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News for Immediate Release

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Auditor General DePasquale Announces Early Audit of Old Forge School District in Lackawanna County

2015 audit found more than a quarter-million dollar deficit

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today said he has moved up the timeline to launch a new audit of the Old Forge School District in Lackawanna County, where his last audit found growing financial challenges.

"Educating students should be the top priority of every school district," DePasquale said. "Following reports of serious dysfunction within the Old Forge school board, I believe it's necessary to start my next audit in June rather than at the end of the year."

DePasquale's 2015 audit of the Old Forge School District found a \$264,582 general fund deficit and recommended district officials work to avoid going deeper in debt. During the new audit, which will cover July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2018, auditors will evaluate the extent to which the district followed up on the 2015 recommendations.

"As the turnaround in the Reading School District has demonstrated, following my audit recommendations can help districts overcome obstacles and focus on improving student education," DePasquale said.

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.

District officials will receive official notification prior to the start of audit work in June.

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