



LINDSEY A. PERRY
AUDITOR GENERAL

ARIZONA
AUDITOR GENERAL

MELANIE M. CHESNEY
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

September 18, 2024

Governing Board
Bowie Unified School District
PO Box 157
Bowie, AZ 85605-0157

Dear Members of the Board:

We previously notified you that Bowie Unified School District (District) had not complied with the *Uniform System of Financial Records for Arizona School Districts* (USFR) based on our review of the District's fiscal year 2020 financial audit reports and the USFR Compliance Questionnaire (Questionnaire) prepared by an independent certified public accounting firm. We subsequently received and reviewed the District's fiscal years 2021 and 2022 audit reports and Questionnaires and issued a performance audit follow-up report in February 2023, which also indicated the District had not made substantial progress in correcting its deficiencies.

We have since issued another performance audit follow-up report in December 2023, performed a status review of the District's records and procedures, and in July 2024 received the District's late fiscal year 2023 audit reports and Questionnaire. Based on our review of all available information, including the number and significance of the District's outstanding deficiencies, the District is no longer in noncompliance with the USFR.

However, as noted in our March 25, 2024, and September 17, 2024, emails and discussion with District management, the District continues to have some outstanding deficiencies, including 12 items that have not been corrected, 10 items that have been partially corrected, and 6 additional deficiencies. Please be advised the District must act to correct the outstanding deficiencies, and its future audit reports must reflect that these deficiencies have been corrected. The areas containing the most significant deficiencies are Cash and Revenue and Procurement, leaving District monies susceptible to loss, theft, and misuse and putting the District at risk of not receiving the best value for the public monies it spends. We will follow up with the District on outstanding deficiencies that may constitute legal violations as well as performance audit recommendations that have not yet been implemented.

Thank you for the assistance and cooperation that your administrators and staff provided during our status review. If you have questions concerning this matter, please call Megan Smith, Accountability Services Division Manager, or me at (602) 977-2796.

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Sincerely,

Meghan L. Hieger

Meghan L. Hieger, CPA
Director, Accountability Services Division

cc: Mr. Richard Arkanoff, Superintendent
Ms. Teresa Reyna, Business Manager
Bowie Unified School District
The Honorable Jacqui Clay, Cochise County School Superintendent
Members of the State Board of Education
Arizona State Board of Education
Mr. Art Harding, Chief Operations Officer
Ms. Nicole von Prisk, Deputy Associate Superintendent, Grants Management
Arizona Department of Education