

To the Board of Education
Montessori Learning Center
Northland Pines School District
Eagle River, Wisconsin

We have audited the balance sheet – regulatory basis and statement of revenues, expenditures, other financing source and change in fund balance – regulatory basis of Montessori Learning Center (School) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated information in our engagement letter to you as well as verbally during our initial planning meetings. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Our Responsibility Under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States of America and Governmental Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with *Wisconsin Statute 118.40(2m)(a)* as prescribed by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. We are responsible for planning and performing the audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

Our audit included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit involved judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of the entity and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing and extent of further audit procedures. Material misstatements may result from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity. Any internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under professional standards are included later in this letter.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the School's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit.

Significant Audit Findings

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Montessori Learning Center are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted for 2019. We noted no transactions entered into by the School during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. There were no particularly sensitive estimates.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There were no particularly sensitive disclosures contained within the financial statements.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. For purposes of this letter, professional standards define an audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial statements that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. An audit adjustment may or may not indicate matters that could have a significant effect on the School's financial reporting process (that is, cause future financial statements to be materially misstated).

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit’s financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor’s opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the School’s auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements - regulatory basis as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, we considered the School’s internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School’s internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and therefore there can be no assurance that all such deficiencies have been identified.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the following deficiency in the School’s internal control to be a significant deficiency:

Financial Reporting - Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal controls and for the fair presentation of the financial position, change in fund balance, and disclosures in the financial statements, in conformity with *Wisconsin Statute 118.40(2m)(a)* as prescribed by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. During our audit we noted the internal control system does not include a process for preparing the annual audited financial statements and the related disclosures in accordance with the *Wisconsin Statute 118.40(2m)(a)* as prescribed by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. Management requested that we assist in preparing a draft of the audited financial statements, including the related footnote disclosures. The outsourcing is a result of management’s cost/benefit decision to use our accounting expertise rather than incurring this internal resource cost. This matter is common in most small organizations since they do not have the resources to devote to this area of internal control.

Internal Control Over Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on compliance. The results of our tests disclosed no instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Closing

We will review the status of this comment during our next audit engagement. We already discussed this comment and suggestion with various governmental unit personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the recommendations.

We thank you for allowing us to be of service to the Montessori Learning Center. We received complete cooperation and appreciate your consideration of our comments and your implementation of suggestions.

Our report is intended solely for the information and use of Montessori Learning Center and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

KerberRose SC

KerberRose SC
Certified Public Accountants
June 30, 2020