

**Semi-Annual Report of the Hempstead Union Free School District Monitor
(January 1, - June 30, 2021)**

Introduction

The Hempstead Union Free School District (HUFSD or “the District”) is in the center of Nassau County. It is by several important metrics the poorest and neediest district in the county.

For the 2017-2018 and the 2018-2019 school years, the Commissioner of Education assigned to the HUFSD a Distinguished Educator, Dr. Jack Bierwirth. Although very different than the work of the Monitor, Dr. Bierwirth began a renewal process with the District that continues today. Addressing many of the very same concerns that created the need for the Distinguished Educator continues today as work for the Monitor. Dr. Bierwirth in his reports carefully distinguished between the progress that the District has been making and the fact that the District is not yet successful in terms of student outcomes. The Monitor in his plans will continue to underscore that distinction.

Monitor Appointment

The appointment of the Monitor was made possible by the passage of Chapter 19 of the laws of 2020. The Monitor is appointed by the Commissioner of Education and has the following responsibilities:

- Provide oversight, guidance, and technical assistance related to the fiscal and educational policies, practices, programs and decisions of the District, Board of Education, and Superintendent.
- Serve as an ex-officio member of the Board of Education and as such attend all meetings of the Board.
- In conjunction with the Board develop a financial plan for the District.
- In conjunction with the Board develop an academic improvement plan.
- Starting with the proposed budget for the 2021-2022 school year, annually review the

the education provided to students.

FISCAL

Accomplishments:

- The budget for the 2020-

- The school District was the recipient of substantial sums of temporary financial assistance from the Federal Government in its American Rescue Plan (ARP) and Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) grants. The District will need to monitor expenses to ensure that expenditures are made timely and are consistent with the plans submitted and approved by the State.
- The Front Street elementary school is a facility rented from the Diocese of Rockville Centre. The lease expires at the end of the 2021-22 school year, and the Diocese has decided to rent the facility to another entity. The District will need to find another school for the 350 students attending Front Street by the opening of school in September 2022.
- Renting a school should be viewed as a temporary fix b

VENDOR /

ELENA CACAVAS LLP
6/17/21
ED CULLEN
6/17/21

COMPLAINT INV.
CONSULTANT SERVICES

GRANT PROGRAMS
EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT

CULTURE PLAY		
4/15/21		
HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER	"	"
4/15/21		
RESTORATION HAIR STUDIO	"	"
4/15/21		
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION	"	"
4/15/21		
TIARA ADAMS/DANCING	"	"
4/15/21		
TOUCH POINT PRODUCTIONS	"	"
4/15/21		
MORRISON MENTORS	"	"
4/15/21		
RICHARD CELESTINE CONSULTANTS	"	"
4/15/21		

~~ADDITIONAL INFORMATION~~

REDZ INC.	"	"
5/21/21		
YORK. COMM. COLLEGE	"	"
5/20/21		
ECHO 4 CHANGE INC.	"	"
5/20/21		
JAQUELINE THOMAS	"	"
5/21/21		
QUEENSBORO COMM COLLEGE	"	"
5/21/21		
VYUSE	"	"
6/17/21		
LI DISP. RES. CTR.	"	"
6/29/21		
R CELESTINE CONS.GROUP	"	"
6/29/21		