



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Audit Unit

1535 W Jefferson St, Bin 19 • Phoenix, AZ 85007

Phone (602) 364-4036 Fax (602) 364-2334

Diane Douglas
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

March 10, 2017

Re: Report Number 17-25

Audra Wilson-Smith, Business Manager
Choice Academies, Inc.
2323 W Parkside Ln
Phoenix, AZ 85027

Dear Ms. Wilson-Smith,

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Audit Unit has completed an audit of the Choice Academies, Inc. (School) Average Daily Membership reported to ADE for Fiscal Years 2014, 2015 and 2016. The purpose of the audit was to determine whether the School properly reported student enrollment data and whether it received the appropriate amount of Basic State Aid.

Auditors conducted work in the following three areas:

- **Entry and Exit Dates**—Auditors obtained SAIS and SMS entry and exit dates and total membership days data for all students for all three fiscal years. Auditors compared SMS data to the data contained in SAIS.

To assess the accuracy of the School's SMS data and the data the School uploaded to SAIS, auditors selected a random sample of student attendance profiles for each fiscal year audited; 93 students in FY2014, 98 students in FY2015, and 99 students in FY2016, totaling 290 student profiles. Auditors compared the student data to the SMS data and SAIS data. Specifically, auditors tested the entry and exit dates, as well as the total membership days. No material findings were identified in this area.

- **FTE**—Auditors obtained student class schedules for high school level students for the three fiscal years audited. Auditors received the student schedules for each of these

students. Auditors compared the calculated FTE to the FTE that was reported to SAIS. Auditors did not identify any material discrepancies.

- **Instructional Hours**—Auditors obtained the bell schedules and calendars for all grade levels for the three fiscal years audited. Auditors determined that each grade level for each fiscal year met or exceeded the minimum annual instructional hour's threshold as required by statute. No material findings were identified in this area.

Since no material discrepancies were identified for the three areas examined, no findings or adjustments to Basic State Aid are required. As a result, no further action from the School is necessary.

We appreciate your cooperation and assistance throughout this review. If you have any further questions, please contact me at 602-364-4061.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Eddy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa Eddy
Chief Auditor