

**Integrity Monitor Report
Category 3**

Integrity Monitor Firm Name: Vander Weele Group^{LLC}
Quarter Ending: 3/27/2024
Expected Engagement End Date: 9/30/2026

A. General Info

1. Recovery Program Participant:

[New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE)]

2. Federal Funding Source (e.g. CARES, HUD, FEMA, ARPA):

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

3. State Funding Source (if applicable):

[American Rescue Plan State Fiscal Recovery Fund]

4. Deadline for Use of State or Federal Funding by Recovery Program Participant:

[December 31, 2025]

5. Accountability Officer:

[Amanda Schultz]

6. Program(s) under Review/Subject to Engagement:

[Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) Facilities Expansion program]

7. Brief Description, Purpose, and Rationale of Integrity Monitor Project/Program:

Purpose is to collaborate with the NJDOE to develop measures that will help to prevent, detect, and remediate inefficiency and malfeasance in the expenditure of COVID-19 Recovery Funds and to provide expertise in Program and Process Management Auditing, Financial Auditing and Grant Management, and Integrity Monitoring/Anti-Fraud services. The Integrity Monitor (IM) will monitor a select sample of school districts in receipt of Universal Pre-Kindergarten facilities expansion program funds by

**Integrity Monitor Report
Category 3**

conducting risk assessments and reviewing compliance with program requirements to minimize fraud, waste, or abuse.

8. Amount Allocated to Program(s) under Review:

Approximately \$120 million in State Fiscal Recovery Funds appropriated to the State of New Jersey through September 2026.

9. Amount Expended by Recovery Program Participant to Date on Program(s) under Review:

\$0.00

10. Amount Provided to Other State or Local Entities:

\$0.00

11. Completion Status of Program (e.g. planning phase, application review, post-payment):

Planning Phase

12. Completion Status of Integrity Monitor Engagement:

In process

B. Monitoring Activities

13. If FEMA funded, brief description of the status of the project worksheet and its support:

a) IM Response

Not applicable.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

N/A

**Integrity Monitor Report
Category 3**

14. Description of the services provided to the Recovery Program Participant during the quarter (i.e. activities conducted, such as meetings, document review, staff training, etc.):

a) IM Response

- 1.) Hosted initial kick-off meeting and developed agenda.
- 2.) Completed kick-off meeting minutes.
- 3.) Set-up bi-weekly meetings between pertinent VWG and NJDOE staff and management to go over status of the UPK program as it relates to document requests, timing of documentation, and any other applicable follow-ups.
- 4.) Sent risk assessment initial document request list to NJDOE on 3/28/2024.
- 5.) Developed framework for risk assessment to gather necessary information. Currently working on drafting the risk assessment as documents and responses are provided by NJDOE.
- 6.) Completed March 2024 monthly and 1st quarter reporting.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

NJDOE agrees with the above.

15. Description to confirm appropriate data/information has been provided by the Recovery Program Participant and description of activities taken to review the project/program:

a) IM Response

IM is currently in the process of sending out the initial document request and gathering documentation as needed for review of the UPK program. The initial document request was sent on 3/28/2024 with a due date of documents to be received by mid-April.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

**Integrity Monitor Report
Category 3**

N/A

16. Description of quarterly auditing activities conducted to ensure procurement compliance with terms and conditions of contracts and agreements:

a) IM Response

IM is currently in the process of sending out the initial document request and gathering documentation as needed for review of the UPK program. The initial document request was sent on 3/28/2024 with a due date of documents to be received by mid-April

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

N/A

17. If payment documentation in connection with the contract/program has been reviewed, provide description.

a) IM Response

Not applicable but will be reviewed upon receipt following initial and secondary document requests.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

N/A

18. Description of quarterly activity to prevent and detect waste, fraud, and/or abuse:

a) IM Response

NJDOE expressed areas of concern during the initial kick-off meeting. These include the districts' ability to utilize funds and match their needed percentages to participate in the program. Other concerns were discussed and will be reviewed as documentation is provided following the initial document receipt.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

**Integrity Monitor Report
Category 3**

N/A

19. Details of any integrity issues/findings, including findings of waste, fraud, and/or abuse:

a) IM Response

There are no concerns to date. However, upon receipt and review of documentation, and the subsequent completion of the initial NJDOE risk assessment, we will note our findings.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

N/A

20. Details of any other items of note that have occurred in the past quarter:

a) IM Response

Not applicable at this time.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

N/A

21. Details of any actions taken to remediate waste, fraud, and/or abuse noted in past quarters:

a) IM Response

On 3/28/2024, VWG provided the NJDOE with a detailed document request list that ties back to the various IM risk assessment inquiries. As we review documentation and interview pertinent staff, we will provide additional recommendations and technical assistance to the NJDOE to support the remediation of waste, fraud, and/or abuse. However, as this is the beginning of the engagement, there was no reporting done by IM during past quarters.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

N/A

**Integrity Monitor Report
Category 3**

C. Miscellaneous

22. List of hours (by employee) and expenses incurred to perform quarterly integrity monitoring review:

a) IM Response

Dr. Kristen Mokofisi – 13.25
Richard Palmer – 2.25
Artecia Foster – 5.5
Rene Alaniz – 0.00

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

N/A

23. Add any item, issue, or comment not covered in previous sections but deemed pertinent to monitoring program:

a) IM Response

Not applicable.

b) Recovery Program Participant Comments

N/A

Name of Integrity Monitor: Vander Weele Group^{LLC}

Name of Report Preparer: Dr. Kristen Mokofisi

Signature:



Date:

3/27/2024