Office of the Secretary of State

Jeanne P. Atkins
Secretary of State

Robert Taylor
Deputy Secretary of State

Audits Division

Gary Blackmer
Director

255 Capitol St. NE, Suite 500
Salem, OR 97310

(503) 986-2255

December 2, 2015

Salam Noor, Deputy Superintendent
Oregon Department of Education
255 Capitol Street NE, Suite 500
Salem, OR 97310

Dear Mr. Noor:

We have completed audit work of selected financial accounts at your department for the year ended June 30, 2015. This audit work was not a comprehensive financial audit of the department, but was performed as part of our annual audit of the State of Oregon's financial statements. We audited accounts that we determined to be material to the State of Oregon's financial statements.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the State of Oregon as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, we considered the department's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements of the State of Oregon, 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. 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.

The purpose of this letter is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the department's internal control. This communication is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the department's internal control. Accordingly, this letter is not suitable for any other purpose.

We appreciate your staff's assistance and cooperation during this audit. Should you have any questions, please contact Michelle Rock or Kelly Olson at (503) 986-2255.

Sincerely,

Office of the Secretary of State, Audits Division

cc: Rick Crager, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration
Tomas Flores, Financial Services Director
Miranda Summer, Chair, Oregon State Board of Education
George Naughton, Interim Director, Department of Administrative Services