

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

BETH A. WOOD, CPA



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

STATEWIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT PROCEDURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016



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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
Office of the State Auditor



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State Auditor

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AUDITOR'S TRANSMITTAL

The Honorable Pat McCrory, Governor
Members of the North Carolina General Assembly
The State Board of Education
Dr. June St. Clair Atkinson, School Superintendent
Department of Public Instruction

As part of our audit of the State of North Carolina's financial statements, we have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governmental Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, selected elements of the Department of Public Instruction's financial statements, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016. Our audit was performed by authority of Article 5A of Chapter 147 of the *North Carolina General Statutes*.

Our audit objective was to render an opinion on the State of North Carolina's financial statements and not the Department's financial statements. However, the report included herein is in relation to our audit scope at the Department and not to the State of North Carolina as a whole. The State Auditor expresses an opinion on the State's financial statements in the *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report* published by the North Carolina Office of State Controller.

North Carolina General Statutes require the State Auditor to make audit reports available to the public. Copies of audit reports issued by the Office of the State Auditor may be obtained through one of the options listed in the back of this report.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth A. Wood".

Beth A. Wood, CPA
State Auditor

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S 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**

The State Board of Education
and Management of the Department of Public Instruction

As part of our audit of the State of North Carolina's financial statements, we have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Governmental Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, selected elements of the Department of Public Instruction's financial statements, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016. Our report on the State of North Carolina's financial statements is included in the State's *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*. Our financial statement audit scope at the Department of Public Instruction included the following:

- General Fund

The audit results described below are in relation to our audit scope at the Department and not to the State of North Carolina as a whole.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Department's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the State's financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department'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 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 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 State's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of the Department's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. 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 results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Beth A. Wood, CPA
State Auditor

Raleigh, North Carolina

December 2, 2016

ORDERING INFORMATION

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For additional information contact:
Bill Holmes
Director of External Affairs
919-807-7513



This audit was conducted in 385 hours at an approximate cost of \$39,655.