

REPORT DIGEST

**REGIONAL OFFICE OF
EDUCATION #43**

**MARSHALL/PUTNAM/
WOODFORD COUNTIES**

FINANCIAL AUDIT

For the Year Ended:
June 30, 2009

Summary of Findings:

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

Release Date:
September 9, 2010



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

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

SYNOPSIS

- The Regional Office of Education #43 did not have sufficient internal controls over the financial reporting process.

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

REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION #43
MARSHALL/PUTNAM/WOODFORD COUNTIES

FINANCIAL AUDIT
For The Year Ended June 30, 2009

	FY 2009	FY 2008
TOTAL REVENUES	\$655,454	\$658,695
Local Sources	\$90,893	\$100,011
% of Total Revenues	13.87%	15.18%
State Sources	\$507,378	\$547,656
% of Total Revenues	77.41%	83.14%
Federal Sources	\$57,183	\$11,028
% of Total Revenues	8.72%	1.67%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$602,081	\$612,900
Salaries and Benefits	\$507,057	\$489,502
% of Total Expenditures	84.22%	79.87%
Purchased Services	\$64,778	\$99,994
% of Total Expenditures	10.76%	16.31%
All Other Expenditures	\$30,246	\$23,404
% of Total Expenditures	5.02%	3.82%
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$276,179	\$222,806
INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS	\$2,186	\$1,872
Percentages may not add due to rounding.		

REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT
During Audit Period: Honorable Ronda Bangert-Cross Currently: Honorable Ronda Bangert-Cross

FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL STATEMENT PREPARATION

The Regional Office of Education #43 did not have sufficient internal controls over the financial reporting process.

The Regional Office of Education #43 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 #43 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.

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 #43 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 #43 responded that it understands the nature of this finding and realizes that this circumstance is not unusual in an organization of this size. The Regional Office accepts the degree of risk associated with this condition because the added expense of seeking additional accounting expertise to prepare and review financial statements would diminish the limited available funds for educational services in the region. The Regional Office noted that management will monitor the internal controls and need for additional training and implement training as funding in the State budget allows. (For previous Regional Office response, see Digest Footnote #1.)

AUDITORS' OPINION

Our auditors state the Regional Office of Education #43'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 Martin & Shadid, CPAs, P.C.

DIGEST FOOTNOTES

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

In its prior response in 2008, the Regional Office of Education #43 responded that it understands the nature of this finding and realizes that this circumstance is not unusual in an organization of this size. The Regional Office accepts the degree of risk associated with this condition because the added expense of seeking additional accounting expertise to prepare and review financial statements would diminish the limited available funds for educational services in the region. The Regional Office noted that management will monitor the internal controls and need for additional training and implement training as funding allows.