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February 21, 2022

Board of Directors and Management  
California Montessori Project  
5330-A Gibbons Drive, Suite 700  
Carmichael, CA 95608

Dear Members of the Board and Management:

We are pleased to confirm our understanding of the terms and objectives of our engagement and the nature and limitations of the audit and nonaudit services CliftonLarsonAllen LLP (“CLA,” “we,” “us,” and “our”) will provide for California Montessori Project (“you,” “your,” “the entity”, or “the Organization”) for the year ended June 30, 2022.

Derrick DeBruyne is responsible for the performance of the audit engagement. Per Education Code Section 41020(f)(2), there is a limit of six consecutive year for any firm where the principal of the audit and the reviewing principal have been the same in each of those years. This is the third consecutive year Derrick DeBruyne will be the engagement principal.

#### **Scope of audit services**

We will audit the financial statements of California Montessori Project, which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2022, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

We will also evaluate and report on the presentation of the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

#### **Nonaudit services**

We will also provide the following nonaudit services:

- Preparation of your financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes.
- Preparation of supplementary information.
- Preparation of adjusting journal entries.
- Prepare the Data Collection Form.
- Preparation of informational tax returns.



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## **Audit objectives**

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion about whether your financial statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAS) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements, including omissions, can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

Our audit will be conducted in accordance with U.S. GAAS; the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; 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); and the *2021-2022 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting*, published by the Education Audit Appeals Panel. Those standards require us to be independent of the entity and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. Our audit will include tests of your accounting records, a determination of major program(s) in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, and other procedures we consider necessary to enable us to express opinions and render the required reports. We will also perform procedures to enable us to express an opinion on whether the supplementary information (as identified above) accompanying the financial statements is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

The objectives of our audit also include:

- Reporting on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and award agreements, noncompliance with which could have a material effect on the financial statements in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- Reporting on internal control over compliance related to major programs and expressing an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a direct and material effect on each major program in accordance with the Uniform Guidance.
- Reporting on compliance related to state programs and expressing an opinion (or disclaimer of opinion) on compliance with the laws and regulations of the state programs in accordance with the requirements of the *2021-2022 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting*.

The *Government Auditing Standards* report on internal control over financial reporting 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 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, 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 Uniform Guidance report on internal control over compliance will include a paragraph that states that the purpose of the 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. Both reports will state that the report is not suitable for any other purpose.

We will issue written reports upon completion of our audit of your financial statements and compliance with requirements applicable to major programs. Circumstances may arise in which our report may differ from its expected form and content based on the results of our audit. Depending on the nature of these circumstances, it may be necessary for us to modify our opinions, add an emphasis-of-matter or other-matter paragraph to our auditors' report, or if necessary, withdraw from the engagement. If our opinion on the financial statements or the single audit compliance opinion is other than unmodified, we will discuss the reasons with you in advance. If circumstances occur related to the condition of your records, the availability of sufficient, appropriate audit evidence, or the existence of a significant risk of material misstatement of the financial statements or material noncompliance caused by error, fraudulent financial reporting, or misappropriation of assets, which in our professional judgment prevent us from completing the audit or forming an opinion on the financial statements or an opinion on compliance, we retain the right to take any course of action permitted by professional standards, including declining to express opinions or issue reports, or withdrawing from the engagement.

We also will issue a written report on state compliance upon completion of our audit.

#### **Auditor responsibilities, procedures, and limitations**

We will conduct our audit in accordance with U.S. GAAS, the standards for financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance. Those standards require that we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the planning and performance of the audit. As part of our audit, we will:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement or a material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. However, we will communicate to you in writing any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control relevant to the audit of the financial statements that we have identified during the audit.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements, including the amounts and disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- Conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

There is an unavoidable risk, because of the inherent limitations of an audit, together with the inherent limitations of internal control, that some material misstatements or noncompliance may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with U.S. GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance. Because we will not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, material misstatements, 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 entity or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the entity, may not be detected. Because the determination of waste and abuse is subjective, *Government Auditing Standards* do not require auditors to perform specific procedures to detect waste or abuse in financial audits nor do they expect auditors to provide reasonable assurance of detecting waste or abuse.

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 or on major programs. However, we will inform the appropriate level of management and those charged with governance 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 and those charged with governance of any violations of laws or governmental regulations that come to our attention, unless clearly inconsequential. We will include such matters in the reports required for a single audit.

Tests of controls may be performed to test the effectiveness of certain controls that we consider relevant to preventing and detecting fraud or errors that are material to the financial statements and to preventing and detecting misstatements resulting from noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that have a 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*.

As required by the Uniform Guidance, we will perform tests of controls over compliance to evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of controls that we consider relevant to preventing or detecting material noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements applicable to each major federal award program. However, our tests will be less in scope than would be necessary to render an opinion on those controls and, accordingly, no opinion will be expressed in our report on internal control issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

An audit is not designed to provide assurance on internal control or to identify deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses in internal control. However, we will communicate to you in writing significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control relevant to the audit of the financial statements that we identify during the audit that are required to be communicated under AICPA professional standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of the entity's compliance with the provisions of laws, regulations,

contracts, and grant agreements that have a material effect on the financial statements. 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*.

We will include in our report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance relevant information about any identified or suspected instances of fraud and any identified or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements that may have occurred that are required to be communicated under *Government Auditing Standards*.

The Uniform Guidance requires that we also plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the auditee has complied with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that may have a direct and material effect on each of the entity's major programs. Our procedures will consist of tests of transactions and other applicable procedures described in the "OMB Compliance Supplement" for the types of compliance requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each of the entity's major programs. The purpose of these procedures will be to express an opinion on the entity's compliance with requirements applicable to each of its major programs in our report on compliance issued pursuant to the Uniform Guidance.

We will evaluate the presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards accompanying the financial statements in relation to the financial statements as a whole. We will make certain inquiries of management and evaluate the form, content, and methods of preparing the schedule to determine whether the information complies with U.S. GAAP and the Uniform Guidance, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We will compare and reconcile the schedule to the underlying accounting records and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

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.

### **Management responsibilities**

Our audit will be conducted on the basis that you (management and, when appropriate, those charged with governance) acknowledge and understand that you have certain responsibilities that are fundamental to the conduct of an audit.

You are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Management is also responsible for identifying all federal awards received, understanding and complying with the compliance requirements, and for the preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (including notes and noncash assistance received) in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance.

Management's responsibilities include the selection and application of accounting principles; recording and reflecting all transactions in the financial statements; determining the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates included in the financial statements; adjusting the financial statements to correct material misstatements; and confirming to us in the management 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. In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is responsible for compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements, including compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards applicable to the entity's federal programs. Your responsibilities also include identifying significant contractor relationships in which the contractor has responsibility for program compliance and for the accuracy and completeness of that information.

You are responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control, including internal control over compliance, relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, including evaluating and monitoring ongoing activities and safeguarding assets to help ensure that appropriate goals and objectives are met; and that there is reasonable assurance that government programs are administered in compliance with compliance requirements.

You are responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal controls to prevent and detect fraud; assessing the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud; and for informing us about all known or suspected fraud affecting the entity 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 entity received in communications from employees, former employees, grantors, regulators, or others. In addition, you are responsible for implementing systems designed to achieve compliance with applicable laws and regulations and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements, including compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards applicable to the entity's federal programs; identifying and ensuring that the entity complies with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, including compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards applicable to the entity's federal programs; and informing us of all instances of identified or suspected noncompliance whose effects on the financial statements should be considered.

You are responsible for taking timely and appropriate steps to remedy any fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that we may report. Additionally, as required by the Uniform Guidance, it is management's responsibility to evaluate and monitor noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards; take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified, including noncompliance identified in audit findings; and to follow up and take prompt corrective action on reported audit findings and to prepare a summary schedule of prior audit findings and a corrective action plan.

You are 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, including amounts and disclosures, such as records, documentation, identification of all related parties and all related-party relationships and transactions, and other matters, and for the accuracy and completeness of that

information (including information from within and outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers), and for ensuring management information and financial information is reliable and properly reported; (2) access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and other information as needed to perform an audit under the Uniform Guidance; (3) additional information that we may request for the purpose of the audit; and (4) unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom we determine it necessary to obtain audit evidence. You agree to inform us of events occurring or facts discovered subsequent to the date of the financial statements that may affect the financial statements.

You agree to include our report on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in any document that contains and indicates that we have reported on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards. You also agree to include the audited financial statements with any presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards that includes our report thereon or make the audited financial statements readily available to intended users of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards no later than the date the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is issued with our report thereon. Your responsibilities include acknowledging to us in the representation letter that (1) you are responsible for presentation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (2) you believe the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance; (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 schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of other supplementary information in accordance with U.S. GAAP. 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 or make the audited financial statements readily available to users of the supplementary information no later than the date the supplementary information is issued with our report thereon. You agree to provide us written representations related to the presentation of the supplementary information.

Management is responsible for providing us with a written confirmation concerning representations made by you and your staff to us in connection with the audit. During our engagement, we will request information and explanations from you regarding, among other matters, the entity's activities, internal control, future plans, specific transactions, and accounting systems and procedures. The procedures we will perform during our engagement and the conclusions we reach as a basis for our report will be heavily influenced by the representations that we receive in the representation letter and otherwise from you. Accordingly, inaccurate, incomplete, or false representations could cause us to expend unnecessary effort or could cause a material fraud or error to go undetected by our procedures. In view of the foregoing, you agree that we shall not be responsible for any misstatements in the entity's financial statements that we may fail to detect as a result of misrepresentations made to us by you.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining a process for tracking the status of audit findings and recommendations. Management is also responsible for identifying and providing report copies to us of 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. You are 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.

### **Responsibilities and limitations related to nonaudit services**

For all nonaudit services we may provide to you, management agrees to assume all management responsibilities; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably within senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, and/or experience to understand and oversee the services; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services; and accept responsibility for the results of the services. Management is also responsible for ensuring that your data and records are complete and that you have received sufficient information to oversee the services.

The responsibilities and limitations related to the nonaudit services performed as part of this engagement are as follows:

- We will prepare a draft of your financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes in conformity with U.S. GAAP and the Uniform Guidance based on information provided by you. Since the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and schedule of expenditures of federal awards is your responsibility, you will be required to acknowledge in the representation letter our assistance with preparation of the financial statements and schedule of expenditures of federal awards and that you have reviewed and approved the financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, and related notes prior to their issuance and have accepted responsibility for them. You have a responsibility to be in a position in fact and appearance to make an informed judgment on those financial statements and schedule of expenditures of federal awards.
- We will prepare a draft of your supplementary information. Since the preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria is your responsibility, you will be required to review, approve, and accept responsibility for the supplementary information prior to its issuance and have a responsibility to be in a position in fact and appearance to make an informed judgment on the supplementary information.
- We will propose adjusting journal entries as needed. You will be required to review and approve those entries and to understand the nature of the changes and their impact on the financial statements.
- We will prepare the Data Collection Form. Management is responsible to review for completeness and accuracy before submitting to the Federal Audit Clearing House.
- We will prepare the organization's federal Form 990 and applicable state filings in accordance with the applicable tax laws. We will use our judgment in resolving questions where the law is unclear, and where there is reasonable authority, we will resolve questions in your favor whenever possible. We will not audit or independently verify the accuracy or completeness of the information we receive from you for the preparation of the returns and filings, and our



engagement cannot be relied upon to uncover errors or irregularities in the underlying information.

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*.

### **Use of financial statements**

The financial statements and our report thereon are for management's use. If you intend to reproduce and publish the financial statements and our report thereon, they must be reproduced in their entirety. Inclusion of the audited financial statements in a document, such as an annual report or an offering document, should be done only with our prior approval of the document. You are responsible to provide us the opportunity to review such documents before issuance.

If the parties (i.e., you and CLA) agree that CLA will not be involved with your official statements related to municipal securities filings or other offering documents, we will require that any official statements or other offering documents issued by you with which we are not involved clearly indicate that CLA is not involved with the contents of such documents. Such disclosure should read as follows:

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, our independent auditor, has not been engaged to perform and has not performed, since the date of its report included herein, any procedures on the financial statements addressed in that report. CliftonLarsonAllen LLP also has not performed any procedures relating to this offering document.

With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your website or submitted on a regulator website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in those sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.

We may issue preliminary draft financial statements to you for your review. Any preliminary draft financial statements should not be relied on or distributed.

### **Engagement administration and other matters**

We expect to begin our audit approximately in May 2022.

We understand that your employees will prepare all confirmations, account analyses, and audit schedules we request and will locate any documents or invoices selected by us for testing.

At the conclusion of the engagement, we will complete the auditor sections of the electronic Data Collection Form SF-SAC and perform the steps to certify the Form SF-SAC and single audit reporting package. It is management's responsibility to complete the auditee sections of the Data Collection Form. We will create the single audit reporting package PDF file for submission; however, it is management's responsibility to review for completeness and accuracy and electronically submit the reporting package (including financial statements, schedule of expenditures of federal awards, summary schedule of prior audit findings, auditors' reports, and corrective action plan) along with the Data Collection Form to the federal audit clearinghouse and, if appropriate, to pass-through entities. The Data Collection Form and

the reporting package must be electronically submitted within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditors' reports or nine months after the end of the audit period.

We will provide copies of our reports to the entity; however, management is responsible for distribution of the reports and the financial statements. Unless restricted by law or regulation, or containing confidential or sensitive information, copies of our reports are to be made available for public inspection.

We are available to perform additional procedures with regard to fraud detection and prevention, at your request, as a separate engagement, subject to completion of our normal engagement acceptance procedures. The terms and fees of such an engagement would be documented in a separate engagement letter.

The audit documentation for this engagement is the sole and exclusive property of CLA and constitutes confidential and proprietary 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 Cognizant or Grantor Agency, 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 CLA 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 seven years after the report release date or for any additional period requested by the Cognizant or Grantor Agency. If we are aware that a federal awarding agency, pass-through entity, 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.

Except as permitted by the "Consent" section of this agreement, CLA will not disclose any confidential, proprietary, or privileged information of the entity to any persons without the authorization of entity management or unless required by law. This confidentiality provision does not prohibit us from disclosing your information to one or more of our affiliated companies in order to provide services that you have requested from us or from any such affiliated company. Any such affiliated company shall be subject to the same restrictions on the use and disclosure of your information as apply to us.

Professional standards require us to be independent with respect to you in the performance of these services. Any discussion that you have with our personnel regarding potential employment with you could impair our independence with respect to this engagement. Therefore, we request that you inform us prior to any such discussions so that we can implement appropriate safeguards to maintain our independence and objectivity. Further, any employment offers to any staff members working on this engagement without our prior knowledge may require substantial additional procedures to ensure our independence. You will be responsible for any additional costs incurred to perform these procedures.

Our relationship with you is limited to that described in this letter. As such, you understand and agree that we are acting solely as independent accountants. We are not acting in any way as a fiduciary or

assuming any fiduciary responsibilities for you. We are not responsible for the preparation of any report to any governmental agency, or any other form, return, or report or for providing advice or any other service not specifically recited in this letter.

Our engagement ends on delivery of our signed report. Any additional services that might be requested will be a separate, new engagement. The terms and conditions of that new engagement will be governed by a new, specific engagement letter for that service.

*Government Auditing Standards* require that we make our most recent external peer review report publicly available. The report is posted on our website at [www.CLAconnect.com/Aboutus/](http://www.CLAconnect.com/Aboutus/).

### **Mediation**

Any disagreement, controversy, or claim (“Dispute”) that may arise out of any aspect of our services or relationship with you, including this engagement, shall be submitted to non-binding mediation by written notice (“Mediation Notice”) to the other party. In mediation, we will work with you to resolve any differences voluntarily with the aid of an impartial mediator.

The mediation will be conducted as specified by the mediator and agreed upon by the parties. The parties agree to discuss their differences in good faith and to attempt, with the assistance of the mediator, to reach an amicable resolution of the Dispute.

Each party will bear its own costs in the mediation. The fees and expenses of the mediator will be shared equally by the parties.

Any Dispute will be governed by the laws of the state of Minnesota, without giving effect to choice of law principles.

### **Time limitation**

The nature of our services makes it difficult, with the passage of time, to gather and present evidence that fully and fairly establishes the facts underlying any Dispute that may arise between the parties. The parties agree that, notwithstanding any statute or law of limitations that might otherwise apply to a Dispute, including one arising out of this agreement or the services performed under this agreement, for breach of contract or fiduciary duty, tort, fraud, misrepresentation or any other cause of action or remedy, any action or legal proceeding by you against us must be commenced within twenty-four (24) months (“Limitation Period”) after the date when we deliver our final audit report under this agreement to you, regardless of whether we do other services for you relating to the audit report, or you shall be forever barred from commencing a lawsuit or obtaining any legal or equitable relief or recovery.

The Limitation Period applies and begins to run even if you have not suffered any damage or loss, or have not become aware of the existence or possible existence of a Dispute.

### Estimated Fees

Our professional fees will be billed based on the time involved and the degree of responsibility and skills required. We will also bill for expenses (including internal and administrative charges) plus a technology and client support fee of five percent (5%) of all professional fees billed. Based on our preliminary estimates, the price for the engagement is as follows:

Professional Service		Amount
Audit services (includes procedures for one major program under Uniform Guidance, if additional programs are required to be tested they will be billed at \$5,000 per additional federal program)	\$	41,500
Data Collection Form SF-FAC and single audit reporting package	\$	975
Informational tax return services	\$	2,900
Technology and client support fee	\$	2,270
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>47,645</b>

Additional state compliance procedures related to changes to the *2021-2022 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting*, published by the Education Audit Appeals Panel will be billed as out-of-scope. This includes independent study testing requirements if the threshold for testing is met.

The estimated fees are based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and their assistance with preparing confirmations and requested schedules. If the requested items are not available on the dates required or are not accurate, the estimated price for services will likely be higher. If unexpected circumstances require significant additional time, we will advise you before undertaking work that would require a substantial increase in the fee estimate. Our invoices, including applicable state and local taxes, will be rendered each month as work progresses and are payable on presentation. In accordance with our firm policies, work may be suspended if your account becomes 60 days or more overdue and will not be resumed until your account is paid in full. If we elect to terminate our services for nonpayment, our engagement will be deemed to have been completed even if we have not issued our reports. You will be obligated to compensate us for all time expended and related fees 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.

### ***Unanticipated services***

We do not anticipate encountering the need to perform additional services beyond those described in this letter. Below are listings of services considered to be outside the scope of our engagement. If any such service needs to be completed before the audit can proceed in an efficient manner, we will determine whether we can provide the service and maintain our independence. If appropriate, we will

notify you and provide a fair and reasonable price for providing the service. We will bill you for the service at periodic dates after the additional service has been performed.

### **Bookkeeping services**

Bookkeeping services are not audit services. Bookkeeping services include the following activities:

- Preparation of a trial balance
- Account reconciliations
- Bank statement reconciliations
- Capital asset accounting (e.g., calculating depreciation, identify capital assets for additions and deletions)
- Calculating accruals
- Analyzing transactions for proper recording
- Converting cash basis accounting records to accrual basis
- Assisting in calculating tax provisions
- Preparation of financial statements and the related notes to the financial statements
- Processing immaterial adjustments through the financial statements
- Adjusting the financial statements for new activities and new disclosures

### **Additional work resulting from unanticipated changes in your organization or accounting records**

If your organization undergoes significant changes in key personnel, accounting systems, and/or internal control, we are required to update our audit documentation and audit plan. The following are examples of situations that will require additional audit work:

- Revising documentation of your internal control for changes resulting from your implementation of new information systems
- Deterioration in the quality of the entity's accounting records during the current-year engagement in comparison to the prior-year engagement
- Significant new accounting issues
- Significant changes in your volume of business

- Mergers, acquisitions, or other business combinations
- New or unusual transactions
- Changes in audit scope or requirements resulting from changes in your activities
- Erroneous or incomplete accounting records
- Evidence of material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control
- Substantial increases in the number or significance of problem loans
- Regulatory examination matters
- Implementation or adoption of new or existing accounting, reporting, regulatory, or tax requirements
- New financial statement disclosures

**Changes in engagement timing and assistance by your personnel**

The fee estimate is based on anticipated cooperation from your personnel and their assistance with timely preparation of confirmations and requested schedules. If the requested items are not available on the dates required or are not accurate, we will advise management. Additional time and costs may be necessary because of such unanticipated delays. Examples of situations that may cause our estimated fee to increase include:

- Significant delays in responding to our requests for information such as reconciling variances or providing requested supporting documentation (e.g., invoices, contracts, and other documents)
- Rescheduling our fieldwork
- Schedule disruption caused by litigation, financial challenges (going concern), loan covenants (waivers), etc.
- Identifying a significant number of proposed audit adjustments
- Schedules prepared by your personnel that do not reconcile to the general ledger
- Numerous revisions to information and schedules provided by your personnel
- Restating financial statements for accounting errors in the prior year
- Lack of availability of entity personnel during audit fieldwork

***Changes in accounting and audit standards***

Standard setters and regulators continue to evaluate and modify standards. Such changes may result in new or revised financial reporting and disclosure requirements or expand the nature, timing, and scope of the activities we are required to perform. To the extent that the amount of time required to provide the services described in this letter increases due to such changes, our fee may need to be adjusted. We will discuss such circumstances with you prior to performing the additional work.

***Changes related to COVID-19***

COVID-19 continues to have significant direct and indirect impacts on financial reporting, disclosure requirements, and the nature, timing, and scope of the activities we are required to perform. To the extent that the amount of time required to provide the services described in this letter increases due to such changes, our fee may need to be adjusted. We will discuss such circumstances with you prior to performing the additional work.

***Other fees***

You also agree to compensate us for any time and expenses, including time and expenses of legal counsel, we may incur in responding to discovery requests or participating as a witness or otherwise in any legal, regulatory, or other proceedings that we are asked to respond to on your behalf.

***Finance charges and collection expenses***

You agree that if any statement is not paid within 30 days from its billing date, the unpaid balance shall accrue interest at the monthly rate of one and one-quarter percent (1.25%), which is an annual percentage rate of 15%. In the event that any collection action is required to collect unpaid balances due us, reasonable attorney fees and expenses shall be recoverable.

**Consent**

***Consent to use information for benchmarking analysis***

In an effort to better serve the needs of our clients, we develop a variety of benchmark, performance indicator, and predictive analysis reports, using anonymized client data obtained from our audit, tax, and other engagements. Business and financial information that you provide to us may be combined with information from other clients and included within the aggregated data that we use in these reports. While some of these analytical reports will be published and released publicly, please be assured that the separate information that we obtain from you will remain confidential, as required by the AICPA Code of Professional Conduct.

***Subcontractors***

CLA may, at times, use subcontractors to perform services under this agreement, and they may have access to your information and records. Any such subcontractors will be subject to the same restrictions on the use of such information and records as apply to CLA under this agreement.

**Agreement**

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you and believe this letter accurately summarizes the significant terms of our engagement. This letter constitutes the entire agreement regarding these services and supersedes all prior agreements (whether oral or written), understandings, negotiations, and discussions between you and CLA. If you have any questions, please let us know. Please sign, date, and return this letter to us to indicate your acknowledgment and understanding of, and agreement with, the arrangements for our audit of your financial statements including the terms of our engagement and the parties' respective responsibilities.

Sincerely,

**CliftonLarsonAllen LLP**

Derrick DeBruyne, CPA, CFE  
Principal  
626-857-7300  
Derrick.DeBruyne@claconnect.com

**Response:**

This letter correctly sets forth the understanding of California Montessori Project.

Authorized management signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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