

LIMITED PROCEDURES ENGAGEMENT

Venango Technology Center Venango County, Pennsylvania

May 2019



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General

Eugene A. DePasquale • Auditor General



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EUGENE A. DePASQUALE
AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. Mario S. Fontanazza, Jr., Director
Venango Technology Center
One Vo Tech Drive
Oil City, Pennsylvania 16301

Mrs. Cheryl Ferry, Board President
Venango Technology Center
One Vo Tech Drive
Oil City, Pennsylvania 16301

Dear Mr. Fontanazza and Mrs. Ferry:

We conducted a Limited Procedures Engagement (LPE) of the Venango Technology Center (Technology Center) to determine its compliance with certain relevant state laws, regulations, policies, and administrative procedures (relevant requirements). The LPE covers the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017, except for any areas of compliance that may have required an alternative to this period. The engagement was conducted pursuant to authority derived from Article VIII, Section 10 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and The Fiscal Code (72 P.S. §§ 402 and 403), but was not conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

As we conducted our LPE procedures, we sought to determine answers to the following questions, which serve as our LPE objectives:

- Did the Technology Center have documented board policies and administrative procedures related to the following?
 - Internal controls
 - Budgeting practices
 - The Right-to-Know Law
 - The Sunshine Act
- Were the policies and procedures adequate and appropriate, and have they been properly implemented?
- Did the Technology Center comply with the relevant requirements in the Right-to-Know Law and the Sunshine Act?

Mr. Mario S. Fontanazza, Jr.

Mrs. Cheryl Ferry

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Our engagement found that the Technology Center properly implemented policies and procedures for the areas mentioned above and complied, in all significant respects, with relevant requirements.

We also evaluated the application of best practices in the area of school safety. Due to the sensitive nature of this issue and the need for the results of this review to be confidential, we did not include the results in this report. However, we communicated the results of our review of school safety to District officials, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other appropriate officials as deemed necessary.

We appreciate the Technology Center's cooperation during the conduct of the engagement.

Sincerely,



Eugene A. DePasquale
Auditor General

May 2, 2019

cc: **VENANGO TECHNOLOGY CENTER** Joint Operating Committee

Background Information

School Characteristics 2018-19 School Year ^A		Mission Statement ^A
Counties	Venango, Forest, & Crawford	<p>The vision of the Venango Technology Center is to provide quality training for quality people. Our programs and services will meet or exceed our customer’s expectations in every way and we will always seek to continually improve in all areas. VTC’s programs and services will attract interested students with a strong desire to succeed in their area of technical education and who are motivated to attend school on a regular basis. Quality training will be provided through collaboration with an engaged community, which includes students, parents, employers, and other important stakeholders. It is expected that the implementation of this plan will result in a high quality, relevant curriculum and effective instructional and organizational practices which will produce positive customer satisfaction and student NOCTI scores, which will be at or above the state average. Upon graduation, VTC students will be well prepared for additional post secondary education and/or for success in the workplace.</p>
Full-Time or Part-Time School	Part-time	
Secondary Pupils Enrolled	503	
Post-Secondary Pupils Enrolled	62	
Total Teachers	24	
Total Full or Part-Time Support Staff	17	
Total Administrators	4	
Intermediate Unit Number	6	

A - Source: Information provided by the Technology Center administration and is unaudited.

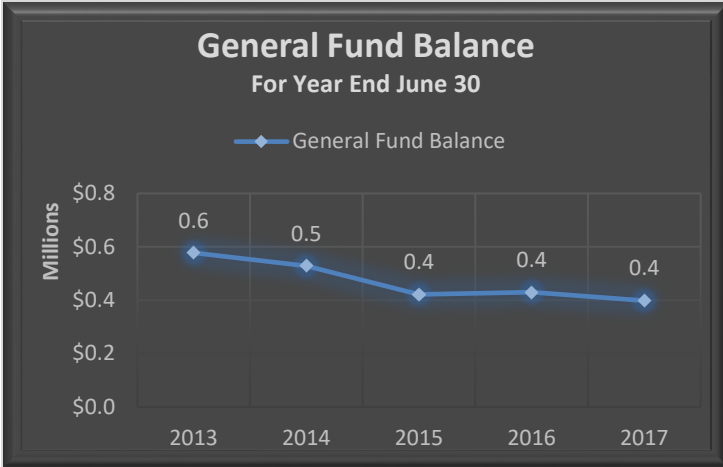
The operation, administration, and management of the Venango Technology Center (Technology Center) are directed by a joint operating committee (JOC), which is comprised of ten members from the following school districts:

Cranberry Area	Forest Area
Franklin Area	Oil City Area
Titusville Area	Valley Grove

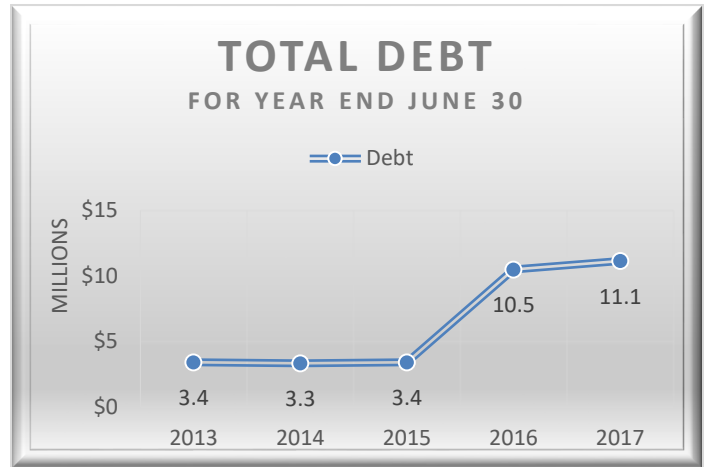
The JOC members are appointed by the individual school boards, each to serve a three-year term.

Financial Information

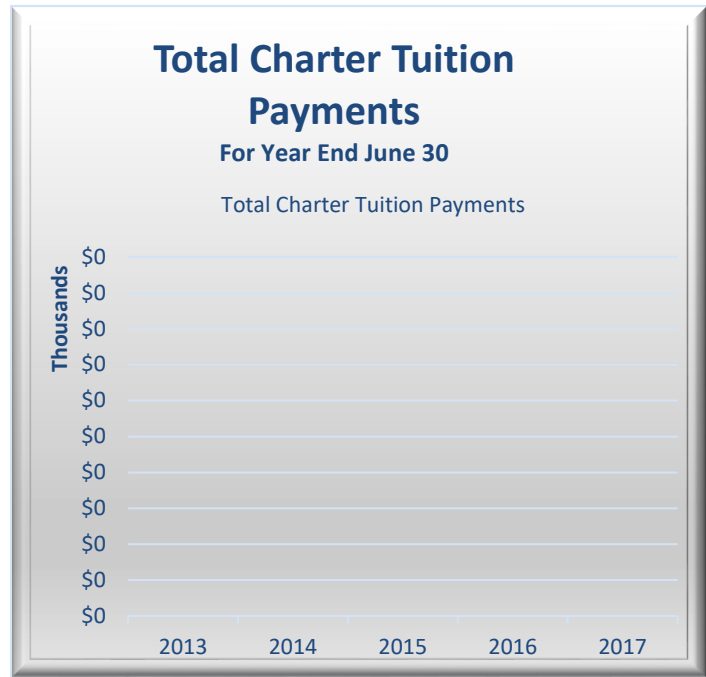
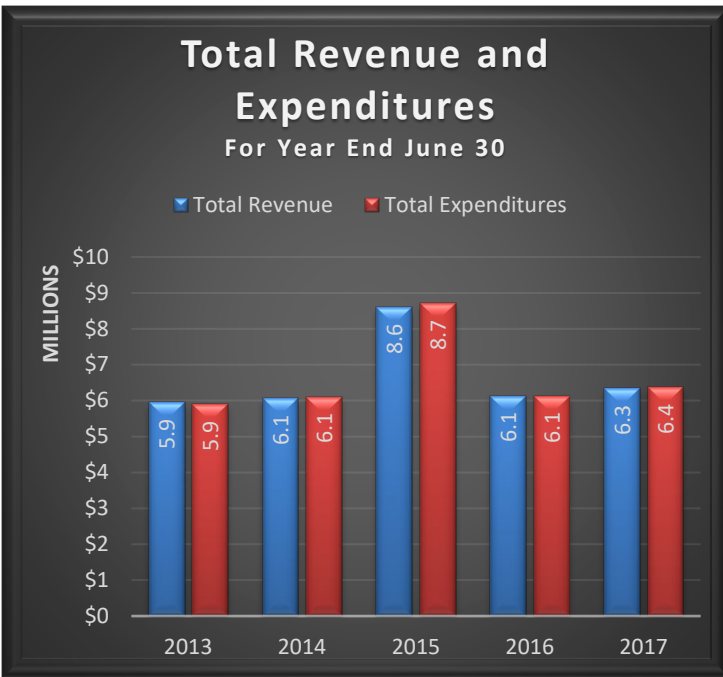
The following pages contain financial information about the Technology Center obtained from annual financial data reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and available on the PDE’s public website. This information was not audited and is presented for **informational purposes only**.



Note: General Fund Balance is comprised of the District’s Committed, Assigned and Unassigned Fund Balances.

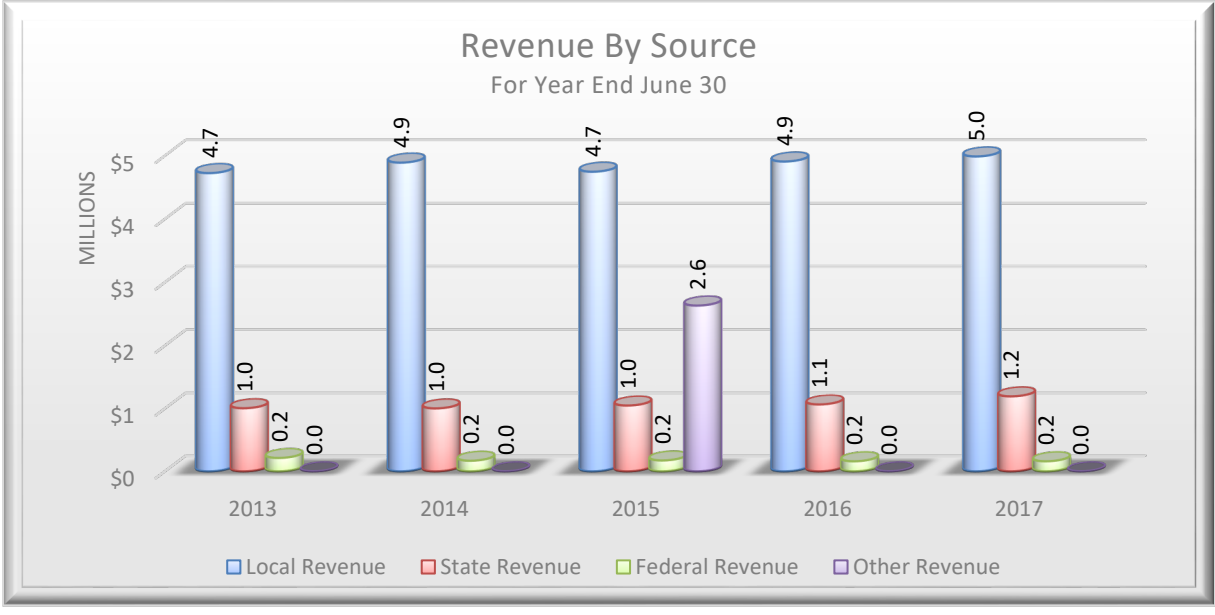


Note: Total Debt is comprised of Short-Term Borrowing, General Obligation Bonds, Authority Building Obligations, Other Long-Term Debt, Other Post-Employment Benefits, Compensated Absences and Net Pension Liability.



Note: Career and technical centers do not make payments to charter schools for tuition. These payments are made by the home district of each student.

Financial Information Continued



Local revenues were primarily obtained from direct payments by the member districts based on the approved budget. Each district’s proportionate share of the operating expenditures was determined by a formula involving average daily membership as specified in the Articles of Agreement.

Academic Information

SPP benchmarks represent the statewide average of all district school buildings in the Commonwealth.¹ PSSA benchmarks and goals are determined by the PDE each school year and apply to all public school entities.²

Part-time career and technical centers, such as the Venango Technology Center, do not receive academic scores. Academic instruction in the core content areas occurs in the students' home district and are therefore reported within the scores of the students' home district.³ Full-time comprehensive career and technical centers providing core content receive academic scores.

4 Year Cohort Graduation Rates

Part-time career and technical centers do not report a graduation rate. Each students' graduation rate is reported through the home district for that student. Full-time comprehensive career and technical centers report graduation rates to the PDE.

¹ Statewide averages for SPP scores were calculated based on all district school buildings throughout the Commonwealth, excluding charter and cyber charter schools.

² PSSA benchmarks apply to all district school buildings, charters, and cyber charters. In the 2011-12 school year, the state benchmarks reflect the Adequate Yearly Progress targets established under No Child Left Behind. In the 2012-13 and 2013-14 school years, the state benchmarks reflect the statewide goals based on annual measurable objectives established by the PDE.

³ <http://paschoolperformance.org/FAQ>

Status of Prior Audit Findings and Observations

Our prior Limited Procedures Engagement of the Venango Technology Center resulted in no findings or observations.

Distribution List

This letter was initially distributed to the Director of the Center, the Joint Operating Committee, and the following stakeholders:

The Honorable Tom W. Wolf

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Harrisburg, PA 17120

The Honorable Pedro A. Rivera

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This letter is a matter of public record and is available online at www.PaAuditor.gov. Media questions about the letter can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 229 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: News@PaAuditor.gov.