June 21, 1999

Mr. D. Michael Wescott, Asst. Superintendent
Frankenmuth School District
941 East Genesee
Frankenmuth, Michigan 48734

Dear Mr. Wescott:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the School Code Sinking Fund requirements. Pursuant to Department of Treasury Letter No. 01—95, you are requesting and opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in both Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the attached project list, letter, dated June 1, 1999, appears to meet the requirements of both the act and the numbered letter with the clarification that expansion and repair of the List Elementary parking lot includes only new construction and repair and does not include any regular maintenance projects.

If I can assist further let me know.

Sincerely,

Mark Hilpert, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services

Attachment
Linda Rairigh
Local Audit and Finance Div.
Mich. Dept. of Treasury
4th Floor Treasury Building
Lansing, Mich. 48922

Dear Ms. Rairigh,

I would like to submit the following Sinking Fund expenditures we are planning during the 1999-00 school year.

1. Expansion and repair to List Elementary parking lot.
2. Purchase of modular classroom at List Elementary.

Would you please forward your opinion regarding whether these expenditures comply with the restrictions in both Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
D. Michael Wescott, Asst. Sup't.
Frankenmuth School District
941 E. Genesee St.
Frankenmuth, Mi. 48734
May 19, 2000

Mr. Robert M. Thrun
Thrun, Maatsch and Nordberg
P.O. Box 40699
Lansing, Michigan 40699

Dear Mr. Thrun:

Thank you for your recent letter on behalf of Freeland Community Schools regarding the School Code Sinking fund requirements. You are requesting an opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in both Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the attached project list/letter, dated March 31, 2000, appears to meet the requirements of the act.

If I can assist further let me know.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mark A. Hipert, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services

Attachment

c: Mr. Allen Veenkust, Freeland Community School District
March 31, 2000

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Mrs. Linda Rairigh
Municipal Finance Division
Michigan Department of Treasury
Fourth Floor, Treasury Building
Lansing, Michigan 48922

Re: Proposed Use of Building and Site Sinking Fund Monies

Dear Mrs. Rairigh:

Freeland Community Schools has requested the Department’s opinion on the permissible use of building and site sinking funds for certain school building projects. Please review the proposed uses itemized on the attached and provide an opinion whether the listed projects may be funded through a building and site sinking fund.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

THRUN, MAATSCH AND NORDBERG, P.C.

Robert M. Thrun
(517) 374-8870

RMT/kg

Enclosure
March 31, 2000

Thrun, Maatsch and Nordberg, P.C.
Attorneys and Counselors At Law
Attn: Mr. Bob Thrun
Suite 500, 501 South Capital Avenue
P.O. Box 40699
Lansing, MI 48901-7899

Dear Mr. Thrun:

I am writing this letter as a follow-up to our telephone conversation yesterday to have you obtain Department of Treasury approval in writing for use of our district's Sinking Fund for both roof replacement and facade replacement. The approval requested is for district roof replacement work in excess of 100,000 square feet at our Learning Center, Elementary School and Jr/Sr High School buildings and for facade replacement in excess of 2,000 linear feet on the upper part of the exterior walls at our Jr/Sr High School. The roof replacement is required due to actual leaks being experienced, failing seams, and the fact that we have exceeded the useful life of the roofing material. The facade replacement at the Jr/Sr High School is required due to shifting, sagging, and cracked facade, rusted/deteriorated fasteners, and safety concerns.

Please advise if we need to provide you any further information. Thank you for your assistance in obtaining Department of Treasury approval.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Allen Veenkant
Assistant Superintendent

c: Linda Sanborn
Pat Hart
Jodi Rokosz
dotapr

BOARD OF EDUCATION

655
June 3, 2003

Mr. Arthur J. Bolt
Assistant Superintendent of Business
Hudsonville Public Schools
3886 Van Buren
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426

Dear Mr. Bolt:

Thank you for your letter regarding the School Code sinking fund requirements. You are requesting an opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in section 1212 of Public Act 451 of 1976, as amended, the Revised School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the items listed in your correspondence dated May 21, 2003, meet the requirements of the act.

If I can assist further let me know.

Sincerely,

Frederick Headen, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services
Mr. Frederick Headen, Director  
Bureau of Local Government Services  
Department of Treasury  
430 W. Allegan  
Lansing, MI 48997  

Dear Mr. Headen:  

The Hudsonville Public School District currently levies a Building & Site Sinking Fund millage. It is the district’s desire to use this fund to complete the following work at the Freshman Campus Building:  

- Removal of existing stone ballast and membrane roofing system.  
- Install new 60 mil EPDM roofing membrane over 3.5 inch rigid insulation.  
- Replace all flashings and drip edges.  

Please review this proposal and notify us of your opinion at your earliest convenience.  

Sincerely,  

Arthur J. Bolt  
Aust. Supt. Of Business  

AJB/csw  
cc: Roxanne DeWeerd, Supt.
September 6, 2002

Mr. Arthur J. Bolt
Hudsonville Public Schools
3856 Van Buran
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426

Dear Mr. Bolt:

Thank you for your letter regarding the School Code Sinking Fund requirements. You are requesting an opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the items listed in your correspondence dated January 22, 2002, meet the requirements of the Act.

If I can assist further let me know.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Frederick Haden, Acting Director
Bureau of Local Government Services

Attachment
January 22, 2002

Mr. Mark A. Hilpert, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services
Department of Treasury
430 W. Allegan
Lansing, MI 48922

Dear Mr. Hilpert:

The Hudsonville Public School District currently levies a Building & Site Sinking Fund millage. It is the district’s desire to use this fund to complete the following work at the High School site:

- Pulverize existing asphalt track
- Compact soils at track location
- Replace with new asphalt surface

Please review this proposal and notify us of your opinion.

Sincerely,

Arthur J. Bolt

cc: Ms. Roxanne DeWeerd, Supt.
January 9, 2002

Mr. Arthur J. Bolt, Assistant Superintendent of Business
Hudsonville Public Schools
3886 Van Buren
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426

Dear Mr. Bolt:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the School Code Sinking fund requirements. You are requesting an opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the items listed in your correspondence dated November 30, 2001, meet the requirements of the Act.

If I can assist further let me know.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Hilpert, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services

Attachment
November 30, 2001

Mr. Mark A. Hilpert, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services
Department of Treasury
430 W. Allegan
Lansing, MI 48922

Dear Mr. Hilpert:

The Hudsonville Public School District currently levies a Building & Site Sinking Fund millage. It is the district’s desire to use this fund to complete the following work at the athletic stadium complex:

- Build a storage building to store athletic equipment.
- Site work will consist of an asphalt drive, concrete sidewalks, regrading of the site and restorative seeding.
- A concrete retaining wall to create a level platform for the building.
- The building will consist of concrete footings, foundations and floor. The walls will consist of wood studs and metal siding. The roof will be shingled with asphalt shingles.

Please review this proposal and notify us of your opinion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Arthur J. Bolt
Asst. Supt. of Business

AJB/csw

cc: Ms. Roxanne DeWeerd, Supt.
Mr. Patrick Berardo, Thrun, Maatsch, Nordberg
September 7, 2001

Mr. Arthur J. Bolt,
Asst. Supt. of Business
Hudsonville Public Schools
3886 Van Buren
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426

Dear Mr. Bolt:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the School Code Sinking fund requirements. You are requesting an opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the items listed in your correspondence dated August 20, 2001 meet the requirements of the act.

If I can assist further let me know.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Hilpert, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services

Attachment
August 20, 2001

Ms. Linda Rairigh, Manager
Michigan Department of Treasury
430 W. Allegan
Lansing, MI 48922

Dear Ms. Rairigh:

The Hudsonville Public School District currently levies a Building & Site Sinking Fund Millage. It is the district’s desire to use this fund to complete the following work at the Freshman Campus Building:

- Remove existing roof overhang that was damaged by ice. Replace the roof overhang with a new steel supported overhang. Frame in with wood and cover with new aluminum fascia and soffit.

- Remove existing roofing and insulation and replace with new membrane roofing and rigid insulation.

Please review this proposal and notify us of your opinion at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Arthur J. Bolt
Asst. Supt. of Business

cc: Ms. Roxanne DeWeerd, Supt.
Mr. Gordon Bulleordorp, GMB
Mr. Patrick Berardo, Thrun, Maatsch, Nordberg
June 21, 2001

Mr. Arthur J. Bolt, Asst. Superintendent of Business
Hudsonville Public Schools
3856 Van Buren
Hudsonville, Michigan 49426

Dear Mr. Bolt:

Thank you for your recent letters regarding the School Code Sinking fund requirements. You are requesting an opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in both Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the attached project lists/letters, dated May 16, 2001 and May 29, 2001, appear to meet the requirements of the act.

If I can assist further let me know.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Hilpert, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services

Attachment
May 16, 2001

Ms. Linda Rainigh, Manager
Michigan Department of Treasury
430 W. Allegan
Lansing, MI 48922

Dear Ms. Rainigh:

The Hudsonville Public School District currently levies a Building & Site Sinking Fund Millage. It is the district's desire to use this fund to complete the following work at the Forest Grove Elementary Building:

- Addition of a sidewalk from the south side of the building near the kindergarten extending down to the parking/bus loop to the southwest of the entry, including 4" concrete walk, thickened to 1" thick at edges to accommodate handrails, galvanized handrail on each side of the walk, and repairing of disturbed grass along the sidewalk.
- Replacement of deteriorating exterior gymnasium doors, framing, and glass block. Includes the removal of the existing, replacing the glass block with concrete block and exterior insulation finish system, replacing the hollow metal doors and frames with aluminum doors, frames and new hardware, painting new concrete block and sealant between the new construction and the existing.

Please review this proposal and notify us of your opinion at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Arthur J. Bolt
Asst. Supt. of Business

cc: Mr. Donald VanDoeselaar, Supt.
Mr. Gordon Builtenborg, GMB
Mr. Patrick Berardo, Thrun, Maatsch, Nordberg

RECEIVED
Dept. of Treasury
MAY 18 2001

LOCAL AUDIT & FINANCE DIV
May 29, 2001

Ms. Linda Rainrigh, Manager
Michigan Department of Treasury
430 W. Allegan
Lansing, MI 48922

Dear Ms. Rainrigh:

The Hudsonville Public School District currently levies a Building & Site Sinking Fund Millage. It is the district’s desire to use this fund to complete the following work at the Freshman Campus Building: Remove existing roof overhang, including failing wood structure, fascia, soffit, drip edge, roofing membrane, insulation, and roof deck. Install new steel plates on existing structure and castilever to create new structure for new roof overhang. Build new overhang, fascia and soffit. Install new roof insulation, membrane and drip edge.

Please review this proposal and notify us of your opinion at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Arthur J. Bolt
Asst. Supt. Business

AJB/csw
Mr. David Van Ginthoven, Business Services Director
Zeeland Public Schools
P.O. Box 110
Zeeland, Michigan 49464

Dear Mr. Van Ginthoven:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the School Code Sinking Fund requirements. Pursuant to Department of Treasury Letter No. 01–95, you are requesting an opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in both Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the attached project list letter, dated June 6, 1997, appears to meet the requirements of both the act and the numbered letter with the following clarifications:

1. Hardware changes on doors are not acceptable expenditures from a sinking fund.
2. Painting of new construction is acceptable. Painting previously painted surfaces is considered to be maintenance and is not acceptable.
3. Repairing damage done to the gym floor by resurfacing is acceptable. Resurfacing of a re-occurring nature to maintain the floor is not acceptable.
4. Landscaping that is not of a re-occurring nature is acceptable. Examples of landscaping that is of a re-occurring nature include wood chips, and planting of perennial flowers.
5. Repairs can be paid from sinking fund money for asphalt driveways, sidewalks, and fencing if they are truly repairs and not maintenance.

I also agree with your position that it is impractical to request Department of Treasury approval for each purchase order. We do not require a school district to obtain approval from the Department in any instance. Because the penalty for a violation is so steep, we do recommend that a school district obtain a letter such as this annually (more or less often at your discretion) to cover yourself.

If I can assist further, let me know.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Hilpert
Deputy State Treasurer

Attachment
June 6, 1997

Ms. Linda Rairigh
Michigan Department of Treasury
Lansing, MI 48922

Dear Ms. Rairigh:

Re: School District Sinking Fund Expenditures

Each year at this time, the Zeeland Public School District establishes its budget for the building and site sinking fund projects. The school district has for many years levied a building and site sinking fund for providing ongoing repairs to its existing sites and making improvements and construction additions to facilities.

As you are aware, there is currently a great deal of discussion about the manner in which business officials should request expenditures for sinking building and site programs. In fact, it has been suggested that each time a purchase order is initiated, the Department of Treasury should approve it first with yourself as the approving representative. It is my belief that this is an impractical way to manage a school district building and site sinking fund just as it would be to manage any other part of the school district. However, I concurred with the guidelines and recommendations as established by the Department of Treasury sent to school districts in June 1995.

For clarification, I will describe the projects to be addressed in this 1997-98 school year.

- Major renovation to our district transportation area with the removal and installation of new underground storage tanks.
- Ongoing renovations to insure that the district complies with the American Disability Act (including modification to doors and barrier free washrooms).
- An addition to our athletic concession stand area that coincides with the growth of our district and the growing student population we serve.
- Major painting projects exceeding the amounts defined in 1267 of school code. These are projects initially a part of a planned bond issue, however, due to restrictions in budget - were not able to be accomplished in the bond issue and have been left for allocation and expense under the building and site sinking fund program.
- Major revision to our current electrical service for our pool area.
- The district will be looking at a complete gym floor resurface for one of our middle schools; partially due to steam leakage that damaged the middle school floor.
- Allocations to be used for wiring and cabling for technology enhancements.
- Repairs to existing classrooms including replacement of doors, windows, and carpeting; exceeding the amount defined in 1267 of the school code.
- Improvements to landscaping at our middle school and high school sites (these are landscaping improvement originally planned to be a part of the 1994 bond issue. However, again, funds were not available and the district is obligating funds for landscaping these sites over the next several years).
- Repairs to asphalt driveways, sidewalks, fencing, and other issues relating to student/pedestrian and vehicle safety.

Gary L. Feenstra
Superintendent of Schools

Susan Andringa
Administrative Assistant

Zeeland Public Schools, with family and community, will prepare students for a lifetime of learning.
It is our belief based upon the school code sinking fund requirements that each of these projects can be accomplished and stay within school code section 1212. In addition, the district has its general fund, building and site fund above may be inappropriate, please respond in writing to the school district before July 1, 1997.

Sincerely,

Dave Van Ginhoven
Residence Services Director

/msa

cc: Gary L. Fenstra, Superintendent of School
    Ronald Weathous, Facilities and Operations Director
May 19, 2000

Mr. Donald C. Schaadig, Business Manager
Rogers City Area Schools
251 West Huron Avenue
Rogers City, Michigan 49779

Dear Mr. Schaadig:

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the School Code Sinking fund requirements. You are requesting an opinion regarding whether specific expenditures comply with the restrictions in both Section 1212 of the School Code and the interpretations of the Department of Treasury.

In my opinion, the attached project list/letter, dated April 7, 2000, appears to meet the requirements of the act, with the following exceptions:

- Lockers are considered to be equipment and are not allowable sinking fund expenditures unless they are structurally designed to be part of the building, are permanently mounted into the walls and are a part of the structure.
- Remodeling and renovation of central office structural changes are acceptable uses of sinking fund money, but it cannot be used to furnishing or equipping the office.
- Engineering/Architect services are acceptable if their services were for engineering and architectural services related entirely to projects that are allowable sinking fund expenditures.

If I can assist further let me know.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Mark A. Hilpert, Director
Bureau of Local Government Services

Attachment

www.treasury.state.mi.us
April 07, 2000

Ms. Linda Rairigh
Department of Treasury
Treasury Building
Lansing, Michigan 48922

Dear Ms. Rairigh:

We are asking for your opinion regarding the appropriate use of our building and site fund for the following expenditures:

1. High school bleacher replacement - $50,000
2. Replace lockers in the high school locker rooms - $25,000
3. Replace carpeting in elementary school classrooms
4. Replace or install new fencing around playgrounds and the athletic field - $15,000
5. Replace hallway floor covering in the junior high school - $15,000
6. Replace all lighting fixtures in the high school with new high efficiency lighting - $70,000
7. Replace all exterior doors at the elementary school - $30,000
8. Install new curbing and parking lot surfacing at the elementary and high school - $40,000
9. Replace steam boiler at the elementary school - $25,000
10. Renovate bathrooms at the high school for handicapped accessibility.
11. Roof replacement at the middle school - $100,000
12. Install drainage and blacktop gravel parking lot - $30,000
13. Asbestos abatement, including air monitoring - $6,000
14. Installing vinyl covering over wood fascia at the elementary school - $8,000
15. Window replacement at the elementary school - $20,000
16. Remodeling and renovation of central office - $40,000
17. Engineering/Architect services.

Thank you for your evaluation and response.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Donald C. Schaedig
Business Manager

DCS:sh