



January 31, 2019

Honorable Pedro A. Rivera
Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Education
333 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17126

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Pursuant to Section 695-A(e) of Act 55 of 2017, I am very pleased to submit for your review and approval the Financial Improvement Plan for Erie Public Schools. Consistent with the requirements set forth in the statute, the Financial Improvement Plan and accompanying appendices includes performance goals, benchmarks and timetables to improve the financial performance and ensure the fiscal solvency of the school district.

I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to Dr. David Volkman, Barbara Nelson and the other PDE staff that facilitated and assisted in the development of the Plan. I am grateful as well for the priority attention you ensured the Department gave to matters impacting Erie Public Schools as the development process unfolded. I appreciate too the tremendous support and technical assistance that was provided by PDE through the Department's consultant, Public Financial Management (PFM) and PFM's senior managing consultant on this project, Ian Tyson. Finally, I want to thank the Board of School Directors of Erie Public Schools, Board President Frank Petrungar, Jr., the District Superintendent Brian J. Polito, Assistant Superintendent for Academics Bea Habursky, and the entire District administrative staff, particularly Andrea Valerio Malone, for the help, cooperation and courtesies all extended throughout the Plan development process.

I stand ready to answer any questions or address any issues regarding the Financial Improvement Plan that may arise during your review and look forward to continuing to work with PDE and Erie Public Schools to implement an approved Plan that will ensure the future fiscal solvency of the District.

Sincerely,

Charles B. Zogby
Financial Administrator
Erie Public Schools