

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 19, 2024 File No.: 5171

To: The Honorable Tony Thurmond

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

California Department of Education

1430 N Street, 5th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Department of General Services

Office of Audit Services

Subject: QUALITY CONTROL REVIEW OF CONTRACT APPROVAL EXEMPTION AUDIT

This report presents the results of our quality control review of an internal audit conducted of the California Department of Education's (CDE) contracting program. The audit was conducted by CDE's Audits and Investigations Division (AID).

As a condition of CDE's exemption (Exemption Letter No. CDE3.1) from the Department of General Services' (DGS) approval of its contracts under \$150,000, two audits are required to be performed of the department's contracting program during the exemption period of March 1, 2023, through February 28, 2026. On February 23, 2024, AID issued an audit report which presented the results of the first audit required under the terms of the exemption. Public Contract Code Section 10352 requires DGS to perform a quality control review of the audit.

The objectives of our quality control review were to determine: (1) if the internal audit was conducted in accordance with an audit guide issued by DGS; and, (2) if reported findings are being appropriately addressed by CDE's management. Based on our interviews of audit staff and review of the working papers prepared to support audit tests, and our performance of other procedures as deemed necessary, we concluded that the audit was conducted in accordance with DGS' audit guide and that management indicated a commitment to take appropriate actions to address reported findings.

We greatly appreciated the cooperation and assistance provided by CDE's audit staff.

If you need further information on or assistance with this report, please contact me at (916) 376-5058, or Dennis Miras, Audit Manager, at (916) 376-5064.

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Deputy Director, Office of Audit Services

cc: Len Garfinkel, General Counsel, Legal and Audits Branch, CDE Alice Lee, Director, Audits and Investigations Division, CDE David Wong, Assistant Director, Audits and Investigations Division, CDE Mandi Gallardo, Internal Audit Manager, Audits and Investigations Division, CDE

Christine Ciccotti, Chief Counsel and Deputy Director, Office of Legal Services, DGS