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Center Grove Community School Corporation

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STATEMENT

Rob Daniels, President of CGCSC Board of School Trustees & William K. Long, Ed.D., Superintendent

(April 25, 2025) - In January 2024, Superintendent Rich Arkanoff submitted his retirement request to the Board of School Trustees. Our Business Office discovered inconsistencies with his time off and reimbursement tracking and shared that information with the State Board of Accounts (SBOA). The SBOA is the state agency that oversees all local government finances. Since the initial report, Center Grove has fully cooperated with the SBOA as they conducted an investigation. That investigation has now reached its conclusion, and a report was published today.

The SBOA investigation confirmed that the former superintendent misused public resources, including the corporation credit card for personal expenses, and failed to properly report time off, all in violation of several School Board Policies. These actions were a deliberate breach of trust by an individual in a position of authority and were not reflective of system failures. Center Grove's internal controls remain sound, and this situation stemmed from a deliberate circumvention of these controls by someone in a position of trust and authority.

"The School Board is committed to ensuring that our school corporation operates with the utmost integrity and accountability," said Rob Daniels, Board President. "This type of conduct will not be tolerated from anyone in our organization, especially those in leadership positions. The Board remains steadfast in our commitment to proper governance and fiscal responsibility. We appreciate the time and diligence of Dr. Long and his team and the work of the State Board of Accounts throughout this investigation. The Board remains dedicated to transparency, accountability, and maintaining the high standards our community expects from Center Grove Community School Corporation."

"As an Army veteran and a career educator, I have dedicated my life to service and to leading with integrity," said Dr. Bill Long, Superintendent. "I am deeply disappointed by this incident. However, I want to assure our community that Center Grove has strong internal controls and clear policies—systems that were unfortunately and deliberately circumvented by our former superintendent. This was not a breakdown of oversight, but a calculated effort to sidestep the strong controls we have in place. My commitment to this district is unwavering. We will continue to uphold the highest standards of fiscal responsibility while remaining focused on providing outstanding educational opportunities for our students."

As a result of the SBOA findings, we are actively pursuing repayment of all misappropriated funds. While the SBOA will be seeking recovery of certain amounts through official channels, Center Grove is also taking direct action to recover additional funds identified during our own thorough review.

The full report from the State Board of Accounts is available to the public at this link.

Center Grove is committed to fiscal responsibility and proper stewardship of public resources. We appreciate your continued support and trust as we move forward.

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