

PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED JANUARY 23, 2018

NEW AND RENEWAL ISSUE

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 Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

CROTON-HARMON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK

\$1,900,000

BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES FOR BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS - 2018 (the "Notes")

Date of Issue: February 14, 2018

Maturity Date: June 15, 2018

The Notes are general obligations of the Croton-Harmon 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 thereof and interest thereon 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. (See "Nature of the Obligation," herein).

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

At the option of the purchaser(s), 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 issued registered in the name of the successful bidder(s), 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(s) at such interest rate(s). Principal of and interest on such Notes will be payable in Federal Funds by the District to the registered owner(s).

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 when, as and if issued and received by the purchaser(s) and subject to the final approving opinion of Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, New York, New York, Bond Counsel, and certain other conditions. It is expected that delivery of the Notes will be made on or about February 14, 2018 in New York, New York, or such place agreed to by the purchaser(s) and the District.

THIS PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT IS IN A FORM "DEEMED FINAL" BY THE DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE 15C2-12 (THE "RULE"). FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT'S AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF EVENTS AS DESCRIBED IN THE RULE, SEE "DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING," HEREIN.

Dated: January ___, 2018

This Preliminary Offering Statement and the information contained herein are subject to completion or amendment without notice. Under no circumstances shall this Preliminary Offering 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 such jurisdiction.

**CROTON-HARMON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK**

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Iris Bugliosi.....President
Andrea Furey Vice President
Sarah Carrier Board Member
Joshua Diamond..... Board Member
Neal Haber Board Member
Elizabeth Lynam Board Member
Giuseppina Miller Board Member

DISTRICT OFFICIALS

Dr. Edward R. Fuhrman..... Superintendent of Schools
Diane L. ChaissanAssistant Superintendent for Business
Dina Mikulewicz..... District Treasurer
Tracey BorgesDistrict Clerk

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

**Nugent & Haeussler, P.C.
Montgomery, New York**

BOND COUNSEL

**Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP
New York, New York**

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR



**Capital Markets Advisors, LLC
Hudson Valley * Long Island * Southern Tier * Western New York
(845) 227-8678**

No dealer, broker, salesman or other person has been authorized by the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District, NY to give any information or to make any representations not contained in this Official Statement and, if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy any of the Notes in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The information, estimates 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. This Official Statement is submitted in connection with the sale of the securities referred to herein and may not be reproduced or used, in whole or in part, for any other purpose.

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OFFICIAL STATEMENT

**CROTON-HARMON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK**

relating to

\$1,900,000

**BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES FOR BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS – 2018
(the “Notes”)**

This Official Statement, which includes the cover page, inside cover page and appendices thereto has been prepared by the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District in Westchester County, in the State of New York (the “District,” “County,” and “State,” respectively), in connection with the sale by the District of \$1,900,000 Bond Anticipation Notes For Building Improvements – 2018 (the “Notes”).

All quotations from and summaries and explanations of the 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 compilation 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 form of the Notes and such proceedings.

THE NOTES

Description

The Notes will be dated and will mature on the date as reflected on the cover page hereof.

The Notes will not be subject to prior redemption prior to maturity. Interest will be calculated on a 30-day month and 360-day year basis, payable at maturity.

Authority for and Purpose of the Notes

The Notes shall be issued pursuant to the Constitution and the Laws of the State and a bond resolution adopted on December 1, 2016, following a Special District meeting held on October 18, 2016 authorizing reconstruction and improvements to District buildings.

The proceeds of the Notes will be used to redeem at maturity on February 15, 2018 the \$1,200,000 Bond Anticipation Notes For Building Improvements – 2017 and provide \$700,000 of new money.

<u>Date Authorized</u>	<u>Original Issue Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Notes Outstanding</u>	<u>Note Money</u>	<u>Amount of the Notes</u>
12/01/16	02/15/17	Improvements to District Buildings	\$1,200,000	\$700,000	\$1,900,000

Nature of the Obligation

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

The Notes will be general obligations of the District and will contain a pledge of the faith and credit of the District for the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. 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 theretofore contracted. However, the Tax Levy Limit Law imposes a statutory limitation on the District's power to increase its annual tax levy. As a result, the power of the District to levy real estate taxes on all the taxable real property within the District is subject to statutory limitations set forth in Tax Levy Limit Law, unless the District complies with certain procedural requirements to permit the District to levy certain year-to-year increases in real property taxes. 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 voter approved capital expenditures, the Notes qualify for such exclusion to the annual tax levy limitation. The exclusion does NOT apply to taxes to pay debt service on tax anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes, budget notes and deficiency notes; and any obligations issued to finance deficits and certain judgments, including tax certiorari refund payments. (See "*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 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 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*, 41 N.Y.2d 644 (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 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 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.

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. 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 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.

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.

BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, will act as securities depository for any Notes issued as book-entry-only Notes. Such 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 and deposited with DTC.

DTC is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over

3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com and 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 note ("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 notes 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 Money Market Instruments (MMI) Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the District as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the 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, note 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, note 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.

Source: The Depository Trust Company

MARKET FACTORS AFFECTING FINANCINGS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE STATE

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

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

THE STATE COMPTROLLER’S FISCAL STRESS MONITORING SYSTEM AND OSC COMPLIANCE REVIEWS

The New York State Comptroller has reported that New York State’s school districts and municipalities are facing significant fiscal challenges. As a result, the Office of the State Comptroller (“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 such website implies no warranty of accuracy of information therein.

The financial affairs of the District are subject to periodic compliance reviews by OSC to ascertain whether the District has complied with the requirements of various State and federal statutes. OSC has not conducted an audit of the District in the last five years.

LITIGATION

In common with other school districts, the District from time to time receives various notices of claim and is party to litigation. In the opinion of the District, 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.

Various property owners have filed certiorari claims under Article 7 of the Real Property Tax Law. These taxpayers assert that their property values, as presently determined, are excessive and request assessment reductions and, in most actions, a refund of property taxes previously paid. It is not possible to provide an estimate of the District's ultimate financial exposure but historically tax certiorari settlements have resulted in assessment reductions and related tax refunds for amounts less than the original claim. In any event, pursuant to applicable law the District may issue bonds to finance tax certiorari refunds should the amount of the refunds exceed the amount on hand therefore. The District has established a tax certiorari reserve, which had a balance of \$5,100,440 as of June 30, 2017.

There are presently two tax certiorari cases for which the District has exposure. Hudson Valley Ventures, Inc. v. Town of Cortlandt and Hudson National Golf Club v. Town of Cortlandt. Although the precise refund liability cannot be computed with respect to these pending proceedings, based upon the case information, approximately \$285,000 in school tax refund exposure is presented (through the current 2017-18 school tax year).

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 pursuant to 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 interest on the Notes, or under state and local tax law.

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 includable 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 (a Note with the same maturity date, interest rate, and credit terms) means the first price at which at least 10% of such maturity was sold to the public, i.e., a purchaser who is not, directly or indirectly, a signatory to a written contract to participate in the initial sale of the Notes. In general, the issue price for each maturity of Notes is expected to be the initial public offering price set forth on the cover page of the Official Statement. Bond Counsel further is of the opinion that, for any Notes 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 “bond premium” on that Note (a “Premium Note”). In general, under Section 171 of the Code, an owner of a Premium Note must amortize the bond 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 Note). An owner of a Premium Note must amortize the bond premium by offsetting the qualified stated interest allocable to each interest accrual period under the owner’s regular method of accounting against the bond premium allocable to that period. In the case of a tax-exempt Premium Note, if the bond premium allocable to an accrual period exceeds the qualified stated interest allocable to that accrual period, the excess is a nondeductible loss. Under certain circumstances, the owner of a Premium 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 Note should consult their own tax advisors regarding the treatment of bond premium for Federal income tax purposes, including various special rules relating thereto, and state and local tax consequences, in connection with the acquisition, ownership, amortization of bond premium on, sale, exchange, or other disposition of Premium 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, could 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) or 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.

DOCUMENTS ACCOMPANYING DELIVERY OF THE NOTES

Absence of Litigation

Upon delivery of the Notes, the District shall furnish a certificate of the School Attorney, dated the date of delivery of the Notes, to the effect that there is no controversy or litigation of any nature pending or threatened to restrain or enjoin the issuance, sale, execution or delivery of the Notes, or in any way contesting or affecting the validity of the Notes or any of the proceedings taken with respect to the issuance and sale thereof or the application of moneys to the payment of the Notes, and further stating that there is no controversy or litigation of any nature now pending or threatened by or against the District wherein an adverse judgment or ruling could have a material adverse impact on the financial condition of the District or adversely affect the power of the District to levy, collect and enforce the collection of taxes or other revenues for the payment of its Notes, which has not been disclosed in this Official Statement.

Legal Matters

Legal matters incident to the authorization, issuance and sale of the Notes are subject to the final 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.

Closing Certificates

Upon the delivery of the Notes, the purchasers will be furnished with the following items: (i) a Certificate of the President of the Board of Education and certain officers of the District to the effect that as of the date of this Official Statement and at all times subsequent thereto, up to and including the time of the delivery of the Notes, this Official Statement did not and does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements herein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, and further stating that there has been no adverse material change in the financial condition of the District since the date of this Official Statement to the date of issuance of the Notes; and having attached thereto a copy of this Official Statement; (ii) a Certificate signed by an officer of the District evidencing payment for the Notes; and (iii) a Signature Certificate evidencing the due execution of the Notes, including statements that (a) no litigation of any nature is pending or, to the knowledge of the signers, threatened, restraining or enjoining the issuance and delivery of the Notes

or the levy and collection of taxes to pay the principal of and interest thereon, nor in any manner questioning the proceedings and authority under which the Notes were authorized or affecting the validity of the Notes thereunder, (b) neither the corporate existence or boundaries of the District nor the title of the signers to their respective offices is being contested, and (c) no authority or proceedings for the issuance of the Notes have been repealed, revoked or rescinded, and (iv) a Tax Certificate executed by the chief fiscal officer of the District, as described under “*Tax Matters*” herein.

DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING

This Official Statement is in a form “deemed final” by the District for the purposes of Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 (the “Rule”). In order to assist the purchasers in complying with the Rule with respect to the Notes, the District will execute an Undertaking to Provide Notices of Events for the benefit of holders of and owners of beneficial interests in the Notes, the form of which is attached hereto as Appendix E to this Preliminary Official Statement.

Compliance History

Since 2007, there have been in excess of 50 rating actions reported by Moody’s Investors Service, Standard & Poor’s Rating Corporation and Fitch Ratings affecting the municipal bond insurance companies, some of which had insured bonds previously issued by the District. Due to widespread knowledge of these rating actions, material event notices were not filed by the District in each instance.

MUNICIPAL ADVISOR

Capital Markets Advisors, LLC, Hopewell Junction, 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.

RATING

The District did not request a rating of the Notes.

The District’s underlying rating by Moody’s Investors Service (“Moody’s”) is “Aa2.”

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information may be obtained upon request from the Assistant Superintendent for Business, Diane Chaissan, 10 Gerstein Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520, (914) 271-4713 ext. 4211, e-mail: diane.chaissan@chufsd.org or from the District's Municipal Advisor, Capital Markets Advisors, LLC, 1075 Route 82 – Suite 4, Hopewell Junction, New York 12533, (845) 227-8678.

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 owners of any of the Notes.

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

CROTON-HARMON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, NEW YORK

By: _____
Iris Bugliosi
President of the Board and Chief Fiscal Officer

DATED: January __, 2018

APPENDIX A

THE DISTRICT

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THE DISTRICT

General Information

The District is located in the northwestern portion of Westchester County, approximately 35 miles north of New York City. The District lies partly within the towns of Cortlandt and Yorktown and includes within its boundaries the Village of Croton-On-Hudson (the “Village”). The District has a land area of approximately fifteen square miles.

The District is primarily suburban-residential in character. Residential development consists mainly of single family homes, in addition to many cooperative and condominium type garden-style apartments. Shopping and commercial activity centers around the business district of the Village and is comprised of retail and specialty shops and related service facilities. Many of the residents of the District commute to New York City where they are employed in executive positions in business and industry, in the professions, or in the arts. Residents also commute to White Plains, Yonkers or other sections of Westchester County.

Rail service is available by the Metro North Railroad. Highways serving the District include the Saw Mill Parkway, Sprain Brook Parkway, State Thruway and State Route 9A. The area is also covered by an extensive network of County and Town roads. In addition, public bus transportation is available in the area. Major airline service is available at the County Airport as well as the three metropolitan New York airports: Kennedy, LaGuardia, and Newark, all of which can be reached within one hour by car.

District Organization

The District is an independent entity governed by an elected board of education comprised of seven members. District operations are subject to the provisions of the State Education Law affecting school districts; other statutes applicable to the District include the General Municipal Law, the Local Finance Law and the Real Property Tax Law.

Members of the Board of Education are chosen on a rotating basis by qualified voters at the annual election of the District. The term of office for each board member is three years and the number of terms that may be served is unrestricted. A president is selected by the board from its members and also serves as the chief fiscal officer of the District. The Board of Education is vested with various powers and duties as set forth in the Education Law. Among these are the adoption of annual budgets (subject to voter approval at a referendum held on the third Tuesday each May), the levy of real property taxes for the support of education, the appointment of such employees as may be necessary, and other such duties reasonably required to fulfill the responsibilities provided by law.

The Board of Education appoints the Superintendent of Schools who serves at the pleasure of the Board. Such Superintendent is the chief executive officer of the District and the education system. It is the responsibility of the Superintendent to enforce all provisions of law and all rules and regulations relating to the management of the schools and other educational, social and recreational activities under the direction of the Board of Education. Also, certain of the financial functions of the District are the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools, the Assistant Superintendent for Business and the 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, the Assistant Superintendent for Business and the District Clerk.

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.

Budgetary Procedure

Annually, pursuant to the Education Law, the District's Board of Education prepares or causes to be prepared a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. This constitutes the preparation of a detailed statement of estimated sums necessary for the various expenditures of the District (tentative budget). The Board subsequently distributes that statement not less than fourteen days prior to the date on which the Annual Meeting is published as required by statute, with a first publication not less than forty-five days prior to the day of election.

During November and December the tentative budget is developed and refined in consultation with school principals and department supervisors. At the February through April meetings of the Board of Education the proposed budget is discussed and further refined. The tentative budget is adopted by the Board at its April meeting and submitted to referendum at the Annual Meeting held on the third Tuesday in May each year. Prior to the Annual Meeting a public hearing is held with respect to the proposed budget.

The District’s budget is subject to the provisions of Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, which imposes a limitation on the amount of real property taxes that a school district may levy, and by law is submitted to referendum on the third Tuesday in May each year. (See “*Tax Levy Limit*” herein).

The Budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year was approved by a majority of the voters of the District on May 16, 2017. See Appendix B for a summary of the 2016-17 and 2017-18 budgets.

School Enrollment Trends

<u>Fiscal Year Ended June 30:</u>	<u>Actual Enrollment</u>	<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>Projected Enrollment</u>
2013	1,727	2019	1,602
2014	1,733	2020	1,580
2015	1,653	2021	1,569
2016	1,650		
2017	1,608		
2018	1,588		

Source: District Officials.

District Facilities

The District presently operates an elementary school, a middle school and a high school; statistics relating to each are shown below.

	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Capacity</u>	<u>Construction</u>	<u>Addition or Renovation</u>
Carrie E. Tompkins Elementary School	K-4	650	1954	1961, 1990, 1992, 2004
Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School	5-8	550	1939	1950, 2004
Croton-Harmon High School	9-12	<u>600</u>	1924	1958, 1975, 2005
Total School Capacity		<u><u>1,800</u></u>		

Employees

The District provides services through approximately 300 full time employees, union and non-union. Union employees are represented by the following units of organized labor.

<u>Number of Employees Represented</u>	<u>Union Representation</u>	<u>Contract Expiration Date</u>
150	Croton-Harmon Teachers Association	06-30-18
22	Croton Custodial Unit	06-30-20
6	Croton Administrators Association	06-30-19
17	CSEA Clerical Unit	06-30-21
40	Amalgamated Transit Union	06-30-20
86	The Aides of Croton United	

Employee 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% (ERS) or 3.5% (TRS) 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.

Pension reform legislation enacted in 2003 and 2004 changed the cycle of ERS billing to match budget cycles of the District. The reform legislation also required the District to make a minimum contribution of 4.5% of payroll every year, including years in which the investment performance of the fund would otherwise make a lower contribution possible.

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 and does not reasonably expect to amortize such contributions in the foreseeable future.

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 payments as described below.

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 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 has not and does not plan to participate in the ERS or TRS SCO program.

Retirement Billing Procedures

TRS. TRS contributions are paid as a reduction in State aid payments due September 15, October 15 and November 15 of the succeeding fiscal year. Any deficiency or excess in TRS contributions are settled on a current basis in the month of January.

ERS. The District’s contributions to ERS and PFRS are due on or before February 1. Such contributions are based on salary estimates for the State fiscal year ending on March 31 of the next calendar year.

The amounts contributed to ERS and TRS for the last five fiscal years ended June 30 and the amounts budgeted for the next fiscal year are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended June 30	ERS	TRS
2013	\$892,694	\$1,814,008
2014	975,049	2,550,311
2015	986,549	2,808,337
2016	837,997	2,216,682
2017	817,372	2,000,740
2018 (Budget)	840,000	2,251,783

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

For a more complete description of pension systems see “Notes to the Financial Statements – Note 8” in the audited financial report.

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 nonpension 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 two years for the District. The District is in compliance with the requirements of GASB 45. The District has determined that its unfunded actuarial accrued liability (“UAAL”) for OPEB as of the valuation date of July 1, 2015 was \$24,699,527. For the year ended June 30, 2017 the District’s ARC was \$1,379,238.

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 legislation or guidelines for the creation and use of reserve funds or irrevocable trusts for the funding of OPEB. The District continues funding the expenditure on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Legislation has been proposed to create an optional investment pool to help the State and local governments fund retiree health insurance and other post-employment benefits. The proposed legislation would authorize the creation of irrevocable OPEB trusts so that the State and its local governments can help fund their OPEB liabilities, establish an OPEB investment fund in the sole custody of the State Comptroller for the investment of OPEB assets of the State and participating eligible local governments, designate the president of the Civil Service Commission as the trustee of the State’s OPEB trust and the governing boards as trustee for local governments and allow school districts to transfer certain excess reserve balances to an OPEB trust once it is established. Under the proposed legislation, there are no limits on how much a local government can deposit into the trust. The District cannot predict at this time whether such proposed legislation will be enacted into law.

Investment Policy

Pursuant to Section 39 of the State's General Municipal Law, the District has an investment policy applicable to the investment of all moneys and financial resources of the District. The responsibility for the investment program has been delegated by the Board of Education to the Deputy Superintendent for who was required to establish written operating procedures consistent with the District's investment policy guidelines. According to the investment policy of the District, all investments must conform to the applicable requirements of law and provide for: the safety of the principal; sufficient liquidity; and a reasonable rate of return.

Authorized Investments. The District has designated three banks or trust companies which are located and authorized to conduct business in the State to receive deposits of money. The District is permitted to invest in special time deposits or certificates of deposit. In addition, the District has authorized pooled investments with NY/CLASS.

In addition to bank deposits, the District is permitted to invest moneys in direct obligations of the United States of America, obligations guaranteed by agencies of the United States where the payment of principal and interest are further guaranteed by the United States of America and obligations of the State. Other eligible investments for the District include: revenue and tax anticipation notes issued by any municipality, school district or district corporation other than the District (investment subject to approval of the State Comptroller); obligations of certain public authorities or agencies; obligations issued pursuant to Section 109(b) of the General Municipal Law (certificates of participation) and certain obligations of the District but only with respect to moneys of a reserve fund established pursuant to Section 6 of the General Municipal Law. The District may also utilize repurchase agreements to the extent such agreements are based upon direct or guaranteed obligations of the United States of America. Repurchase agreements are subject to the following restrictions, among others: all repurchase agreements are subject to a master repurchase agreement; trading partners are limited to banks or trust companies authorized to conduct business in the State or primary reporting dealers as designated by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York; securities may not be substituted; and the custodian for the repurchase security must be a party other than the trading partner. All purchased obligations, unless registered or inscribed in the name of the District, must be purchased through, delivered to and held in the custody of a bank or trust company located and authorized to conduct business in the State.

Collateral Requirements. All District deposits in excess of the applicable insurance coverage provide by the Federal Deposit Insurance Act must be secured in accordance with the provisions of and subject to the limitations of Section 10 of the General Municipal Law of the State. Such collateral must consist of the “eligible securities,” “eligible surety bonds” or “eligible letter of credit” as described in the law.

Eligible securities pledged to secure deposits must be held by the depository or third party bank or trust company pursuant to written security and custodial agreements. The District's security agreements provide that the aggregate market value of pledged securities must equal or exceed the principal amount of deposit, the agreed upon interest, if any, and any costs or expenses arising from the collection such deposits in the event of a default. Securities not registered or inscribed in the name of the District must be delivered, in a form suitable for transfer or with an assignment in blank, to the District or its designated custodial bank. The custodial agreements used by the District provide that pledged securities must be kept separate and apart from the general assets of the custodian and will not, under any circumstances, be commingled with or become part of the backing for any other deposit or liability. The custodial agreement must also provide that the custodian shall confirm the receipt, substitution or release of the collateral, the frequency of revaluation of eligible securities and the substitution of collateral when a change in the rating of a security may cause ineligibility.

An eligible irrevocable letter of credit may be issued, in favor of the District, by a qualified bank other than the depository bank. Such letters may have a term not to exceed 90 days and must have an aggregate value equal to 140% of the deposit obligations and the agreed upon interest. Qualified banks include those with commercial paper or other unsecured or short-term debt ratings within one of the three highest categories assigned by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization or a bank that is in compliance with applicable Federal minimum risk-based capital requirements.

An eligible surety bond must be underwritten by an insurance company authorized to do business in the State which has claims paying ability rated in the highest rating category for claims paying ability by at least two nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The surety bond must be payable to the District in an amount equal to 100% of the aggregate deposits and the agreed interest thereon.

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 Revenues and Expenditures for the five-year period ending June 30, 2017 is contained in Appendix B. As reflected in Appendix B, the District derives the bulk of its annual revenues from a tax on real property. Capital improvements are generally financed by the issuance of bonds, bond anticipation notes and the use of funds reserved for capital improvements.

Real Property Taxes

The District derives a major portion of its revenues from a tax on real property (see “Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance-General Fund” in Appendix B, herein). On June 24, 2011, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 was enacted, which 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.)

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

<u>Real Property Taxes</u>			
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>General Fund Revenues</u>	<u>Real Property Taxes*</u>	<u>Real Property Taxes as A Percentage of General Fund Revenue</u>
2012-13	\$41,354,330	\$31,701,775	76.7%
2013-14	42,456,494	32,480,841	76.5
2014-15	43,451,345	37,883,622	87.2
2015-16	44,294,533	38,491,707	86.9
2016-17	45,323,230	38,568,415	85.1
2017-18 (Budget)	44,974,826	38,623,465	85.8

*Does not include STAR reimbursement or PILOT payments.
Source: Audited Financial Statements and Adopted Budget of the District. Summary itself is not audited.

State Aid

The District receives State aid for operating and other purposes at various times throughout its fiscal year, pursuant to formulas and payment schedules set forth by statute.

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

<u>State Aid</u>			
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>General Fund Revenues (1)</u>	<u>State Aid</u>	<u>State Aid As a Percentage of General Fund Revenue</u>
2012-13	\$41,354,330	\$3,859,681	9.3%
2013-14	42,456,494	4,147,268	9.7
2014-15	43,451,345	4,509,562	10.4
2015-16	44,294,533	4,791,763	10.8
2016-17	45,323,230	5,290,665	11.7
2017-18 (Budget)	44,974,826	5,613,861	12.5

(1) Excludes other financing sources.
Source: Audited Financial Statements and Adopted Budget 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”). The District expects to receive timely STAR aid from the State for the current fiscal year.

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 medicaid rules.

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

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

Events Affecting New York School Districts

The recent history of state aid to school districts in the State for the last five years is as follows:

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.

The Smart Schools Bond Act was passed as part of the Enacted 2014-2015 State Budget. The Smart Schools Bond Act authorizes the issuance of \$2 billion of general obligation bonds to finance improved educational technology and infrastructure to improve learning and opportunity for students throughout the State. The District's estimated allocation of funds is \$3,648,705.

School district fiscal year (2015-2016): The State Legislature adopted the State budget on March 31, 2015. The budget includes an increase of \$1.4 billion in State aid for school districts that is 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 includes an increase of \$991 million in State aid for school districts over the 2015-16 budget, \$863 million of which consists of traditional operating aid. In addition to the \$408 million of expense based aid, the Governor's budget includes a \$266 million increase in Foundation Aid and a \$189 million restoration to the Gap Elimination Adjustment. The majority of the remaining increase includes \$100 million in 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 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 2017-18 Enacted Budget allows the Governor to reduce aid to school districts mid-year if receipts from the Federal government are less than what was expected. The Legislature then will have 90 days to approve the Governor’s plan.

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 Financings of the Municipalities of the State*” herein).

Other Revenues

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

Independent Audits

The District retained the firm of Nugent & Haeussler, P.C., Certified Public Accountants, to audit its financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. Appendix B, attached hereto, presents excerpts from the District's most recent audited reports covering the last five fiscal years. Appendix C contains a link to the last fiscal year audit.

In addition, the District is subject to audit by the State Comptroller to review compliance with legal requirements and the rules and regulations established by the State. See “*The State Comptroller’s Fiscal Stress Monitoring System and OSC Compliance Reviews*” herein.

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REAL PROPERTY TAXES

Assessed and Full Valuations

Valuations, Rates and Tax Levies For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Assessed Values:					
Cortlandt	\$32,042,337	\$31,839,113	\$31,842,725	\$31,784,355	\$31,901,145
Yorktown	<u>1,622,938</u>	<u>1,686,312</u>	<u>1,682,484</u>	<u>1,677,971</u>	<u>1,669,568</u>
Total Assessed Values	<u><u>33,665,275</u></u>	<u><u>33,525,425</u></u>	<u><u>33,525,209</u></u>	<u><u>33,462,326</u></u>	<u><u>33,570,713</u></u>
Equalization Rates: (a)					
Cortlandt	1.86%	2.02%	1.88%	1.84%	1.71%
Yorktown	2.66	2.77	2.51	2.56	2.46
Full Values:					
Cortlandt	1,722,706,290	1,576,193,713	1,730,582,880	1,727,410,598	1,865,564,035
Yorktown	<u>61,012,707</u>	<u>60,877,690</u>	<u>65,722,031</u>	<u>65,545,742</u>	<u>67,868,618</u>
Total Full Values	<u><u>1,783,718,997</u></u>	<u><u>1,637,071,403</u></u>	<u><u>1,796,304,911</u></u>	<u><u>1,792,956,340</u></u>	<u><u>1,933,432,653</u></u>
Tax Rate Per \$1,000 Assessed Value:					
Cortlandt	1,122.84	1,145.54	1,162.67	1,169.08	1,167.15
Yorktown	785.15	835.42	870.93	840.28	811.86
Tax levy (b)	<u><u>\$37,252,720</u></u>	<u><u>\$37,883,621</u></u>	<u><u>\$38,491,707</u></u>	<u><u>\$38,568,414</u></u>	<u><u>\$38,623,465</u></u>
Amount of Levy Uncollected at End of Fiscal Year (c)	None	None	None	None	None

(a) State Board. All equalization rates shown are final.

(b) Gross Levy, prior to additions to or deletions from tax roll and STAR exemption.

(c) See "Tax Collection Procedure."

Source: Town Assessor and District Officials.

Tax Limit

The Constitution does not limit the amount that may be raised by the District-wide tax levy on real estate in any fiscal year. However, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, as amended, imposes a statutory limit on the amount of real property taxes that a school district may levy. (See "*The Tax Levy Limit Law*" herein.)

The Tax Levy Limit Law

Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011, as amended, (herein referred to as the "Tax Levy Limit Law" or "Law") modified previous law by imposing a limit on the amount of real property taxes that a school district may levy. Prior to the enactment of the Law, there was no statutory limitation on the amount of real property taxes that a school district could levy if its budget had been approved by a simple majority of its voters. In the event the budget had been defeated by the voters, the school district was required to adopt a contingency budget. Under a contingency budget, school budget increases were limited to the lesser of four percent (4%) of the prior year's budget or one hundred twenty percent (120%) of the consumer price index ("CPI").

The Tax Levy Limit Law imposes 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, 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 increase in excess of the limit. In the event the voters reject the budget, or a subsequent resubmitted 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.

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

On February 20, 2013, the New York State United Teachers ("NYSUT") and several individuals filed a lawsuit in State Supreme Court in Albany County seeking a declaratory judgment and a preliminary injunction that the Tax Levy Limitation Law is unconstitutional as it applies to public school districts. On September 23, 2014, a justice of the New York State Supreme Court dismissed each of NYSUT's causes of action but granted NYSUT's motion to amend the complaint. NYSUT subsequently served a second amended complaint seeking a preliminary injunction and challenging the Tax Levy Limitation Law as violative of the Education Article of the New York State Constitution, the Equal Protection and Due Process clauses and the First Amendment. On March 16, 2015 a New York State Supreme Court Justice denied NYSUT's motion for a preliminary injunction and dismissed all causes of action contained in NYSUT's second amended complaint. NYSUT appealed the decision to continue its challenge to the constitutionality of the Tax Levy Limitation Law. On May 5, 2016 the Appellate Division upheld the lower court dismissal, noting that while the State is required to provide the opportunity of a sound basic education, the Constitution "does not require that equal educational offerings be provided to every student", and further noted "the legitimate government interest of restraining crippling property tax increases". Press reports indicate that NYSUT is reviewing the decision and is likely to appeal to the Court of Appeals.

Real Property Tax Rebate

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tax Collection Procedures

The real property taxes of the District are collected by the respective Receiver of Taxes for the Towns. 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 the County, taxes are collected by towns which are obligated to pay the full amount of the tax levy to the school districts by April 1. The Towns have the power to issue and sell tax anticipation notes in order to reimburse any uncollected taxes to the District.

The District is not responsible for the collection of taxes of any other unit of government.

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 13.7% of the District’s 2016-17 school tax levy was exempted by the STAR program and the District has received full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State. District official expect a similar percentage of the of the District’s 2017-18 school tax levy to be exempted by the STAR program and the District expects to receive full reimbursement of such exempt taxes from the State in January 2017 (See “State Aid” herein).

Ten of the Largest Taxpayers

<u>2017-18 Tax Year</u>			
<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Percent of Assessed Valuation (1)</u>
City of New York Dept. of Water	Municipal Water	\$5,467,655	16.29%
Consolidated Edison Company	Utility	1,307,278	3.89
Hudson National Golf Club (2)	Golf Club	202,050	0.60
Sky View Haven(2)	Nursing Home	188,800	0.56
Croton Enterprises Ltd.(2)	Shopping Plaza	173,675	0.52
Bari Manor Properties (2)	Apartments	124,325	0.37
Croton View Properties	Shopping Plaza	100,000	0.30
NY Telephone Co	Utility	99,692	0.30
Croton-on-Hudson Realty	Shopping Plaza	92,025	0.27
Rolling Stone Farm LLC		74,875	0.22
Total		<u><u>\$7,830,375</u></u>	<u><u>23.32%</u></u>

(1) Total taxable assessed valuation for FY 2017-18 is \$33,570,713.

(2) Pending tax certiorari.

DISTRICT INDEBTEDNESS

Constitutional Requirements

The State Constitution limits the power of the District (and other municipalities and school districts of the State) to issue obligations and to otherwise contract indebtedness. Such constitutional limitations include the following, in summary form, and are generally applicable to the District and its obligations.

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

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

Payment and Maturity. Except for certain short-term indebtedness contracted in anticipation of taxes or to be paid within three fiscal year periods, indebtedness shall be paid in annual installments commencing no later than two years after the date such indebtedness shall have been contracted and ending no later than the expiration of the period of probable usefulness of the object or purpose as determined by statute or, in the alternative, the weighted average period of probable usefulness of the several objects or purposes for which it is contracted. No installment may be more than fifty per centum in excess of the smallest prior installment unless the Board of Education provides for substantially level or declining debt service in the manner prescribed by the State Legislature. 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 and such required annual installments on its notes.

Statutory Procedure

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

The District is generally required by such laws to submit propositions for the expenditure of money for capital purposes to the qualified electors of the District. Upon approval thereby, the Board of Education may adopt a bond resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes in anticipation of the bonds. With respect to certain school building construction projects, the District is not permitted to spend in excess of \$100,000 for construction costs until the plans and specification 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, stops 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 District purpose authorized by the Legislature of the State of New York provided the aggregate amount thereof shall not exceed ten per centum of the full valuation of taxable real estate of the District and subject to certain enumerated exclusions and deductions such as State aid for building purposes. The constitutional and statutory method for determining full valuation consists of taking the assessed valuation of taxable real estate for the last completed assessment roll and applying thereto the ratio (equalization rate) which such assessed valuation bears to the full valuation; such ratio is determined by the State Board of Real Property Services. The State Legislature is required to prescribe the manner by which such ratio shall be determined by such authority.

There is no constitutional limitation on the amount of real property taxes which may be levied in any fiscal year to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes. Further, the New York Constitution prohibits the State Legislature from restricting the power of the District to levy real estate taxes for the payment of principal of and interest on indebtedness authorized and issued under the Local Finance Law issued prior to the effective date of any such legislation. However, Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2011 imposes a statutory limit on the District’s power to increase its annual real property tax levy, including such taxes to pay the principal of and interest on certain obligations, not including the Notes. (See “Tax Levy Limit Law,” herein).

Statutory Debt Limit and Net Indebtedness

**Computation of Statutory
Debt Contracting Limitation
As of January 16, 2018**

Town	Assessed Valuation	Equalization Ratio (1)	Full Valuation (2)
Cortlandt	\$31,901,145	1.71%	1,865,564,035
Yorktown	1,669,568	2.46	67,868,618
			1,933,432,653
Debt-Contracting Limitation: (10% of Full Valuation)			\$ 193,343,265

(1) ORPTS.
(2) Estimated Full Valuations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.

**Statement of Debt Contracting Power
As of January 16, 2018**

	Amount	Percentage
Debt Contracting Limitation:	\$193,343,265	100.00 %
Gross Indebtedness:		
Serial Bonds (1)	6,915,000	3.58%
Bond Anticipation Notes	2,014,292	1.04
Total Gross Indebtedness	8,929,292	4.62
Less: Exclusions and Deductions	-0-	-0-
Net Indebtedness	8,929,292	4.62
Net Debt Contracting Margin	184,413,973	95.38

(1) Does not include energy performance contract outstanding in the amount of \$2,400,739 as of January 16, 2018.

Short-Term Indebtedness

Pursuant to the Local Finance Law, the District is authorized to issue short-term indebtedness, in the form of notes as specified by such statute, to finance both capital and operating purposes.

Capital Purposes. Bond anticipation notes may be sold to provide moneys for capital projects once a bond resolution has been adopted. Generally, bond anticipation notes are issued in anticipation of the sale of bonds at some future date and may be renewed from time to time for up to five years from the date of issuance. Such notes may not be renewed after the second year unless a legally sufficient principal payment on such notes is made from a source other than the proceeds of bonds or bond anticipation notes. In no event may bond anticipation notes be renewed after the sale of bonds in anticipation of which the notes were originally issued. The District currently has no bond anticipation notes outstanding.

Operating Purposes. The District may also issue tax anticipation notes and revenue anticipation notes to provide cash to finance cash flow deficits. Borrowings for this purpose are restricted by formulas contained in the Local Finance Law and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") and the Regulations there under. Such notes may be renewed from time to time generally not beyond three years in the case of revenue anticipation notes and five years for tax anticipation notes. The District has not issued revenue anticipation notes since 1991. Budget notes may be issued to finance current operating expenditures for which there is no appropriation or the amount appropriated is not sufficient. Generally, the amount of budget notes issued may not exceed 5% of the budget and must be redeemed in the next fiscal year. The District has not issued budget notes during the past five fiscal years.

Tax Anticipation Notes. In common with other school districts in the State, the District periodically borrows in anticipation of the receipt of its real property tax levy. In the past, the District has paid all notes on their due date and such notes have been paid by the end of the fiscal year. The District has not issued tax anticipation notes since 2002 nor do they plan on issuing any in 2017-18.

Bond Anticipation Notes

As of January 16, 2018, the District had the following bond anticipation notes outstanding.

<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Original Issue Date</u>	<u>Amount Outstanding</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
02/15/18	02/15/17	1,200,000	Improvements to District Buildings ⁽¹⁾
10/19/18	10/19/17	814,292	School Buses and Vehicles
		<u>\$2,014,292</u>	

⁽¹⁾ Proceeds of the Notes will be used to redeem these notes at maturity on February 15, 2018.

Energy Performance Contract Lease

The District has an energy performance contract lease outstanding in the amount of \$2,400,739 as of January 16, 2018. Payment for fiscal year 2017-18 is \$268,089, payment in fiscal year 2018-19 is \$297,876 and payments in fiscal years 2019-20 through and including 2025-26 are \$327,664.

Trend of Capital Indebtedness

The following table sets forth the capital indebtedness outstanding at the end of each of the last five fiscal years.

	<u>Fiscal Year Ended June 30:</u>				
	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Bonds	\$22,984,641	\$17,340,000	\$14,855,000	\$12,295,000	\$9,650,000
Bond Anticipation Notes	<u>600,702</u>	<u>750,124</u>	<u>767,461</u>	<u>817,585</u>	<u>2,009,942</u>
Total Outstanding Indebtedness	<u>\$23,585,343</u>	<u>\$18,090,124</u>	<u>\$15,622,461</u>	<u>\$13,112,585</u>	<u>\$11,659,942</u>

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Overlapping Debt and Underlying Debt

In addition to the District, the following political subdivisions have the power to issue bonds and to levy taxes or cause taxes to be levied on taxable real property in the District. The estimated net outstanding indebtedness (bonds and notes) of such political subdivisions, based on information furnished by such entities, but not independently verified, is as follows:

Statement of Direct and Overlapping Indebtedness As of January 16, 2018

Gross Direct Indebtedness	\$8,929,292
Exclusions and Deductions	<u>0</u>
Net Direct Indebtedness	<u>\$8,929,292</u>

<u>Overlapping Units</u>	<u>Date of Report</u>	<u>Net Overlapping Indebtedness</u>	<u>Percentage Applicable To District</u>	<u>Amount Applicable To District</u>
Westchester County	11-15-17	\$557,913,351	1.15%	\$ 6,416,004
Towns:				0
Cortlandt	06-16-17	6,396,000	29.72	1,900,891
Yorktown	12-31-16	24,748,789	1.32	326,684
Village of Croton-on-Hudson	11-17-17	21,034,437	100.00	<u>21,034,437</u>
Total				<u><u>\$29,678,016</u></u>

Debt Ratios

The following table sets forth certain debt ratios relating to the District's indebtedness as of January 16, 2018.

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Debt Per Capita (1)</u>	<u>Debt to Estimated Full Value (2)</u>
Net Direct Debt	\$8,929,292	\$918	0.46%
Net Direct and Overlapping Debt	38,607,308	3,969	2.00

(1) District's population is estimated at 9,726.

(2) The District's full valuation of taxable real estate for fiscal year 2017-18 is estimated to be \$1,933,432,653.

Authorized and Unissued Debt

The District approved a \$20.82 million bond proposition on October 18, 2016 for improvements to various buildings in the District. The District expects to issue a combination of bond anticipation notes and bonds to fund the project over the next several years. After the issuance of the Notes, \$18,920,000 of this authorization remains.

The District also issues annually for the replacement of school buses.

Debt Service Schedule

The following table presents the debt service requirements to maturity on the District's outstanding general obligation bonded indebtedness.

Schedule of Debt Service Requirements

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Principal Payments</u>	<u>Interest Payments</u>	<u>Total Debt Service</u>	<u>Cumulative % Principal</u>
2018 ⁽¹⁾	\$2,735,000	\$304,906	\$3,039,906	43.76%
2019	2,840,000	204,381	3,044,381	66.86
2020	2,940,000	99,141	3,039,141	90.77
2021	<u>1,135,000</u>	<u>22,700</u>	<u>1,157,700</u>	100.00
Totals	<u>\$9,650,000</u>	<u>\$631,128</u>	<u>\$10,281,128</u>	

(1) As of January 16, 2018, the District has paid \$2,735,000 in principal and \$176,966 in interest on serial bonds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. Does not include energy performance contract outstanding in the amount of \$2,400,739 as of January 16, 2018.

ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Population

	<u>Population</u>				
	<u>2000</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>% Change</u>	
				<u>2000-2010</u>	<u>2010-2016</u>
Town of Cortlandt	38,467	41,592	42,576	8.1%	2.4%
Town of Yorktown	36,318	36,081	36,810	(0.7)	1.8
County	923,459	949,113	969,229	2.8	2.1
State	18,976,457	19,378,102	19,697,457	2.1	1.6

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census (American FactFinder).

Income

Per capita money income statistics are not available for the District as such. The data set forth below with respect to the Town of Cortlandt and Town of Yorktown, County and State is included for comparative purposes.

Per Capita Money Income

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Towns:			
Cortlandt	\$42,815	\$49,067	14.6%
Yorktown	44,667	48,188	7.9
County	47,814	49,938	4.4
State	30,948	34,212	10.5

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census (American FactFinder). American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate.

Employment

Average Unemployment Rates

<u>Year</u>	<u>Town of Cortlandt</u>	<u>Town of Yorktown</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>United States</u>
2012	6.8%	7.2%	7.3%	8.5%	8.1%
2013	6.0	6.0	6.2	7.7	7.4
2014	4.8	4.9	5.1	6.3	6.2
2015	4.2	4.4	4.5	5.3	5.3
2016	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.8	4.9
2017 ⁽¹⁾					
Jan	3.8	4.2	4.5	5.0	5.1
Feb	4.2	4.6	4.8	5.1	4.9
Mar	3.6	3.7	4.1	4.4	4.6
Apr	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1
May	3.8	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.1
Jun	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.5
Jul	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.9	4.6
Aug	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.9	4.5
Sep	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.1
Oct	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.6	3.9
Nov	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.5	3.9

(1) Monthly Rates.

Source: New York State Labor Department and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Major Private Sector Employers in the County

<u>Name of Business</u>	<u>Nature of The Business</u>
IBM Corp.	Computer hardware and software
PepsiCo Inc.	Soft drinks and snack foods
Consolidated Edison Inc.	Utility Services
MasterCard	Credit card services
ITT Corp.	Water and fluid management
Westchester Medical Center	Hospital and health care services
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Pharmaceuticals
New York Medical College	Medical college and research
Pace University	Private co-educational university
White Plains Hospital	Hospital and health care services
St. John's Riverside Hospital	Hospital and health care services

Source: The 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of Westchester County. Info was compiled by the Westchester Business Journal as of April 2017.

END OF APPENDIX A

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APPENDIX B

UNAUDITED SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND BUDGETS

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CROTON-HARMON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND
BALANCE SHEET
UNAUDITED PRESENTATION

FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
ASSETS					
Unrestricted Cash	\$ 5,999,133	\$ 6,242,742	\$ 6,493,171	\$ 5,988,133	\$ 5,820,239
Restricted Cash	10,852,010	11,463,226	12,333,004	10,904,963	13,419,655
State and Federal Aid Receivable	120,870	121,320	127,324	110,174	185,264
Due From Other Governments	229,627	220,165	455,008	257,989	311,694
Due From Other Funds	610,420	841,651	428,795	227,360	73,109
Due From Fiduciary Funds	154,338	2,716	0	6,006	5,642
Other Receivables, Net	40,283	13,358	7,361	22,059	21,645
Prepaid Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0
Total Assets	\$ 18,006,681	\$ 18,905,178	\$ 19,844,663	\$ 17,516,684	\$ 19,837,248
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY					
Liabilities:					
Accounts Payable	\$ 861,882	\$ 408,300	\$ 297,853	\$ 361,114	\$ 448,616
Accrued Liabilities	189,391	212,865	157,157	188,979	222,037
Bond Anticipation Notes Payable	0	0	0	0	0
Due To Other Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Due to Fiduciary Funds	0	0	0	0	0
Due To Other Governments	0	15,215	111,730	174,558	431
Due To Retirement Systems	2,222,575	2,946,882	3,212,837	2,552,015	2,359,120
Retained Percentages	0	0	0	0	0
Deferred Revenues	0	0	0	0	0
Total Liabilities	3,273,848	3,583,262	3,779,577	3,276,666	3,030,204
Fund Equity:					
Restricted	10,852,010	11,463,226	12,293,625	10,848,675	13,419,655
Assigned	2,097,236	2,042,659	1,928,421	1,523,456	1,536,428
Unassigned	1,783,587	1,816,031	1,843,040	1,867,887	1,850,961
Total Equity	14,732,833	15,321,916	16,065,086	14,240,018	16,807,044
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$ 18,006,681	\$ 18,905,178	\$ 19,844,663	\$ 17,516,684	\$ 19,837,248

The financial data presented on this page has been excerpted from the audited financial statements of the District. Such presentation, however, has not been audited. Complete copies of the District's audited financial statements are available upon request to the District.

CROTON-HARMON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
UNAUDITED PRESENTATION

FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
REVENUES:					
Real Property Taxes	\$ 31,701,775	\$ 32,480,841	\$ 33,151,769	\$ 33,590,968	\$ 33,826,743
Real Property Tax Items	4,703,237	4,772,029	4,731,853	4,900,739	4,741,672
Non-Property Taxes	456,439	482,617	491,470	496,489	501,661
Charges For Services	202,398	253,386	185,908	203,465	90,682
Use Of Money And Property	119,334	113,282	109,293	91,422	119,069
Sale Of Property And					
Compensation For Loss	115,767	24,356	39,018	18,824	24,808
Miscellaneous	184,380	171,197	222,014	190,452	348,155
State Aid	3,859,681	4,147,268	4,509,562	4,791,763	5,663,585
Federal Aid	11,319	11,518	10,458	10,411	6,855
Total Revenues	41,354,330	42,456,494	43,451,345	44,294,533	45,323,230
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
General Support	5,202,165	5,424,536	5,631,998	5,623,679	5,793,416
Instruction	21,299,272	21,266,839	21,992,570	22,849,823	22,995,840
Pupil Transportation	2,102,705	2,217,703	2,075,936	2,186,329	2,295,318
Community Service	0	0	0	0	0
Employee Benefits	7,412,636	8,286,271	8,548,824	7,944,100	7,857,504
Debt Service	3,404,056	3,479,282	3,581,814	3,517,166	3,572,298
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditures	39,420,834	40,674,631	41,831,142	42,121,097	42,514,376
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	1,933,496	1,781,863	1,620,203	2,173,436	2,808,854
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):					
Reserve Revenues	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Transfers - In	300,000	300,000	0	0	0
Operating Transfers - Out	(1,611,960)	(1,492,780)	(877,033)	(3,998,504)	(241,828)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(1,311,960)	(1,192,780)	(877,033)	(3,998,504)	(241,828)
Excess of Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	621,536	589,083	743,170	(1,825,068)	2,567,026
Fund Equity - Beginning of Year	14,111,297	14,732,833	15,321,916	16,065,086	14,240,018
Change in Fund Balance	0	0	0	0	0
Fund Equity - End of Year	14,732,833	15,321,916	16,065,086	14,240,018	16,807,044

The financial data presented on this page has been excerpted from the audited financial statements of the District. Such presentation, however, has not been audited. Complete copies of the District's audited financial statements are available upon request to the District.

CROTON-HARMON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS

	<u>Budget 2016-17</u>	<u>Budget 2017-18</u>
ESTIMATED REVENUES:		
Real Property Taxes	\$ 38,568,414	\$ 38,623,465
Non-Property Tax Items		
Departmental Income	66,880	40,000
Charges For Services		
County Sales Tax	490,000	508,500
Use Of Money And Property	64,000	64,000
Sale Of Property And Compensation For Loss		
Interfund Revenue		20,000
State Aid	5,290,665	5,613,861
Federal Aid		5,000
Miscellaneous	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>
 TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	 <u>44,579,959</u>	 <u>44,974,826</u>
 APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	 <u>1,326,016</u>	 <u>1,525,000</u>
 TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	 \$ <u>45,905,975</u>	 \$ <u>46,499,826</u>
 APPROPRIATIONS:		
General Support	\$ 5,996,612	\$ 6,035,019
Education	24,362,128	25,226,227
Pupil Transportation	2,529,181	2,531,039
Employee Benefits	9,237,751	8,924,743
Debt Service	3,572,303	3,612,798
Interfund Transfers	<u>208,000</u>	<u>170,000</u>
 TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	 \$ <u>45,905,975</u>	 \$ <u>46,499,826</u>

Source: Adopted budgets of the District.

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APPENDIX C

**LINK TO
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
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/ES1226915.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. Nugent & Haeussler, P.C. 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.**

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APPENDIX D

FORM OF BOND COUNSEL OPINION

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February 14, 2018

The Board of Education of
Croton-Harmon Union Free School District,
in the County of Westchester, New York

We have acted as Bond Counsel to the Croton-Harmon 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 \$1,900,000 Bond Anticipation Notes for Building Improvements - 2018 (the "Notes"), 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 upon 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 obligations of the School District for which the School District has validly pledged its faith and credit and, unless paid from other sources, all the taxable real property within the School District is subject to the levy of ad valorem real estate taxes to pay the 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 certifications 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 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, 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 Note 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 Note, 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 Notes or any proceedings, reports, correspondence, financial statements or other documents, containing financial 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 interests in said Note.

Very truly yours,

APPENDIX E

FORM OF UNDERTAKING TO PROVIDE NOTICES OF EVENTS

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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 Croton-Harmon 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 February 14, 2018.

“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 \$1,900,000 Bond Anticipation Notes for Building Improvements - 2018, dated February 14, 2018, maturing on June 15, 2018, 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 **February 14, 2018**.

CROTON-HARMON UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

By _____
President of the Board of Education and Chief Fiscal Officer

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