



**Danya Labban**  
Auditor General

October 11, 2022

Mr. Kendrick Sifontes  
Audit Director  
Office of the State Comptroller  
Division of State Government Accountability  
123 William Street  
New York, NY 10038

**Re: Status Update on Recommendations in the OSC's audit Report of the DOE's Custodial Service Contract Procurement and Oversight (2020-N-8)**

Dear Mr. Sifontes:

This letter constitutes the New York City Department of Education's (DOE) status update on recommendations made by the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) on the *DOE's Custodial Service Contract Procurement and Oversight* (Report).

The DOE is providing the following update on the status of these recommendations:

- 1. Ensure all applicable PPP Guidelines are followed (i.e., inclusion of detailed cost breakdown of the services provided and documentation showing vendors were contacted) when procuring services using the negotiated services procurement method and before awarding the contract.**

The DOE agreed with the recommendation as it reflected current practice, but the DOE generally disagreed with the recommendation. All PPP rules were adhered to, but we will continue to ensure they are followed strictly in accordance with DOE policy.

**Date of Implementation:** The mechanism pointed to in the recommendation was in place prior to the audit report's (April 8, 2022) recommendation made to the DOE.

- 2. Develop a system for consistently recording and measuring how well DOE buildings are being cleaned and maintained. In the meantime, take steps to maximize the usefulness of the tools that are available, such as ensuring all twice-yearly custodian engineer ratings are performed and including comments where deficiencies are noted.**

The DOE disagreed with this recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Danya Labban', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Danya Labban  
Auditor General