



Pennsylvania Department of the

# AUDITOR GENERAL

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## News for Immediate Release

July 9, 2019

### **Auditor General DePasquale to Conduct Early Audit of Lehigh Area School District in Carbon County**

#### ***District struggling with multi-million dollar budget deficit***

**HARRISBURG** – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today said he has moved up the timeline to begin an audit of the Lehigh Area School District in Carbon County, which is struggling with a multi-million dollar budget deficit.

“Local residents who are concerned about the district’s governance and financial management have asked me to conduct an audit,” DePasquale said. “It’s important for the adults who are running the district to remember that the best interests of students should always be their primary focus.”

DePasquale’s [last audit](#) of the district was conducted in 2015. The new audit will cover July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2018. It was originally scheduled to begin later this year.

The audit will focus on areas that may include:

- Financial stability,
- Administrator contract buyouts,
- School safety,
- Teacher and administrator certification,
- Transportation operations,
- Bus driver qualifications, and
- Overall district governance.

DePasquale notified district officials prior to the start of audit work.

“Following my audit recommendations can help districts overcome obstacles and focus on improving student education, as the remarkable turnaround in the Reading School District has proven,” DePasquale added.

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