# KNOVA LEARNING MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

# COMMUNICATION TO THE GOVERNING BODY FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019



12700 SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Tigard, OR 97223



PAULY, ROGERS AND Co., P.C. 12700 SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave. ◆ Tigard, OR 97223 (503) 620-2632 ◆ (503) 684-7523 FAX www.paulyrogersandcocpas.com

October 3, 2019

To the Board of Directors KNOVA Learning Multnomah, Oregon

We have audited the basic financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of KNOVA Learning (School) for the year ended June 30, 2019. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

# Purpose of the Audit

Our audit was conducted using sampling, inquiries and analytical work to opine on the fair presentation of the basic financial statements and compliance with:

- · generally accepted accounting principles and auditing standards
- the Oregon Municipal Audit Law and the related administrative rules

# Our Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the basic financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the basic financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the basic financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting.

# Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the basic financial statements; therefore, our audit involved judgment about the number of transactions examined and the areas to be tested.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of the School and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the basic financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Material misstatements may result from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the School or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the School. We also communicated any internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards.

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#### Results of Audit

- 1. Audit opinion letter an unmodified opinion on the basic financial statements has been issued. This means we have given a "clean" opinion with no reservations.
- 2. State minimum standards We found no exceptions or issues requiring comment.
- 3. Management letter No separate Management Letter was issued.

#### Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used are described in Note 1 to the basic financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended June 30, 2019 except for the implementation of GASB Statement No. 83 Certain Asset Retirement Obligations and GASB Statement No. 88 Certain Disclosures Related to Debt, Including Direct Borrowings and Direct Placements. We noted no transactions entered into during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the basic financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the basic financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the basic financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the basic financial statements were management's estimates of receivables and PERS pension liabilities and deferrals which are based on estimated collectability of receivables and actuarial assumptions. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these estimates in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The disclosures in the basic financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements or determined that their effects are immaterial. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, taken as a whole. There were immaterial uncorrected misstatements noted during the audit which were discussed with management.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the basic financial statements or the auditors' report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

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# Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter.

# Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the basic financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards with management each year prior to our retention as the auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

# Required Supplementary Information

We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures 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 did not audit the required supplementary information and do no express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

#### Other Information

We were not engaged to report on the other information, the listing of Board members, and the other information as listed in the table of contents, which accompany the basic financial statements but is not required supplementary information. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

# Other Matters - Future Accounting and Auditing Issues

In order to keep you aware of new auditing standards issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accounts and accounting statements issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), we have prepared the following summary of the more significant upcoming issues:

# **GASB 84 – FIDUCIARY ACTIVITIES**

This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018. The objective of this Statement is to improve guidance regarding the identification of fiduciary activities for accounting and financial reporting purposes and how those activities should be reported. This Statement establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities of all state and local governments. The focus of the criteria generally is on (1) whether a government is controlling the assets of the fiduciary activity and (2) the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists. Separate criteria are included to identify fiduciary component units and postemployment benefit arrangements that are fiduciary activities. An activity meeting the criteria should be

reported in a fiduciary fund in the basic financial statements. Governments with activities meeting the criteria should present a statement of fiduciary net position and a statement of changes in fiduciary net position. An exception to that requirement is provided for a business-type activity that normally expects to hold custodial assets for three months or less. This Statement describes four fiduciary funds that should be reported, if applicable: (1) pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, (2) investment trust funds, (3) private-purpose trust funds, and (4) custodial funds. Custodial funds generally should report fiduciary activities that are not held in a trust or equivalent arrangement that meets specific criteria. A fiduciary component unit, when reported in the fiduciary fund financial statements of a primary government, should combine its information with its component units that are fiduciary component units and aggregate that combined information with the primary government's fiduciary funds. This Statement also provides for recognition of a liability to the beneficiaries in a fiduciary fund when an event has occurred that compels the government to disburse fiduciary resources. Events that compel a government to disburse fiduciary resources occur when a demand for the resources has been made or when no further action, approval, or condition is required to be taken or met by the beneficiary to release the assets.

#### GASB 87 - LEASES

This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019. The primary objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for leases by governments. This Statement increases the usefulness of governments' financial statements by requiring recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources or outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this Statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities.

# <u>GASB 89 - ACCOUNTING FOR INTEREST COST INCURRED BEFORE THE END OF A</u> <u>CONSTRUCTION PERIOD</u>

This Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019. The objectives of this Statement are to enhance the relevance and comparability of information about capital assets and the cost of borrowing for a reporting period and to simplify accounting for interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period. This Statement establishes accounting requirements for interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period. Such interest cost includes all interest that previously was accounted for in accordance with the requirements of paragraphs 5-22 of Statement No. 62, Codification of Accounting and Financial Reporting Guidance Contained in Pre-November 30, 2989 FASB and AICPA Pronouncements, which are superseded by this Statement. This Statement requires that interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period be recognized as an expense in the period in which the cost is incurred for financial statements prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. As a result, interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period will not be included in the historical cost of a capital asset reported in a business-type activity or enterprise fund. This Statement also reiterates that in financial statements prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus, interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period should be recognized as an expenditure on a basis consistent with governmental fund accounting principles.

# Best Practices - Not Significant Deficiencies

# 1. Governing Body Monitoring

An integral part of internal controls is the monitoring of financial activities by those charged with the governance (the Board). This can be accomplished by asking specifically designed questions to senior staff, by reviewing basic financial statements and projections and by comparing financial results to preestablished benchmarks. While Board members participate in the budget adoption process and receive staff prepared basic financial statements, these only partially fulfill the monitoring function.

We recommend that the Board articulate their monitoring practices and record in the minutes when those activities occur.

# 2. QuickBooks Accounting Software

QuickBooks accounting software is used. QuickBooks may allow users to delete transactions without any audit trail remaining. We recommend that you evaluate the risk of using this program and consider reviewing the audit tracker on a periodic basis for unusual transactions to ensure it had not been shut off. This review should be documented.

#### 3. Fidelity Insurance Coverage

In reviewing fidelity (employee honesty) insurance coverage, we noticed that the School often carries cash and investment balances in excess of the insurance coverage amount. We recommend that the Board examine this exposure risk and make a determination as to the amount of insurance coverage they feel is prudent in regard to their oversight.

#### 4. Form I-9 Compliance

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) agency requires all employers to complete section two of the form I-9. In this section of the form, employers document their examination of employee-provided identification papers. In our testing of salaries, we noted that the School is not always in compliance with this federal requirement. We recommend that the School ensure that section two of form I-9 is complete for all employees.

#### 5. IT Controls

During our review of IT controls over the accounting software, we noted that there is no policy in place for quality of passwords (length, special characters, etc) and no policy regarding the frequency with which passwords are changed. We recommend that the School adopt a policy addressing these IT-related internal controls.

#### 6. Third Party Accountant Oversight

According to a review of management hierarchy, there appear to be times when decision-making authority is unclear as to which individual from management is responsible for reviewing and approving various financial decisions involving the work of the third party accountant. We recommend management consider adopting a policy or crafting a position paper to clarify and document the individual who is responsible for exercising oversight of the third party accountant.

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# 7. Bank Reconciliation Approval

During cash testing it was noted that there was no evidence of approval on any of the bank reconciliations tested, rather the approval signature was on the front bank statement page. We recommend that the approval signature be made on the bank reconciliation document itself.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Roy R. Rogers, CPA

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