



COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ADEL, GEORGIA

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2014**

(Including Independent Auditor's Reports)



COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

- TABLE OF CONTENTS -

	<u>Page</u>
SECTION I	
FINANCIAL	
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	
EXHIBITS	
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
DISTRICT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
A	1
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION	
B	2
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	
FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
C	4
BALANCE SHEET	
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	
D	5
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET	
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION	
E	6
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES	
IN FUND BALANCES	
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	
F	7
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT	
OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND	
BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES	
G	8
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION	
FIDUCIARY FUNDS	
H	9
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
SCHEDULES	
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
1	25
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES	
IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL	
GENERAL FUND	
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
2	26
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS	
3	27
SCHEDULE OF STATE REVENUE	
4	28
SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS	
5	29
ALLOTMENTS AND EXPENDITURES	
GENERAL FUND - QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS (QBE)	
BY PROGRAM	

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

- TABLE OF CONTENTS -

SECTION II

COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL REPORTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON
INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

SECTION III

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE TO PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

SECTION IV

FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

SECTION I
FINANCIAL



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
(404) 656-2174

March 13, 2015

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the General Assembly
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Superintendent and Members of the
Cook County Board of Education

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information (Exhibits A through H) of the Cook County Board of Education, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Board's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit 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*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design 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. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also

includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Cook County Board of Education, as of June 30, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As described in Note 2 to the financial statements, in 2014 the Cook County Board of Education adopted new accounting guidance, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted the Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual, as presented on page 25, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Cook County Board of Education's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, consisting of Schedules 2 through 5, is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U. S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The accompanying supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 13, 2015, on our consideration of the Cook County Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Cook County Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A copy of this report has been filed as a permanent record in the office of the State Auditor and made available to the press of the State, as provided for by Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 50-6-24.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg S. Griffin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

GSG:as
2014ARL-11

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "A"

	<u>GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 251,903.62
Investments	3,573,752.81
Accounts Receivable, Net	
Taxes	497,286.10
State Government	1,968,506.00
Federal Government	472,568.72
Local	250.00
Other	15,178.02
Inventories	59,578.64
Capital Assets, Non-Depreciable	1,632,100.01
Capital Assets, Depreciable (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)	<u>46,999,531.33</u>
Total Assets	<u>55,470,655.25</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Accounts Payable	151,444.79
Salaries and Benefits Payable	2,848,658.48
Interest Payable	120,682.84
Long-Term Liabilities	
Due Within One Year	1,985,000.00
Due in More Than One Year	<u>10,697,000.00</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>15,802,786.11</u>
<u>NET POSITION</u>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	37,313,955.97
Restricted for	
Continuation of Federal Programs	82,932.42
Debt Service	1,419,198.57
Unrestricted	<u>851,782.18</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 39,667,869.14</u></u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

	EXPENSES	CHARGES FOR SERVICES
<u>GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</u>		
Instruction	\$ 18,335,701.29	\$ 363,084.72
Support Services		
Pupil Services	930,283.81	
Improvement of Instructional Services	259,524.63	
Educational Media Services	435,163.88	
General Administration	1,115,817.32	
School Administration	1,589,756.18	
Business Administration	141,542.14	
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	2,496,720.36	4,200.00
Student Transportation Services	1,330,116.87	
Central Support Services	31,145.28	
Other Support Services	93,455.45	
Operations of Non-Instructional Services		
Enterprise Operations	147,394.90	
Food Services	1,791,828.93	212,101.78
Interest on Short-Term and Long-Term Debt	505,279.38	
	\$ 29,203,730.42	\$ 579,386.50
General Revenues		
Taxes		
Property Taxes		
For Maintenance and Operations		
Other Taxes		
Sales Taxes		
Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax		
For Capital Projects		
Other Sales Tax		
Grants and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs		
Investment Earnings		
Miscellaneous		
Special Items		
Loss on Sale of Building		
Total General Revenues and Special Items		
Change in Net Position		
Net Position - Beginning of Year		
Net Position - End of Year		

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

EXHIBIT "B"

PROGRAM REVENUES		NET (EXPENSES)
OPERATING GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	CAPITAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	REVENUES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
\$ 13,243,729.35		\$ -4,728,887.22
257,845.64		-672,438.17
258,050.54		-1,474.09
396,092.00		-39,071.88
590,571.86		-525,245.46
817,351.18		-772,405.00
		-141,542.14
962,978.15		-1,529,542.21
373,728.05	\$ 77,220.00	-879,168.82
		-31,145.28
40,398.96		-53,056.49
		-147,394.90
1,378,832.78		-200,894.37
		-505,279.38
<u>\$ 18,319,578.51</u>	<u>\$ 77,220.00</u>	<u>-10,227,545.41</u>
		5,627,639.45
		22,151.89
		1,717,590.42
		73,514.90
		2,334,465.00
		5,523.17
		401,133.52
		<u>-1,193,323.09</u>
		<u>8,988,695.26</u>
		-1,238,850.15
		<u>40,906,719.29</u>
		<u>\$ 39,667,869.14</u>

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 BALANCE SHEET
 GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "C"

	GENERAL FUND	DISTRICT- WIDE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	DEBT SERVICE FUND	TOTAL
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 255,047.56		\$ 0.00	\$ 255,047.56
Investments	2,176,800.83	\$ 1,396,951.98		3,573,752.81
Accounts Receivable, Net				
Taxes	351,212.73	146,073.37		497,286.10
State Government	1,968,506.00			1,968,506.00
Federal Government	472,568.72			472,568.72
Local	250.00			250.00
Other	15,178.02			15,178.02
Inventories	59,578.64			59,578.64
	<u>5,299,142.50</u>	<u>1,543,025.35</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>6,842,167.85</u>
<u>LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES</u>				
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
Cash Overdraft		\$ 3,143.94	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,143.94
Accounts Payable	\$ 151,444.79			151,444.79
Salaries and Benefits Payable	2,848,658.48			2,848,658.48
	<u>3,000,103.27</u>	<u>3,143.94</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,003,247.21</u>
<u>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>				
Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes	137,545.18	0.00	0.00	137,545.18
<u>FUND BALANCES</u>				
Nonspendable	59,578.64			59,578.64
Restricted	23,353.78	1,539,881.41	0.00	1,563,235.19
Assigned	804,091.73			804,091.73
Unassigned	1,274,469.90			1,274,469.90
	<u>2,161,494.05</u>	<u>1,539,881.41</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,701,375.46</u>
	<u>5,299,142.50</u>	<u>1,543,025.35</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>6,842,167.85</u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
 TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "D"

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit "C") \$ 3,701,375.46

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:

Capital Assets used in Governmental Activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. These assets consist of:

Land	\$	1,632,100.01	
Land Improvements		1,039,049.66	
Buildings		53,264,115.53	
Equipment		3,862,271.17	
Accumulated Depreciation		<u>-11,165,905.03</u>	
Total Capital Assets			48,631,631.34

Taxes that are not available to pay for current period expenditures are deferred in the funds. 137,545.18

Long-Term Liabilities, including Bonds Payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds. Long-Term Liabilities at year-end consist of:

Bonds Payable	\$	-9,950,000.00	
Accrued Interest		-120,682.84	
Capital Leases Payable		<u>-2,732,000.00</u>	
Total Long-Term Liabilities			<u>-12,802,682.84</u>

Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit "A") \$ 39,667,869.14

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "E"

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>DISTRICT- WIDE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND</u>	<u>DEBT SERVICE FUND</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>REVENUES</u>				
Property Taxes	\$ 5,694,144.63		\$ 0.00	\$ 5,694,144.63
Sales Taxes	73,514.90	\$ 1,717,590.42		1,791,105.32
State Funds	17,345,055.15			17,345,055.15
Federal Funds	3,386,208.36			3,386,208.36
Charges for Services	579,386.50			579,386.50
Investment Earnings	4,159.36	1,363.81		5,523.17
Miscellaneous	399,633.52	1,500.00		401,133.52
	<u>27,482,102.42</u>	<u>1,720,454.23</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>29,202,556.65</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
Current				
Instruction	17,474,703.60			17,474,703.60
Support Services				
Pupil Services	882,586.23	16,905.00		899,491.23
Improvement of Instructional Services	259,524.63			259,524.63
Educational Media Services	435,163.88			435,163.88
General Administration	1,111,722.22			1,111,722.22
School Administration	1,589,756.18			1,589,756.18
Business Administration	138,760.58	2,781.56		141,542.14
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	2,494,926.95			2,494,926.95
Student Transportation Services	1,278,119.38			1,278,119.38
Central Support Services	31,145.28			31,145.28
Other Support Services	93,455.45			93,455.45
Enterprise Operations	147,394.90			147,394.90
Food Services Operation	1,739,359.64			1,739,359.64
Capital Outlay		26,870.21		26,870.21
Debt Services				
Principal	145,000.00		1,765,000.00	1,910,000.00
Interest	112,548.24		412,442.99	524,991.23
	<u>27,934,167.16</u>	<u>46,556.77</u>	<u>2,177,442.99</u>	<u>30,158,166.92</u>
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	<u>-452,064.74</u>	<u>1,673,897.46</u>	<u>-2,177,442.99</u>	<u>-955,610.27</u>
<u>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</u>				
Sale of Building	100,000.00			100,000.00
Transfers In		20,438.19	2,177,442.99	2,197,881.18
Transfers Out	-20,438.19	-2,177,442.99		-2,197,881.18
	<u>79,561.81</u>	<u>-2,157,004.80</u>	<u>2,177,442.99</u>	<u>100,000.00</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	-372,502.93	-483,107.34	0.00	-855,610.27
Fund Balances - Beginning	<u>2,533,996.98</u>	<u>2,022,988.75</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>4,556,985.73</u>
Fund Balances - Ending	<u>\$ 2,161,494.05</u>	<u>\$ 1,539,881.41</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,701,375.46</u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF
 REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
 TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "F"

Total Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit "E") \$ -855,610.27

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Capital Outlays are reported as expenditures in Governmental Funds. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of Capital Assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. In the current period, these amounts are:

Capital Outlay	\$	161,595.23	
Depreciation Expense		<u>-1,112,077.05</u>	
Excess of Capital Outlay over Depreciation Expense			-950,481.82

Taxes reported in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. -44,353.29

The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, trade-ins, donations, and disposals) is to decrease net position. -1,318,116.62

Repayment of Long-Term Debt is reported as an expenditure in Governmental Funds, but the repayment reduces Long-Term Liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. In the current year, these amounts consist of:

Bond Principal Retirements	\$	1,765,000.00	
Capital Lease Payments		<u>145,000.00</u>	
Total Long-Term Debt Repayments			1,910,000.00

Some items reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in Governmental Funds. These activities consist of:

Net Decrease in Accrued Interest			<u>19,711.85</u>
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Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit "B") \$ -1,238,850.15

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "G"

	<u>AGENCY FUNDS</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 145,652.25
Accounts Receivable, Net	
Other	<u>28,364.89</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 174,017.14</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Funds Held for Others	<u>\$ 174,017.14</u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

REPORTING ENTITY

The Cook County Board of Education (School District) was established under the laws of the State of Georgia and operates under the guidance of a school board elected by the voters and a Superintendent appointed by the Board. The Board is organized as a separate legal entity and has the power to levy taxes and issue bonds. Its budget is not subject to approval by any other entity. Accordingly, the School District is a primary government and consists of all the organizations that compose its legal entity.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The School District's basic financial statements are collectively comprised of the District-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements of the Cook County Board of Education.

District-wide Statements:

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the financial activities of the overall School District, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the School District's governmental activities.

- Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expenses (expenses of the School District related to the administration and support of the School District's programs, such as office and maintenance personnel and accounting) are not allocated to programs.
- Program revenues include (a) charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements:

The fund financial statements provide information about the School District's funds. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Separate statements for each category (governmental and fiduciary) are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The School District reports the following major governmental funds:

- General Fund is the School District's primary operating fund. It accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.
- District-wide Capital Projects Fund accounts for and reports financial resources including Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) that are restricted, committed or assigned to the expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.
- Debt Service Fund accounts for and reports financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned including taxes (sales) legally restricted for the payment of general long-term principal and interest.

The School District reports the following fiduciary fund type:

- Agency funds account for assets held by the School District as an agent for various funds, governments or individuals.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are reported on the financial statements. The District-wide governmental and fiduciary financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Nonexchange transactions, in which the School District gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, sales taxes, and grants. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from sales taxes is recognized in the fiscal year in which the underlying transaction (sale) takes place. Revenue from grants is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

The School District uses funds to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain governmental functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The School District considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if they are collected within sixty days after year-end. The School District considers all intergovernmental revenues to be available if they are collected within 120 days after year-end. Property taxes, sales taxes and interest are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term liabilities and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

The School District funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program costs are incurred, both restricted and unrestricted resources are available to finance the program. It is the School District's policy to first apply grant resources to such programs, followed by cost-reimbursement grants, then general revenues.

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In fiscal year 2014, the School District adopted the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*. The provisions of this Statement establish accounting and financial reporting standards that reclassify, as deferred outflows or inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities and recognizes, as outflows or inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities.

FUTURE ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In fiscal year 2015, the School District will adopt Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. The provisions of this Statement establish accounting and financial reporting standards for pensions that are provided to the employees of state and local governmental employers through pension plans that are administered through trusts. Implementation of this Statement will require the School District to record a liability for its proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability of pension plans in which it participates. Actuarial estimates are currently being made to determine the School District's liability, the effects of which are believed to be material.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Composition of Deposits

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition in authorized financial institutions. Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 45-8-14 authorizes the School District to deposit its funds in one or more solvent banks, insured Federal savings and loan associations or insured chartered building and loan associations.

INVESTMENTS

Composition of Investments

Investments made by the School District in nonparticipating interest-earning contracts (such as certificates of deposit) and repurchase agreements are reported at cost. Participating interest-earning contracts and money market investments with a maturity at purchase of one year or less are reported at amortized cost. Both participating interest-earning contracts and money market investments with a maturity at purchase greater than one year are reported at fair value. The Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 36-83-4 authorizes the School District to invest its funds. In selecting among options for investment or among institutional bids for deposits, the highest rate of return shall be the objective, given equivalent conditions of safety and liquidity. Funds may be invested in the following:

1. Obligations issued by the State of Georgia or by other states,
2. Obligations issued by the United States government,
3. Obligations fully insured or guaranteed by the United States government or a United States government agency,
4. Obligations of any corporation of the United States government,
5. Prime banker's acceptances,
6. The local government investment pool (Georgia Fund 1) administered by the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer,
7. Repurchase agreements, and
8. Obligations of other political subdivisions of the State of Georgia.

The School District does not have a formal policy regarding investment policies that address credit risks, custodial risks, concentration of credit risks, interest rate risks or foreign currency risks.

RECEIVABLES

Receivables consist of amounts due from property and sales taxes, grant reimbursements due on Federal, State or other grants for expenditures made but not reimbursed and other receivables disclosed from information available. Receivables are recorded when either the asset or revenue recognition criteria has been met. Receivables recorded on the basic financial statements do not include any amounts which would necessitate the need for an allowance for uncollectible receivables.

PROPERTY TAXES

The Cook County Board of Commissioners adopted the property tax levy for the 2013 tax digest year (calendar year) on August 19, 2013 (levy date) based on property values as of January 1, 2013. Taxes were due on December 20, 2013 (lien date). Taxes collected within the current fiscal year or within 60 days after year-end on the 2013 tax digest are reported as revenue in the governmental funds for fiscal year 2014. The Cook County Tax Commissioner bills and collects the property taxes for the School District, withholds 2.5% of taxes collected as a fee for tax collection and remits the balance of taxes collected to the School District. Property tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, for maintenance and operations amounted to \$5,286,672.29.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "H"

The tax millage rate levied for the 2013 tax year (calendar year) for the Cook County Board of Education was as follows (a mill equals \$1 per thousand dollars of assessed value):

School Operations	<u>16.065</u> mills
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Additionally, Title Ad Valorem Tax revenues, at the fund reporting level, amounted to \$385,320.45 during fiscal year ended June 30, 2014.

SALES TAXES

Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, at the fund reporting level, during the year amounted to \$1,717,590.42 and is to be used for capital outlay for educational purposes or debt service. This sales tax was authorized by local referendum and the sales tax must be re-authorized at least every five years.

INVENTORIES

Food Inventories

On the basic financial statements, inventories of donated food commodities used in the preparation of meals are reported at their Federally assigned value and purchased foods inventories are reported at cost (first-in, first-out). The School District uses the consumption method to account for inventories whereby donated food commodities are recorded as an asset and as revenue when received, and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used. Purchased foods are recorded as an asset when purchased and expenses/expenditures are recorded as the inventory items are used.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets purchased, including capital outlay costs, are recorded as expenditures in the fund financial statements at the time of purchase (including ancillary charges). On the District-wide financial statements, all purchased capital assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at estimated historical cost based on appraisals or deflated current replacement cost where no historical records exist. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value on the date donated. Disposals are deleted at depreciated recorded cost. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of assets or materially extend the useful lives of the assets is not capitalized. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. The School District does not capitalize book collections or works of art. During the fiscal year under review, no events or changes in circumstances affecting a capital asset that may indicate impairment were known to the School District.

Capitalization thresholds and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the District-wide statements are as follows:

		Capitalization Policy	Estimated Useful Life
Land		Any Amount	N/A
Land Improvements	\$	10,000.00	15 to 60 years
Buildings and Improvements	\$	10,000.00	25 to 60 years
Equipment	\$	5,000.00	5 to 30 years
Intangible Assets	\$	10,000.00	15 years

Depreciation is used to allocate the actual or estimated historical cost of all capital assets over estimated useful lives, with the exception of intangible assets which are amortized.

Amortization of intangible assets such as water, timber, and mineral rights, easements, patents, trademarks, copyrights and software is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets.

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

In addition to assets, the statement of net position and/or the balance sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents a consumption of resources that applies to a future period(s) and therefore will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The School District did not have any items that qualified for reporting in this category for the year ended June 30, 2014.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position and/or the balance sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element represents an acquisition of resources that applies to a future period(s) and therefore will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The School District has only one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, unavailable revenue, is reporting only in the governmental funds balance sheet. The governmental funds report unavailable revenues from property taxes and this amount is deferred and will be recognized as an inflow of resources in the period in which the amounts become available.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

The School District issues general obligation bonds to provide funds for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities. In the District-wide and fund financial statements, the School District recognizes bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs during the fiscal year bonds are issued. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures. To conform to generally accepted accounting principles, bond premiums and discounts should be amortized over the life of the bonds on the District-wide statements. The effect of this deviation is deemed immaterial to the fair presentation of the basic financial statements. General obligation bonds are direct obligations and pledge the full faith and credit of the government. The outstanding amount of these bonds is recorded in the Statement of Net Position.

NET POSITION

The School District's net position in the District-wide Statements is classified as follows:

Net investment in capital assets - This represents the School District's total investment in capital assets, net of outstanding debt obligations related to those capital assets. To the extent debt has been incurred but not yet expended for capital assets, such amounts are not included as a component of net investment in capital assets.

Restricted net position - This represents resources for which the School District is legally or contractually obligated to spend resources for continuation of Federal Programs and debt service in accordance with restrictions imposed by external third parties.

Unrestricted net position - Unrestricted net position represents resources derived from property taxes, sales taxes, grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs, charges for services, and miscellaneous revenues. These resources are used for transactions relating to the educational and general operations of the School District, and may be used at the discretion of the Board to meet current expenses for those purposes.

FUND BALANCES

The School District's fund balances are classified as follows:

Nonspendable - Amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in a nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted - Constraints are placed on the use of resources are either (1) externally imposed conditions by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments or (2) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "H"

Committed – Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board of Education. The Board of Education is the School District's highest level of decision-making authority, and the formal action that is required to be taken to establish, modify, or rescind a fund balance commitment is a resolution approved by the Board. Committed fund balance also should incorporate contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned – Amounts that are constrained by the School District's *intent* to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The intent should be expressed by (1) the Board of Education or (2) the budget or finance committee, or the Superintendent, or designee, to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

Unassigned – The residual classification for the General Fund. This classification represents fund balances that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the General Fund.

Fund Balances of the Governmental Funds at June 30, 2014, are as follows:

Nonspendable			
Inventories		\$	59,578.64
Restricted			
Continuation of Federal Programs	\$	23,353.78	
Debt Service		1,539,881.41	1,563,235.19
Assigned			
School Activity Accounts		94,821.19	
Subsequent Period Expenditures		709,270.54	804,091.73
Unassigned			1,274,469.90
Fund Balance, June 30, 2014		\$	3,701,375.46

It is the goal of the School District to achieve and maintain a committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the general fund at fiscal year end of not less than 5% of expenditures, not to exceed 15% of the total budget of the subsequent fiscal year, in compliance with Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 20-2-167(a)5. If the unassigned fund balance at fiscal year end falls below the goal, the School District shall develop a restoration plan to achieve and maintain the minimum fund balance.

When multiple categories of fund balance are available for expenditure, the School District will start with the most restricted category and spend those funds first before moving down to the next category with available funds.

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

NOTE 3: BUDGETARY DATA

The budget is a complete financial plan for the School District's fiscal year, and is based upon careful estimates of expenditures together with probable funding sources. The budget is legally adopted each year for the general, debt service, and capital projects funds. There is no statutory prohibition regarding over expenditure of the budget at any level. The budget for all governmental funds is prepared and adopted by fund and function. The legal level of budgetary control was established by the Board at the aggregate function level. The budget for the General Fund was prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The budgetary process begins with the School District's administration presenting an initial budget for the Board's review. The administration makes revisions as necessary based on the Board's guidelines and a tentative budget is approved. After approval of this tentative budget by the Board, such budget is advertised at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the locality. At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board after advertisement, the Board receives comments on the tentative budget, makes revisions as necessary and adopts a final budget. The approved budget is then submitted, in accordance with provisions of Official Code of Georgia Annotated section 20-2-167(c), to the Georgia Department of Education. The Board may increase or decrease the budget at any time during the year. All unexpended budget authority lapses at fiscal year-end.

See Schedule 1 – General Fund Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget to Actual for a detail of any over/under expenditures during the fiscal year under review.

NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

COLLATERALIZATION OF DEPOSITS

Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) Section 45-8-12 provides that there shall not be on deposit at any time in any depository for a time longer than ten days a sum of money which has not been secured by surety bond, by guarantee of insurance, or by collateral. The aggregate of the face value of such surety bond and the market value of securities pledged shall be equal to not less than 110 percent of the public funds being secured after the deduction of the amount of deposit insurance. If a depository elects the pooled method (O.C.G.A. Section 45-8-13.1) the aggregate of the market value of the securities pledged to secure a pool of public funds shall be not less than 110 percent of the daily pool balance.

Acceptable security for deposits consists of any one of or any combination of the following:

1. Surety bond signed by a surety company duly qualified and authorized to transact business within the State of Georgia,
2. Insurance on accounts provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
3. Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other direct obligations of the United States or of the State of Georgia,
4. Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other obligations of the counties or municipalities of the State of Georgia,
5. Bonds of any public authority created by the laws of the State of Georgia, providing that the statute that created the authority authorized the use of the bonds for this purpose,
6. Industrial revenue bonds and bonds of development authorities created by the laws of the State of Georgia, and
7. Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations of a subsidiary corporation of the United States government, which are fully guaranteed by the United States government both as to principal and interest or debt obligations issued by or securities guaranteed by the Federal Land Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Central Bank for Cooperatives, the Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association, and the Federal National Mortgage Association.

CATEGORIZATION OF DEPOSITS

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School District's deposits may not be returned to it. The School District does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. At June 30, 2014, the School District had deposits with a carrying amount of \$397,555.87 and a bank balance of \$1,384,139.42. The bank balances insured by Federal depository insurance were \$758,266.09, and the bank balances collateralized with securities held by the pledging institution or by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent in the School District's name were \$349,463.10.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "H"

The amounts exposed to custodial credit risk are classified into three categories as follows:

- Category 1 - Uncollateralized,
- Category 2 - Cash collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution,
or
- Category 3 - Cash collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's
trust department or agent but not in the School District's name.

The School District's deposits by custodial risk category at June 30, 2014, are as follows:

Risk Category	Bank Balance
1	\$ 276,410.23
2	0.00
3	0.00
Total	\$ 276,410.23

CATEGORIZATION OF INVESTMENTS

At June 30, 2014, the carrying value of the School District's total investments was \$3,573,752.81, which is materially the same as fair value. This investment consisted entirely of funds invested in the Georgia Fund 1 (local government investment pool) administered by the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer which is not required to be categorized since the School District did not own any specific identifiable securities in the pool. The investment policy of the State of Georgia, Office of the State Treasurer for the Georgia Fund 1 (Primary Liquidity Portfolio) does not provide for investment in derivatives or similar investments. Additional information on the Georgia Fund 1 is disclosed in the *State of Georgia* Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. This audit can be obtained from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts at <http://www.audits.ga.gov/SGD/cafr.html>.

The Primary Liquidity Portfolio consists of Georgia Fund 1 which is not registered with the SEC as an investment company. The investment is valued at the pool's share price, \$1.00 per share. The pool is an AAf rated investment pool by Standard and Poor's. The weighted average maturity for Georgia Fund 1 on June 30, 2014, was 62 days.

NOTE 5: NON-MONETARY TRANSACTIONS

The School District receives food commodities from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for school breakfast and lunch programs. These commodities are recorded at their Federally assigned value. **See Note 2 - Inventories**

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "H"

NOTE 6: CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in the Capital Assets during the fiscal year:

	Balances July 1, 2013	Increases	Decreases	Balances June 30, 2014
Governmental Activities				
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 1,636,378.65	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,278.64	\$ 1,632,100.01
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Improvements	56,601,930.80		3,337,815.27	53,264,115.53
Equipment	3,804,314.21	161,595.23	103,638.27	3,862,271.17
Land Improvements	1,193,734.11		154,684.45	1,039,049.66
Less: Accumulated Depreciation:				
Buildings and Improvements	8,533,403.85	894,761.39	2,044,492.18	7,383,673.06
Equipment	2,784,566.32	188,712.62	83,123.38	2,890,155.56
Land Improvements	1,018,157.82	28,603.04	154,684.45	892,076.41
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net	49,263,851.13	-950,481.82	1,313,837.98	46,999,531.33
Governmental Activity Capital Assets - Net	\$ 50,900,229.78	\$ -950,481.82	\$ 1,318,116.62	\$ 48,631,631.34

Capital assets being acquired under capital leases as of June 30, 2014, are as follows:

	Governmental Funds
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 3,500,000.00
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	262,499.99
	\$ 3,237,500.01

Current year depreciation expense by function is as follows:

Instruction		\$ 870,765.01
Support Services		
Pupil Services	\$ 31,112.63	
General Administration	4,137.66	
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	14,928.84	
Student Transportation Services	138,118.27	188,297.40
Food Services		53,014.64
		\$ 1,112,077.05

NOTE 7: INTERFUND TRANSFERS

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2014, consisted of the following:

<u>Transfer to</u>	Transfers From	
	General Fund	District-wide Capital Projects
District-wide Capital Projects	\$ 20,438.19	
Debt Service Fund		\$ 2,177,442.99
Total	\$ 20,438.19	\$ 2,177,442.99

Transfers are used to move local funds collected by the General Fund to the District-wide Capital Projects Fund to provide supplemental funding for construction of the bus maintenance facility. In addition, transfers are used to move sales tax revenue collected by the District-wide Capital Projects Fund to the Debt Service Fund to pay bond principal and interest payments.

NOTE 8: RISK MANAGEMENT

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; job related illness or injuries to employees; acts of God and unemployment compensation.

The School District has obtained commercial insurance for risk of loss associated with torts, assets, errors or omissions, and job related illness or injuries to employees. The School District has neither significantly reduced coverage for these risks nor incurred losses (settlements) which exceeded the School District's insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

The School District has elected to self-insure for all losses related to acts of God. The School District has not experienced any losses related to this risk in the past three years.

The School District is self-insured with regard to unemployment compensation claims. The School District accounts for claims within the General Fund with expenses/expenditures and liability being reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred, and the amount of that loss can be reasonably estimated.

Changes in the unemployment compensation claims liability during the last two fiscal years are as follows:

	Beginning of Year Liability	Claims and Changes in Estimates	Claims Paid	End of Year Liability
2013	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,548.00	\$ 2,548.00	\$ 0.00
2014	\$ 0.00	\$ 12,314.00	\$ 10,556.00	\$ 1,758.00

The School District has purchased surety bonds to provide additional insurance coverage as follows:

<u>Position Covered</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Superintendent	\$ 10,000.00
Scheduled Employees	\$ 40,000.00
Bus Driver Training	\$ 10,000.00

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "H"

NOTE 9: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

CAPITAL LEASES

The Cook County Board of Education entered into an agreement dated January 30, 2008, with the Georgia School Board Association for the construction and subsequent lease of the Cook County High School auditorium. Under the terms of the agreement, the School District will make annual payments through 2028.

GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT OUTSTANDING

General Obligation Bonds currently outstanding are as follows:

Purpose	Interest Rates	Amount
General Government - Series 2007	4.00%	\$ 6,435,000.00
General Government - Series 2008	3.37%	3,515,000.00
		\$ 9,950,000.00

The changes in Long-Term Liabilities during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, were as follows:

	Governmental Activities					
	Balance				Balance	Due Within
	July 1, 2013	Additions	Deductions	June 30, 2014	One Year	
G.O. Bonds	\$ 11,715,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,765,000.00	\$ 9,950,000.00	\$ 1,835,000.00	
Capital Leases	2,877,000.00		145,000.00	2,732,000.00	150,000.00	
	\$ 14,592,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,910,000.00	\$ 12,682,000.00	\$ 1,985,000.00	

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "H"

At June 30, 2014, payments due by fiscal year which includes principal and interest for these items are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ended June 30:</u>	Capital Leases	
	Principal	Interest
2015	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 106,875.84
2016	156,000.00	101,007.84
2017	162,000.00	94,905.12
2018	169,000.00	88,567.68
2019	175,000.00	81,956.40
2020 - 2024	984,000.00	301,497.84
2025 - 2028	936,000.00	93,301.20
Total Principal and Interest	\$ 2,732,000.00	\$ 868,111.92

<u>Fiscal Year Ended June 30:</u>	General Obligation Debt	
	Principal	Interest
2015	\$ 1,835,000.00	\$ 339,155.50
2016	1,905,000.00	264,355.50
2017	1,985,000.00	186,555.50
2018	2,070,000.00	109,739.50
2019	2,155,000.00	36,311.75
Total Principal and Interest	\$ 9,950,000.00	\$ 936,117.75

NOTE 10: ON-BEHALF PAYMENTS

The School District has recognized revenues and costs in the amount of \$1,426,300.20 for health insurance and retirement contributions paid on the School District's behalf by the following State Agencies.

Georgia Department of Education

Paid to the Georgia Department of Community Health
 For Health Insurance of Certificated Personnel
 In the amount of \$1,339,896.00

Paid to the Teachers' Retirement System of Georgia
 For Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) Employer's Cost
 In the amount of \$14,437.20

Office of the State Treasurer

Paid to the Public School Employees' Retirement System
 For Public School Employees' Retirement (PSERS) Employer's Cost
 In the amount of \$71,967.00

Funds paid to the Georgia Department of Community Health by the Georgia Department of Education on behalf of the School District are reported as part of the Quality Basic Education revenue allotments on Schedule 3 – Schedule of State Revenue.

NOTE 11: SPECIAL ITEM

The School District incurred a loss in the amount of \$1,193,323.09 on the sale of the old high school building. The building was removed from the School District's Capital Asset listing at its carrying value of \$1,293,323.09 on the date it was sold. This activity is reported as a Special Item on the Statement of Activities.

NOTE 12: SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Amounts received or receivable principally from the Federal government are subject to audit and review by grantor agencies. This could result in requests for reimbursement to the grantor agency for any costs which are disallowed under grant terms. The School District believes that such disallowances, if any, will be immaterial to its overall financial position.

The School District is a defendant in various legal proceedings pertaining to matters incidental to the performance of routine School District operations. The ultimate disposition of these proceedings is not presently determinable, but is not believed to be material to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 13: POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

GEORGIA SCHOOL PERSONNEL POST-EMPLOYMENT HEALTH BENEFIT FUND

Plan Description. The Georgia School Personnel Post-employment Health Benefit Fund (School OPEB Fund) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment healthcare plan that covers eligible former employees of public school systems, libraries and regional educational service agencies. The School OPEB Fund provides health insurance benefits to eligible former employees and their qualified beneficiaries through the State Employees Health Benefit Plan administered by the Department of Community Health. The Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions of the group health plans, including benefits for retirees, to the Board of Community Health (Board). The Department of Community Health, which includes the School OPEB Fund, issues a separate stand alone financial audit report and a copy can be obtained from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts.

Funding Policy. The contribution requirements of plan members and participating employers are established by the Board in accordance with the current Appropriations Act and may be amended by the Board. Contributions of plan members or beneficiaries receiving benefits vary based on plan election, dependent coverage, and Medicare eligibility and election. For members with fewer than five years of service as of January 1, 2012, contributions also vary based on years of service. On average, members with five years or more of service as of January 1, 2012, pay approximately 25 percent of the cost of the health insurance coverage. In accordance with the Board resolution dated December 8, 2011, for members with fewer than five years of service as of January 1, 2012, the State provides a premium subsidy in retirement that ranges from 0% for fewer than 10 years of service to 75% (but no greater than the subsidy percentage offered to active employees) for 30 or more years of service. The subsidy for eligible dependents ranges from 0% to 55% (but no greater than the subsidy percentage offered to dependents of active employees minus 20%). No subsidy is available to Medicare eligible members not enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Option. The Board of Community Health sets all member premiums by resolution and in accordance with the law and applicable revenue and expense projections. Any subsidy policy adopted by the Board may be changed at any time by Board resolution and does not constitute a contract or promise of any amount of subsidy.

Participating employers are statutorily required to contribute in accordance with the employer contribution rates established by the Board. The contribution rates are established to fund all benefits due under the health insurance plans for both active and retired employees based on projected "pay-as-you-go" financing requirements. Contributions are not based on the actuarially calculated annual required contribution (ARC) which represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities (or funding excess) over a period not to exceed thirty years.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 JUNE 30, 2014

EXHIBIT "H"

The combined active and retiree contribution rates established by the Board for employers participating in the School OPEB Fund were as follows for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014:

For certificated teachers, librarians and regional educational service agencies and certain other eligible participants:

July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014 \$945.00 per member per month

For non-certificated school personnel:

July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014 \$596.20 per member per month

No additional contribution was required by the Board for fiscal year 2014 nor contributed to the School OPEB Fund to prefund retiree benefits. Such additional contribution amounts are determined annually by the Board in accordance with the School plan for other post-employment benefits and are subject to appropriation.

The School District's combined active and retiree contributions to the health insurance plans, which equaled the required contribution, for the current fiscal year and the preceding two fiscal years were as follows:

Fiscal Year	Percentage Contributed	Required Contribution
2014	100%	\$ 2,943,496.92
2013	100%	\$ 2,949,235.58
2012	100%	\$ 2,775,648.05

NOTE 14: RETIREMENT PLANS

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA (TRS)

Plan Description. The TRS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit plan created in 1943 by an act of the Georgia General Assembly to provide retirement benefits for qualifying employees in educational service. A Board of Trustees comprised of active and retired members and ex-officio State employees is ultimately responsible for the administration of TRS. The Teachers' Retirement System of Georgia issues a separate stand alone financial audit report and a copy can be obtained from the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts.

On October 25, 1996, the Board created the Supplemental Retirement Benefits Plan of the Georgia Teachers' Retirement System (SRBP-TRS). SRBP-TRS was established as a qualified excess benefit plan in accordance with Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) as a portion of TRS. The purpose of SRBP-TRS is to provide retirement benefits to employees covered by TRS whose benefits are otherwise limited by IRC Section 415. Beginning July 1, 1997, all members and retired former members in TRS are eligible to participate in the SRBP-TRS whenever their benefits under TRS exceed the IRC Section 415 imposed limitation on benefits.

TRS provides service retirement, disability retirement, and survivor's benefits. The benefit structure of TRS is defined and may be amended by State statute. A member is eligible for normal service retirement after 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age, or after 10 years of service and attainment of age 60. A member is eligible for early retirement after 25 years of creditable service.

Normal retirement (pension) benefits paid to members are equal to 2% of the average of the member's two highest paid consecutive years of service, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service up to 40 years. Early retirement benefits are reduced by the lesser of one-twelfth of 7% for each month the member is below age 60 or by 7% for each year or fraction thereof by which the member has less

than 30 years of service. It is also assumed that certain cost-of-living adjustments, based on the Consumer Price Index, will be made in future years. Retirement benefits are payable monthly for life. A member may elect to receive a partial lump-sum distribution in addition to a reduced monthly retirement benefit. Death, disability and spousal benefits are also available.

Funding Policy. TRS is funded by member and employer contributions as adopted and amended by the Board of Trustees. Members become fully vested after 10 years of service. If a member terminates with less than 10 years of service, no vesting of employer contributions occurs, but the member's contributions may be refunded with interest. Member contributions are limited by State law to not less than 5% or more than 6% of a member's earnable compensation. Member contributions as adopted by the Board of Trustees for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, were 6.00% of annual salary. Employer contributions required for fiscal year 2014 were 12.28% of annual salary as required by the June 30, 2011, actuarial valuation.

Employer contributions for the current fiscal year and the preceding two fiscal years are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Percentage Contributed	Required Contribution
2014	100%	\$ 1,885,463.22
2013	100%	\$ 1,779,306.00
2012	100%	\$ 1,613,731.96

PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PSERS)

Bus drivers, lunchroom personnel, and maintenance and custodial personnel are members of the Public School Employees' Retirement System of Georgia. The System is funded by contributions by the employees and by the State of Georgia. The School District makes no contribution to this plan.

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COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 GENERAL FUND
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

SCHEDULE "1"

	NONAPPROPRIATED BUDGETS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE OVER/UNDER
	ORIGINAL (1)	FINAL (1)		
REVENUES				
Property Taxes	\$ 5,375,000.00	\$ 5,375,000.00	\$ 5,694,144.63	\$ 319,144.63
Sales Taxes			73,514.90	73,514.90
State Funds	17,213,454.07	15,965,326.07	17,345,055.15	1,379,729.08
Federal Funds	3,635,079.52	3,603,534.68	3,386,208.36	-217,326.32
Charges for Services	326,925.65	326,925.65	579,386.50	252,460.85
Investment Earnings	5,179.03	5,179.03	4,159.36	-1,019.67
Miscellaneous	257,500.00	257,500.00	399,633.52	142,133.52
Total Revenues	26,813,138.27	25,533,465.43	27,482,102.42	1,948,636.99
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Instruction	17,553,646.91	17,234,218.95	17,474,703.60	-240,484.65
Support Services				
Pupil Services	769,088.29	777,102.29	882,586.23	-105,483.94
Improvement of Instructional Services	355,881.48	282,068.40	259,524.63	22,543.77
Educational Media Services	441,537.38	440,870.11	435,163.88	5,706.23
General Administration	1,108,009.64	1,110,079.51	1,111,722.22	-1,642.71
School Administration	1,563,933.31	1,563,933.31	1,589,756.18	-25,822.87
Business Administration	132,765.90	132,765.90	138,760.58	-5,994.68
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	2,269,707.32	2,269,707.32	2,494,926.95	-225,219.63
Student Transportation Services	1,296,665.81	1,386,462.80	1,278,119.38	108,343.42
Central Support Services	30,350.21	30,350.21	31,145.28	-795.07
Other Support Services	62,810.11	81,887.03	93,455.45	-11,568.42
Enterprise Operations			147,394.90	-147,394.90
Food Services Operation	1,792,662.81	1,792,662.81	1,739,359.64	53,303.17
Debt Services				
Principal			145,000.00	-145,000.00
Interest			112,548.24	-112,548.24
Total Expenditures	27,377,059.17	27,102,108.64	27,934,167.16	-832,058.52
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	-563,920.90	-1,568,643.21	-452,064.74	1,116,578.47
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Sale of Equipment			100,000.00	100,000.00
Operating Transfers From Other Funds	159,311.90	159,311.90		-159,311.90
Other Sources	2,500.00	2,500.00		-2,500.00
Operating Transfer To Other Funds	-159,311.90	-159,311.90	-20,438.19	138,873.71
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	2,500.00	2,500.00	79,561.81	77,061.81
Net Change in Fund Balances	-561,420.90	-1,566,143.21	-372,502.93	1,193,640.28
Fund Balances - Beginning	2,531,105.81	2,531,105.81	2,533,996.98	2,891.17
Adjustments	-73,107.17	-13,528.53		13,528.53
Fund Balances - Ending	\$ 1,896,577.74	\$ 951,434.07	\$ 2,161,494.05	\$ 1,210,059.98

Notes to the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual

- (1) Original and Final Budget amounts do not include budgeted revenues or expenditures of the various principal accounts. The principal accounts had actual revenues of \$301,313.94 and actual expenditures of \$291,796.03.

The accompanying schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances budget and actual is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting which is the basis of accounting used in the presentation of the fund financial statements.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

SCHEDULE "2"

FUNDING AGENCY PROGRAM/GRANT	CFDA NUMBER	PASS- THROUGH ENTITY ID NUMBER	EXPENDITURES IN PERIOD
Agriculture, U. S. Department of			
Child Nutrition Cluster			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Food Services			
School Breakfast Program	* 10.553	N/A	(2)
National School Lunch Program	* 10.555	N/A	\$ 1,665,426.66 (1)
Total U. S. Department of Agriculture			<u>1,665,426.66</u>
Education, U. S. Department of			
Special Education Cluster			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Special Education			
Grants to States	* 84.027	N/A	492,889.01
Preschool Grants	* 84.173	N/A	<u>27,741.78</u>
Total Special Education Cluster			<u>520,630.79</u>
Title I, Part A			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	N/A	<u>1,179,513.83</u>
Other Programs			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education			
ARRA - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grant	84.395	N/A	134.40
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048	N/A	36,083.00
English Language Acquisition Grants	84.365	N/A	24,085.11
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	84.367	N/A	161,766.78
Migrant Education - State Grant Program	84.011	N/A	79,955.64
Rural Education	84.358	N/A	<u>49,042.37</u>
Total Other Programs			<u>351,067.30</u>
Total U. S. Department of Education			<u>2,051,211.92</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			<u>\$ 3,716,638.58</u>

N/A = Not Available

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

- (1) Includes the Federally assigned value of donated commodities for the Food Donation Program in the amount of \$101,666.88.
- (2) Expenditures for the funds earned on the School Breakfast Program (\$319,613.67) were not maintained separately and are included in the 2014 National School Lunch Program.

Major Programs are identified by an asterisk (*) in front of the CFDA number.

The School District did not provide Federal Assistance to any Subrecipient.

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of Federal awards includes the Federal grant activity of the Cook County Board of Education and is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting which is the basis of accounting used in the presentation of the fund financial statements.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF STATE REVENUE
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

SCHEDULE "3"

<u>AGENCY/FUNDING</u>	GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE <u>GENERAL</u> <u>FUND</u>
GRANTS	
Bright From the Start:	
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning	
Pre-Kindergarten Program	\$ 727,414.69
Education, Georgia Department of	
Quality Basic Education (1)	
Direct Instructional Cost	
Kindergarten Program	1,065,765.00
Kindergarten Program - Early Intervention Program	165,855.00
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	2,325,965.00
Primary Grades - Early Intervention (1-3) Program	447,655.00
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	964,628.00
Upper Elementary Grades - Early Intervention (4-5) Program	384,951.00
Middle School (6-8) Program	1,828,989.00
High School General Education (9-12) Program	1,784,201.00
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	533,797.00
Students with Disabilities	2,096,018.00
Gifted Student - Category VI	779,983.00
Remedial Education Program	376,106.00
Alternative Education Program	137,260.00
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	177,697.00
Media Center Program	354,083.00
20 Days Additional Instruction	107,888.00
Staff and Professional Development	69,358.00
Indirect Cost	
Central Administration	488,990.00
School Administration	677,902.00
Facility Maintenance and Operations	843,236.00
Categorical Grants	
Pupil Transportation	
Regular	351,525.00
Nursing Services	60,720.00
Vocational Supervisors	13,367.00
Principal Staff and Professional Development	1,195.00
Education Equalization Funding Grant	2,334,465.00
Food Services	44,766.00
Vocational Education	135,778.00
Amended Formula Adjustment	-2,184,540.00
Other State Programs	
Math and Science Supplement	5,242.26
Preschool Handicapped Program	62,171.00
Pupil Transportation - State Bonds	77,220.00
Teachers' Retirement	14,437.20
Technology to Support Digital Learning Bonds	19,000.00
Office of the State Treasurer	
Public School Employees' Retirement	<u>71,967.00</u>
	\$ <u><u>17,345,055.15</u></u>

(1) Payments to the Georgia Department of Community Health by the Georgia Department of Education on behalf of the School District in the amount of \$1,339,896.00 are included as part of the Quality Basic Education revenue allotments above.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 SCHEDULE OF APPROVED LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROJECTS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

SCHEDULE "4"

PROJECT	ORIGINAL ESTIMATED COST (1)	CURRENT ESTIMATED COSTS (2)	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN CURRENT YEAR (3)	AMOUNT EXPENDED IN PRIOR YEARS (3)	TOTAL COMPLETION COST	EXCESS PROCEEDS NOT EXPENDED	ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE
2011 SPLOST REFERENDUM							
a) The cost of adding to, repairing, improving, and renovating existing educational facilities	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 40,600.21	\$ 7,709.75			6/30/2017
b) Acquiring school buses, vehicles, and transportation equipment	20,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	9,000.00			6/30/2017
c) Acquiring and constructing athletic facilities	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	12,038.78			6/30/2017
d) Acquiring safety and security equipment	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	18,500.50			6/30/2017
e) Acquiring any real or personal property and constructing any infrastructure necessary for the foregoing	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			6/30/2017
f) The principal and interest on Cook County School District's General Obligation Bonds, Series 2007 and 2008 from October 1, 2011 through and including October 1, 2017.	<u>12,000,000.00</u>	<u>12,000,000.00</u>	<u>2,183,399.55</u>	<u>478,430.50</u>			10/1/2017
	<u>\$ 12,100,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 12,100,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,223,999.76</u>	<u>\$ 525,679.53</u>			

- (1) The School District's original cost estimate as specified in the resolution calling for the imposition of the Local Option Sales Tax.
- (2) The School District's current estimate of total cost for the projects. Includes all cost from project inception to completion.
- (3) The voters of Cook County approved the imposition of a 1% sales tax to fund the above projects and retire associated debt. Amounts expended for these projects may include sales tax proceeds, state, local property taxes and/or other funds over the life of the projects.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 GENERAL FUND - QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS (QBE)
 ALLOTMENTS AND EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

SCHEDULE "5"

DESCRIPTION	ALLOTMENTS FROM GEORGIA		ELIGIBLE QBE PROGRAM COSTS		
	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (1) (2) (3)		SALARIES	OPERATIONS	TOTAL
Direct Instructional Programs					
Kindergarten Program	\$ 1,187,149.00	\$ 1,017,635.87	\$ 31,854.22	\$ 1,049,490.09	
Kindergarten Program-Early Intervention Program	186,305.00	85,640.62	1,687.14	87,327.76	
Primary Grades (1-3) Program	2,594,701.00	2,262,267.93	102,663.49	2,364,931.42	
Primary Grades-Early Intervention (1-3) Program	504,789.00	147,315.85	5,636.54	152,952.39	
Upper Elementary Grades (4-5) Program	1,095,403.00	1,389,978.65	51,746.44	1,441,725.09	
Upper Elementary Grades-Early Intervention (4-5) Program	414,326.00	229,805.26	2,760.80	232,566.06	
Middle School (6-8) Program	2,057,364.00	1,906,059.60	55,118.59	1,961,178.19	
High School General Education (9-12) Program	1,999,687.00	2,580,122.10	94,726.32	2,674,848.42	
Vocational Laboratory (9-12) Program	601,484.00	798,085.35	40,377.13	838,462.48	
Students with Disabilities	2,376,755.00				
Category I			5,235.70	5,235.70	
Category II		81,614.73	2,778.05	84,392.78	
Category III		1,351,303.79	42,001.53	1,393,305.32	
Category IV		233,103.23	10,029.92	243,133.15	
Category V			10,664.79	10,664.79	
Gifted Student - Category VI	859,252.00	787,163.21	11,158.28	798,321.49	
Remedial Education Program	418,502.00	151,824.62	4,045.55	155,870.17	
Alternative Education Program	156,709.00	181,437.94	1,609.87	183,047.81	
English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	197,554.00	234,464.93	918.47	235,383.40	
TOTAL DIRECT INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS	14,649,980.00	13,437,823.68	475,012.83	13,912,836.51	
Media Center Program	396,564.00	384,913.69	50,250.19	435,163.88	
Staff and Professional Development	77,529.00	26,074.62	26,237.25	52,311.87	
TOTAL QBE FORMULA FUNDS	\$ 15,124,073.00	\$ 13,848,811.99	\$ 551,500.27	\$ 14,400,312.26	

(1) Comprised of State Funds plus Local Five Mill Share.

(2) Allotments do not include the impact of the State amended formula adjustment.

(3) Allotments do not include the State Health payments made by GDOE to the Department of Community Health for the certified employees.

See notes to the basic financial statements.

SECTION II

COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL REPORTS



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
(404) 656-2174

March 13, 2015

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the General Assembly
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Superintendent and Members of the
Cook County Board of Education

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Cook County Board of Education as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Cook County Board of Education's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 13, 2015.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Cook County Board of Education's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 Cook County Board of Education's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cook County Board of Education'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. 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 Cook County Board of Education'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*.

We noted certain matters that we have reported to management of Cook County Board of Education in a separate letter dated March 13, 2015.

Purpose of this Report

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

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

GSG:as
2014YB-10



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
(404) 656-2174

March 13, 2015

Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor
Members of the General Assembly
Members of the State Board of Education
and
Superintendent and Members of the
Cook County Board of Education

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Cook County Board of Education's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2014. Cook County Board of Education's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Cook County Board of Education's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Cook County Board of Education's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of Cook County Board of Education's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the Cook County Board of Education complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2014.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Management of Cook County Board of Education is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered Cook County Board of Education's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cook County Board of Education's internal control over compliance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a material weakness.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item FA 2014-001 to be a material weakness.

Cook County Board of Education's response to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Cook County Board of Education's response was not subjected to the auditing procedure applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

SECTION III

AUDITEE'S RESPONSE TO PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AUDITEE'S RESPONSE
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

PRIOR YEAR FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

SECTION IV

FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
 SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
 YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

I SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issue: Governmental Activities; General Fund; Capital Projects Fund; Debt Service Fund; Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
▪ Material weakness identified?	No
▪ Significant deficiency identified?	None Reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted:	No

Federal Awards

Internal Control over major programs:	
▪ Material weakness identified?	Yes
▪ Significant deficiency identified?	No
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: All major programs	Unmodified
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with OMB Circular A-143, Section 510(a)?	Yes
Identification of major programs:	
<u>CFDA Numbers</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
10.553, 10.555	Child Nutrition Cluster
84.027, 84.173	Special Education Cluster
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	\$300,000.00
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	No

II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

III FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Finding Control Number: FA 2014-001
Compliance Requirement: Activities Allowed or Unallowed
Period of Availability
Procurement, Suspension and Debarment
Internal Control Impact: Material Weakness
Compliance Impact: None
Federal Awarding Agency: U. S. Department of Agriculture
Pass-Through Entity: Georgia Department of Education
CFDA Number and Title: Child Nutrition Cluster (CFDA 10.553 and 10.555)

Description:

The internal controls of the School District were not operating as designed to provide adequate internal controls over activities allowed and allowable costs relating to the Child Nutrition Cluster.

Criteria:

Provisions of OMB Circular A-87 *Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments*, require that "to be allowable under Federal awards, costs must be...authorized or not prohibited under state or local laws or regulations" and "be adequately documented".

Condition:

A review of expenditure vouchers for the Child Nutrition Cluster revealed that 24 out of 25 voucher packages had no indication of approval by someone other than the preparer of the purchase order.

Questioned Cost:

N/A

Cause:

In discussing the issue with management, they stated that the Child Nutrition Department was understaffed during fiscal year 2014 and did not have the personnel necessary to approve all of the expenditures.

Effect or Potential Effect:

Failure to ensure that expenditures are allowable, approved and properly documented resulted in noncompliance with the requirements of the Federal grant.

Recommendation:

The School District should ensure that all internal controls are operating as designed to ensure expenditures are allowable under OMB Circular A-87, approved by appropriate management and properly documented.

Views of Responsible Officials and Corrective Action Plans:

We concur with this finding. Beginning fiscal year 2015, additional personnel have been hired in the Child Nutrition area. All invoices are signed off by the Lunchroom Manager as well as the School Nutrition Director prior to payment to ensure that the expense is allowable under OMB Circular A-87. These changes were implemented by October 2014.

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