

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH  
SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA**

Annual Financial Report

June 30, 2023



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## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board Members of the  
Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund  
of the Bienville Parish School Board  
Arcadia, Louisiana

### Report on the Financial Statement

#### Opinions

We have audited the accompanying statement of fiduciary net position and the statement of changes in fiduciary net position of the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund of the Bienville Parish School Board, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the basic financial statement, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net position and changes in fiduciary net position of the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund of the Bienville Parish School Board as of June 30, 2023 and for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Custodial Fund of the Bienville Parish School Board and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Custodial Fund of the Bienville Parish School Board's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's reports that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatements of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Custodial Fund of the Bienville Parish School Board's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Custodial Fund of the Bienville Parish School Board's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statement. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statement in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

*Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements of the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund of the Bienville Parish School Board. The other information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The accompanying other information, as listed in the table of contents, has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 8, 2023 on our consideration of the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA  
December 8, 2023

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA  
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
June 30, 2023**

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<b>Assets</b>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 124,760
Accounts Receivable - Sales Tax Vendors	<u>1,475,707</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>1,600,467</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	805
Deposits Due Others	1,599,662
Taxes Paid Under Protest from Restricted Assets	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>1,600,467</u>
<b>Net Position</b>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA  
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
June 30, 2023**

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Additions	
Sales Tax Collections, Net	\$ 14,329,658
Deductions	
Taxes Distributed to Others	
Bienville Parish School Board	3,707,102
Bienville Parish School Board Special	3,707,371
Bienville Parish Police Jury	3,707,051
City of Arcadia	2,195,208
Town of Gibsland	150,387
Town of Ringgold	722,604
Village of Castor	102,411
Village of Saline	<u>37,524</u>
Total Deductions	<u>14,329,658</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Fiduciary Net Position	-
<b>Net Position, Beginning</b>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Position, Ending</b>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA**

**Notes to Basic Financial Statements**

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**Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The accompanying financial statements of the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund of the Bienville Parish School Board has been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

**A. Reporting Entity**

The Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund (the Tax Custodial Fund) has been formed under joint agreement of the Bienville Parish School Board (the School Board), the Bienville Parish Police Jury (the Parish), the City of Arcadia, the Town of Gibsland, the Town of Ringgold, and the Village of Castor for the collection of sales and use taxes and other fees, in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 33:2844. The Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund charges the joint governments a collection fee of 1.5% of total collections to cover its operating costs.

For financial reporting purposes, in conformity with GASB standards, the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund is a custodial fund of the Bienville Parish School Board. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements present only the accounts of the Tax Custodial Fund and is not intended to present the financial position and results of operations of the Bienville Parish School Board in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund is included as part of the financial statements of the Bienville Parish School Board.

**B. Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting**

A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

The Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund is a fiduciary fund.

**Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary funds account for assets held by the government in a trustee capacity or as an agent on behalf of outside parties, including other governments, or on behalf of other funds within the government.

*The Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund* - This fund accounts for the collection and distribution of sales and use taxes imposed by the various taxing authorities within Bienville Parish. The Tax Custodial Fund is custodial in nature and does not present results of operations or have a measurement focus. The Tax Custodial Fund is accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting.

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA**

**Notes to Basic Financial Statements**

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**Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**C. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and time deposit accounts. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the Tax Custodial Fund may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana.

**D. Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Note 2. Deposits**

At June 30, 2023, the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund had cash and cash equivalents (book balance) totaling \$124,760.

Deposits are stated at cost, which approximates fair value. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank.

*Interest Rate Risk:* The School Board's policy does not address interest rate risk.

*Custodial Credit Risk:* The School Board's policy regarding custodial credit risk is that funds on deposit shall be collateralized in an amount at all times equal to 100% by pledged "approved securities" as specified by R.S. 39:1225 as amended to adequately protect the funds of the School Board.

**Note 3. Accounts Receivable**

At June 30, 2023, the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund had \$1,475,707 in accounts receivable which represents sales tax collections in July 2023 for June 2023 sales. No allowance for doubtful accounts has been established as the Tax Custodial Fund expects to collect these balances in full.

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA**

**Notes to Basic Financial Statements**

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**Note 4. Sales Tax Collections and Disbursements (Cash Basis)**

The following is a schedule of the sales tax collections and disbursements on a cash basis collected on behalf of payments made to local governmental entities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023:

	Total Collections	Collection Fees	Attorney and Audit Fees	Total Disbursements
Town of Arcadia (2.5%)				
Town of Arcadia 1993 (1%)	\$ 892,327	\$ 13,171	\$ 1,072	\$ 878,083
Town of Arcadia 2013 (1.5%)	1,338,491	19,758	1,609	1,317,125
	<u>2,230,818</u>	<u>32,929</u>	<u>2,681</u>	<u>2,195,208</u>
Town of Gibsland (2%)				
Town of Gibsland 1983 (1%)	76,413	1,128	92	75,194
Town of Gibsland 2013 (1%)	76,413	1,128	92	75,194
	<u>152,827</u>	<u>2,256</u>	<u>184</u>	<u>150,387</u>
Town of Ringgold (2%)				
Town of Ringgold 1972 (1%)	367,163	5,420	441	361,302
Town of Ringgold 1992 (1%)	367,163	5,420	441	361,302
	<u>734,326</u>	<u>10,839</u>	<u>882</u>	<u>722,604</u>
Bienville Parish School Board (2%)				
School Board 1978 (1%)	3,767,351	55,721	4,528	3,707,102
School Board Special 1994 (1%)	3,767,619	55,721	4,527	3,707,371
	<u>7,534,969</u>	<u>111,441</u>	<u>9,055</u>	<u>7,414,473</u>
Bienville Parish Police Jury (1%)	3,767,181	55,606	4,525	3,707,051
Village of Castor (1%)	104,073	1,536	126	102,411
Village of Saline (1%)	38,044	474	46	37,524
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 14,562,237</u>	<u>\$ 215,081</u>	<u>\$ 17,498</u>	<u>\$ 14,329,658</u>

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA  
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023**

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The Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund is a custodial fund of the Bienville Parish School Board. The schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to agency head for the Bienville Parish School Board is included in the audit report for the Bienville Parish School Board.

**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING  
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN  
AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board Members of the  
Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund  
of the Bienville Parish School Board  
Arcadia, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the statement of fiduciary net position and the statement of changes in fiduciary net position of the Bienville Parish Tax Custodial Fund (the Tax Custodial Fund) of the Bienville Parish School Board as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 8, 2023.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Tax Custodial Fund's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Custodial Fund's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Custodial Fund'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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Tax Custodial Fund's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tax Custodial Fund's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Tax Custodial Fund's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "LaForte".

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA  
December 8, 2023

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA  
Schedule of Findings and Responses  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023**

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**Part I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

Financial Statements

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Type of auditor's report  | Unmodified    |
| 2. Internal control over financial reporting                                     |               |
| a. Material weaknesses identified?   | None Reported |
| b. Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses? | None Reported |
| c. Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted?                     | None Reported |

Federal Awards

Not applicable.

**Part II. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

None.

**BIENVILLE PARISH TAX CUSTODIAL FUND  
OF THE BIENVILLE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD  
ARCADIA, LOUISIANA  
Summary Schedule of Prior Year Findings and Responses  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2023**

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None.