PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS* FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

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MAULDIN & JENKINS
CPAs & ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

To the Superintendent and Members
of the Putnam County Board of Education
Eatonton, Georgia

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Putnam County Board of Education (the "School System") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School System's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 17, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School System's internal control over financial reporting ("internal control") as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School System's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School System's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School System's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards.*

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our 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 or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC

Macon, Georgia
December 17, 2025

MAULDIN & JENKINS
CPAs & ADVISORS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

To the Superintendent and Members
of the Putnam County Board of Education
Eatonton, Georgia

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Putnam County Board of Education (the "School System") compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the School System's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025. The School System's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Audit Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

In our opinion, the School System complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Programs

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, (*Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* ("Uniform Guidance"). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School System and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal programs. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School System's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the School System's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School System's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the School System's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the School System's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the School System's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School System's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the School System, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School System's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated December 17, 2025, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the 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 basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Mauldin & Jenkins, LLC

Macon, Georgia
March 13, 2026, except for our report on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, for which the date is December 17, 2025

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Funding Agency Program/Grant	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Entity ID Number	Expenditures In Period
Agriculture, U.S. Department of			
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education:			
Food Services:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	255GA324N1199	$ 1,193,649
National School Lunch Program	10.555	255GA324N1199	2,086,008
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	10.582	255GA324L1603	76,031
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			3,355,688
Other Programs:			
State Administrative Expenses	10.560	245GA904N2533	5,082
Local Food for Schools Cooperative Agreement Program	10.185	AM23CPLFS000C018	8,786
Total Other Programs			13,868
Pass-Through From Office of the State Treasurer:			
National Forest Reserve Funds	10.665	486 Forest	7,478
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			3,377,034
Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of			
Direct:			
Head Start Cluster:			
Head Start	93.600	04CH9974-01-01	1,845,585
Total Head Start Cluster			1,845,585
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			1,845,585
Education, U.S. Department of			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education:			
Special Education Cluster:			
Grants to States	84.027A	H027A230073	347,544
Grants to States	84.027A	H027A240073	690,440
Preschool Grants	84.173A	H173X230081	4,944
Preschool Grants	84.173A	H173A240081	14,229
Total Special Education Cluster			1,057,157

(Continued)

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Funding Agency Program/Grant	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-Through Entity ID Number	Expenditures In Period
Education, U.S. Department of (Continued)			
Pass-Through From Georgia Department of Education (Continued):			
Other Programs:			
Title I, Part A, Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	S010A230010	$ 467,734
Title I, Part A, Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	S010A240010	992,655
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365A	T365A240010	28,979
Rural Education Achievement Program	84.358B	S358B230010	14,250
Rural Education Achievement Program	84.358B	S358B240010	73,587
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048A	V048A230010	797
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048A	V048A240010	43,638
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425U	S425U210012	3,268,200
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425W	S425W210011	9,038
Total Other Programs			4,898,878
Total U.S. Department of Education			5,956,035
Defense, U.S. Department of			
Direct:			
Department of the Air Force:			
R.O.T.C. Program	12.unknown	N/A	82,767
Total U.S. Department of Defense			82,767
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			$ 11,261,421

N/A = Not Available

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the federal grant activity of the Putnam County Board of Education (the "School System") and is presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 *U.S. Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200 *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* ("Uniform Guidance"). Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the financial statements.

NOTE 2. DONATED COMMODITIES

The Child Nutrition Cluster includes $161,955 of non-cash expenditures in the form of donated food commodities.

NOTE 3. DE MINIMIS COST RATE

The School System elected not to use the 10% de minimis cost rate for the year ended June 30, 2025.

NOTE 4. SUBRECIPIENTS

The School System did not pass through any funds to subrecipients in the year ended June 30, 2025.

NOTE 5. TRANSFERABILITY

Under transferability, the School System transferred $145,118 in grant funds from Supporting Effective Instruction – State Grants Program (Assistance Listing #84.367A) and $88,817 from the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program (Assistance Listing #84.424A) to the Title I – Grants to Local Educational Agencies Program (Assistance Listing #84.010A). Expenditures of these transfers are reflected above as expenditures of the Title I – Grants to Local Educational Agencies Program.

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

A. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of report the auditor issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP.	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting: Material weaknesses identified?	___ Yes __X__ No
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	___ Yes __X__ None Reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	___ Yes __X__ No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs: Material weaknesses identified?	___ Yes __X__ No
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	___ Yes __X__ None Reported
Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs	Unmodified
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	___ Yes __X__ No

Identification of major programs:

Assistance Listing Number	Name of Federal Program or Cluster
	U.S. Department of Agriculture
84.027A/84.173A	Special Education Cluster
	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
93.600	Head Start Cluster

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:	$750,000
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	__X__ Yes ____ No

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

B. FINDINGS: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDIT

None reported.

C. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS: MAJOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS AUDIT

None reported.

PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

None reported.