

Gorenz and Associates, Ltd.

Certified Public Accountants

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December 23, 2015

Regulatory Basis Engagement

Board of Education
Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228
648 N. Chicago St.
Geneseo, IL 61254

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228 for the year ended June 30, 2016. We will audit the financial statements, including the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228 as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016.

We have also been engaged to report on supplementary information that accompanies Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228's basic financial statements. We will subject the supplementary information, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and we will provide an opinion on it in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole, in a report combined with our auditor's report on the basic financial statements. Certain additional supplemental and statistical information is reported to the Illinois State Board of Education on the Annual Financial Report. This information will not be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements, and for which our auditor's report will not provide an opinion or any assurance.

The basic financial statements of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228 are presently prepared on the basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the regulatory basis prescribed by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). In addition, the basic financial statements are prepared on the cash basis, which is an other comprehensive basis of accounting. Accordingly, our opinion will be limited to an expression of opinion as to the fairness with which the basic financial statements present assets, liabilities, and fund balances arising from cash transactions and the related statements of revenue received and expenditures disbursed. Such statements do not purport to present financial position or results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Since the District has elected to use the regulatory basis of accounting prescribed by ISBE, which is a restricted use report and may be used by others, we expect the opinion on your basic financial statements to read as follows:

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note #1, the basic financial statements are prepared by Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228, on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of the Illinois State Board of Education, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, to comply with the requirements of the Illinois State Board of Education. The effects on the basic financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note #1 and the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the "Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles" paragraph, the basic financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228 as of June 30, 2016, for the fiscal year then ended.

Opinion on Regulatory Basis Accounting

In our opinion, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities arising from cash transactions of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228 as of June 30, 2016, and its revenue received and expenditures disbursed during the fiscal year then ended, on the basis of the financial reporting provisions of the Illinois State Board of Education as described in Note #1.

Audit Objectives

The objective of our audit is the expression of an opinion as to whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the regulatory basis prescribed by the Illinois State Board of Education in relation to the modified cash basis of accounting and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole. The objective also includes reporting on:

- Internal control related to the financial statements and compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Internal control related to major programs and an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*.

The *Government Auditing Standards* report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters will include a paragraph that states (1) that the purpose of the report is solely to describe the scope of testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control or on compliance, and (2) that the report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. The OMB Circular A-133 report on internal control over compliance will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe that scope of testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the provisions of OMB Circular A-133, the Illinois State Board of Education's *Guide to Auditing and Reporting for Illinois Public Local Education Agencies*, and will include tests of accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such opinions. We will issue written reports upon completion of our Single Audit. Our reports will be addressed to the Board of Education of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228. We cannot provide assurance that unmodified opinions will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinions or add emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraphs. If our opinions on the basic financial statements or the Single Audit compliance opinions are other than unmodified for reasons other than the use of the regulatory basis of accounting, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or we are unable to form or have not formed opinions, we may decline to express opinions or issue reports, or may withdraw from this engagement.

Audit Procedures – General

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the basic financial statements; therefore, our audit will involve judgment about the number of transactions to be examined and the areas to be tested. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the basic financial statements. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether 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. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

Audit Procedures – General (cont'd)

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, combined with the inherent limitations of internal control, and because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards. In addition, an audit is not designed to detect immaterial misstatements or violations of laws or governmental regulations that do not have a direct and material effect on the basic financial statements or major programs. Our responsibility as auditors is limited to the period covered by our audit and does not extend to any later periods for which we are not engaged as auditors.

Our procedures will include tests of documentary evidence supporting the transactions recorded in the accounts, and may include tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain other assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors and financial institutions. We will request written representations from your attorneys as part of the engagement, and they may bill you for responding to this inquiry. At the conclusion of our audit, we will require certain written representations from you about the basic financial statements; schedule of expenditures of federal awards; federal award programs; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by generally accepted auditing standards.

Audit Procedures – Internal Controls

Our audit will include 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. Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting errors and fraud that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from illegal acts and other noncompliance matters that have a direct and material effect on the basic financial statements. Our tests, if performed, will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on internal control and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to Government Auditing Standards.

As required by OMB Circular A-133, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-133.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, during the audit, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance, internal control related matters that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, Government Auditing Standards, and OMB Circular A-133.

Audit Procedures – Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228's compliance with provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and agreements, including grant agreements. However, the objective of those procedures will not be to provide an opinion on overall compliance and we will not express such an opinion in our report on compliance issued pursuant to Government Auditing Standards.

OMB Circular A-133 requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-133.

Other Services

We will also assist in preparing the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228 in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and OMB Circular A-133 based on information provided by you. These nonaudit services do not constitute an audit under *Government Auditing Standards* and such services will not be conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Management Responsibilities

Management is responsible for (1) establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including internal controls over compliance, and for evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities, to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; (2) following laws and regulations; (3) ensuring that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements; and (4) ensuring that management is reliable and financial information is reliable and properly reported. Management is also responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. You are also responsible for the selection and application of accounting principles; and for the preparation and fair presentation of the basic financial statements in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting as prescribed by ISBE; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

You are responsible for including all informative disclosures that are appropriate for the modified cash basis of accounting. Those disclosures will include (a) a description of the modified cash basis of accounting, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and how the modified cash basis of accounting differs from the regulatory basis of accounting as prescribed by ISBE; (b) informative disclosures similar to those required by GAAP; and (c) additional disclosures beyond those specifically required that may be necessary for the basic financial statements to achieve fair presentation.

Management is also responsible for making all financial records and related information available to us and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. You are also responsible for providing us with (1) access to all information of which you are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the basic financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the government from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities also include identifying significant vendor relationships in which the vendor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information. Your responsibilities include adjusting the basic financial statements to correct material misstatements and confirming to us in the written representation letter that the effects of any uncorrected misstatements aggregated by us during the current engagement and pertaining to the latest period presented are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

You are responsible for the design and implementation of programs and controls to prevent and detect fraud, and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the government involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, and (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the basic financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the government received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. Management is also responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, or abuse that we report. Additionally, as required by OMB Circular A-133, it is management's responsibility to follow up and take corrective action on reported audit findings and to prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a corrective action plan. The summary schedule of prior audit findings should be available for our review at the beginning of fieldwork.

Management Responsibilities (cont'd.)

You are responsible for identifying all federal awards received and understanding and complying with the compliance requirements and for preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in conformity with OMB Circular A-133. You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards that includes our report thereon OR make the audited financial statements readily available to intended users of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards no later than the date the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is issued with our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for the presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with OMB Circular A-133; (2) you believe that schedule of expenditures of federal awards, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with OMB Circular A-133; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have change, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information, which we have been engaged to report on, in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting as prescribed by ISBE. You agree to include our report on the supplementary information in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the supplementary information. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the supplementary information that includes our report thereon OR make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the written representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting as prescribed by ISBE; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting as prescribed by ISBE; (3) the methods of measurement or presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period (or, if they have changed, the reasons for such changes); and (4) you have disclosed to us any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying for us previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits or other studies related to the objectives discussed in the Audit Objectives section of this letter. This responsibility includes relaying to us corrective actions taken to address significant findings and recommendations resulting from those audits, attestation engagements, performance audits, or other studies. You are also responsible for providing management's views on our current findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as your planned corrective actions, for the report, and for the timing and format for providing that information.

You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, related notes, and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. Further, you agree to oversee the nonaudit services by designating an individual, preferably from senior management, with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of those services; and accept responsibility for them.

With regard to using the auditor's report, you understand that you must obtain our prior written consent to reproduce or use our report in bond offering official statements or other documents.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in these sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other

You may request that we perform additional services not addressed in this engagement letter. If this occurs, we will communicate with you regarding the scope of the additional services and the estimated fees. We also may issue a separate engagement letter covering the additional services. In the absence of any other written communication from us documenting such additional services, our services will continue to be governed by the terms of this engagement letter.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the appropriate sections of the Data Collection Form that summarizes our audit findings. It is management's responsibility to submit the reporting package (including basic financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditor's reports, and corrective action plans) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse. We will coordinate with you the electronic submission and certification. If applicable, we will provide copies of our report to you to include with the reporting package you will submit to pass-through entities. The Data Collection Form and the reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 days after receipt of the auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period, unless a longer period is agreed to in advance by the cognizant or oversight agency for audits.

We will provide copies of our reports to Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the basic financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing privileged and confidential information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the property of Gorenz and Associates, Ltd. and constitutes confidential information. However, subject to applicable laws and regulations, audit documentation and appropriate individuals will be made available upon request and in a timely manner to the Illinois State Board of Education or its designee, a federal agency providing direct or indirect funding, or the U.S. Government Accountability Office for purposes of a quality review of the audit, to resolve audit findings, or to carry out oversight responsibilities. We will notify you of any such request. If requested, access to such audit documentation will be provided under the supervision of Gorenz and Associates, Ltd. personnel. Furthermore, upon request, we may provide copies of selected audit documentation to the aforementioned parties. These parties may intend, or decide, to distribute the copies or information contained therein to others, including other governmental agencies.

The audit documentation for this engagement will be retained for a minimum of five years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the Illinois State Board of Education. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, or auditee is contesting an audit finding, we will contact the party(ies) contesting the audit finding for guidance prior to destroying the audit documentation.

In the interest of facilitating our services to your District, we may communicate by facsimile transmission, by sending electronic mail over the Internet, or use of electronic Internet portals. Such communications may include information that is confidential to your District. Our firm employs measures in the use of facsimile machines and computer technology designed to maintain data security. While we will use our best efforts to keep such communications secure in accordance with our obligations under applicable laws and professional standards, we have no control over the unauthorized interception of these communications once they have been sent.

We expect to begin our audit at a mutually agreed upon time in July or August 2016 and to issue our reports no later than October 15, 2016. Stephanie Ramsay is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them.

Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other (cont'd.)

Our fee for these services will be at our standard hourly rates plus out-of-pocket costs (such as report reproduction, word processing, postage, travel, copies, telephone, etc.) except that we agree that our gross fee, including expenses, will not exceed \$13,250. Our standard hourly rates vary according to the degree of responsibility involved and the experience level of the personnel assigned to your audit. Our invoices for these fees are payable on presentation. The above fee is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and the assumption that unexpected circumstances will not be encountered during the audit. If significant additional time is necessary, we will discuss it with you and arrive at a new fee estimate before we incur the additional costs.

Government Auditing Standards require that we provide you with a copy of our most recent external peer review report and any letter of comment, and any subsequent peer review reports and letters of comment received during the period of the contract. Our most recent peer review report accompanies this letter.

If the information you provide is not submitted in a timely manner or is incomplete or unusable, we reserve the right to charge additional fees and expenses for services required to correct the problem. If this occurs, we will contact your representative to discuss the matter and the anticipated delay in performing our services.

We reserve the right to suspend or terminate our work. If we elect to suspend or terminate our services, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification, even if we have not completed our report(s). You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket costs through the date of suspension or termination. You agree that we will not be responsible for your failure to meet government and other deadlines, or for any penalties or interest that may be assessed against you resulting from your failure to meet such deadlines.

We reserve the right to withdraw from this engagement without completing the audit if you fail to comply with the terms of this engagement letter. If any portion of this agreement is deemed invalid or unenforceable, the finding shall not operate to invalidate the remainder of the terms set forth in this engagement letter.

Our audit engagement ends on delivery of our audit report. Any follow-up services that might be required will be a separate, new engagement. The terms and conditions of that new engagement will be governed by a new, specific engagement letter for that service.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228 and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. If you have any questions, please let us know. If you agree with the terms of our engagement as described in this letter, please sign the enclosed copy and return it to us.

Very truly yours,

Gorenz and Associates, Ltd.

Gorenz and Associates, Ltd.
Certified Public Accountants

RESPONSE:

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of Geneseo Community Unit School District No. 228.

By _____
Superintendent

Date _____

By _____
President, Board of Education

Date _____