral Conference Center Assoc.*	Hotel & Conference Center	\$84,368,300
Reckson Operating Partners*	Commercial Offices	84,849,700
Westchester County Airport 7	Airport	44,592,750
VTR Rye Brook, LLC	Commercial Offices	32,805,400
SC Rye Brook Partners	Commercial Offices	24,575,300
Con Edison	Public Utility	16,396,299
Rye King Associates, LLC*	Commercial Offices	15,150,000
Blind Brook Club, Inc.*	Country Club	10,404,800
Iroquois Gas Trans System	Gas Company	9,821,243
Toll Land V Limited Partnership	Home Development	7,937,000

Source: Town Assessment Rolls.

\*Taxpayer has filed tax certiorari claims.

**District Organization**

Subject to the provisions of the State Constitution, the District operates pursuant to the Education Law, the Local Finance Law, other laws generally applicable to the District, and any special laws applicable to the District. Under such laws, there is no authority for the District to have a charter or adopt local laws.

The legislative power of the District is vested in the Board of Education. Under current law, an election is held within the District boundaries on the third Tuesday of May each year to elect members of the Board of Education. They are generally elected for staggered terms of three years.

In early July of each year, the Board of Education meets for the purpose of reorganization. At that time the Board elects a President and Vice President, and appoints a District Clerk and District Treasurer.

**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 and the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Facilities.

**District Facilities**

The District currently operates the following facilities:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year Originally Built</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Present Capacity</u>
Ridge Street School	1946	K-5	800
Blind Brook Middle School	2002	6-8	425
Blind Brook High School	1973	9-12	525

**Enrollment History and Projections**

	<u>2013-14</u>	<u>2014-15</u>	<u>2015-16</u>	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	Projected <u>2018-19</u>	Projected <u>2019-20</u>
K-6	1,508	1,531	1,507	1,467	1,439	1,424	1,397

Source: District records and estimates.

## **DISTRICT INDEBTEDNESS**

### **Constitutional and Statutory Requirements**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Statutory Procedure**

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

The District is generally required by such laws to submit propositions for the expenditure of money for capital purposes to the qualified electors of the District. Upon approval thereby, the Board of Education may adopt a bond resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes in anticipation of the bonds. No down payment is required in connection with the issuance of District obligations. With respect to certain school building construction projects, the District is not permitted to spend in excess of \$100,000 until the plans and specifications for such project have been approved by the Commissioner of Education of the State.

The Local Finance Law also provides a twenty-day statute of limitations after publication of a bond resolution, together with a statutory form of notice which, in effect, estops legal challenges to the validity of obligations authorized by such bond resolution except for alleged constitutional violations. The District has complied with such procedure with respect to the Notes.

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 Notes. However, such finance board may delegate the power to sell the Notes, to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of the District, pursuant to the Local Finance Law.

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

The following table sets forth the computation of the debt limit of the District and its debt contracting margin:

**Computation of Debt Limit and Debt Contracting Margin**

**As of January 2, 2018**

Full valuation of taxable real property .....		\$2,190,441,713
Debt limit (10% of full valuation) .....		219,044,171
Outstanding Indebtedness <sup>1</sup> (Principal Only):		
Bonds .....	\$7,790,000	
Less Exclusion for Estimated Building Aid <sup>2</sup> .....	0	
Total Net Indebtedness .....		<u>\$7,790,000</u>
Net Debt Contracting Margin .....		<u>\$211,254,171</u>
Percentage of Debt Contracting Power Exhausted .....		3.6%

<sup>1</sup> Tax anticipation notes and revenue anticipation notes are not included in the computation of the statutory debt limit of the District.

<sup>2</sup> The District may exclude from gross indebtedness estimated State aid for school building purposes. However, because the District has not applied for a Building Aid Estimate from the Commissioner of Education, no exclusion for such aid is listed in the Debt Statement Summary. Under current law, State Building Aid is, however, currently estimated by the District to be approximately 49% of the total net indebtedness shown above.

**Debt Ratios**

The following table sets forth certain ratios relating to the District's indebtedness as of January 2, 2018.

	<u>Amount</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Per Capita</u> <sup>2</sup>	<u>Percentage of Full Value</u> <sup>3</sup>
Gross Indebtedness (see “ <i>Computation of Debt Limit</i> ”)	\$7,790,000	\$1,216.24	0.36%
Gross Indebtedness plus Net Overlapping Indebtedness (see “ <i>Estimated Overlapping Indebtedness</i> ” herein)	\$10,770,610	\$1,681.59	0.49%

<sup>1</sup> Includes the total of the Bonds and Refunded Bonds.

<sup>2</sup> The current estimated population of the District is 6,405.

<sup>3</sup> The District's full value of taxable real estate for 2016-2017 is \$2,190,441,713.

**Long-Term Debt Service Schedule**

The following table sets forth all principal and interest payments presently required on all outstanding long-term bond indebtedness of the District.

Fiscal Year Ending June 30th	Principal	Interest	Total Principal & Interest
2018	\$1,620,000	\$543,650	\$2,163,650
2019	1,640,000	478,150	2,118,150
2020	1,675,000	403,700	2,078,700
2021	1,710,000	323,250	2,033,250
2022	945,000	236,625	1,181,625
2023	990,000	188,249	1,178,249
2024	1,040,000	137,500	1,177,500
2025	1,090,000	84,250	1,174,250
2026	1,140,000	28,500	1,168,500
Totals	<u>\$11,850,000</u>	<u>\$2,423,874</u>	<u>\$14,273,874</u>

### Lease Financing Obligations

The District leases various equipment under non-cancelable operating leases. The minimum future operating lease payments are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30th	Principal	Interest	Total Principal and Interest
2018	\$182,050	\$63,232	\$245,282
2019	186,193	59,089	245,282
2020	190,430	54,852	245,282
2021	194,763	50,518	245,281
2022	199,195	46,086	245,281
2023-2027	1,066,068	160,338	1,226,406
2028-2031	820,915	37,569	858,484
Totals	<u>\$2,839,614</u>	<u>\$471,684</u>	<u>\$3,311,298</u>

### Outstanding Long-Term Bond Indebtedness

The following table sets forth the total long-term bond indebtedness outstanding for the five most recently completed fiscal years.

<u>Fiscal Year Ending:</u>	<u>Total Bonded Debt</u>
2013.....	\$19,895,000
2014.....	18,265,000
2015.....	15,020,000
2016.....	13,455,000
2017.....	11,850,000

**Capital Project and Tax Certiorari Plans**

On October 17, 2017 the voters of the District approved a bond referendum authorizing the issuance of \$44,700,000 serial bonds to construct alterations and improvements to District school buildings and the sites thereof. This issue will provide initial financing for the project.

On January 8, 2018 the Board of Education adopted a bond resolution authorizing the financing and payment of real property tax refunds pursuant to tax certiorari proceedings brought pursuant to Article Seven of the Real Property Tax Law, and authorizing the issuance of \$4,752,354 serial bonds to finance said appropriation (See “Litigation” herein). The District plans on issuing bonds for this purpose in early 2018.

**Revenue and Tax Anticipation Notes**

The District has not found it necessary to borrow in anticipation of taxes or revenues during at least the past five years.

**Estimated Overlapping Indebtedness**

In addition to the School District, the following political subdivisions have the power to issue obligations and to levy taxes or cause taxes to be levied on taxable real property in the School District. The estimated outstanding indebtedness of such political subdivisions applicable to the District is as follows:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Net Debt Indebtedness</u>	<u>As of:</u>	<u>District’s Share<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Applicable Indebtedness</u>
County of Westchester	\$597,766,156	12/31/16	1.3%	\$777,096
Town of Rye	1,925,000	09/21/17	30.88	594,440
Village of Rye Brook	2,035,000	05//31/16	79.07	<u>1,609,074</u>
Total				<u>\$2,980,610</u>

<sup>1</sup>Source: New York State Comptroller’s Special Report on Municipal Affairs for fiscal year ending in 2016.

**FINANCIAL FACTORS**

District finances are operated primarily through its General Fund. All taxes and most other revenues are paid into this fund and all current operating expenditures are made from it. (A statement of such revenues and expenditures for the five year period ending June 30, 2017 is contained in the Appendix B). The District also has the following funds: Trust and Agency, Special Aid, Special Revenue, School Lunch, Capital Projects and Fiduciary. Capital improvements are generally financed by the issuance of bonds and bond anticipation notes.

**Real Property Tax**

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 \$1000 assessed valuation (exclusive of any library tax), and uncollected taxes for the five most recent fiscal years.

**Real Property Tax, Valuations, Tax Levy, Rates and Uncollected Taxes**

Year Ending June 30:	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Assessed Valuation	\$1,948,633,813	\$1,910,128,309	\$2,011,252,369	\$2,172,992,897	\$2,190,441,713
New York State Equalization Rate	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Full Valuation	\$1,948,633,813	\$1,910,128,309	\$2,011,252,369	\$2,172,992,897	\$2,190,441,713
Total Tax Levy	\$31,604,344	\$32,706,511	\$34,705,367	\$34,937,523	\$35,757,692
Tax Rate Per \$1,000 A.V.					
Homestead	\$16.17	\$17.25	\$17.04	\$15.79	\$16.22
Non-Homestead	26.16	26.09	26.89	25.60	23.41
Uncollected Taxes					
End of Fiscal Year <sup>2</sup>	None	None	None	None	None

<sup>1</sup>See "Tax Collection Procedure."

**Real Estate Property Tax Collection Procedure**

District taxes are collected by the Town's Receivers of Taxes. The first half is due and payable without penalty during the month of September, subject to a 2% penalty if paid during October, 5% if paid during November, 7% if paid during December or January, 10% if paid during February or March and 12% thereafter to the date of sale of tax liens for unpaid taxes. The second half is due and payable without penalty during the month of January, subject to a 10% penalty if paid during February or March and 12% thereafter to the date of sale of tax liens. In Westchester County, taxes are collected by the Towns which are obligated to pay the full amount of the tax levy to the school districts by April 1.

**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 includes 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.

Approximately 6.55% of the District's 2016-2017 school tax levy was exempted by the STAR program and the District has received full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State. Approximately 5.59% of the District's 2017-2018 school tax levy was exempted by the STAR program and the District expects to receive full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State in January, 2018. (See "*State Aid*" herein).

### **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 New Laws of 2011, as amended (herein referred to as the "Tax Levy New 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, and the refinancing or refunding of such bonds or notes, certain pension cost increases, and other items enumerated in the Law. As the Notes are being issued to finance voter approved capital expenditures, the Notes qualify for such exception to the Tax Levy Limit 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.

### **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 in 2014 and 2015 and certain municipal units of government in 2015 and 2016. 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. 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.

Chapter 20 of the Laws of 2015 (“Chapter 20”) introduced a real property tax rebate program that provides state-financed tax rebate checks and credits to taxpayers who are eligible for the STAR exemption in the years 2016-2019. For 2016, eligible taxpayers who resided outside New York City but within the Metropolitan Commuter Transportation District (“MCTD”) received \$130, and eligible taxpayers who resided outside the MCTD received \$185. Credits in 2017-2019 will vary based on a taxpayer’s personal income level and STAR tax savings. Similar to the Chapter 59 real property tax credit, under Chapter 20 the eligibility of real property taxpayers in each year depends on the school district’s compliance with the provisions of the Tax Levy Limitation Law. Unlike Chapter 59, however, for taxpayers other than those living in one of the “Big 4” cities only the compliance of the school district in which the taxpayer resides is relevant. Municipal compliance with the Tax Levy Limitation Law is only required in the case of the “Big 4” cities that have fiscally dependent school districts. In such cases, the joint school/city levy must remain in compliance with the Tax Levy Limitation Law. In either scenario, the relevant jurisdiction (independent school district or joint city/school district) must certify its compliance with the provisions of Chapter 97.

While the provisions of Chapter 59 did not, and the provisions of Chapter 20 do not, directly further restrict the taxing power of the affected municipalities, school districts and special districts, Chapter 59 did, and Chapter 20 does, provide an incentive for such tax levies to remain within the tax cap limits established by the Tax Levy Limitation Law.

### Real Property Taxes

The District derives the major portion of its revenues from a tax on real property (See “*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance-General Fund*” in Appendix B, herein). Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, as amended, imposes a tax levy limitation upon the municipalities, school districts and fire districts in the State, including the District. (See “*The Tax Levy Limit Law*” herein). Property taxes accounted for 83.5% of total General Fund revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, while State aid accounted for 7.1%.

The following table sets forth total general fund revenues and real property tax revenues during the last five fiscal years, and the amounts budgeted the upcoming fiscal year.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Property Taxes</u>		
	<u>Total Revenues<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Real Property Taxes<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Real Property Taxes to Revenues</u>
2013	\$38,480,394	\$31,604,346	82.1%
2014	39,920,785	32,706,511	81.9
2015	40,886,314	33,417,566	81.7
2016	41,336,260	34,705,435	83.9
2017	41,823,643	34,936,024	83.5
2018 (Adopted Budget)	43,915,067	37,875,647	86.2

(1) General Fund.

Source: Audited Financial Statements and Adopted Budgets of the District. See also “*Budgetary Procedure*” herein. Summary itself is not audited.

### State Aid

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



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

**State Aid**

Fiscal Year <u>Ended June 30:</u>	Total <u>Revenues <sup>(1)</sup></u>	Total <u>State Aid</u>	Percentage of Total Revenues <u>Consisting of State Aid</u>
2013	\$38,480,394	\$2,353,646	6.1%
2014	39,920,785	2,465,402	6.2
2015	40,886,314	2,615,983	6.4
2016	41,336,260	2,673,500	6.5
2017	41,823,643	2,945,551	7.0
2018 (Adopted Budget)	43,915,067	2,993,179	6.8

<sup>(1)</sup> General Fund.

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

There can be no assurance that the State appropriation for State aid to school districts will be continued in future years, either pursuant to existing formulas or in any form whatsoever. State aid appropriated and apportioned to the District can be paid only if the State has such monies available therefore. The availability of such monies and the timeliness of such payment could be affected by a delay in the adoption of the State budget or other circumstances including State fiscal stress. In any event, State aid appropriated and apportioned to the District can be paid only if the State has such monies available therefore.

*Potential reductions in Federal aid received by the State.* The State receives a substantial amount of Federal aid for education. Many of the policies that drive this Federal aid are subject to change under the current presidential administration and Congress. However, the State’s current financial projections concerning Federal aid, and the assumptions on which they are based, are subject to revision as more information becomes available about the proposals for Federal tax policy and legislation, health care, including amendments to the Affordable Care Act, infrastructure, taxation, the Budget Control Act of 2011 (as amended), Federal regulatory reform, and other issues that may arise.

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 new 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 medicare rules.

There can be no assurance that the State’s financial position will not change materially and adversely from current projections. If this were to occur, the State would be required to take additional gap-closing actions. Such actions may include, but are not limited to: reductions in State agency operations; delays or reductions in payments to local governments or other recipients of State aid including school districts in the State. Reductions in the payment of State aid could adversely affect the financial condition of school districts in the State. (See also “*Recent Events Affecting New York School Districts.*”)

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.

### **Recent 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.

*School district fiscal year (2013-2014):* The State Legislature adopted the State budget on March 29, 2013. The budget included an increase of \$1.0 billion in State aid for school districts.

*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 districts were required to obtain approval of their revised teacher evaluation plans by November 15, 2015 in order to receive their allotted increase in State aid.

*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 2015-16 budget, \$863 million of which consisted of traditional operating aid. In addition to the \$408 million of expense based aid, the State’s Adopted 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 2017-2018 Enacted Budget provides for school aid of approximately \$25.8 billion, an increase of \$1.1 billion in school aid spending from the 2016-2017 school year. The majority of the increases have been targeted to high need school districts. Expense-based aids to support school construction, pupil transportation, BOCES and special education were continued in full, as is the State’s usual practice. Transportation aid increased by 5.5% and building aid increased by 4.8%. The State’s 2017-18 Enacted Budget continues 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. In addition, the State's Enacted 2017-2018 Budget allows the Governor to reduce aid to school districts mid-year if receipts from the Federal government are less than what was expected. If federal support is reduced by \$850 million or more, the New York State Director of the Budget will develop a plan to make uniform spending reductions by the State. Such plan would take effect automatically unless the State Legislature passes its own plan within 90 days.

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 then 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 State's 2016-2017 Enacted Budget eliminated the remaining balance of the GEA.

The Smart Schools Bond Act (the "SSBA") was passed as part of the State's Enacted 2014-2015 Budget. The Smart Schools Bond Act authorizes the issuance of \$2 billion of general obligation bonds by the State 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.

#### **Other Revenues**

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

### **BUDGETARY PROCEDURES**

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

On May 17, 2016, a majority of the voters of the District approved the District's budget for the 2016-17 fiscal year. A summary of the District's adopted budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year may also be found in Appendix B herein.

On May 16, 2017, a majority of the voters of the District approved the District's budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. A summary of the District's adopted budget for the 206-2017 and 2017-2018 fiscal years may be found in Appendix B herein.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES**

The financial accounts of the District are maintained in accordance with the New York State Uniform System of Accounting for School Districts. Such accounts are audited annually by independent auditors, and are available for public inspection upon request.

## **INVESTMENT POLICY**

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

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

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

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

## **GENERAL FUND OPERATIONS**

Appendix B sets forth the General Fund operations for the last five fiscal years which are derived from Audited Financial Statements on file in the office of the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Facilities.

## **EMPLOYEES**

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

<u>No. of Employees</u>	<u>Union</u>	<u>Contract Expiration Date</u>
151	Blind Brook - Rye Federation of Teachers	June 30, 2021
101	Blind Brook - Rye Employees Local 4060	June 30, 2018
11	Association of Blind Brook - Rye Administrators	June 30, 2018

## **EMPLOYEE PENSION BENEFITS**

New York State Certified employees (teachers and administrators) are members of the New York State Teachers Retirement System (“TRS”). Employer pension payments to the TRS are generally deducted from State aid payments. All non-NYS certified/civil service employees of the District eligible for pension or retirement benefits under the Retirement and

Social Security Law of the State of New York are members of the New York State and Local Employee's Retirement System ("ERS"). Both the TRS and ERS are non-contributory with respect to members hired prior to July 1, 1976. Other than as discussed below, all members of the respective systems hired on or after July 1, 1976 with less than 10 year's full-time service contribute 3% of their gross annual salary toward the cost of retirement programs.

On December 10, 2009, the Governor signed in to law a new Tier 5. The law is effective for new ERS and TRS employees hired after January 1, 2010 and before March 31, 2012. 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 ERS employer pension payment is due on February 1 of each year.

Due to poor performance of the investment portfolio of TRS and ERS during the recent financial crisis, the employer contribution rates for required pension payments to the TRS and ERS increased substantially. To help mitigate the impact of such increases, 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 and expects to continue to pay all payments in full when due.

In addition, 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 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 primary benefit of participation in the SCO plans is the elimination of the uncertainty in the volatility of future pension contribution ARCs in the near term, thereby providing school districts with significant assistance in its ability to create a stable and reliable fiscal plan. The District does not plan to participate in the TRS and ERS SCO program.

## **OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

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

GASB Statement No. 45 (“GASB 45”) of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”), requires state and local governments to account for and report their costs associated with post-retirement healthcare benefits and other non-pension benefits (“OPEB”). GASB 45 generally requires that employers account for and report the annual cost of the OPEB and the outstanding obligations and commitments related to OPEB in essentially the same manner as they currently do for pensions. Under previous rules, these benefits have generally been administered on a pay-as-you-go basis and have not been reported as a liability on governmental financial statements. Only current payments to existing retirees were recorded as an expense.

GASB 45 requires that state and local governments adopt the actuarial methodologies to determine annual OPEB costs. Annual OPEB cost for most employers will be based on actuarially determined amounts that, if paid on an ongoing basis, generally would provide sufficient resources to pay benefits as they come due.

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

GASB 45 does not require that the unfunded liabilities actually be funded, only that the District account for its unfunded accrued liability and compliance in meeting its ARC. Actuarial valuation will be required every 2 years for OPEB plans with more than 200 members, every 3 years if there are less than 200 members. Actuarial valuation will be required every 2 years for the District.

GASB 45 does not require that the unfunded liability actually be amortized nor that it be advance funded, only that the municipality or school district account for its unfunded accrued liability and compliance in meeting its ARC. The District is in compliance with the requirements of GASB 45. The District hired an actuarial firm for the actuarial valuation which calculated an ARC of \$3,363,125 and an unfunded actuarial accrued liability of \$39,538,971 as of July 1, 2016.

Should the District be required to fund its unfunded actuarial accrued OPEB liability, it could have a material adverse impact upon the District’s finances and could force the District to reduce services, raise taxes or both. At the present time, however, there is no current or planned requirement for the District to partially fund its actuarial accrued 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 has decided to continue funding the expenditure on a pay-as-you-go basis.

**End of Appendix A**

**APPENDIX B**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENT SUMMARIES**

**Blind Brook - Rye Union Free School District  
Revenues, Expenditures and Fund Balance  
General Fund**

**APPENDIX B**

Year Ended June 30:	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>REVENUES</b>					
Real Property Taxes	\$31,604,346	\$32,706,511	\$33,417,566	\$34,705,435	\$34,936,024
Other Tax Items	3,443,319	3,434,944	3,332,316	2,593,255	2,450,634
Non Property Taxes	308,655	336,806	330,291	336,179	340,834
Charges for Services	373,733	626,347	659,334	699,511	744,197
Use of Money and Property	267,663	240,949	234,745	140,747	198,926
Sale of Property and Compensation for Loss	4,070	240	4,984	2,380	16,671
State Sources	2,353,646	2,465,402	2,615,983	2,673,500	2,945,551
Federal Sources	2,881	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	122,081	109,586	291,095	185,253	190,806
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>38,480,394</b>	<b>39,920,785</b>	<b>40,886,314</b>	<b>41,336,260</b>	<b>41,823,643</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
General Support	3,740,217	3,799,283	3,600,282	3,392,053	3,444,678
Instruction	22,636,896	23,272,452	23,867,503	24,768,186	25,546,549
Pupil Transportation	1,107,744	1,126,475	1,192,807	1,100,586	1,224,651
Community Services	0	0	0	0	0
Employee Benefits	8,315,657	9,479,391	9,738,950	9,259,591	9,326,756
Debt Service	2,542,937	2,470,550	2,378,004	2,344,040	2,454,806
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>38,343,451</b>	<b>40,148,151</b>	<b>40,777,546</b>	<b>40,864,456</b>	<b>41,997,440</b>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	136,943	(227,366)	108,768	471,804	(173,797)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Operating Transfers In	100,000	100,000	0	0	0
Operating Transfers Out	(31,142)	(30,262)	(32,288)	(132,429)	(34,904)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>68,858</b>	<b>69,738</b>	<b>(32,288)</b>	<b>(132,429)</b>	<b>(34,904)</b>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Sources Over Expenditures and Other Uses	205,801	(157,628)	76,480	339,375	-208,701
Fund Balances (Deficits) - Beginning of Year	4,433,064	4,638,865	4,481,237	4,557,717	4,897,092
Accounting Change Adjustment	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Fund Balances - End of Year</b>	<b>\$4,638,865</b>	<b>\$4,481,237</b>	<b>\$4,557,717</b>	<b>\$4,897,092</b>	<b>\$4,688,391</b>

Source: Annual audited financial statements of the Blind Brook - Rye Union Free School District.  
Summary itself not audited.



**Blind Brook - Rye Union Free School District  
Budget  
General Fund**

**APPENDIX B-1**

	2016-2017 Adopted Budget (1)	2017-2018 Adopted Budget (2)
<u>REVENUES</u>		
Real Property Taxes	\$37,386,170	\$37,875,647
Other Property Tax Items	335,000	325,000
State Aid	2,956,533	2,993,179
Other Sources	999,000	1,152,400
Interfun Transfers	50,000	100,000
Appropriated Fund Balance	<u>1,500,000</u>	<u>1,468,841</u>
Total Revenues	<u><u>\$43,226,703</u></u>	<u><u>\$43,915,067</u></u>
 <u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
General Support	\$3,819,485	\$3,621,397
Instruction	26,023,555	26,760,284
Pupil Transportation	1,247,845	1,333,102
Community Services	1,000	1,000
Employee Benefits	9,643,311	9,750,520
Transfers	36,700	39,832
Debt Service	<u>2,454,807</u>	<u>2,408,932</u>
Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$43,226,703</u></u>	<u><u>\$43,915,067</u></u>

(1) The budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year was approved by voters of the District on May 17, 2016.

(2) The budget for the 2017-2018 fiscal year was approved by voters of the District on May 16, 2017.

Source: Annual budgets of the Blind Brook - Rye Union Free School District.

**Blind Brook - Rye Union Free School District  
Balance Sheets  
General Fund**

**APPENDIX B-2**

As of June 30:	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Cash and Equivalents	\$ 7,025,973	\$ 6,512,307
Receivables:		
Accounts	28,682	11,800
State and Federal Aid	210,311	262,656
Due from Other Governments	84,010	85,618
Due from Other Funds	546,643	494,896
Prepaid Expenditures	<u>334,441</u>	<u>398,661</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u><u>\$8,230,060</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>\$7,765,938</u></u></b>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 223,985	\$ 299,539
Accrued Liabilities	143,525	73,422
Due to Other Funds	0	17,162
Due to Other Governments	76,325	58,828
Due to Retirement Systems	<u>2,889,133</u>	<u>2,628,596</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u><u>3,332,968</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>3,077,547</u></u></b>
<u>FUND BALANCES</u>		
Nonspendable	334,441	398,661
Restricted	1,191,556	1,089,545
Assigned	1,642,027	1,646,141
Unassigned	<u>1,729,068</u>	<u>1,554,044</u>
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<b><u><u>4,897,092</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>4,688,391</u></u></b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>	<b><u><u>\$8,230,060</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>\$7,765,938</u></u></b>

Source: Annual audited financial statements of the Blind Brook - Rye Union Free School District.  
Summary itself not audited.

**APPENDIX C**

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

**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/ES1066511-ES832683-ES1233752.pdf>**

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

**\* Such Financial Statements and opinion are intended to be representative only as of the date  
thereof. Cullen & Danowski, 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

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

January 25, 2018

The Board of Education of the  
Blind Brook-Rye Union Free School District, in the  
County of Westchester, New York

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as Bond Counsel to the Blind Brook-Rye Union Free School District (the "School District"), in the County of Westchester, a school district of the State of New York, in connection with the authorization, sale and issuance of the \$2,100,000 Bond Anticipation Note-2018 (the "Note"), dated and delivered on the date hereof.

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

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

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

2. Under existing statutes and court decisions and assuming continuing compliance with certain tax representations described herein, (i) interest on the Note is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and (ii) interest on the Note is not treated as a preference item in calculating the alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals under the Code.

The Code establishes certain requirements that must be met subsequent to the issuance of the Note in order that the interest on the Note be and remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Code. These requirements include, but are not limited to, requirements relating to the use and expenditure of proceeds of the Note, restrictions on the investment of proceeds of the Note prior to expenditure and the requirement that certain earnings be rebated to the federal government. Noncompliance with

such requirements may cause the interest on the Note to become subject to federal income taxation retroactive to the date of issuance thereof, irrespective of the date on which such noncompliance occurs or is ascertained.

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

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

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

Except as stated above, we express no opinion as to any other federal, state or local tax consequences arising with respect to the Notes or the ownership or disposition thereof. We render our opinion under existing statutes and court decisions as of the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to update, revise or supplement this opinion to reflect any action hereafter taken or not taken, for any facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to our attention, for any changes in law or in interpretations thereof that may hereafter occur or for any other reason. We express no opinion as to the consequence of any change in law or interpretation thereof, or otherwise, that may hereafter be enacted, arise or occur, and we note that such changes may take place or be proposed from time to time. We express no opinion on the effect of any action hereafter taken or not taken in reliance upon an opinion of other counsel as to the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Notes, or under state and local tax laws.

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

Very truly yours,

## APPENDIX E

### UNDERTAKING TO PROVIDE NOTICES OF EVENTS

#### Section 1. Definitions

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

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

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

“Issuer” shall mean the Blind Brook-Rye Union Free School District, in the County of Westchester, a school district of the State of New York.

“MSRB” shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board established in accordance with the provisions of Section 15B(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

“Purchaser” shall mean the financial institution referred to in the Certificate of Determination, executed by the President of the Board of Education as of the date hereof.

“Rule 15c2-12” shall mean Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended through the date of this Undertaking, including any official interpretations thereof.

“Securities” shall mean the Issuer’s \$2,100,000 Bond Anticipation Note-2018, dated January 25, 2018, maturing on January 25, 2019, and delivered on the date hereof.

Section 2. Obligation to Provide Notices of Events. (a) The Issuer hereby undertakes, for the benefit of Holders of the Securities, to provide or cause to be provided to the Electronic Municipal Market Access (“EMMA”) System implemented by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board established pursuant to Section 15B(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or any successor thereto or to the functions of such Board contemplated by the Undertaking, in a timely manner, not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of any such event, notice of any of the following events with respect to the Securities:

- (1) principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (2) non-payment related defaults, if material;
- (3) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;

- (4) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (5) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- (6) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB) or other material notices of determinations with respect to the tax status of the Securities, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Securities;
- (7) modifications to rights of Securities holders, if material;
- (8) Bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
- (9) defeasances;
- (10) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Securities, if material;
- (11) rating changes;
- (12) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the Issuer;

Note to clause (12): For the purposes of the event identified in clause (12) above, the event is considered to occur when any of the following occur: the appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent or similar officer for the Issuer in a proceeding under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or government authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Issuer, or if such jurisdiction has been assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan of reorganization, arrangement or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Issuer;

- (13) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Issuer or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Issuer, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material; and
- (14) appointment of a successor or additional trustee or the change of name of a trustee, if material.

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

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

Section 3. Remedies. If the Issuer shall fail to comply with any provision of this Undertaking, then any Holder of Securities may enforce, for the equal benefit and protection of all Holders similarly situated, by mandamus or other suit or proceeding at law or in equity, this Undertaking against the Issuer and any of the officers, agents and employees of the Issuer, and may compel the Issuer or any such officers, agents or employees to perform and carry out their duties under this Undertaking; provided that the sole and exclusive remedy for breach of this Undertaking shall be an action to compel specific performance of the obligations of the Issuer hereunder and no person or entity shall be entitled to recover monetary damages hereunder under any circumstances. Failure to comply with any provision of this Undertaking shall not constitute an event of default on the Securities.

Section 4. Parties in Interest. This Undertaking is executed to assist the Purchaser to comply with (b)(5) of the Rule and is delivered for the benefit of the Holders. No other person shall have any right to enforce the provisions hereof or any other rights hereunder.

Section 5. Amendments. Without the consent of any holders of Securities, the Issuer at any time and from time to time may enter into any amendments or changes to this Undertaking for any of the following purposes:

- (a) to comply with or conform to any changes in Rule 15c2-12 (whether required or optional);
- (b) to add a dissemination agent for the information required to be provided hereby and to make any necessary or desirable provisions with respect thereto;
- (c) to evidence the succession of another person to the Issuer and the assumption of any such successor of the duties of the Issuer hereunder;
- (d) to add to the duties of the Issuer for the benefit of the Holders, or to surrender any right or power herein conferred upon the Issuer;
- (e) to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision hereof which may be inconsistent with any other provision hereof, or to make any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under this



Undertaking which, in each case, comply with Rule 15c2-12 or Rule 15c2-12 as in effect at the time of such amendment or change;

provided that no such action pursuant to this Section 5 shall adversely affect the interests of the Holders in any material respect. In making such determination, the Issuer shall rely upon an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel.

Section 6. Termination. This Undertaking shall remain in full force and effect until such time as all principal, redemption premiums, if any, and interest on the Securities shall have been paid in full or the Securities shall have otherwise been paid or legally defeased in accordance with their terms. Upon any such legal defeasance, the Issuer shall provide notice of such defeasance to the EMMA System. Such notice shall state whether the Securities have been defeased to maturity or to redemption and the timing of such maturity or redemption.

Section 7. Undertaking to Constitute Written Agreement or Contract. This Undertaking shall constitute the written agreement or contract for the benefit of Holders of Securities, as contemplated under Rule 15c2-12.

Section 8. Governing Law. This Undertaking shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York determined without regard to principles of conflict of law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly authorized, executed and delivered this Undertaking as of **January 25, 2018**.

**BLIND BROOK-RYE UNION FREE SCHOOL  
DISTRICT**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Board of Education and Chief Fiscal Officer