

Management Letter

Edvisions Off-Campus High School

Henderson, Minnesota

For the Year Ended
June 30, 2014

August 27, 2014

Management and Members of the School Board
EdVisions Off-Campus High School
Henderson, Minnesota

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund information of the EdVisions Off-Campus High School, Henderson, Minnesota (the School) for the year ended June 30, 2014, and have issued our report thereon dated August 27, 2014. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated July 23, 2014. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*

As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

Also, our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We are responsible for communicating significant matters related to 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 specifically to identify such matters.

Significant Audit Findings

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the School's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control over financial reporting.

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. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a 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 School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its 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*.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you through various means.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the School are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The requirements of GASB statement No. 61 were adopted for the year ended June 30, 2013. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's 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 significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the School's financial statements are estimated historical cost of the capital assets, depreciation on capital assets and amounts receivable from the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

- Management's estimate of capital asset basis is based on estimated historical cost of the capital assets and depreciation is based on the estimated useful lives of capital assets.
- Management's estimate of amounts due from the Minnesota Department of Education is based on pupil unit and other information provided by the MDE.

We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these accounting estimates in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. We did not propose any journal entries that we consider to be audit entries or corrections of management decisions.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated August 27, 2014.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the School’s financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor’s opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the School’s auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Financial Position and Results of Operations

Our principal observations and recommendations are summarized on the following pages. These recommendations resulted from our observations made in connection with our audit of the School’s financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2014.

General Fund

A summary of current year budgeted and actual revenue and expenditures is as follows:

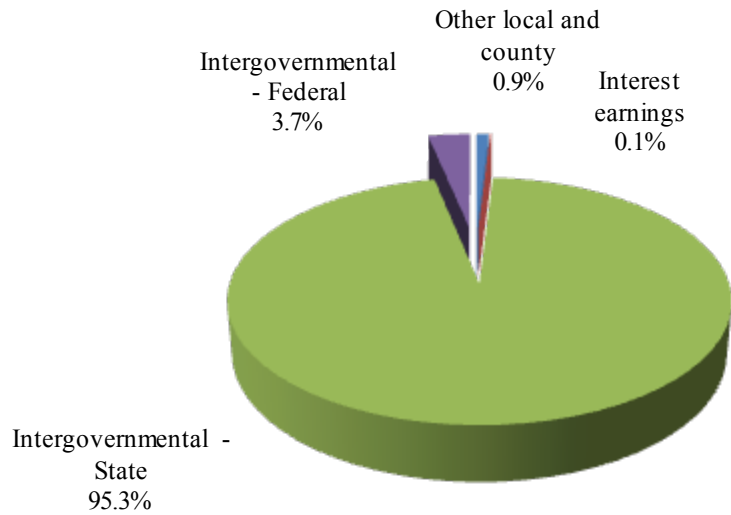
	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual Amounts</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget</u>
Revenues	\$ 1,029,895	\$ 1,063,622	\$ 33,727
Expenditures	<u>1,035,277</u>	<u>1,015,186</u>	<u>20,091</u>
Net change in fund balances	(5,382)	48,436	53,818
Fund balances, July 1	<u>448,175</u>	<u>448,175</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balances, June 30	<u>\$ 442,793</u>	<u>\$ 496,611</u>	<u>\$ 53,818</u>

- Revenues were over budget for fiscal year 2014. This positive variance can primarily be attributed to revenues from State sources being \$31,304 higher than projected.
- Expenditures were under budget for fiscal year 2014. This positive variance can primarily be attributed to regular instruction expenditures being \$28,457 lower than projected.

A further breakdown of revenue by source for the past three years in the General fund is as follows:

	2012	2013	2014
Other local and county	\$ 44,309	\$ 7,942	\$ 9,973
Interest earnings	1,961	1,664	1,023
Intergovernmental - State	921,910	894,913	1,018,063
Intergovernmental - Federal	40,502	34,578	34,563
 Total revenues	 <u>\$ 1,008,682</u>	 <u>\$ 939,097</u>	 <u>\$ 1,063,622</u>

Revenue by Source

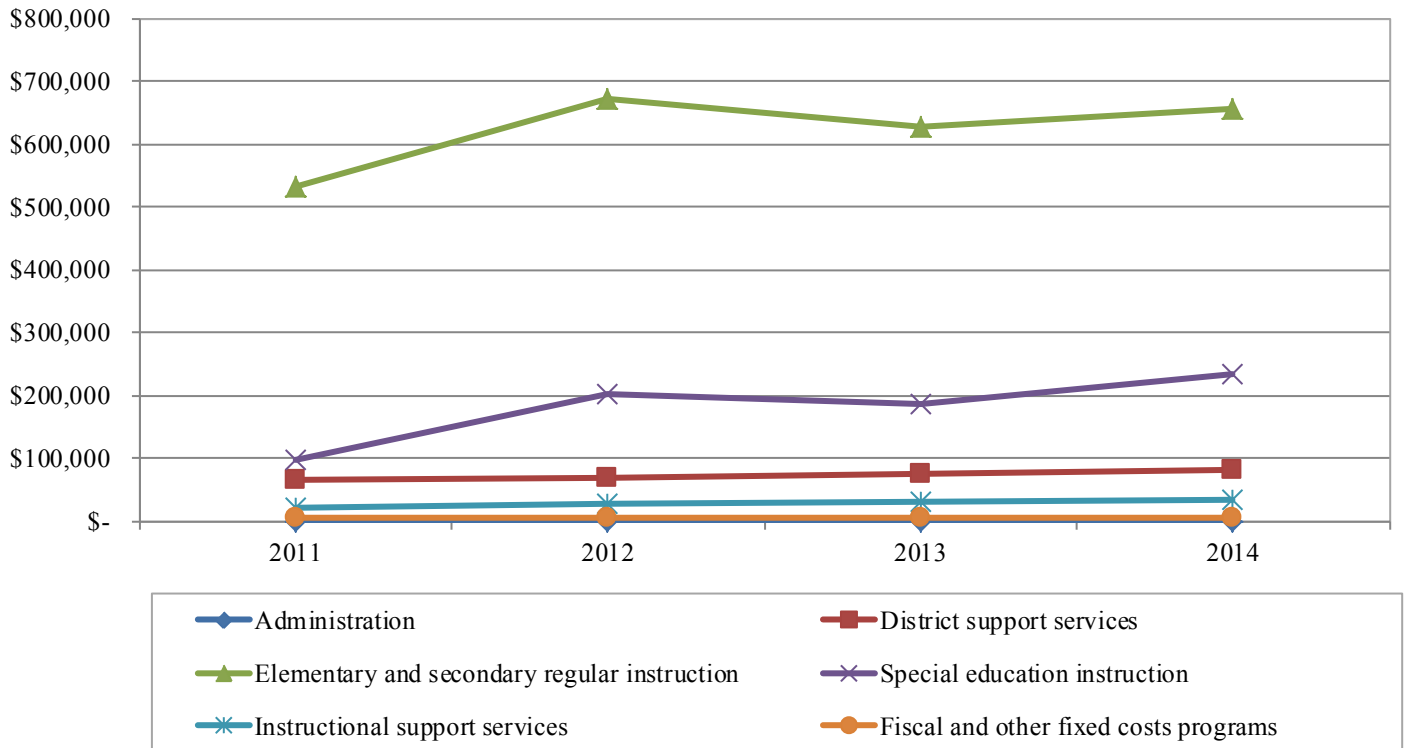


A further breakdown of expenditures by program for the past three years in the General and special revenue funds is as follows:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	Per ADM	Peer Group Per ADM
Administration	\$ 1,468	\$ 385	\$ 234	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 657
District support services	66,818	68,663	74,604	82,663	879	1,954
Elementary and secondary regular instruction	531,778	671,612	628,591	656,921	6,989	4,329
Vocational education instruction	-	-	-	-	-	15
Special education instruction	97,277	201,675	187,993	233,176	2,481	3,161
Community education	-	-	-	-	-	59
Instructional support services	20,608	29,171	31,048	35,517	378	167
Pupil support services	-	-	-	-	-	766
Sites and buildings	-	-	-	-	-	3,198
Fiscal and other fixed costs programs	5,103	5,413	6,534	6,909	74	-
Total expenditures	\$ 723,052	\$ 976,919	\$ 929,004	\$ 1,015,186	\$ 10,800	\$ 14,306

The above chart compares the amount the School spends per ADM in comparison to a peer group. We have compiled the peer group average expenditure information from other charter schools with comparable ADM. The peer group average is derived from information available on the website of the Minnesota Department of Education.

A graphical presentation of expenditures for the past four years is as follows:



Fund Balance - Operating Funds

The fund balances of the operating funds as of June 30 were as follows:

Fund	2012	2013	2014
General	<u>\$ 438,082</u>	<u>\$ 448,175</u>	<u>\$ 496,611</u>

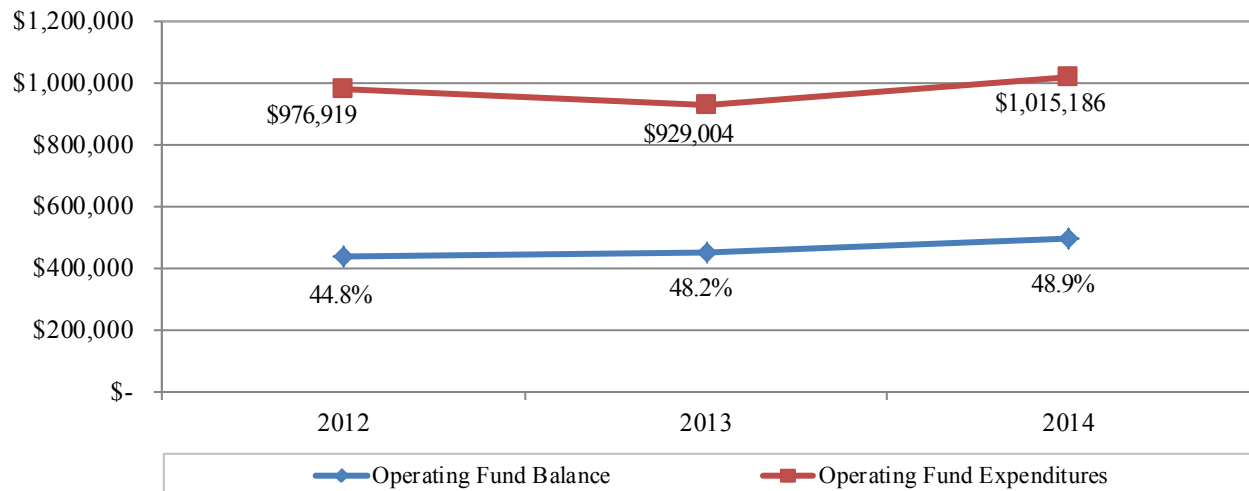
The operating fund expenditures for the past three years were as follows:

Fund	2012	2013	2014
General	<u>\$ 976,919</u>	<u>\$ 929,004</u>	<u>\$ 1,015,186</u>

Net operating fund balances as a percent of operating fund expenditures

	<u>44.8 %</u>	<u>48.2 %</u>	<u>48.9 %</u>
Average daily membership	88	90	94
Expenditures per pupil unit	\$ 11,101	\$ 10,322	\$ 10,800

Net Operating Fund Balance/Operating Expenditures



Fund Balance Analysis

The following is a summary of the changes in the School's fund balances for the year ended June 30, 2014:

	Balance June 30, 2013	Revenues	Expenditures	Balance June 30, 2014
General fund				
Nonspendable				
Prepaid items	\$ 3,152	\$ 6,435	\$ 3,152	\$ 6,435
Unassigned	445,023	1,057,187	1,012,034	490,176
	<u>\$ 448,175</u>	<u>\$ 1,063,622</u>	<u>\$ 1,015,186</u>	<u>\$ 496,611</u>

Future Accounting Standard Changes

The following Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements have been issued and may have an impact on future School financial statements: ⁽¹⁾

GASB Statement No. 67 - *The Financial Reporting for Pension Plans- an Amendment to GASB Statement No. 25*

Summary

The objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by state and local governmental pension plans. This Statement results from a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of existing standards of accounting and financial reporting for pensions with regard to providing decision-useful information, supporting assessments of accountability and interperiod equity, and creating additional transparency.

This Statement replaces the requirements of Statements No. 25, *Financial Reporting for Defined Benefit Pension Plans and Note Disclosures for Defined Contribution Plans*, and No. 50, *Pension Disclosures*, as they relate to pension plans that are administered through trusts or equivalent arrangements (hereafter jointly referred to as trusts) that meet certain criteria.

The requirements of Statements No. 25 and No. 50 remain applicable to pension plans that are not administered through trusts covered by the scope of this Statement and to defined contribution plans that provide postemployment benefits other than pensions.

This Statement is effective for financial statements for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2013. Earlier application is encouraged.

How the Changes in This Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will improve financial reporting primarily through enhanced note disclosures and schedules of required supplementary information that will be presented by the pension plans that are within its scope. The new information will enhance the decision-usefulness of the financial reports of these pension plans, their value for assessing accountability, and their transparency by providing information about measures of net pension liabilities and explanations of how and why those liabilities changed from year to year. The net pension liability information, including ratios, will offer an up-to-date indication of the extent to which the total pension liability is covered by the fiduciary net position of the pension plan. The comparability of the reported information for similar types of pension plans will be improved by the changes related to the attribution method used to determine the total pension liability. The contribution schedule will provide measures to evaluate decisions related to the assessment of contribution rates in comparison to actuarially determined rates, when such rates are determined. In that circumstance, it also will provide information about whether employers and nonemployer contributing entities, if applicable, are keeping pace with actuarially determined contribution measures. In addition, new information about rates of return on pension plan investments will inform financial report users about the effects of market conditions on the pension plan's assets over time and provide information for users to assess the relative success of the pension plan's investment strategy and the relative contribution that investment earnings provide to the pension plan's ability to pay benefits to plan members when they come due.

Future Accounting Standard Changes - Continued

GASB Statement No. 68 - *The Accounting and Financial Reporting of Pensions- an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*

The primary objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for pensions. It also improves information provided by state and local governmental employers about financial support for pensions that is provided by other entities. This Statement results from a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of existing standards of accounting and financial reporting for pensions with regard to providing decision-useful information, supporting assessments of accountability and interperiod equity, and creating additional transparency.

This Statement replaces the requirements of Statement No. 27, Accounting for Pensions by State and Local Governmental Employers, as well as the requirements of Statement No. 50, Pension Disclosures, as they relate to pensions that are provided through pension plans administered as trusts or equivalent arrangements (hereafter jointly referred to as trusts) that meet certain criteria. The requirements of Statements 27 and 50 remain applicable for pensions that are not covered by the scope of this Statement.

This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2014. Earlier application is encouraged.

How the Changes in This Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will improve the decision-usefulness of information in employer and governmental nonemployer contributing entity financial reports and will enhance its value for assessing accountability and interperiod equity by requiring recognition of the entire net pension liability and a more comprehensive measure of pension expense. Decision-usefulness and accountability also will be enhanced through new note disclosures and required supplementary information.

GASB Statement No. 69 - *Government Combinations and Disposals of Government Operations*

Summary

This Statement establishes accounting and financial reporting standards related to government combinations and disposals of government operations. As used in this Statement, the term government combinations include a variety of transactions referred to as mergers, acquisitions, and transfers of operations.

The distinction between a government merger and a government acquisition is based upon whether an exchange of significant consideration is present within the combination transaction. Government mergers include combinations of legally separate entities without the exchange of significant consideration. This Statement requires the use of carrying values to measure the assets and liabilities in a government merger. Conversely, government acquisitions are transactions in which a government acquires another entity, or its operations, in exchange for significant consideration. This Statement requires measurements of assets acquired and liabilities assumed generally to be based upon their acquisition values. This Statement also provides guidance for transfers of operations that do not constitute entire legally separate entities and in which no significant consideration is exchanged. This Statement defines the term operations for purposes of determining the applicability of this Statement and requires the use of carrying values to measure the assets and liabilities in a transfer of operations.

A disposal of a government's operations results in the removal of specific activities of a government. This Statement provides accounting and financial reporting guidance for disposals of government operations that have been transferred or sold. This Statement requires disclosures to be made about government combinations and disposals of government operations to enable financial statement users to evaluate the nature and financial effects of those transactions.

The requirements of this Statement are effective for government combinations and disposals of government operations occurring in financial reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2013, and should be applied on a prospective basis. Earlier application is encouraged.

How the Changes in This Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

Until now, governments have accounted for mergers, acquisitions, and transfers of operations by analogizing to accounting and financial reporting guidance intended for the business environment, generally APB Opinion No. 16, Business Combinations. This Statement provides specific accounting and financial reporting guidance for combinations in the governmental environment. This Statement also improves the decision usefulness of financial reporting by requiring that disclosures be made by governments about combination arrangements in which they engage and for disposals of government operations.

Future Accounting Standard Changes - Continued

GASB Statement No. 70 - *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Financial Guarantees*

Summary

Some governments extend financial guarantees for the obligations of another government, a not-for-profit organization, a private entity, or individual without directly receiving equal or approximately equal value in exchange (a nonexchange transaction). As a part of this nonexchange financial guarantee, a government commits to indemnify the holder of the obligation if the entity or individual that issued the obligation does not fulfill its payment requirements. Also, some governments issue obligations that are guaranteed by other entities in a nonexchange transaction. The objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments that extend and receive nonexchange financial guarantees.

This Statement requires a government that extends a nonexchange financial guarantee to recognize a liability when qualitative factors and historical data, if any, indicate that it is more likely than not that the government will be required to make a payment on the guarantee. The amount of the liability to be recognized should be the discounted present value of the best estimate of the future outflows expected to be incurred as a result of the guarantee. When there is no best estimate but a range of the estimated future outflows can be established, the amount of the liability to be recognized should be the discounted present value of the minimum amount within the range.

This Statement requires a government that has issued an obligation guaranteed in a nonexchange transaction to report the obligation until legally released as an obligor. This Statement also requires a government that is required to repay a guarantor for making a payment on a guaranteed obligation or legally assuming the guaranteed obligation to continue to recognize a liability until legally released as an obligor. When a government is released as an obligor, the government should recognize revenue as a result of being relieved of the obligation. This Statement also provides additional guidance for intra-entity nonexchange financial guarantees involving blended component units.

This Statement specifies the information required to be disclosed by governments that extend nonexchange financial guarantees. In addition, this Statement requires new information to be disclosed by governments that receive nonexchange financial guarantees.

The provisions of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2013. Earlier application is encouraged. Except for disclosures related to cumulative amounts paid or received in relation to a nonexchange financial guarantee, the provisions of this Statement are required to be applied retroactively. Disclosures related to cumulative amounts paid or received in relation to a nonexchange financial guarantee may be applied prospectively.

How the Changes in This Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will enhance comparability of financial statements among governments by requiring consistent reporting by those governments that extend nonexchange financial guarantees and by those governments that receive nonexchange financial guarantees. This Statement also will enhance the information disclosed about a government's obligations and risk exposure from extending nonexchange financial guarantees. This Statement also will augment the ability of financial statement users to assess the probability that governments will repay obligation holders by requiring disclosures about obligations that are issued with this type of financial guarantee.

Future Accounting Standard Changes - Continued

GASB Statement No. 71 - Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measure Date - an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 68

Summary

The objective of this Statement is to address an issue regarding application of the transition provisions of Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions. The issue relates to amounts associated with contributions, if any, made by a state or local government employer or nonemployer contributing entity to a defined benefit pension plan after the measurement date of the government's beginning net pension liability.

Statement No. 68 requires a state or local government employer (or nonemployer contributing entity in a special funding situation) to recognize a net pension liability measured as of a date (the measurement date) no earlier than the end of its prior fiscal year. If a state or local government employer or nonemployer contributing entity makes a contribution to a defined benefit pension plan between the measurement date of the reported net pension liability and the end of the government's reporting period, Statement No. 68 requires that the government recognize its contribution as a deferred outflow of resources. In addition, Statement No. 68 requires recognition of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources for changes in the net pension liability of a state or local government employer or nonemployer contributing entity that arise from other types of events. At transition to Statement No. 68, if it is not practical for an employer or nonemployer contributing entity to determine the amounts of all deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, paragraph 137 of Statement No. 68 required that beginning balances for deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources not be reported.

Consequently, if it is not practical to determine the amounts of all deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, contributions made after the measurement date of the beginning net pension liability could not have been reported as deferred outflows of resources at transition. This could have resulted in a significant understatement of an employer or nonemployer contributing entity's beginning net position and expense in the initial period of implementation.

This Statement amends paragraph 137 of Statement No. 68 to require that, at transition, a government recognize a beginning deferred outflow of resources for its pension contributions, if any, made subsequent to the measurement date of the beginning net pension liability. Statement No. 68, as amended, continues to require that beginning balances for other deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions be reported at transition only if it is practical to determine all such amounts.

The provisions of this Statement are required to be applied simultaneously with the provisions of Statement No. 68.

How the Changes in This Statement Will Improve Financial Reporting

The requirements of this Statement will eliminate the source of a potential significant understatement of restated beginning net position and expense in the first year of implementation of Statement No. 68 in the accrual-basis financial statements of employers and nonemployer contributing entities. This benefit will be achieved without the imposition of significant additional costs.

⁽¹⁾ *Note.* From GASB Pronouncements Summaries. Copyright 2014 by the Financial Accounting Foundation, 401 Merritt 7, Norwalk, CT 06856, USA, and is reproduced with permission.

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This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the members of the School Board, management and others within the administration of the School and the Minnesota Department of Education, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

The comments and recommendations in the report are purely constructive in nature, and should be read in this context. Our audit would not necessarily disclose all weaknesses in the system because it was based on selected tests of the accounting records and related data.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss any of the items contained in this letter, please feel free to contact us at your convenience. We wish to thank you for the opportunity to be of service and for the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by your staff.

Abdo, Eick & Meyers, LLP

ABDO, EICK & MEYERS, LLP
Mankato, Minnesota
August 27, 2014