INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT
TO THE READERS OF HELENSVILLE SCHOOL’S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Helensville School (the School). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Sungesh Singh, using the staff and resources of UHY Haines Norton, to carry out the audit of the financial statements of the School on her behalf.

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the School on pages 3 to 20, that comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2015, the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in net assets/equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion the financial statements of the School:

- present fairly, in all material respects:
- its financial position as at 31 December 2015; and
- its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand and have been prepared in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards with disclosure concessions.

Our audit was completed on 31st May 2016. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis of our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees and our responsibilities, and we explain our independence.

Basis of opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General’s Auditing Standards, which incorporate the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand). Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and carry out our audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

Material misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts and disclosures that, in our judgement, are likely to influence readers’ overall understanding of the financial statements. If we had found material misstatements that were not corrected, we would have referred to them in our opinion.

An audit involves carrying out procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgement, including our assessment of risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the preparation of the School’s financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School’s internal control.
As part of our audit, we assessed the risk of material misstatement arising from the Novopay payroll system, which may still contain errors. As a result, we carried out procedures to minimise the risk of material errors arising from the system that, in our judgement, would likely influence readers’ overall understanding of the financial statements.

An audit also involves evaluating:

- the appropriateness of accounting policies used and whether they have been consistently applied;
- the reasonableness of the significant accounting estimates and judgements made by the Board of Trustees;
- the adequacy of the disclosures in the financial statements; and
- the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We did not examine every transaction, nor do we guarantee complete accuracy of the financial statements.

We believe we have obtained sufficient and appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements for the School that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand.

The Board of Trustees’ responsibilities arise from the Education Act 1989.

The Board of Trustees is also responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Board of Trustees is also responsible for the publication of the financial statements, whether in printed or electronic form.

**Responsibilities of the Auditor**

We are responsible for expressing an independent opinion on the financial statements and reporting that opinion to you based on our audit. Our responsibility arises from the Public Audit Act 2001.

**Independence**

When carrying out the audit, we followed the independence requirements of the Auditor-General, which incorporate the independence requirements of the External Reporting Board.

Other than the audit, we have no relationship with or interests in the School.

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Sugesh Singh
UHY Haines Norton
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Auckland, New Zealand