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## Ciaschi • Dietershagen • Little • Mickelson & Company, LLP

*Certified Public Accountants and Consultants*

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Frederick J. Ciaschi, C.P.A.

### MANAGEMENT COMMENT LETTER

Board of Education  
Chenango Valley  
Central School District  
Binghamton, New York

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Chenango Valley Central School District (the School District) for the year ended June 30, 2010, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control.

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and, therefore, there can be no assurance that all such deficiencies have been identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This letter summarizes the resolution of prior year comments. This letter does not affect our report dated October 13, 2010 on the financial statements of the School District.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### Long-term Budget, Fund Balance and Reserve Planning

We continue to recommend continued formal long-term (3 to 5 years) budgetary planning in conjunction with the annual budgetary process. We also recommend current fund balance reserve accounts be reviewed to determine appropriate levels from both a short-term and long-term planning perspective regarding appropriation of funds to support the General Fund budget or other specified purposes; especially in anticipation of future state aid shortfalls.

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Impact of Future Standard of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB)

The School District is in the process of assessing the future effects of the following GASB Statement.

*GASB Statement Number 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*

This Statement establishes fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds. The initial distinction that is made in reporting fund balance information is identifying amounts that are considered *nonspendable*, such as fund balance associated with inventories. This Statement also provides for additional classification as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned based on the relative strength of the constraints that control how specific amounts can be spent. Governments also are required to classify and report amounts in the appropriate fund balance classifications by applying their accounting policies that determine whether restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned amounts are considered to have been spent. Disclosure of the policies in the notes to the financial statements is required.

The definitions of the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund type, Capital Projects Fund type, Debt Service Fund type, and Permanent Fund type are clarified by the provisions in this Statement. Interpretations of certain terms within the definition of the Special Revenue Fund type have been provided and, for some governments, those interpretations may affect the activities they choose to report in those funds. The requirements of this statement are effective for your financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2011.

**OTHER MATTERS**

**Prior Year Comment - Resolved**

Capital Project Accounting

Prior Year Finding:

At June 30, 2009, the School District showed \$43,702 remaining from a renovation project, and \$37,843 remaining from 2007-2008 bus purchases. Neither of these projects had expenditures in the 2008-2009 year.

Resolution:

The School District transferred \$81,544 from the Capital Projects Fund to the Debt Service Fund to close these capital projects.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the School District's management and staff for their time and cooperation in aiding us in our audit work. Their assistance resulted in an expedient and efficient audit process.

This communication is intended solely for the use of the Audit Committee, the Board of Education, and management, and others within the Chenango Valley Central School District, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



October 13, 2010  
Ithaca, New York