

**STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS
302 West Washington Street
Room E418
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769**

**Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner**

COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION REPORT
OF
LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION
LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024



FILED

03/26/2025



Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

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March 26, 2025

To: The Officials of the Lake Central School Corporation
Lake Central School Corporation
Lake County, Indiana

This report is supplemental to the audit report of Lake Central School Corporation (School Corporation), for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024. It has been provided as a separate report so that the reader may easily identify any findings that pertain to the School Corporation. It should be read in conjunction with the financial statement audit report of the School Corporation, which provides an opinion on the School Corporation's financial statements. This report may be found at www.in.gov/sboa/.

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we engaged private examiners under our review to perform the audit of the School Corporation and perform procedures to determine compliance with applicable Indiana laws and uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts. The findings contained herein describe the identified reportable instances of noncompliance found as a result of these procedures.

We have reviewed the supplemental report for Lake Central School Corporation prepared by Crowe LLP, Independent Public Accountants, for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024. In our opinion, the supplemental report was prepared in accordance with the guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

We call your attention to the findings in the report on page 3.

The report is filed with this letter in our office as a matter of public record.

Tammy R. White, CPA
Deputy State Examiner

LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION

Lake County, Indiana
July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024

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LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS
July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Treasurer	Cathie Romba	07-01-22 to 06-30-24
Superintendent of Schools	Larry Veracco	07-01-22 to 06-30-24
President of the School Board	Cindy Sues	01-01-22 to 12-31-24

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

To the Indiana State Board of Accounts and
Management of Lake Central School Corporation

We have examined Lake Central School Corporation's ("School Corporation") compliance with the Indiana State Board of Accounts' *Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual For Indiana Public School Corporations* during the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. Management of the School Corporation is responsible for the School Corporation's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the School Corporation's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the School Corporation complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the School Corporation complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our qualified opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the School Corporation's compliance with specified requirements.

Our examination disclosed material noncompliance with the *Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual For Indiana Public School Corporations* applicable to the School Corporation during the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024, as described in items 2024-001 and 2024-002 on the following Schedule of Examination Findings and Results.

In our opinion, except for the material noncompliance described in the preceding paragraph, the School Corporation complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements during the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024.


Crowe LLP

Indianapolis, Indiana
March 3, 2025

LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHEDULE OF EXAMINATION FINDINGS AND RESULTS
July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024

FINDING 2024-001: OVERDRAWN CASH BALANCES

Criteria: Chapter 1 of the *Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual For Indiana Public School Corporations* states in part, "The cash balance of any fund may not be reduced below zero. Routinely overdrawn funds could be an indicator of serious financial problems which should be investigated by the unit."

Condition: During testing of cash fund balances, we noted the Curricular Materials Rental Fund held a negative cash balance of \$(1,264,358) as of June 30, 2023. During fiscal year 2024, the School Corporation transferred funds from the Education Fund to resolve the fund deficit.

This is a repeat finding from report B60998.

FINDING 2024-002: SCHEDULES IN ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT – DEBT AND LEASES

Criteria: Indiana Code 5-11-1-4(a) states, "*The state examiner shall require from every municipality and every state or local governmental unit, entity, or instrumentality financial reports covering the full period of each fiscal year. These reports shall be prepared, verified, and filed with the state examiner not later than sixty (60) days after the close of each fiscal year. The reports must be in the form and content prescribed by the state examiner and filed electronically in the manner prescribed under IC 5-14-3.8-7.*"

Condition: Financial and other information are required to be entered annually into the Annual Financial Report (AFR) via the Indiana Gateway for Government Units (Gateway) financial reporting system. The information entered into Gateway contained the following errors:

Debt and Leases

- The School Corporation improperly excluded the 2024 Multi-District School Building Corporation leases. As a result, the School Corporation understated the annual lease payments by \$16,852,500.

The 2023 debt and lease information was appropriately reported. Adjustments were posted to the Schedule of Leases and Debt in the financial statement to correct these items.

LAKE CENTRAL SCHOOL CORPORATION
EXIT CONFERENCE
July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024

The contents of this report were discussed on March 3, 2025, with Rob James, Director of Business Services, Sarah Castaneda, Assistant Superintendent, Larry Veracco, Superintendent, Cindy Sue, President of the School Board, and Edward Sopko, Treasurer.