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

SUPPLEMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

OF

FREMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

STEUBEN COUNTY, INDIANA

July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016

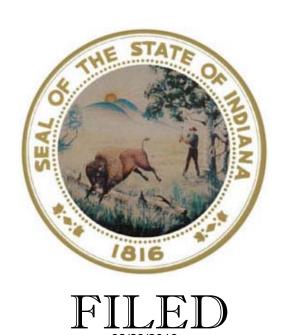


TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Description</u>	<u>Page</u>
Schedule of Officials	2
Transmittal Letter	3
Federal Findings:	
Finding 2016-001	
Preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	4-6
Finding 2016-002	
Child Nutrition Cluster - Internal Controls	6-8
Finding 2016-003	
	8-10
Finding 2016-004	
Special Education Cluster (IDEA) - Allowable Costs/Cost Principles	10-12
Finding 2016-005	40.44
Head Start - Cash Management and Period of Performance	12-14
Finding 2016-006	44.40
Head Start - Allowable Costs/Cost Principles - Time and Effort Reporting	14-16
Finding 2016-007	16 17
Head Start - Allowable Costs/Cost Principles - Indirect Costs	10-17
Corrective Action Plan	18-20
Audit Results and Comments:	
Condition of Records	21
Overdrawn Cash Balances	21
Exit Conference	22

SCHEDULE OF OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Official</u>	<u>Term</u>
Treasurer	Brandon Penrod (Vacant) Shayne Tresenriter	01-01-14 to 05-31-16 06-01-16 to 10-16-16 10-17-16 to 12-31-18
Superintendent of Schools	Loraine Vaughn Dr. William Stitt (interim) Dr. William Stitt	07-01-14 to 06-30-16 07-01-16 to 09-26-16 09-27-16 to 06-30-18
President of the School Board	Sheri Thomson Marty McNeal Gary Baker	01-01-14 to 12-31-15 01-01-16 to 12-31-17 01-01-18 to 12-31-18



STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS 302 WEST WASHINGTON STREET ROOM E418 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2769

> Telephone: (317) 232-2513 Fax: (317) 232-4711 Web Site: www.in.gov/sboa

TO: THE OFFICIALS OF THE FREMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS, STEUBEN COUNTY, INDIANA

This report is supplemental to our audit report of the Fremont Community Schools (School Corporation), for the period from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016. It has been provided as a separate report so that the reader may easily identify any Federal Findings and Audit Results and Comments that pertain to the School Corporation. It should be read in conjunction with our Financial Statement and Federal Single Audit Report of the School Corporation, which provides our opinions on the School Corporation's financial statement and federal program compliance. This report may be found at www.in.gov/sboa/.

The Federal Findings, identified in the above referenced audit report, are included in this report and should be viewed in conjunction with the Audit Results and Comments as described below.

As authorized under Indiana Code 5-11-1, we performed procedures to determine compliance with applicable Indiana laws and uniform compliance guidelines established by the Indiana State Board of Accounts. The Audit Results and Comments contained herein describe the identified reportable instances of noncompliance found as a result of these procedures. Our tests were not designed to identify all instances of noncompliance; therefore, noncompliance may exist that is unidentified.

Any Corrective Action Plan for the Federal Findings and Official Response to the Audit Results and Comments, incorporated within this report, were not verified for accuracy.

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

February 7, 2018

FREMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FEDERAL FINDINGS

FINDING 2016-001

Subject: Preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Audit Findings: Material Weakness, Noncompliance

Repeat Finding

This is a repeat finding from the immediate prior report. The prior report finding number was 2014-002.

Condition

The School Corporation did not have a proper system of internal controls in place to prevent, or detect and correct, errors on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA).

The School Corporation had not established effective internal controls over the federal award information entered into the Indiana Gateway for government units (Gateway), which is a financial reporting system used to compile the School Corporation's SEFA. One employee prepared the federal award information entered into the Gateway without a control process in place to ensure its accuracy before submission.

Context

The SEFA presented for audit contained the following errors:

- 1. The Child Nutrition Cluster expenditures were understated by \$233,784 for fiscal year 2015 and overstated by \$1,116 for fiscal year 2016.
- 2. The Child and Adult Care Food Program expenditures were understated by \$83,052 for fiscal year 2015 and overstated by \$17,013 for fiscal year 2016.
- 3. The Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability expenditures were understated by \$11,904 for fiscal year 2016.
- 4. The Special Education Cluster (IDEA) expenditures were understated by \$263,227 for fiscal year 2015 and \$9,803 for fiscal year 2016.
- 5. The Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies expenditures were understated by \$55,115 for fiscal year 2015.
- 6. The Head Start Direct Grants were understated by \$1,294,548 for fiscal year 2015 and overstated by \$595 for fiscal year 2016.

Audit adjustments were proposed, accepted by the School Corporation, and made to the SEFA presented in this report.

Criteria

The Indiana State Board of Accounts (SBOA) is required under Indiana Code 5-11-1-27(e) to define the acceptable minimum level of internal control standards. To provide clarifying guidance, the State Examiner compiled the standards contained in the manual, *Uniform Internal Control Standards for Indiana Political Subdivisions*. All political subdivisions subject to audit by SBOA are expected to adhere to these standards. The standards include adequate control activities. According to this manual:

"Control activities are the actions and tools established through policies and procedures that help to detect, prevent, or reduce the identified risks that interfere with the achievement of objectives. Detection activities are designed to identify unfavorable events in a timely manner whereas prevention activities are designed to deter the occurrence of an unfavorable event. Examples of these activities include reconciliations, authorizations, approval processes, performance reviews, and verification processes.

An integral part of the control activity component is segregation of duties. . . .

There is an expectation of segregation of duties. If compensating controls are necessary, documentation should exist to identify both the areas where segregation of duties are not feasible or practical and the compensating controls implemented to mitigate the risk. . . ."

OMB Circular A-133, Subpart C, section .300 states in part: "The auditee shall: . . . (d) Prepare appropriate financial statements, including the schedule of expenditures of Federal awards in accordance with § _____.310. . . . "

OMB Circular A-133, Subpart C, section .310(b) states:

"Schedule of expenditures of Federal awards. The auditee shall also prepare a schedule of expenditures of Federal awards for the period covered by the auditee's financial statements. While not required, the auditee may choose to provide information requested by Federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities to make the schedule easier to use. For example, when a Federal program has multiple award years, the auditee may list the amount of Federal awards expended for each award year separately. At a minimum, the schedule shall:

- (1) List individual Federal programs by Federal agency. For Federal programs included in a cluster of programs, list individual Federal programs within a cluster of programs. For R&D, total Federal awards expended shall be shown either by individual award or by Federal agency and major subdivision within the Federal agency. For example, the National Institutes of Health is a major subdivision in the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (2) For Federal awards received as a subrecipient, the name of the pass-through entity and identifying number assigned by the pass-through entity shall be included.
- (3) Provide total Federal awards expended for each individual Federal program and the CFDA number or other identifying number when the CFDA information is not available.
- (4) Include notes that describe the significant accounting policies used in preparing the schedule.
- (5) To the extent practical, pass-through entities should identify in the schedule the total amount provided to subrecipients from each Federal program.
- (6) Include, in either the schedule or a note to the schedule, the value of the Federal awards expended in the form of non-cash assistance, the amount of insurance in effect during the year, and loans or loan guarantees outstanding at year end. While not required, it is preferable to present this information in the schedule."

Cause

Management had not established a system of internal control that would have ensured proper reporting of the SEFA.

Effect

Without a proper system of internal control in place that operated effectively, material misstatements of the SEFA remained undetected. The SEFA contained the errors identified in the *Context*.

Recommendation

We recommended the School Corporation's management establish controls to prevent, or detect and correct, errors on the SEFA.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

FINDING 2016-002

Subject: Child Nutrition Cluster - Internal Controls

Federal Agency: Department of Agriculture

Federal Programs: School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program,

Summer Food Service Program for Children

CFDA Numbers: 10.553, 10.555, 10.559

Federal Award Numbers and Years (or Other Identifying Numbers): FY 2014/2015, FY 2015/2016

Pass-Through Entity: Indiana Department of Education

Compliance Requirements: Cash Management, Reporting, Procurement

and Suspension and Debarment

Audit Finding: Material Weakness

Condition

An effective internal control system, which would include segregation of duties, was not in place at the School Corporation in order to ensure compliance with requirements related to the grant agreement and the following compliance requirements: Cash Management, Reporting, and Procurement and Suspension and Debarment.

Cash Management (School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program only)

The School Corporation had not retained evidence that one individual was calculating a three months average of expenditures and another was approving the calculation.

Procurement

The School Corporation utilized an educational service center for Food Service bids. The educational service center administered the bidding process as well as verified that the vendors were not suspended or debarred. The educational service center made a recommendation to the School Corporation for the winning bids. However, there were no controls in place to ensure that the School Corporation and School Board formally approved the bids or awarded the contracts to the successful bidders. An oversight, review, or approval process had not been established.

Reporting

The School Corporation had not designed or implemented adequate policies and procedures to ensure that the Annual Financial Reports and the School Food Authority (SFA) Verification Collection Reports were accurate prior to submission. One person prepared and submitted the reports. There was no segregation of duties, such as an oversight, review, or approval process.

Context

The lack of properly designed and implemented controls was a systemic problem, which occurred throughout the audit period.

Criteria

OMB Circular A-133, Subpart C, section .300 states in part:

"The auditee shall: . . . (b) Maintain internal control over Federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that the auditee is managing Federal awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a material effect on each of its Federal programs. . . ."

2 CFR 200.303 states in part:

"The non-Federal entity must:

(a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in 'Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government' issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the 'Internal Control Integrated Framework', issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). . . . "

Cause

Management had not developed a system of internal controls that segregated key functions.

Effect

The failure to establish an effective internal control system placed the School Corporation at risk of noncompliance with the grant agreement and the compliance requirements. A lack of segregation of duties within an internal control system could have also allowed noncompliance with compliance requirements and allowed the misuse and mismanagement of federal funds and assets by not having proper oversight, reviews, and approvals over the activities of the programs.

Questioned Costs

There were no questioned costs identified.

Recommendation

We recommended that the School Corporation's management establish controls, including segregation of duties, related to the grant agreement and compliance requirements listed above.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

FINDING 2016-003

Subject: Child Nutrition Cluster - Program Income

Federal Agency: Department of Agriculture

Federal Programs: School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program

CFDA Numbers: 10.553, 10.555

Federal Award Numbers and Years (or Other Identifying Numbers): FY 2014/2015, FY 2015/2016

Pass-Through Entity: Indiana Department of Education

Compliance Requirement: Program Income

Audit Findings: Material Weakness, Qualified Opinion

Condition

An effective internal control system was not in place at the School Corporation in order to ensure compliance with requirements related to the grant agreement and the Program Income compliance requirement. There were no procedures established to ensure that the receipts of the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program were handled properly in accordance with the Program Income compliance requirement.

The School Corporation established a single fund, the School Lunch fund, for all activity or the food service programs. The School Corporation also maintained prepaid accounts for students. When prepaid funds were received, they were receipted with the program income into the School Lunch fund as revenue into a separate account set up for prepaid funds. However, when meals were purchased, they were not transferred from the prepaid account to the correct revenue account within the School Lunch fund.

Context

The School Corporation's procedures for recording revenues in the School Lunch fund prevented the ability to determine whether the School Corporation was in compliance with the Program Income compliance requirement.

The School Corporation had a lack of internal control over verifying the proper recording of daily cash receipts and a lack of control over the proper determination and posting of program income. The School Corporation did not design and implement an effective internal control to properly determine and post program income to the School Corporation's ledger.

Criteria

7 CFR 210.14(c) states:

"Financial assurances. The school food authority shall meet the requirements of the State agency for compliance with § 210.19(a) including any separation of records of nonprofit school food service from records of any other food service which may be operated by the school food authority as provided in paragraph (a) of this section."

7 CFR 220.13(i) states in part: "Each State agency . . . shall establish a financial management system under which School Food Authorities shall account for all revenues and expenditures of their nonprofit school food service. . . ."

2 CFR 200.302(b)(3) states:

"Records that identify adequately the source and application of funds for federally-funded activities. These records must contain information pertaining to Federal awards, authorizations, obligations, unobligated balances, assets, expenditures, income and interest and be supported by source documentation."

OMB Circular A-133, Subpart C, section .300 states in part:

"The auditee shall: . . . (b) Maintain internal control over Federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that the auditee is managing Federal awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a material effect on each of its Federal programs. . . ."

2 CFR 200.303 states in part:

"The non-Federal entity must:

(a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in 'Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government' issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the 'Internal Control Integrated Framework', issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). . . . "

Cause

Management had not developed a system of internal controls that would have ensured that prepaid receipts and program income receipts were segregated and available for audit.

Effect

The failure to establish a system of internal controls that would have ensured that prepaid receipts and program income receipts were segregated and available for audit prevented the determination of the School Corporation's compliance with the Program Income compliance requirement.

Questioned Costs

There were no questioned costs identified.

Recommendation

We recommended that the School Corporation's management establish controls, including segregation of duties, related to the grant agreement and the Program Income compliance requirement.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

FINDING 2016-004

Subject: Special Education Cluster (IDEA) - Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

Federal Agency: Department of Education

Federal Programs: Special Education Grants to States, Special Education Preschool Grants

CFDA Numbers: 84.027, 84.173

Federal Award Numbers and Years (or Other Identifying Numbers): 14213-046-PN01, 14214-046-PN01,

14215-046-PN01, 99914-46-TA01, 14216-046-PN01, 45715-046-PN01,

45716-044-PN01

Pass-Through Entity: Indiana Department of Education Compliance Requirement: Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

Audit Findings: Material Weakness, Other Matters

Condition

The School Corporation was a member of the Northeast Indiana Special Education Cooperative (Cooperative). The grant agreements for the federal programs were between the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) and each member school corporation of the Cooperative. The member school corporations of the Cooperative had determined that it was beneficial to pool their resources to provide Special Education services to those in need. The Cooperative designated a Fiscal Agent, who was responsible for the accounting records of the Cooperative. The Fiscal Agent of the Cooperative spent the federal money on behalf of the School Corporation and other member school corporations and was responsible for following the compliance requirements related to Allowable Costs/Cost Principles.

An effective internal control system was not in place at the Cooperative in order to ensure compliance with requirements related to the grant agreement and the Allowable Costs/Cost Principles compliance requirement. Because the grant agreements were between the IDOE and each member of the Cooperative, each member school corporation was ultimately responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements. The Fiscal Agent had not implemented adequate controls to ensure that Semi-Annual Certifications prepared were properly signed by the Special Education Director.

Context

The Semi-Annual Certifications were not all properly signed by the Special Education Director.

Criteria

OMB Circular A-133, Subpart C, section .300 states in part:

"The auditee shall: . . . (b) Maintain internal control over Federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that the auditee is managing Federal awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a material effect on each of its Federal programs. . . . "

2 CFR 200.303 states in part:

"The non-Federal entity must:

(a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in 'Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government' issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the 'Internal Control Integrated Framework', issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). . . . "

OMB Circular A-87, Attachment B, section 8h(3) states:

"Where employees are expected to work solely on a single Federal award or cost objective, charges for their salaries and wages will be supported by periodic certifications that the employees worked solely on that program for the period covered by the certification. These certifications will be prepared at least semi-annually and will be signed by the employee or supervisory official having first hand knowledge of the work performed by the employee."

2 CFR 200.430(i) states in part:

"Standards for Documentation of Personnel Expenses (1) Charges to Federal awards for salaries and wages must be based on records that accurately reflect the work performed. These records must:

- (i) Be supported by a system of internal control which provides reasonable assurance that the charges are accurate, allowable, and properly allocated;
- (ii) Be incorporated into the official records of the non-Federal entity;
- (iii) Reasonably reflect the total activity for which the employee is compensated by the non-Federal entity, not exceeding 100% of compensated activities (for IHE, this per the IHE's definition of IBS); . . .
- (vii) Support the distribution of the employee's salary or wages among specific activities or cost objectives if the employee works on more than one Federal award; a Federal award and non-Federal award; an indirect cost activity and a direct cost activity; two or more indirect activities which are allocated using different allocation bases; or an unallowable activity and a direct or indirect cost activity. . . ."

Cause

Management of the School Corporation had not designed or implemented internal control procedures to ensure compliance with the Allowable Costs/Cost Principles compliance requirement.

Effect

The failure to establish an effective internal control system placed the Cooperative and the participating school corporations in noncompliance with the grant agreement and the compliance requirement. A lack of segregation of duties within an internal control system allowed noncompliance with the compliance requirement and could have allowed the misuse and mismanagement of federal funds and assets by not having proper oversight, review, and approvals over the activities of the programs.

Questioned Costs

There were no questioned costs identified.

Recommendation

We recommended that the School Corporation's management establish controls, including segregation of duties, related to the grant agreement and the Allowable Costs/Cost Principles compliance requirement. We also recommended that the School Corporation monitor and have proper oversight of the Cooperative.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

FINDING 2016-005

Subject: Head Start - Cash Management and Period of Performance

Federal Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Federal Program: Head Start CFDA Number: 93.600

Federal Award Numbers and Years (or Other Identifying Numbers): 05CH834901, 05CH834902,

05CH834903

Pass-Through Entity: Direct

Compliance Requirements: Cash Management, Period of Performance

Audit Finding: Material Weakness

Repeat Finding

This is a repeat finding from the immediate prior report. The prior report finding number was 2014-003.

Condition

An effective internal control system was not in place at the School Corporation in order to ensure compliance with requirements related to the grant agreement and the Cash Management and Period of Performance compliance requirements.

Cash Management

The School Corporation had not established controls over the drawdowns or reimbursements. One employee was solely responsible for preparing and submitting all federal drawdowns or reimbursements. There was no segregation of duties, such as an oversight, review, or approval process.

Period of Performance

The School Corporation had not established controls to ensure federal funds were obligated within the period of performance when requesting drawdowns or reimbursements. One employee was solely responsible for preparing and submitting all federal drawdowns or reimbursements. There was no segregation of duties, such as an oversight, review, or approval process.

Context

This was a systemic problem throughout the audit period.

Criteria

OMB Circular A-133, Subpart C, section .300 states in part:

"The auditee shall: . . . (b) Maintain internal control over Federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that the auditee is managing Federal awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a material effect on each of its Federal programs. . . . "

2 CFR 200.303 states in part:

"The non-Federal entity must:

(a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in 'Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government' issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the 'Internal Control Integrated Framework', issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). . . . "

Cause

The School Corporation had not established and implemented an effective internal control system that segregated key functions.

Effect

The failure to establish an effective internal control system placed the School Corporation at risk of noncompliance with the grant agreement and the compliance requirements. A lack of segregation of duties within an internal control system could have also allowed noncompliance with the compliance requirements and allowed the misuse and mismanagement of federal funds and assets by not having proper oversight, reviews, and approvals over the activities of the program.

Questioned Costs

There were no questioned costs identified.

Recommendation

We recommended that the School Corporation's management establish controls, including segregation of duties, related to the grant agreement and compliance requirements listed above.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

FINDING 2016-006

Subject: Head Start - Allowable Costs/Cost Principles - Time and Effort Reporting

Federal Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Federal Program: Head Start CFDA Number: 93.600

Federal Award Numbers and Years (or Other Identifying Numbers): 05CH834901, 05CH834902,

05CH834903

Pass-Through Entity: Direct

Compliance Requirement: Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

Audit Findings: Material Weakness, Other Matters

Condition

An effective internal control system was not in place at the School Corporation in order to ensure compliance with requirements related to the grant agreement and the Allowable Costs/Cost Principles compliance requirement. The School Corporation did not maintain Semi-Annual Certifications.

Context

The lack of controls and failure to maintain Semi-Annual Certifications were systemic problems throughout the audit period.

Criteria

OMB Circular A-133, Subpart C, section .300 states in part:

"The auditee shall: . . . (b) Maintain internal control over Federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that the auditee is managing Federal awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a material effect on each of its Federal programs. . . . "

2 CFR 200.303 states in part:

"The non-Federal entity must:

(a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in 'Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government' issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the 'Internal Control Integrated Framework', issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). . . . "

OMB Circular A-87, Attachment B, section 8h(3) states:

"Where employees are expected to work solely on a single Federal award or cost objective, charges for their salaries and wages will be supported by periodic certifications that the employees worked solely on that program for the period covered by the certification. These certifications will be prepared at least semi-annually and will be signed by the employee or supervisory official having first hand knowledge of the work performed by the employee."

2 CFR 200.430(i) states in part:

"Standards for Documentation of Personnel Expenses (1) Charges to Federal awards for salaries and wages must be based on records that accurately reflect the work performed. These records must:

- (i) Be supported by a system of internal control which provides reasonable assurance that the charges are accurate, allowable, and properly allocated;
- (ii) Be incorporated into the official records of the non-Federal entity;
- (iii) Reasonably reflect the total activity for which the employee is compensated by the non-Federal entity, not exceeding 100% of compensated activities (for IHE, this per the IHE's definition of IBS); . . .
- (vii) Support the distribution of the employee's salary or wages among specific activities or cost objectives if the employee works on more than one Federal award; a Federal award and non-Federal award; an indirect cost activity and a direct cost activity; two or more indirect activities which are allocated using different allocation bases; or an unallowable activity and a direct or indirect cost activity. . . ."

Cause

Management of the School Corporation had not designed or implemented internal control procedures to ensure compliance with the Allowable Costs/Cost Principles compliance requirement.

Effect

The failure to establish an effective internal control system placed the School Corporation in noncompliance with the grant agreement and the compliance requirement. A lack of segregation of duties within an internal control system allowed noncompliance with the compliance requirement and could have allowed the misuse and mismanagement of federal funds and assets by not having proper oversight, reviews, and approvals over the activities of the program.

Questioned Costs

There were no questioned costs identified.

Recommendation

We recommended that the School Corporation's management establish controls, including segregation of duties, related to the grant agreement and the Allowable Costs/Cost Principles compliance requirement.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

FINDING 2016-007

Subject: Head Start - Allowable Costs/Cost Principles - Indirect Costs

Federal Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Federal Program: Head Start CFDA Number: 93.600

Federal Award Numbers and Years (or Other Identifying Numbers): 05CH834901, 05CH834902,

05CH834903

Pass-Through Entity: Direct

Compliance Requirement: Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

Audit Finding: Material Weakness

Condition

An effective internal control system was not in place at the School Corporation in order to ensure compliance with requirements related to the grant agreement and the Allowable Costs/Cost Principles compliance requirement. The School Corporation began implementing indirect costs during fiscal year 2016, and there was no documented evidence of a review and approval process over the calculation of the indirect cost rate applied.

Context

The School Corporation had approval from the grantor agency to charge indirect costs, and the indirect costs charged were allowable. However, the lack of controls was a systemic problem, as indirect costs were applied from December 2015 through June 2016 without documentation of controls over the calculation of the indirect cost rate.

Criteria

OMB Circular A-133, Subpart C, section .300 states in part:

"The auditee shall: . . . (b) Maintain internal control over Federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that the auditee is managing Federal awards in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a material effect on each of its Federal programs. . . . "

2 CFR 200.303 states in part:

"The non-Federal entity must:

(a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the non-Federal entity is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in 'Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government' issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the 'Internal Control Integrated Framework', issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). . . . "

Cause

Management had not developed a system of internal controls that segregated key functions.

Effect

The failure to establish an effective internal control system placed the School Corporation at risk of noncompliance with the grant agreement and the compliance requirement. A lack of segregation of duties within an internal control system could have also allowed noncompliance with compliance requirement and allowed the misuse and mismanagement of federal funds and assets by not having proper oversight, reviews, and approvals over the activities of the program.

Questioned Costs

There were no questioned costs identified.

Recommendation

We recommended that the School Corporation's Management establish and document controls, including segregation of duties, related to the grant agreement and the calculation of the indirect cost rate component of the Allowable Costs/Cost Principles compliance requirement.

Views of Responsible Officials

For the views of responsible officials, refer to the Corrective Action Plan that is part of this report.

Fremont Community Schools

Indiana Performance Qualified School District

Dr. William Stitt, Ed.D.

Superintendent
Shayne Tresenriter
Corporation Treasurer
Valerie Schmidt
Corporation Accounts Payable
Caleb Frederick
Corporation Technology Director
Linda McCarty
Corporation Secretary

Board of School Trustees
Gary Baker
Kimberly Bennett
Jill Cox
Anna Creager
Laura McLatcher
Marty McNeal
Jena Stuckey

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

FINDING 2016-001

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Shayne Tresenriter

Contact Phone Number: 260-495-5005

Views of Responsible Official: We concur with the finding.

Description of Corrective Action Plan: Fremont Community Schools is in the process of correcting past SEFA information in Gateway. We now have a better understanding of how and what to report for SEFA and once the federal award information is prepared, a second employee will overlook the information for accuracy before it is reported in Gateway. Both employees will initial/sign the documentation. SEFA will be reported in a timely manner and before the deadlines.

Anticipated Completion Date: The past SEFA information correction should be complete by Friday, February 9, 2018. The SEFA will be completed and reviewed by 2 different employees.

FINDING 2016-002

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Shayne Tresenriter

Contact Phone Number: 260-495-5005

Views of Responsible Official: We concur with the finding.

Description of Corrective Action Plan: Fremont Community Schools has fixed all aspects with the exception of having the Food Services Bids approved by the Board of School Trustees. The Board of School Trustees will approve the bids for the 2018/2019 school year when they are received.

Anticipated Completion Date: July 2018

FINDING 2016-003

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Shayne Tresenriter

Contact Phone Number: 260-495-5005

Views of Responsible Official: We concur with the finding.

Description of Corrective Action Plan: A system of internal controls that would have ensured that prepaid receipts and program income receipts were segregated and available for audit was not in place during the audit period. These systems were put in place July 1, 2016.

Anticipated Completion Date: Already completed.

FINDING 2016-004

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Shayne Tresenriter

Contact Phone Number: 260-495-5005

Views of Responsible Official: We concur with the finding.

Description of Corrective Action Plan: An effective internal control system was not in place with the Northeast Indiana Special Education Cooperative, which Fremont Community Schools is a member of.

Anticipated Completion Date: The Northeast Indiana Special Education Cooperative has taken care of this.

FINDING 2016-005

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Shayne Tresenriter

Contact Phone Number: 260-495-5005

Views of Responsible Official: We concur with the finding.

Description of Corrective Action Plan: Cash drawdowns were not done according to guidelines.

Anticipated Completion Date: This has been corrected.

FINDING 2016-006

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Shayne Tresenriter

Contact Phone Number: 260-495-5005

Views of Responsible Official: We concur with the finding.

Description of Corrective Action Plan: Time and Effort reporting was not maintained.

Anticipated Completion Date: Fremont Community Schools and FCS Head Start have started to maintain Time and Effort logs beginning in January 2018.

FINDING 2016-007

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Action: Shayne Tresenriter

Contact Phone Number: 260-495-5005

Views of Responsible Official: We concur with the finding.

Description of Corrective Action Plan: Indirect Costs were not implemented or maintained correctly

Anticipated Completion Date: Fremont Community Schools no longer uses Indirect Costs. This was corrected July 2016.

FREMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AUDIT RESULTS AND COMMENTS

CONDITION OF RECORDS

A similar comment also appeared in prior Report B46380, entitled CONDITION OF RECORDS.

Financial records presented for audit contained some deficiencies which included:

- 1. Bank transfers recorded as receipts and disbursements.
- 2. Interest not posted.
- 3. A bank account with a balance of \$58,586 at June 30, 2015, was not reflected in the Construction fund in the School Corporation's financial records.

At all times, the manual and/or computerized records, subsidiary ledgers, control ledger, and reconciled bank balance must agree. If the reconciled bank balance is less than the subsidiary or control ledgers, the amount needed to balance may be the personal obligation of the responsible official or employee. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Indiana Public School Corporations, Chapter 1)

OVERDRAWN CASH BALANCES

A similar comment also appeared in prior Report B46380, entitled OVERDRAWN CASH BALANCES.

The financial statement presented included the following funds with overdrawn cash balances at June 30, 2015, and June 30, 2016. The Title I 2014-15, Title I 2015-16, and Title IIA funds are overdrawn because the School Corporation is expending more than the grant award amount:

Fund	Amount Overdrawn at June 30, 2015		Amount Overdrawn at June 30, 2016	
Extra-Curricular Employee Payment	\$	762	\$	1,306
Day Care Program		111,953		111,953
Title I 2014-2015		53,473		21,703
Title I 2015-2016		-		73,873
Title II 2014-2016		-		3,810

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. (Accounting and Uniform Compliance Guidelines Manual for Indiana Public School Corporations, Chapter 1)

FREMONT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EXIT CONFERENCE

The contents of this report were discussed on February 7, 2018, with Shayne Tresenriter, Treasurer; Dr. William Stitt, Superintendent of Schools; Gary Baker, President of the School Board; and Marty McNeal, School Board member.