



January 31, 2017

Mr. Stephen Ajani, Head of School  
North Oakland Community Charter School  
1000 42nd Street  
Oakland, CA 94608

Dear Mr. Ajani:

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the services we are to provide for North Oakland Community Charter School (the Organization) for the year ended June 30, 2017.

We will audit the financial statements of the Organization, which comprise the statement of financial position as of the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. Also, the following supplementary information accompanying the financial statements will be subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, 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 financial statements as a whole in a report combined with our auditor's report on the financial statements:

- 1) Local Education Agency Organization Structure
- 2) Schedule of Instructional Time
- 3) Schedule of Average Daily Attendance
- 4) Reconciliation of Annual Financial Report with Audited Financial Statements
- 5) Notes to Supplementary Information

We will also prepare the Organization's federal and state information returns for the year ended June 30, 2017.

### **Audit Objectives**

The objective of our audit is the expression of an opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and to report on the fairness of the supplementary information referred to in the second paragraph when considered in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

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, procedures applicable to charter schools contained in *Standards and Procedures for Audits of California K-12 Local Education Agencies 2016-2017* and will include tests of your accounting records and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express such an opinion. We will issue a written report upon completion of our audit of the Organization's financial statements. Our report will be addressed to the Board of Directors of the Organization. We cannot provide assurance that an unmodified opinion will be expressed. Circumstances may arise in which it is necessary for us to modify our opinion or add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph. If our opinion on the financial statements is other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with management in advance. If, for any reason, we are unable to complete the audit or are unable to form or have not formed an opinion, we may decline to express an opinion or issue reports, or we may withdraw from this engagement.

We will also provide a report (which does not include an opinion) 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 as required by *Government Auditing Standards*. The report on internal control 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 and compliance, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control 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 paragraph will also state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose. If during our audit we become aware that the Organization is subject to an audit requirement that is not encompassed in the terms of this engagement, we will communicate to management and those charged with governance that an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards established by the Auditing Standards Board (United States) and the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* may not satisfy the relevant legal, regulatory, or contractual requirements.

### **Management Responsibilities**

Management is responsible for the financial statements and all accompanying information as well as all representations contained therein. As part of the audit, we will provide tax services and assist with preparation of your financial statements and related notes. 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*. You agree to assume all management responsibilities relating to the financial statements and related notes and any other nonaudit services we provide. You will be required to acknowledge in the management representation letter the tax services provided and our assistance with the preparation of the financial statements and related notes and that you have evaluated the adequacy of our services and have reviewed and approved the results of the services, the financial statements, 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.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities; for helping to ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; following laws and regulations; and 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; for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles; and for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements.

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 financial statements, (2) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit, and (3) unrestricted access to persons within the Organization from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence.

Your responsibilities include adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements and for confirming to us in the 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 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 Organization 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 financial statements. Your responsibilities include informing us of your knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Organization received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for identifying and ensuring that the Organization complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants and for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy fraud, noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts or grant agreements, or abuse that we report.

You are responsible for the preparation of the supplementary information in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. 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. 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 GAAP; (2) you believe the supplementary information, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; (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 engagements or studies. The Organization is 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.

### **Audit Procedures—General**

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the 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 financial statements. We will plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable rather than absolute assurance about whether the 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 Organization or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the Organization. Because the determination of abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting abuse.

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 financial statements. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management of any material errors, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets that come to our attention. We will also inform the appropriate level of management of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential, and of any material abuse that comes to our attention. 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, tests of the physical existence of inventories, and direct confirmation of receivables and certain assets and liabilities by correspondence with selected individuals, funding sources, creditors, and financial institutions. We will also request written representations from the Organization's 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 your responsibilities for the financial statements; compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements; and other responsibilities required by generally accepted auditing standards.

### **Audit Procedures—Internal Control**

Our audit will include obtaining an understanding of the Organization 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 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*.

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 and *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Audit Procedures—Compliance**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the Organization's compliance with the provisions of applicable laws, regulations, contracts, agreements, and grants. However, the objective of our audit 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*.

### **Informational Tax Returns**

We will prepare the Federal Form 990 and California Form 199 informational tax returns for the year ended June 30, 2017. These returns will be prepared using information you provide. The initial due dates for the returns is November 15, 2017. Depending on the progress of the audit and the preparation of the returns, we may extend the returns to February 15, 2018 or May 15, 2018 as necessary. In order to meet the November 15, 2017 due date, the audit must be complete and we must have all of the requested information no later than October 15, 2017. In order to meet extended due dates in February and May, we need to have the audit complete and all information received no later than one month prior to the due date.

We will use our judgment in resolving questions where the tax law is unclear, or where there may be conflicts between the taxing authorities' interpretations of the law and other supportable positions. We will resolve such question in your favor, whenever possible, after discussion of possible alternatives with you. Management has the final responsibility for the information returns, and, therefore, you should review them carefully before you sign and file them.

Your returns may be selected for review by taxing authorities. Any proposed adjustments by the examining agent are subject to certain rights of appeal. In the event of such government tax examination, we will be available upon request to represent you and will render additional invoices for the time and expenses incurred.

Unless requested or unavailable, the returns will be electronically filed. This requires an authorization form to be completed by you once the return is complete.

### **Engagement Administration, Fees, and Other**

We may from time to time, and depending on the circumstances, use third-party service providers in serving your account. We may share confidential information about you with these service providers, but remain committed to maintaining the confidentiality and security of your information. Accordingly, we maintain internal policies, procedures, and safeguards to protect the confidentiality of your personal information. In addition, we will secure confidentiality agreements with all service providers to maintain the confidentiality of your information and we will take reasonable precautions to determine that they have appropriate procedures in place to prevent the unauthorized release of your confidential information to others. In the event that we are unable to secure an appropriate confidentiality agreement, you will be asked to provide your consent prior to the sharing of your confidential information with the third-party service provider. Furthermore, we will remain responsible for the work provided by any such third-party service providers.

We understand that your employees will prepare all cash, accounts receivable, and other confirmations we request and will locate any documents selected by us for testing.

We will provide copies of our reports to the Organization; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the 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 Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman LLP 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 regulator 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 Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman LLP 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 regulator. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency 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.

Wade McMullen, CPA is the engagement partner and is responsible for supervising the engagement and signing the reports or authorizing another individual to sign them. Per Education Code Section 41020(f) (2), there is a limit of six consecutive years for any firm where the partner-in-charge of the audit and the reviewing partner have been the same in each of those years. This is the first year Wade McMullen will be the engagement partner after the prior year rotation.

During the term of this Agreement and for twelve months following its termination, the Organization shall not knowingly employ any Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman LLP employees or partners used by Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman LLP in the performance under this agreement, without the prior written consent of Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman LLP. Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman LLP shall be entitled, in addition to any other remedies it may have at law or in equity, to a payment from the Organization in an amount equal to one year's salary of any partner or employee the Organization employs in violation of this paragraph.

We estimate that our fees for these services will range from \$8,300 to \$9,300 for the audit and will not exceed \$1,300 for the information returns. You will also be billed for travel and other out-of-pocket costs such as report production, word processing, postage, etc. Additional expenses are estimated to be \$120. The fee estimate 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, standard billing rates may apply. Our invoices for these fees will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. A service charge of 1% per month will be charged on all bills not paid within 30 days. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed upon written notification of termination, even if we have not completed our report. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and to reimburse us for all out-of-pocket expenditures through the date of termination. There is a ten percent withholding clause per Education Code 14505.

*Government Auditing Standards* requires that we provide you with a copy of our most recent quality control review report. Our 2012 peer review report is on the last page of this letter.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you 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.

Sincerely,



Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman LLP

RESPONSE: This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of North Oakland Community Charter School.

Officer signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



### System Review Report

To the Owners of Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman, LLP  
and the Peer Review Committee of the  
California Society of CPAs

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman, LLP (the firm) in effect for the year ended December 31, 2015. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. As a part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures. The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a System Review are described in the standards at [www.aicpa.org/prsummary](http://www.aicpa.org/prsummary).

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards* and audits of employee benefit plans.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman, LLP in effect for the year ended December 31, 2015, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass*, *pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail*. Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman, LLP has received a rating of *pass*.

Campbell Taylor & Company

May 25, 2016