C O P Y

BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLUTION

ACCEPTANCE OF OFAC REPORT ISSUED IN CASE #ECE-003-15 REGARDING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL EDUCATION PROGRAM PROVIDED BY THE LEAGUERS INCORPORATED AND ADOPTION OF DISTRICT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS, on or about September 21, 2016, the State of New Jersey Department of Education Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance ("OFAC") issued a report in Case #ECE-003-15 of its findings and recommendations related to its review of the District's financial records involving The Leaguers Incorporated from July 2014 to June 2015; and,

WHEREAS, the District has prepared a Corrective Action Plan for adoption by the Board of Education to enact the recommended practices set forth in the OFAC report; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Educations is required by regulation (N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.6) to publicly review and discuss (1) the findings and recommendations contained in the OFAC report at a public meeting of the Board of Education, and (2) the Corrective Action Plan to be adopted by the Board of Education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Elizabeth Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the OFAC report issued regarding The Leaguers Incorporated (Case #ECE-003-15).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Elizabeth Board of Education adopts the Corrective Action Plan to address the recommendations and findings that were set forth in the OFAC report, which shall be implemented by District personnel in accordance with the Corrective Action Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the OFAC report and Corrective Action Plan shall be posted on the District's website with the agenda and meeting minutes for the January 19, 2017 meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Corrective Action Plan and this resolution shall be forwarded to OFAC immediately in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.6(c).

TRUE COPY APPROVED AND ADOPTED AT THE ELIZABETH BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING HELD ON January 19, 2017

Harold E. Kennedy, Jr.

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

CAP# <u>ECE-003-15</u>

NAME OF SCHOOL	DISTRICT Elizabeth	Public Schools		COUNTY: <u>Unio</u>	n	
TYPE OF EXAMINATION OF BOARD M	Office of Report o	ildhood Preschool Education I f Fiscal Accountability and Co f Examination (Date) <u>Septe</u>	ompliance (OFAC)	OFAC Case #_ <u>ECE-003-15</u>		
	CT INFORMATION:	PROVIDER <u>The Leaguers</u> ADDRESS <u>1189 East Broat</u> TELEPHONE <u>973-643-0300</u>	d Street, Elizabeth, NJ	DIRECTOR <u>Veronica Ray</u> 07203 FAX_973-624-1265		
FINDING/ RECOMMENDATION NUMBER	FINDING	FINDING CORRECTIVE ACTION		INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION	COMPLETION DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION	
DOE Preschool Education Program	Based on the results of the fiscal review, the OFAC determined the provider spent the approved budget totaling \$1,287,651.00 in NJDOE preschool education program funds. The district withheld \$66,024.00 from the June 2015 payment; therefore, 66,024.00 is payable to the provider.	In accordance with the contract section VII H (3) The provider will appropriately expend funds to meet the Element of High Quality Preschool Programs, N.J.A.C. 6A:13A for each category of goods and services in their district-approved budget planning document, including, but not limited to instructional staff positions, materials, supplies, and technology. Materials, supplies, and technology purchases must also meet the criteria set forth in the district?	The District will pay the provider the balance due of \$66,024.00.	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist Comptroller	12/12/16	

	T				CAP#_ <u>ECE-003-15</u>
		comprehensive preschool curriculum.			
2. The investigator detected accounting irregularities.	The quarterly expenditure report received from the provider did not reconcile to the quarterly expenditure report received from the district. In addition, the provider's submission and the district's review of the final quarterly expenditure report was not completed in a timely manner.	In accordance with the contract section VII H (2), Quarterly expenditure reports (quarters ending September 30, December 31, March 31, and June 30) shall be submitted to the District no later than: October 15, January 15, April 15, and June 30 respectively.	The District and Provider will ensure the final quarterly expenditure report is completed in a timely manner, agreed upon, signed, and maintained by both parties.	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16
a d	The provider did not maintain a financial management system that provided timely, accurate, current, and complete disclosure of all financial	In accordance with the contract section III N (2), The Provider will enhance its current financial management system, in order to ensure timely, accurate, current, and complete disclosure of all financial activities related	The District will monitor the provider to ensure appropriate controls are maintained over financial transactions.	Provider Director Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16

					CAP# ECE-003-15
	activities related to the NJDOE funded preschool education program. A review of the insurance line item revealed there were duplicate transactions reported on the quarterly expenditure report compared to the entries posted in the general ledger. In addition, a review of the supporting invoices revealed the vendor payments were not remitted in a timely manner.	to the DOE program.	The Provider will establish financial internal controls that will ensure vendor invoices are not duplicated, and vendor payments are disbursed timely.	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	CAP# ECE-003-15 10/1/16
j	A sample review of the indirect cost line items on the quarterly expenditure report revealed a majority of the expenditures did not reconcile on a monthly or yearly basis to the entries posted in the general	In accordance with the contract section III N (4), The Provider will enhance its current financial management system, in order to maintain a general ledger and account reconciliation of all financial activities related to the Agreement.	The Provider will ensure the general ledger reconciles to the quarterly expenditure report; and ensure indirect costs are reported accurately on the quarterly expenditure report.	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16

ledger.				CAP#_ECE-003-15
Review of the salary line items revealed the salaries were not reported properly. The salaries of the teachers, teacher assistants, and floating teacher assistants were not reported accurately compared to the payroll registers.	In accordance with the contract section III N (1), The Provider will enhance its current financial management system, in order to ensure timely, accurate, and complete disclosure of all financial activities related to the DOE program.	The Provider will ensure the general ledger reconciles to the quarterly expenditure report; and ensure benefits, salaries, payroll taxes, administrative support and indirect costs are reported accurately on the quarterly expenditure report.	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16
One of the family workers worked three days in the provider's Elizabeth Public School's location and two days in the Irvington Public School's location; however, the provider did not allocate the salary expense between the two locations.	In accordance with the contract section III N (3), The Provider will enhance its current financial management system, in order to maintain a preschool accounting system of all financial activities related to the Agreement separate from other funding.	The Provider will establish internal controls to ensure benefits, salaries, payroll taxes, administrative support and indirect costs are reported accurately on the quarterly expenditure report.	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16

I				CAP# <u>ECE-003-15</u>
The salaries of the food worker and food worker assistant were incorrectly prorated for the NJDOE share at 42.42% rather than 30.79%.	In accordance with the contract section III N (2), The Provider will enhance its current financial management system to ensure expenditures are made in strict accordance with the Department's 2014-15 Private Provider Budget and Expenditure Guidance.	The Provider will establish internal controls to ensure benefits, salaries, payroll taxes, administrative support and indirect costs are reported accurately on the quarterly expenditure report	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16
A review of the benefit line items revealed the benefits were not reported properly. The parttime family workers' 10-month benefit expense was incorrectly prorated for the NJDOE share of the annual costs. In addition, one of the family workers worked three days in Elizabeth and two	In accordance with the contract section III N (3), The Provider will enhance its current financial management system, in order to maintain a preschool accounting system of all financial activities related to the Agreement separate from other funding.	The Provider will establish internal controls to ensure benefits, salaries, payroll taxes, administrative support and indirect costs are reported accurately on the quarterly expenditure report	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16

					CAP# <u>ECE-003-15</u>
reported	to a rather than g the expense two the two				
the food on not report quarterly	contract some co	t financial ent system, in nsure timely, and complete of all financial related to the	The Provider will establish internal controls to ensure benefits, salaries, payroll taxes, administrative support and indirect costs are reported accurately on the quarterly expenditure report	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16
A review payroll ta items reve provider of take into considerathreshold calendary	x line contract se realed the did not its current management order to er per accurate, a	der will enhance financial ent system, in nsure timely, and complete	The Provider will establish internal controls to ensure benefits, salaries, payroll taxes, administrative support and indirect costs are reported	Provider CFO Fiscal Specialist	10/1/16

				CAP# ECE-003-15
- e	unemployment and the disability payroll taxes.	activities related to the DOE program.	accurately on the quarterly expenditure report	231 235 003-13
SEPPORTING	G DOCUMENTATIO	N MUST BE SURMITTE	ED ALONG WITH THE CORRECTIVE A	CTION DI AN
1/1/1/		,	and the corrective A	ICTION PLAN
Chief School Ad	/ Iministrator	1/19/17	Illy X	1115/17
Cincip deliboration	ministrator	Date	Board Secretary/Business Administrator	Date
I like	Zy			1/19/19
Provide	r (/	Date	Comptroller	Date
Woi2	CANA	1/12/17	Mill Fartern	1119117
Director of Early C	Childhood Education	Date	Fiscal Specialist	Date



State of New Jersey

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor
KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PO Box 500 Trenton, NJ 08625-0500

DAVID C. HESPE Commissioner

September 21, 2016

TO:

Ellen Wolock, Ed.D., Administrator

Division of Early Childhood Education

FROM:

Robert J. Cicchino, Director

Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance

SUBJECT:

Elizabeth Public Schools

Early Childhood Preschool Education Program

The Leaguers, Incorporated OFAC Case #ECE-003-15

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC), completed a fiscal review of the 2014-2015 preschool education program contract (the contract), budget and financial records of The Leaguers, Incorporated (the provider), a contracting preschool provider in the Elizabeth Public Schools (the district).

A copy of the report on this matter is attached for your review. The district, in collaboration with the provider, is required to submit a corrective action plan (CAP) to the OFAC, in conformance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.6. A copy of the corrective action procedures and the CAP format will be sent to the district and the provider. The CAP format can be accessed on the NJDOE internet site by visiting http://www.state.nj.us/education/ece/budget/cap/ or contacting the county liaison with the Division of Early Childhood Education.

If you have any questions, please contact Thomas C. Martin, Manager, Investigations Unit, at (609) 633-9615.

RJC/I:\ECE\Final ECE Reports\14-15 Reports\Fiscal Reveiws\ECE_003 15 The Leaguers Incorporated Final Report.doc Attachment

Distribution

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL EDUCATION PROGRAM

REPORT OF EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2016

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

REPORT OF EXAMINATION - SEPTEMBER 2016 ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL EDUCATION PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC), completed a fiscal review of The Leaguers, Incorporated (the provider), a contracting preschool provider in the Elizabeth Public Schools (the district) for the NJDOE preschool education program. The fiscal review was conducted to ensure compliance with the terms of the 2014-2015 preschool education program contract (the contract). The fiscal review is not a comprehensive audit; it is a review of certain fiscal aspects of the preschool education program.

As a result of the fiscal review, the following deficiencies were noted:

- 1. The OFAC review determined the provider spent the approved budget totaling \$1,287,651.00. The district withheld \$66,024.00 from the June 2015 payment; therefore, \$66,024.00 is payable to the provider (see Exhibit A).
- 2. The investigator detected accounting irregularities.

DETAILED FINDINGS

The OFAC reviewed the budget, the financial records and a sample review of the supporting documentation for the contract period of July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015. During the contract year, the funds were allocated to the provider and approved by the district. The actual costs reported were based on a six-hour and fifty-minute, 183-day comprehensive educational preschool program.

The fiscal review was conducted to determine whether or not:

- The childcare center had a current license.
- The provider maintained a current facility lease.
- The provider had a current independent audit performed.
- The provider filed federal and state tax returns.
- The provider maintained a financial management system that provided timely, accurate, current and complete disclosure of all financial activities related to the NJDOE preschool education program.
- The provider maintained the proper insurance as required by the contract.
- The provider submitted the proper documentation to support the sample review of the quarterly expenditure report.

Report of Examination - September 2016 Early Childhood Preschool Education Program - Elizabeth Public Schools The Leaguers, Incorporated - Case #ECE-003-15 Page 2

The provider is a nonprofit childcare center located at 1189 East Broad Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey, and was budgeted to serve a total of 195 children funded by the NJDOE and Head Start (HS). The 2014-2015 approved budget totaled \$1,287,651.00.

During the fiscal review, the OFAC investigator worked collaboratively with the district and the provider to minimize the number of compliance findings.

Below is a summary of the remaining fiscal review findings:

1. NJDOE Preschool Education Program

The NJDOE funded the six-hour and fifty-minute educational component of the preschool education program, and the Department of Human Services funded the wrap-around program.

The director signed the quarterly expenditure report certifying it was accurate and complete with all of the supporting documentation. During the OFAC review, the provider submitted all of the requested supporting documentation with the final quarterly expenditure report.

Based on the results of the fiscal review, the OFAC determined the provider spent the approved budget totaling \$1,287,651.00 in NJDOE preschool education program funds. The district withheld \$66,024.00 from the June 2015 payment; therefore, \$66,024.00 is payable to the provider (see Exhibit A).

Recommendation:

The OFAC recommends the district pay the provider the funds totaling \$66,024.00 and review the issues below and make the necessary adjustments.

2. The investigator detected accounting irregularities

The investigator noted the following irregularities:

- The quarterly expenditure report received from the provider did not reconcile to the quarterly expenditure report received from the district. In addition, the provider's submission and the district's review of the final quarterly expenditure report was not completed in a timely manner.
- The provider did not maintain a financial management system that provided timely, accurate, current, and complete disclosure of all financial activities related to the NJDOE funded preschool education program.
 - A review of the insurance line item revealed there were duplicate transactions reported on the quarterly expenditure report compared to the entries posted in the general ledger. In

Report of Examination - September 2016
Early Childhood Preschool Education Program - Elizabeth Public Schools
The Leaguers, Incorporated - Case #ECE-003-15
Page 3

addition, a review of the supporting invoices revealed the vendor payments were not remitted in a timely manner.

- O A sample review of the indirect cost line items on the quarterly expenditure report revealed a majority of the expenditures did not reconcile on a monthly or yearly basis to the entries posted in the general ledger.
- A review of the salary line items revealed the salaries were not reported properly.
 - O The salaries of the teachers, teacher assistants and floating teacher assistants were not reported accurately compared to the payroll registers.
 - One of the family workers worked three days in the provider's Elizabeth Public Schools (Elizabeth) location and two days in the Irvington Public Schools (Irvington) location; however, the provider did not allocate the salary expense between the two locations.
 - O The salaries of the food worker and food worker assistant were incorrectly prorated for the NJDOE/HS share at 42.42% rather than 30.79%.
- A review of the benefit line items revealed the benefits were not reported properly.
 - O The part-time family workers' 10-month benefit expense was incorrectly prorated for the NJDOE share of the annual costs. In addition, one of the family workers worked three days in Elizabeth and two days in Irvington; however, 100 percent of the benefit expense was reported to Elizabeth rather than allocating the benefit expense between the two locations.
 - o The first quarter benefit expense for the food worker was not reported on the quarterly expenditure report.
- A review of the payroll tax line items revealed the provider did not take into consideration the threshold per calendar year for the unemployment and the disability payroll taxes.

Report of Examination - September 2016 Early Childhood Preschool Education Program - Elizabeth Public Schools The Leaguers, Incorporated - Case #ECE-003-15 Page 4

Recommendation:

The OFAC recommends the provider enhance its current financial management system in order to ensure the accurate disclosure of all financial activities related to the NJDOE preschool education program. The district and the provider should ensure the final quarterly expenditure report is completed in a timely manner, agreed upon, signed and maintained by both parties. The provider should also ensure the general ledger reconciles to the quarterly expenditure report and establish a system to ensure the vendor payments are disbursed in a timely manner. In addition, the provider should ensure the salaries, the benefits, the payroll taxes, and the indirect costs are reported accurately.

Submitted by:

Thomas C. Martin, Manager

Yours C nather

Investigations Unit

Approved by:

Robert J. Cicchino, Director

Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance

Special Investigator: Dubravka Zivkovic

The Leaguers, Incorporated 2014 - 2015 Contract Year

Budget vs. Actual

			Budget vs. Act	ual				
EXPENSE	BUDGETE TOTAL COS		YTD TOTAL PER QUARTERLY EXPENDITURE REPORT	BUDGET MINUS YTD EXPENDITURES	YTO YOTAL ACCEPTED BY OFAC	BUDGET MINUS YTD ACCEPTED BY OFAC	AMOL	RIANCE UNT DUE
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM COSTS		-					+	
Teacher Salary	\$ 426,1	775	\$ 432,128	\$ (5.353	\$ 432,72	8 \$ (5,953	1 8	(5,9
					, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	(0,300	1	(0,0,
Teacher Assistant Salary Floating Teacher Assistant Salary	\$ 198,		201,969				\$	(3,3
Tidating Teacher Assistant Salary	\$ 77,5	544	77,678	(134	77,080	464	\$	4
Teacher/Assistant Teacher Benefits	\$ 169,0	120	172,549	(3,529	186,266	(17.246	8	(17,2
Parkatha Parkatha				1		11111111	1 2	71115
Substitute Teacher Stipend Substitute Assistant Teacher Stipend		200	5,792				\$	2,40
Separate 7 Salatan 7 Cacher Gupena	3 0,8	122	6,922	-	10,596	(3.674)	\$	(3,6
Classroom Materials and Supplies	\$ 4,1	60	3,105	1,055	3,105	1.055	\$	1.0
Classroom Technology		39	1,339	-	1,339		\$	1,0
Field Trips w/ Transportation	\$ 3,9	00	3,900		3,900		\$	
Family Worker Salary	\$ 40.2	36	34,634	5,601	31,634	+		
Family Worker Benefits	\$ 6.0		6,838				\$	8,6
				1000	5,100	(10)	-	
Food-Related Costs (CACFP participant, non-rein)						
Food (for contracted preschool children only) Food Worker Salary (cook)	\$ 7,6		7 000	-			\$	
Food Worker Benefits (cook)	\$ 1,1		7,663 1,159		5,622		\$	2.0
Assistant Food Worker Salary (asst. cook)	\$ 5,2		1.031	4.218	1,536		\$	(3 4,5
Assistant Food Worker Benefits (asst. cook)	\$ 1,1			1,150	:79	7-	\$	1,1
Employer Payroll Taxes (For Educational Program	D - 141							
Social Security (8 20%)	Positions only \$ 49,3		47,577	1 722	AM 45 =			
Viedicare (1.45%)	\$ 11.5		11,127	1,735	47.483 11,105		\$	1.8
Jnemployment (2,80%)	\$ 37,8		41,847	(3,948)	34,180		\$	3.7
Disability (0.50%)	\$ 4,5	77	4.851	(274)	3,834			1
SUBTOTAL, Educational Program Costs	\$ 1,080,97	3 3	\$ 1,062,107	\$ (1,134)	\$ 1,064,713	\$ (3,740)	\$	(3,74
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND INDIREC	TCOSTS	-				1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		70114
SUPPORT COSTS	100010	-					nimamainejalangerperae at 19	***************************************
Director Salary	\$ 79.75	52 5	78,148	\$ 1,604	\$ 78,148	\$ 1.604	•	1,60
Director Benefits	\$ 3,33		6,982	(3,644)	6,982	(3.644)	3	(3.64
Clerical Salary Clerical Benefits	\$ 36,03		34,348	1,686	34,348	1.886		1.88
Custodian Salary	\$ 26		221	40	221	40	\$	4
Custodian Benefits	\$ 1,84 \$ 54		80 37	1,567	-	1.647	\$	1,64
Security Guard Salary	\$	-	31	507		544	\$	54
Security Guard Benefits	\$	-	-		-		\$	***********
Social Security (8.20%)	\$ 7,28	11	6,980	301	7,360	(79)		(7
Aedicare (1.45%)	\$ 1,70		1,632	71	1,721	(18)		(1
Inemployment (2.80%) Isability (0.50%)	\$ 7,28 \$ 58		5,355	1,933	4,418	2,870	5	2,87
	1 3 30	1	618	(31)	503	84	\$	8
NDIRECT COSTS Lent, Mortgage, Other Space Costs	\$ 34.51	_						
Office Equipment>\$2000 and Repair	\$ 34.51	3	34,513	-	34,513		\$	
Ifice Materials and Supplies	\$:+-	-	•			\$	
ood-Related Paper Supplies	\$	-	-	-	-		\$	
leaning Supplies	\$ 82	4	408	416	408	416	\$	41
ood for Meetings uilding/Grounds Maintenance/Repair		:-				-	\$	
ilities	\$ 93° \$ 11.80°		635 13,879	302	635	THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER.	\$	30
elecommunications Services			1,470	(1,877) (517)	13,679 1,470	(1.877)		(1.87
ecurity	\$ 21,73	5	21,281	454	21,282	(517) 453	2 5	(51 45
Surance	\$ 11.48		18,180	(4,692)	14,253		\$	(2.78
scounting Fees Syroll Preparation Fees	\$ 2,324 \$ 3.687	4 -	1,204	1,120	1,204	1.120	\$	1,120
iverlising	\$ 3.00		1,793	1,894	1,793	1.894	<u> </u>	1,89
aff Transportation	\$	-		:			5 5	
ofit, if Applicable (Max of 2.5% of Ed Costs)	\$		-	*				
ubtotal of Above Administrative Support								
nd Indirect Costs	\$ 226,678	3	225,544	\$ 1,134	\$ 222,938	\$ 3,740	\$	3,740
OVIDER PROGRAM TOTALS	1	+=						-11-74
tal Cost	\$ 1,287,651	\$	1,287,651	\$.	1,287,851	\$		
BTRICT ADJUSTMENTS or Other Approved Budg		1					, 	
A	S .	-						
otal Cost after Disaster Addison		-				• 9		
otal Cost after District Adjustments or ther Costs	£ 4007054		4 007 074					
III ANGE	\$ 1,287,651	\$	1,287,651	3 .		\$. !		
						WITHHELD _		8,024
FAC Case #ECE-003-15			EXHIBIT A		OWED BACK TO	THE PROVIDER		B,02
· ***			PAULDIT M					