PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

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News for Immediate Release

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Auditor General DeFoor Releases Audits for School Districts in Washington and Westmoreland Counties

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Timothy L. DeFoor today announced the release of audit reports for school districts in Washington and Westmoreland counties, both of which identified financial issues stemming from a lack of internal controls.

"Our audits make sure that taxpayer funds are used efficiently and effectively," DeFoor said. "Audits hold school administrators accountable and ensure that students are getting the best educational opportunities available."

The Department of the Auditor General examines the records of school districts, charter schools, intermediate units and area vocational-technical schools. The audit assessments include whether school entities received the state subsidies and reimbursements to which they were entitled, accurately managed taxpayer funds, and complied with ethics codes.

Audits are shared with the state Department of Education so that future reimbursements to school districts can be adjusted to balance out past errors.

The full audit reports are available online using the links provided below.

Washington County

California Area School District – Four findings: A lack of internal controls resulted in two former officials being overpaid a cumulative total of \$9,468 upon leaving the district. A lack of internal controls resulted in an overpayment of \$13,475 in supplemental transportation reimbursements, as well as an inability to audit \$2.8 million in regular transportation reimbursements. The district failed to maintain complete records for and properly monitor its contracted bus drivers. The district did not comply with all safety planning and fire drill requirements.

Westmoreland County

Kiski Area School District – Two findings: A lack of internal controls led to inaccurate reporting of nonresident student data, resulting in an over-reimbursement from the state of \$222,480. It also failed to maintain complete records for and properly monitor its contracted bus drivers.

Review audits of other school districts and learn more about the Department of the Auditor General online at <u>www.PaAuditor.gov</u>.

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