



The Hon. Suzanne Bump
Auditor of the Commonwealth
The State House
Boston, MA 02133

November 28, 2017

Dear Auditor Bump:

I am writing to urge a thorough investigation into Boston Public Schools and its use of student activity accounts. Recent reports allege school administrators used these funds in violation of IRS laws, including to pay staff under the table.

In yesterday's *Boston Globe*, the story entitled "Boston Public Schools paid some workers off the books" details some of the ways these accounts were misused. The story lacks important information, however. The following questions are particularly of interest to taxpayers: How much money has been misused, who was responsible for the misuse, and for how long have the funds been misused?

According to the published reports, Boston Public School officials covered up their knowledge of the misuse of funds for several months. As I'm sure you know and the article reports, this isn't the first time in recent years the BPS has played fast and loose with its budget. The School Department and the City of Boston have thus lost credibility with regard to this matter.

Your thoughtful and careful review of the goings on at the Boston Public Schools would be welcomed by taxpayers as necessary and prudent. On behalf of the members of Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to fiscally responsible state government, I urge you to investigate this matter and all other budget matters at the Boston Public Schools thoroughly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul D. Craney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "P".

Paul D. Craney
Director