

News for Immediate Release

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Auditor General DePasquale to Audit Troubled Harrisburg School District

HARRISBURG – Auditor General Eugene DePasquale today announced he will conduct a special audit of the troubled Harrisburg School District. The Dauphin County district has been operating under state-imposed financial recovery status since 2012 and is facing a takeover by the state.

“I plan to review, in real time, how the district implements the recommendations of the audit now being conducted by the state Department of Education,” DePasquale said. “That audit, which is still underway, should provide a very clear picture of the problems – financial and otherwise – facing Harrisburg schools.”

The department will begin its audit as soon as the school district receives the Department of Education’s final audit report, which is expected to occur later this summer or in early fall.

DePasquale said he will continue to monitor the district’s progress, regardless of whether the state’s request to place the district into receivership is granted by a judge.

“The current school board and district administration have resisted the state’s efforts to help return the district to solid financial footing,” DePasquale said. “That’s why it’s become necessary for my department to take a closer look at the district and ensure the best interests of students are coming first.”

DePasquale noted that the audit may help to provide important insights to new school board members who will take office later this year.

“The current board must understand that even though their remaining time in office is limited, the district’s students and taxpayers expect nothing less than total transparency and accountability, and I want to ensure the district gets on the right track to recovery,” he added.

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