STATE OF FLORIDA
AUDITOR GENERAL
DAVID W. MARTIN, CPA

Summary

Report Number: 2012-119

Report Title: DeSoto County District School Board – Financial, Operational, and Federal Single Audit Report

Report Period: 07/01/2010 – 06/30/2011

Release Date: 03/09/2012

Summary of Report on Financial Statements

Our audit disclosed that the District's basic financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with prescribed financial reporting standards.

Summary of Report on Internal Control and Compliance

Our audit did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses.

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Governmental Auditing Standard* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; however, we noted certain additional matters as summarized below.

ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Finding No. 1: District records did not evidence that performance assessments of school administrators were based primarily on student performance and used the required assessment criteria, contrary to Section 1012.34(3), Florida Statutes (2010).

Finding No. 2: The Board had not adopted formal policies and procedures for ensuring that a portion of each instructional employee's compensation is based on performance pursuant to Section 1012.22(1)(c)2., Florida Statutes (2010), and documenting the differentiated pay process of instructional personnel and school-based administrators using the factors prescribed in Section 1012.22(1)(c)4., Florida Statutes (2010).

Summary of Report on Federal Awards

We audited the District's Federal awards for compliance with applicable Federal requirements. The Title I, Part A Cluster; Special Education Custer; Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers; Educational Technology State Grants Cluster; and State Fiscal Stabilization Fund programs were audited as major Federal programs. The results of our audit indicated that the District materially complied with the requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major Federal programs. However, we did note a noncompliance and control deficiency finding as summarized below.

Federal Awards Finding No. 1: The District needed to strengthen its contracting and monitoring controls to ensure that services and charges for the Special Education Cluster are appropriate and adequately documented.

Audit Objectives and Scope

Our audit objectives were to determine whether the DeSoto County District School Board and its officers with administrative and stewardship responsibilities for District operations had:

- Presented the District's basic financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- Established and implemented internal control over financial reporting and compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements or on a major Federal program;
- Established internal controls that promote and encourage: 1) compliance with applicable laws, rules, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; 2) the economic and efficient operation of the District; 3) the reliability of records and reports; and 4) the safeguarding of District assets;
- Complied with the various provisions of laws, rules, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that are material to the financial statements, and those applicable to the District's major Federal programs; and
- Taken corrective actions for findings included in our report No. 2011-157.

The scope of this audit included an examination of the District's basic financial statements and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. We obtained an understanding of the District's environment, including its internal control, and assessed the risk of material misstatement necessary to plan the audit of the basic financial statements and Federal awards. We also examined various transactions to determine whether they were executed, both in manner and substance, in accordance with governing provisions of laws, rules, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements.

Audit Methodology

The methodology used to develop the findings in this report included the examination of pertinent District records in connection with the application of procedures required by auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, applicable standards contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133.

Management's response is included in the audit report as Exhibit A.