

Board Office Use: Legislative File Info.	
File ID Number	15-0583
Introduction Date	3/25/15
Enactment Number	15-0413
Enactment Date	3/25/15 oc



OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

Memo

To Board of Education

From Vernon Hal, Senior Business Officer
Jacqueline P. Minor, General Counsel

Board Meeting Date March 25, 2015

Subject **Agreement – Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP, Certified Public Accounts – Financial Services**

Action Requested Approval of Agreement between the District and Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP, Certified Public Accounts, for the latter to conduct the Annual Audits for the District for the Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Background By letter to the Board President dated February 4, 2015 from State Controller Betty T. Yee, the District was authorized to retain VTD to conduct the District’s financial and compliance audits. The Agreement with VTD secures the services of VTD to perform the District’s audits for Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Discussion The Agreement with Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP is for four years, at a cost of \$177,000 per fiscal year.

Recommendation Approval of Agreement between the District and Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP, Certified Public Accounts, for the latter to conduct the Annual Audits for the District for the Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Fiscal Impact General Fund

Attachments

- Agreement with Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP
- Letter to the Board President dated February 4, 2015, State Controller Betty T. Yee



March 13, 2015

Governing Board
Oakland Unified School District
1011 Union Street
Oakland, CA 94607

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Oakland Unified School District (the District) for the fiscal years ending year ending June 30, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016. We will audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the District as of, and for the fiscal years ended, June 30, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016.

Accounting standards generally accepted in the United States provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI), such as management's discussion and analysis (MD&A), to supplement the District's basic financial statements. Such 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 statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. As part of our engagement, we will apply certain limited procedures to the District's RSI in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These limited procedures will consist of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We will not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance. The following RSI is required by generally accepted accounting principles and will be subjected to certain limited procedures, but will not be audited:

- 1) Management's discussion and analysis.
- 2) Budgetary comparison schedule for General and County School Service Funds
- 3) Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) funding progress

Supplementary information other than RSI also accompanies The District's financial statements. We will subject the following supplementary information to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and will provide an opinion on it in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

- 1) Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, if required.
- 2) Schedule of Average Daily Attendance.
- 3) Schedule of Instructional Time.
- 4) Reconciliation of Annual Financial and Budget Report with Audited Financial Statements.
- 5) Schedule of Financial Trends and Analysis.
- 6) Schedule of Charter Schools, if required.
- 7) Note To Supplementary Information
- 8) Combining Statements – Non-Major Governmental funds

Audit Objectives

The objective of our audits is the expression of opinions as to whether your basic financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole. The objective also includes reporting on—

- Internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Internal control related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*.

The *Government Auditing Standards* report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states (1) that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance, and (2) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. The OMB Circular A-133 report on internal control over compliance will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of OMB Circular A-133, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. We will issue written reports upon completion of our Single Audit. Our reports will be addressed to governing board of the District. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions or add emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraphs. If our opinions on the financial statements or the Single Audit compliance opinions are other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue reports, or may withdraw from this engagement.

Management Responsibilities

Management is responsible for the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein. Management is also responsible for identifying all federal awards received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements, and for preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in accordance with the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. As part of the audit, we will assist with preparation of your financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes. These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under *Government Auditing Standards* and such services will not be conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, related notes, and any other

nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including internal controls over compliance, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities, to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met and that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; for the fair presentation in the financial statements of the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities also include identifying significant vendor relationships in which the vendor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the management representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud or illegal acts affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud or illegal acts could have a material effect on the financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. Management is also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, or abuse that we report. Additionally, as required by OMB Circular A-133, it is management's responsibility to follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings and to prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a corrective action plan.

You are responsible for preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in conformity with OMB Circular A-133. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to [include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards that includes our report thereon OR make the audited financial statements readily available to intended users of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards no later than the date the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is issued with our report thereon]. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with OMB Circular A-133; (2) you believe the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, including its form and content, is fairly presented in

accordance with OMB Circular A-133; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

You are also responsible for the preparation of the other supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon OR make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying for us previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

Audit Procedures—General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements or noncompliance may exist and not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, any fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential, and of any material abuse that comes to our attention. We will include such matters in the reports required for a Single Audit. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about your responsibilities for the financial statements; schedule of expenditures of federal awards; federal award programs; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by generally accepted auditing standards.

Audit Procedures—Internal Controls

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the government and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

As required by OMB Circular A-133, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-133.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and OMB Circular A-133.

Audit Procedures—Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the District's compliance with provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of those procedures will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to *Government Auditing Standards*.

OMB Circular A-133 requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the District's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on the District's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-133.

Administration, Fees, and Other

We may from time to time, and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers, but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, or other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. It is management's responsibility to submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditors' reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. If applicable, we will provide copies of our report for you to include with the reporting package you will submit to pass-through entities. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 days after receipt of the auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period, unless a longer period is agreed to in advance by the cognizant or oversight agency for audits.

We will provide copies of our reports to the District; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP and constitutes confidential information. However, pursuant to authority given by law or regulation, we may be requested to make certain audit documentation available to the State of California, State Controller's Office, or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of seven years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the SCO, or Pass-through Entity. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

Leonard Danna is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit.

The maximum annual fee for auditing services under the terms of this contract will be as follows:

Year ending June 30:	
2013	\$ 177,000
2014	\$ 177,000
2015	\$ 177,000
2016	\$ 177,000

Additional audit fees may be assessed if additional auditing services are provided for additional audit procedures required due to the lack of preparation for the audit on the part of the District. These fees shall be in addition to the above maximum fee for audit services. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if your account becomes 90 days or more overdue and may not be resumed until your account is paid in full. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report(s). You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of termination. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.

If a dispute arise amount the parties hereto, the parties agree first to try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation administered by the American Arbitration Association under its Commercial Mediation Rules before resorting to litigation. The costs of any mediation proceedings shall be shared equally by all parties. The District and Auditors both agree that any dispute over fees charged by the accountant to the client will be submitted for resolution by arbitration in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association. Such arbitration will be binding and final. IN AGREEING TO ARBITRATION, WE BOTH ACKNOWLEDGE THAT, IN THE EVENT OF DISPUTE OVER FEES, EACH OF US IS GIVING UP THE RIGHT TO HAVE THE DISPUTE DECIDED IN A COURT OF LAW BEFORE A JUDGE OR JURY AND INSTEAD WE ARE ACCEPTING THE USE OF ARBITRATION FOR RESOLUTION.

Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP has owners that are not licensed as certified public accountants as permitted under Section 5079 of the California Business and Professions Code. It is not anticipated that any of the non-licensure owners will be performing audit services for the agency.

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any letter of comment, and any subsequent peer review reports and letters of comment received during the period of the contract. Our 2011 peer review report accompanies this letter.

Oakland Unified School District

March 13, 2015

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We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to Oakland School District and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Yours very truly,



Leonard Danna
of Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Oakland Unified School District.

By: 

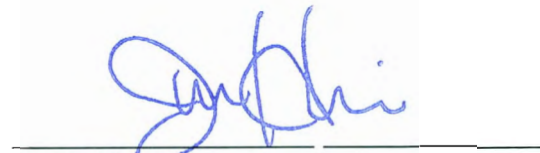
Title: Senior Business Officer

Date: 3/17/15

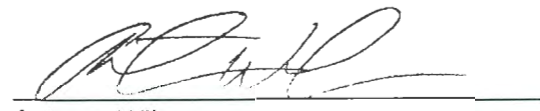
Agreement with Vavrinek, Trine, Day , Co. LLP, Certified Public Accounts and the Oakland Unified School District to Conduct the Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016



Vernon Hal, Senior Business Officer




James Harris
President, Board of Education



Antwan Wilson
Superintendent and Secretary, Board of Education

Approved As to Form



Jacqueline Minor, General Counsel

File ID Number: 15-0583
Introduction Date: 3/25/15
Enactment Number: 15-0413
Enactment Date: 3/25/15
By: 012

YANARI WATSON MCGAUGHEY P.C.

DALE M. YANARI (1947-2004) ♦ RANDY S. WATSON ♦ G. LANCE MCGAUGHEY
FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS/CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

System Review Report

May 25, 2012

To the Partners of
Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP
and the National Peer Review Committee

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP (the firm) applicable to non-SEC issuers in effect for the year ended December 31, 2011. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review are described in the standards at www.aicpa.org/prsummary.

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards* and audits of employee benefit plans.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP applicable to non-SEC issuers in effect for the year ended December 31, 2011, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail*. Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP has received a peer review rating of *pass*.

Yanari Watson McGaughey P.C.
Yanari Watson McGaughey P.C.

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FAX (303) 792-5153
web site: www.ywmcpa.com



BETTY T. YEE
California State Controller

February 4, 2015

James Harris, President
Oakland Unified School District, District 7
Office of the Board of Education
1000 Broadway, Suite 680
Oakland, CA 94607-4099

Re: Oakland Unified School District Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 2012-13

Dear Mr. Harris:

This is in response to your letter dated January 13, 2015, in which you requested that the Oakland Unified School District's (District) required annual financial and compliance audit for fiscal year (FY) 2012-13 be performed by an independent auditor, selected by the District.

The Controller has been conducting the annual financial and compliance audits for the District since FY 2002-03, when the District received an emergency apportionment loan from the State. In prior audits, the Controller's Office was unable to render an opinion on the District's financial statements, and there were numerous internal control findings, and state and federal audit findings. However, for the FY 2011-12 audit, the Controller's Office was able to render an opinion and the number of audit findings was greatly reduced.

California Education Code section 41320.1(d) states that when an emergency apportionment loan is disbursed, and every year thereafter, the Controller, or his or her designee, shall conduct the required annual financial and compliance audits of the District. At the Controller's discretion, the audit may be conducted by the Controller, his or her designee, or an auditor selected by the school district and approved by the Controller.

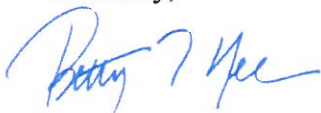
This law also states the Controller shall conduct quality control reviews of the audit working papers of the independent auditor to determine whether the audits are performed in accordance with applicable auditing standards.

Based on the results of the District's FY 2011-12 financial and compliance audit, which was conducted by the Controller's Office and issued in November 2014, I will approve the District's request to select Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Company, LLP to conduct the FY 2012-13 financial and compliance audit of Oakland Unified School District. However, as noted above, the Controller's Office will conduct a quality control review of the audit working papers after the audit report is issued.

James Harris
February 4, 2015
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If you have any questions, please contact Jeffrey V. Brownfield, Chief of my Division of Audits, by phone at (916) 324-1696.

Sincerely,



BETTY T. YEE
California State Controller

cc: Tom Torlakson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Education
Nick Schweizer, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Education
Peter Foggiano, Director, School Fiscal Services Division, Department of Education
Arlene Matsuura, Education Fiscal Services Consultant, School Fiscal Services Division
California Department of Education
L. Karen Monroe, Superintendent, Alameda County Office of Education
Carlene Naylor, State Trustee, Oakland Unified School District
Vernon Hal, Senior Business Officer, Oakland Unified School District
Ruth Alahydroian, Chief Financial Officer, Oakland Unified School District
Jeffrey V. Brownfield, Chief, Division of Audits, State Controller's Office
Carolyn Baez, Bureau Chief, Division of Audits, State Controller's Office