



Office of the Washington State Auditor
Pat McCarthy

Accountability Audit Report

Franklin Pierce School District No. 402

Pierce County

For the period September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2016

Published August 31, 2017

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Office of the Washington State Auditor
Pat McCarthy

August 31, 2017

Board of Directors
Franklin Pierce School District No. 402
Tacoma, Washington

Report on Accountability

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you to promote accountability, integrity and openness in government. The State Auditor's Office takes seriously our role of providing state and local governments with assurance and accountability as the independent auditor of public accounts. In this way, we strive to help government work better, cost less, deliver higher value and earn greater public trust.

Independent audits provide essential accountability and transparency for District operations. This information is valuable to management, the governing body and public stakeholders when assessing the government's stewardship of public resources.

The attached comprises our report on the District's compliance and safeguarding of public resources. Our independent audit report describes the overall results and conclusions for areas we examined. We appreciate the opportunity to work with your staff and we value your cooperation during the audit.

Sincerely,

Pat McCarthy
State Auditor
Olympia, WA

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AUDIT SUMMARY

Results in brief

In the areas we audited, District operations complied with applicable requirements and provided adequate safeguarding of public resources. The District also complied with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures in the areas we examined.

About the audit

This report contains the results of our independent accountability audit of the Franklin Pierce School District No. 402 from September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2016.

Management is responsible for ensuring compliance and adequate safeguarding of public resources from fraud, loss or abuse. This includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal controls relevant to these objectives.

Our audit involved performing procedures to obtain evidence about the District's uses of public resources, compliance with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures, and internal controls over such matters.

In keeping with general auditing practices, we do not examine every transaction, activity or area. Instead, the areas examined were those representing the highest risk of fraud, loss, abuse, or noncompliance. The following areas were examined during this audit period:

- Accounting/financial reporting
- Cash receipting
- Insurance/risk management
- Associated Student Body
- Student enrollment reporting for career and technical education
- Payments/expenditures

RELATED REPORTS

Financial

Our opinion on the District's financial statements and compliance with federal grant program requirements is provided in a separate report, which includes the District's financial statements. The report includes a finding for a material weakness in controls over financial reporting and financial statement preparation. The report is available on our website, <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

Federal grant programs

We evaluated internal controls and tested compliance with the federal program requirements, as applicable, for the District's major federal program, which is listed in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs section of the separate financial statement and single audit report. The report includes a federal finding regarding a significant deficiency in controls over suspension and debarment for the Nutrition Cluster. The report is available on our website, <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

Other reports

We have conducted a separate audit to examine the District's compliance with Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) requirements. That separate report also includes the status of findings contained in the prior year audit report relating to the District's compliance with ALE requirements. The report is available on our website, <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Franklin Pierce School District No. 402, located in Pierce County, provides educational services to students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. The District has two high schools, two middle schools, an early learning center, eight elementary schools, one alternative high school, and one Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) program.

The District's approximately 1,000 employees serve approximately 7,700 students. An elected, five-member Board of Directors governs the District. The Board appoints a Superintendent to oversee the District's daily operations. The District operated on an annual general fund budget of approximately \$97.7 million in the 2015-2016 school year.

Contact information related to this report	
Address:	Franklin Pierce School District No. 402 315 S. 129th Street Tacoma, WA 98444
Contact:	Tammy Bigelow, Asst. Director of Business Services
Telephone:	(253) 298-3035
Website:	www.fpschools.org

Information current as of report publish date.

Audit history

You can find current and past audit reports for Franklin Pierce School District No. 402 at <http://portal.sao.wa.gov/ReportSearch>.

ABOUT THE STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

The State Auditor's Office is established in the state's Constitution and is part of the executive branch of state government. The State Auditor is elected by the citizens of Washington and serves four-year terms.

We work with our audit clients and citizens to achieve our vision of government that works for citizens, by helping governments work better, cost less, deliver higher value, and earn greater public trust.

In fulfilling our mission to hold state and local governments accountable for the use of public resources, we also hold ourselves accountable by continually improving our audit quality and operational efficiency and developing highly engaged and committed employees.

As an elected agency, the State Auditor's Office has the independence necessary to objectively perform audits and investigations. Our audits are designed to comply with professional standards as well as to satisfy the requirements of federal, state, and local laws.

Our audits look at financial information and compliance with state, federal and local laws on the part of all local governments, including schools, and all state agencies, including institutions of higher education. In addition, we conduct performance audits of state agencies and local governments as well as [fraud](#), state [whistleblower](#) and [citizen hotline](#) investigations.

The results of our work are widely distributed through a variety of reports, which are available on our [website](#) and through our free, electronic [subscription](#) service.

We take our role as partners in accountability seriously, and provide training and technical assistance to governments, and have an extensive quality assurance program.

Contact information for the State Auditor's Office	
Public Records requests	PublicRecords@sao.wa.gov
Main telephone	(360) 902-0370
Toll-free Citizen Hotline	(866) 902-3900
Website	www.sao.wa.gov