



Pennsylvania Department of the

# AUDITOR GENERAL

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## News for Immediate Release

June 28, 2019

### **Auditor General DePasquale to Conduct Performance Audit of I-LEAD Charter School in Berks County**

**HARRISBURG** – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today said he will conduct a performance audit of the I-LEAD charter school in Reading, Berks County.

“My goal is to ensure full accountability for the substantial public funding the charter school receives,” DePasquale said. “My audit will make certain that I-LEAD is in compliance with state laws, regulations, contracts and administrative procedures.”

The I-LEAD charter school, which serves students in grades 9 to 12, receives about \$5 million in taxpayer funding annually from the Reading School District.

Last spring, I-LEAD Inc. lost a court case in which it had tried to avoid paying \$2.8 million in overdue property taxes. Ruling in that case, the judge said the large salaries paid to I-LEAD executives appear “more in line with a profit making institution than a truly charitable organization.”

DePasquale said his audit will focus on issues including:

- The school’s financial position;
- Budgeting practices;
- School safety;
- Governance;
- Contract management and monitoring;
- Sunshine Act compliance;
- Lease reimbursements;
- Teacher and administrator certification; and
- Hiring practices.

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