

## MANAGEMENT LETTER

September 20, 2023

The Audit Committee, Board of Education,  
and Management  
Akron Central School District

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the remaining fund information of Akron Central School District (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the District'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 statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. In addition, because of inherent limitations in internal control, including the possibility of management override of controls, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected by such controls. 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.

## OBSERVATIONS

### **General fund unassigned fund balance**

The unassigned fund balance in the general fund was \$5,097,000 at June 30, 2023 and represents 14.1% of the 2024 budget. As you are aware, the legal limit imposed by the state is 4% of the general fund's subsequent year budget.

### **Excess fund balance in the food service fund**

In accordance with regulations of the New York State Education Department, fund balance in the food service fund should not exceed three months' average expenditures, as defined, at any time. The District exceeded this limit for the past two years as a result of COVID-related shutdowns and additional funding even though the fund balance decreased \$120,000 during 2023. District management should submit a plan to the Child Nutrition Program Administration detailing its plans to use the excess balance. Allowable uses include improving the quality of food served or purchasing needed supplies, services, or equipment.

### ACCOUNTING STANDARDS UPDATE

GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*, is effective for the District's year ending June 30, 2024. This statement defines four categories of accounting changes and error corrections along with the required reporting requirements, which include the following: (1) *Change in accounting principle* with retroactive reporting to the earliest period presented and required financial statements footnote disclosures including an explanation as to why the change is preferable, (2) *Change in accounting estimate* with prospective reporting from the period when change occurs and required financial statement footnote disclosures, (3) *Change to or within the entity* with an adjustment to beginning net position and (4) *Error correction* with retroactive reporting to the earliest period presented and required financial statement footnote disclosures.

GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, is effective for the District's year ending June 30, 2025. This statement clarifies what is considered unused leave balances for employees. Under this statement, compensated absences should be recognized as liabilities on the government-wide statements for leave that has not been used and leave that has been used but not yet paid or settled.

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We have discussed these comments with District personnel and would be pleased to discuss them in further detail, perform any additional studies, or assist you in implementing the recommendations.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the District's management, Audit Committee and Board of Education; others within the District; the NYS Education Department Office of Audit Services; and the Office of the NYS Comptroller, Division of Local Government and School Accountability. It is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lynden & McCormick, LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.