



# *Zelenkofske Axlerod LLC*

**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

EXPERIENCE | EXPERTISE | ACCOUNTABILITY

March 14, 2024

Board of Directors  
Gateway School District

We have audited the financial statements of Gateway School District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated March 14, 2024. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

## **Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit**

As communicated in our engagement letter dated July 28, 2023, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of its respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of Gateway School District solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

## **Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit**

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

## **Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence**

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, and our firm have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

## **Significant Risks Identified**

We have identified the following significant risks:

- Management override of controls
- Improper revenue recognition due to error or fraud

Although these significant risks were identified, we designed our audit procedures to mitigate the risks.



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## **Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices**

### *Significant Accounting Policies*

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by Gateway School District is included in Note 1 to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during the year ended June 30, 2023. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

### *Significant Accounting Estimates*

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are:

Management's estimate of the useful lives of capital assets used to calculate depreciation expense was based on a straight-line method which is taken over the useful life of the asset.

Management's use of an actuary to estimate the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources for pensions, and deferred inflows of resources for pensions.

Management's use of an actuary to estimate the net OPEB liability and deferred outflows of resources for OPEB and deferred inflows of resources for OPEB.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates and determined that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

### *Financial Statement Disclosures*

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting Gateway School District's financial statements relate to:

The disclosure of Pension Benefits in Note 8 to the financial statements is based upon information provided by an actuary.

The disclosure of the post-employment benefits in Note 13 to the financial statements is based upon information provided by an actuary.

## **Significant Unusual Transactions**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to communicate to you significant unusual transactions identified during our audit. We encountered no significant unusual transactions during our audit.

## **Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.



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## **Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. Management has corrected all identified misstatements.

In addition, professional standards require us to communicate to you all material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures. None of the misstatements identified by us as a result of our audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

## **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to Gateway School District's financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

## **Circumstances that Affect the Form and Content of the Auditor's Report**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards require that we communicate any circumstances that affect the form and content of our auditor's report. No circumstances affect the auditor's report.

## **Representations Requested from Management**

We have requested certain written representations from management, which are included in the management representation letter dated March 14, 2024.

## **Management's Consultations with Other Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

## **Other Significant Matters, Findings or Issues**

In the normal course of our professional association with Gateway School District, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, significant events or transactions that occurred during the year, operating conditions affecting the entity, and operating plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the Gateway School District's auditors.

## **Restriction on Use**

This information is intended solely for the use of the board of directors, and management of Gateway School District and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

*Zelenkofske Axlerod LLC*

Zelenkofske Axlerod LLC  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania