

REPORT DIGEST

**REGIONAL OFFICE OF
EDUCATION #16**

DEKALB COUNTY

FINANCIAL AUDIT

For the Year Ended:
June 30, 2009

Summary of Findings:

Total this audit	1
Total last audit	2
Repeated from last audit	1

Release Date:
August 25, 2010



State of Illinois
Office of the Auditor General
WILLIAM G. HOLLAND
AUDITOR GENERAL

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Office of the Auditor General
Iles Park Plaza
740 E. Ash Street
Springfield, IL 62703
(217) 782-6046 or TTY (888) 261-2887

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the worldwide web at
<http://www.auditor.illinois.gov>

SYNOPSIS

- The Regional Office of Education #16 did not have sufficient internal controls over the financial reporting process.

{Expenditures and Revenues are summarized on the reverse page.}

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION #16
DEKALB COUNTY

FINANCIAL AUDIT
For The Year Ended June 30, 2009

	FY 2009	FY 2008
TOTAL REVENUES	\$946,607	\$945,770
Local Sources	\$142,493	\$146,796
% of Total Revenues	15.05%	15.52%
State Sources	\$747,112	\$782,974
% of Total Revenues	78.93%	82.79%
Federal Sources	\$57,002	\$16,000
% of Total Revenues	6.02%	1.69%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$924,310	\$930,155
Salaries and Benefits	\$380,259	\$390,454
% of Total Expenditures	41.14%	41.98%
Purchased Services	\$363,463	\$365,556
% of Total Expenditures	39.32%	39.30%
All Other Expenditures	\$180,588	\$174,145
% of Total Expenditures	19.54%	18.72%
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$125,821	\$103,524
INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS	\$0	\$0
Percentages may not add due to rounding.		

REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT
During Audit Period: Honorable Gilbert E. Morrison, Jr. Currently: Honorable Gilbert E. Morrison, Jr.

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL STATEMENT
PREPARATION**

The Regional Office of Education #16 did not have sufficient internal controls over the financial reporting process.

The Regional Office of Education #16 is required to maintain a system of controls over the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Regional Office internal controls over GAAP financial reporting should include adequately trained personnel with the knowledge and expertise to prepare and/or thoroughly review GAAP based financial statements to ensure that they are free of material misstatements and include all disclosures as required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

The Regional Office of Education #16 did not have sufficient internal controls over the financial reporting process. The Regional Office maintains their accounting records on the cash basis of accounting. While the Regional Office maintains controls over the processing of most accounting transactions, there are not sufficient controls over the preparation of the GAAP based financial statements for management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions to prevent or detect financial statement misstatements and disclosure omissions in a timely manner. For example, auditors, in their review of the Regional Office's accounting records, noted the following:

- The Regional Office did not maintain adequate internal controls over the processing of all financial transactions and numerous adjustments were required to present financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of this condition, the Regional Office did not have the ability to prepare accrual-basis financial reports.
- The Regional Office did not have adequate controls over the maintenance of complete records of accounts receivable or accounts payable.

According to Regional Office officials, they did not have adequate funding to hire and/or train their accounting personnel in order to comply with these requirements. (Finding 09-1, pages 9-10) **This finding was first reported in 2007.**

The auditors recommended that, as part of its internal control over the preparation of its financial statements, including disclosures, the Regional Office of Education #16 should implement a comprehensive preparation and/or review procedure to ensure that the financial statements, including disclosures, are complete and accurate. Such procedures should be performed by a properly trained individual(s) possessing a thorough understanding of applicable generally accepted accounting principles, GASB pronouncements, and knowledge of the Regional Office of Education's activities and operations.

The Regional Office of Education #16 responded that it has engaged an accounting firm to prepare a program that allows for internal preparation and review of financial statements. These procedures must be performed internally because the added expense of hiring properly trained individuals is cost prohibitive for a small entity such as the ROE. The Regional Office noted that funding for ROE services is extremely tight, and paying for a service such as was noted would take away from the funds available to provide educational services for schools in the Region. The Regional Office noted that it will continue to do the best it can with the limited resources available. (For previous Regional Office response, see Digest Footnote #1.)

AUDITORS' OPINION

Our auditors state the Regional Office of Education #16's financial statements as of June 30, 2009 are fairly presented in all material respects.

WILLIAM G. HOLLAND, Auditor General

WGH:KJM

SPECIAL ASSISTANT AUDITORS

Our special assistant auditors were Lindgren, Callihan, Van Osdol & Co., Ltd.

DIGEST FOOTNOTES

#1: Controls Over Financial Statement Preparation - Previous Regional Office Response

In its prior response in 2008, the Regional Office of Education #16 responded that it had engaged an accounting firm to prepare a program that allows for internal preparation and review of financial statements. These procedures must be performed internally because the added expense of hiring properly trained individuals was cost prohibitive for a small entity such as the ROE. The Regional Office noted that funding for ROE services was extremely tight, and paying for a service such as noted would take away from the funds available to provide educational services for the schools in the region. The Regional Office noted that it will continue to do the best it can with the limited resources available.