

DEBRA K. DAVENPORT, CPA AUDITOR GENERAL

# STATE OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

MELANIE M. CHESNEY DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

November 4, 2013

The Honorable Chester Crandell, Chair Joint Legislative Audit Committee

The Honorable John Allen, Vice Chair Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Dear Senator Crandell and Representative Allen:

Our Office has recently completed an 18-month followup of the Cave Creek Unified School District's implementation status for the 5 audit recommendations presented in the performance audit report released in June 2012. As the enclosed grid indicates:

- 4 recommendations have been implemented, and
- 1 recommendation is in the process of being implemented.

Unless otherwise directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, this report concludes our follow-up work on the District's efforts to implement the recommendations resulting from the June 2012 performance audit.

Sincerely,

Ross Ehrick, CPA Director, Division of School Audits

RE:bh Enclosure

cc: Dr. Debbi Burdick, Superintendent

Governing Board

Cave Creek Unified School District

## **CAVE CREEK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# Auditor General Performance Audit Report Issued June 2012 18-Month Follow-Up Report

#### Recommendation **Status/Additional Explanation** FINDING 1: District working to address its high plant operations costs Implemented at 6 months 1. The District should continue analyzing the prices it charges community groups for the use of its facilities to ensure the fees better reflect the District's costs as required by A.R.S. §15-1105. 2. The District should review its building capacity usage to Implementation in process determine whether additional schools or unused The District's fiscal year 2013 plant operations costs per student were \$110, or 11 percent, less than they were sections of schools can be closed to reduce in fiscal year 2010, the audited year. As noted in the maintenance and utility costs. report, the District closed one school in fiscal year 2011, eliminating over 110,000 square feet of building space. The District has taken other action since then to reduce its plant operations costs. For example, principals at each school now submit lists of unused rooms to the district office so that the temperatures in those rooms can be adjusted to unoccupied settings, such as 85 degrees during warmer times of the year. The District reported identifying almost 11,000 square feet of unused building space in fiscal year 2013 and an additional 26,600 square feet of unused building space in fiscal year 2014. Although the District has taken action to reduce its plant operations costs, especially as they relate to unused building space, the District still has a large amount of such space. The District's fiscal year 2013 elementary school building capacity usage was only 63 percent. Therefore, the District should continue to review building capacity usage to determine whether additional schools or unused sections of schools can be closed. 3. The District should continue its efforts to reduce its Implemented at 6 months energy and water usage to lower costs. OTHER FINDING 1: District did not accurately report its costs 1. The District should classify all transactions in Implemented at 6 months accordance with the Uniform Chart of Accounts for school districts.

### Recommendation

# **Status/Additional Explanation**

## OTHER FINDING 2: Some Classroom Site Fund monies paid to ineligible employees

2. The District should ensure that only eligible employees receive Classroom Site Fund monies.

Implemented at 6 months