

TRENTON STEM-TO-CIVICS CHARTER SCHOOL

AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

Barre & Company LLC
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

TRENTON STEM-TO-CIVICS CHARTER SCHOOL

**AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS
FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE**

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Report of Independent Auditors


Honorable President and
Members of the Board of Trustees
Trenton STEM-to-Civics Charter School
County of Mercer, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with generally accepted audit standards and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Board of Trustees of the Trenton STEM-to-Civics Charter School in the County of Mercer for the year ended June 30, 2019, and have issued our report thereon dated December 20, 2019.

As part of our audit, we performed procedures required by the New Jersey Department of Education, and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents.

This report is intended for the information of the Trenton STEM-to-Civics Charter School Board of Trustees' management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.


BARRE & COMPANY LLC
Certified Public Accountants
Public School Accountants


Richard M. Barre, CPA
Public School Accountant
PSA Number CS-O1181

Union, New Jersey
December 20, 2019

Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Founder and the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, the activities of the Board of Trustees, and the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Board of Trustees.

Administrative Practices and Procedures

Insurance

Fire insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on Exhibit J-20, Insurance Schedule contained in the Charter School's CAFR.

Official Bonds (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 18A:17-32, 18A:13-13)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
John Snuffin	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	\$163,000.00

Adequate insurance is in effect with a duly licensed and authorized insurance company for all employees in connection with the faithful performance of their duties.

Tuition Charges

A review of financial statements indicated that the Charter School charged no tuition for any student attending the Charter School.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

An examination of claims paid during the period under review did not indicate any discrepancies with respect to signatures, certification or supporting documentation.

Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

Payroll Account

The net salaries of all employees of the Board were deposited in the Payroll Account. Employees' payroll deductions and employer's share of fringe benefits were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

All payrolls were approved by the designee in the Charter School and were certified by the President of the Board, the Board Secretary/Business Administrator, and the Chief School Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits withholding due to the general fund.

Payrolls were delivered to the secretary of the board who then deposited with warrants in separate bank accounts for net payroll and withholdings.

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30 for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

No exceptions were noted during our review.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(f)* as part of our test of transactions of randomly selected expenditure items. We also reviewed the coding of the all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit testing procedures. In addition to randomly selecting a test sample, our sample selection specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.3*. As a result of the procedures performed, a transaction error rate of 1.90% overall was noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

A. General Classification Findings

No exceptions or discrepancies were noted in the general classification of expenditures.

B. Administrative Classification Findings

No exceptions or discrepancies were noted in the administrative classification of expenditures.

Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

Business Office's Records

Our review of the financial and accounting records maintained by the business office disclosed no exceptions or discrepancies.

Board Secretary's Records (in lieu of Treasurer's Records)

There were no items noted during our review of the records of the Board Secretary.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (E.S.E.A.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The E.S.E.A. financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the CAFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to the projects under Titles I and VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized

The study of compliance for E.S.E.A. did not indicate any areas of noncompliance and/or questionable cost.

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The Charter School's Special Projects were approved as listed on Schedule A and Schedule B located in the CAFR.

Our audit of the federal and state funds on a test basis, indicated the obligations and expenditures were incurred during the fiscal year or project period for which the project was approved.

The financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the CAFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to the aforementioned special projects.

The study of compliance for the special projects did not indicate any areas of noncompliance.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a test of the biweekly reimbursements (electronic, but Charter Schools can print out the DOENET screen for an auditor) filed with the Department of Education for Charter School employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. No exceptions were noted.

Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

TPAF Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

The amount of the expenditure charged to the current year's Final Report(s) for all federal awards for the Charter School to reimburse the State for the TPAF/FICA payments made by the State on-behalf of the Charter School for those employees whose salaries are identified as being paid from federal funds was made prior to the end of the 90 day grant liquidation period required by the Office of Grants Management. The expenditure was reviewed subsequent to the reimbursement and no exceptions were noted.

School Purchasing Programs

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq. (Public School Contracts Law), the associated rules and related information on the statute, and school contracts in general is available on the NJ Local Agency Procurement Laws webpage:
<http://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/lpcl.html>.

Current statute is posted on the New Jersey Legislature (<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>) website.

Auditors should refer to Section I, Chapter 5, Bids & Contracts/Purchasing for highlights of *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 and 4*.

The bid thresholds in accordance with *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(a)* are \$40,000 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$29,000 (without a Qualified Purchasing Agent), respectively. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under *N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3* is \$19,000.

The Charter School board of trustees has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the contract year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the Solicitor's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

Based on the results of our examination, we did not note any individual payments, contracts, or agreements made for the performance of any work or goods or services, in excess of the statutory thresholds where there had been no advertising for bids in accordance of *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4*, amended.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5*.

Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance

School Food Service

The school food service program was not selected as a major federal and/or state program. Accordingly, we inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the SFA has any Child Nutrition Program reimbursement overclaims or underclaims. No exceptions were noted.

We also inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the SFA's expenditures of school food service revenues were limited to allowable direct and indirect costs. No exceptions were noted.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Assets (CAFR Schedule B-5) does separate programs and non-program revenue and program and non-program cost of goods sold. For school year 2018-2019, there were no non-program revenue and cost of goods sold.

The financial transactions and statistical records of the school food service fund were reviewed. The financial accounts, meal count records and eligibility applications were reviewed on a test-check basis.

Cash receipts and bank records were reviewed for timely deposit.

Expenditures are summarized and recorded as cost of sales. Vendor invoices were reviewed and costs verified.

The cash disbursements records reflected expenditures for program related goods and services. The appropriate revenue and expenditure records were maintained in order to substantiate the non-profit status of the school food service.

Net cash resources did not exceed three months average expenditures.

The number of meals claimed for reimbursement was compared to sales and meal count records. As part of the claims review process that Edit Check Worksheet was completed. Reimbursement claims were submitted/certified in a timely manner.

Applications for free and reduced price meals were reviewed for completeness and accuracy. The number of free and reduced price meals claimed as served was compared to the number of valid applications and/or to the list of directly certified students on file, times the number of operating days, on a school by school basis. The free and reduced price meal and free milk policy was reviewed for uniform administration throughout the school system. Sites approved to participate in Provisions I and II were examined for compliance with all counting and claiming requirements. The required verification procedures for free and reduced price applications were completed and available for review.

The Charter School did provide the detailed revenue and expenditure information necessary in order to execute the USDA mandated Non-Program Food Revenue Tool at least annually.

Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance

School Food Service (Continued)

Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in the section entitled Enterprise Funds, Section G of the CAFR.

No Exceptions Noted.

Student Body Activities

During our review of the student activity funds, there were no items noted.

Enrollment Counts and Submissions to the Department

Our audit procedures included a test of enrollment information reported on October 15, 2018 and the last day of school for on-roll, special education, bilingual and low-income.

Follow-up on Prior Year Findings

Not Applicable.

Acknowledgment

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the Charter School and we greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to the members of the audit team.

SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

TRENTON STEM-TO-CIVICS CHARTER SCHOOL
APPLICATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOL AID
ENROLLMENT COUNT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018

Grades	Submission to DOE Reported on Roll	Reported on Workpapers	Errors	50% Verification Required 10/15/2018	Verified Signed Registration Forms	Verified # of Days		Submission to DOE Reported Special Ed /Bilingual		Verified Documentation	Errors	Verified # of Days Service Provided	Errors	Low Income	Verified Documentation	Errors
						Enrolled	Enrolled	Special Ed /Bilingual	Verified Documentation							
Six	83	83		42	42	42	5	5	5	5		5		27	27	
Seven	79	79		40	40	40	7	7	7	7		7		29	29	
Nine	134	134		67	67	67	14	14	14	14		14		33	33	
Ten	113	113		57	57	57	12	12	12	12		12		47	47	
Eleven	88	88		44	44	44	7	7	7	7		7		18	18	
Twelve	86	86		43	43	43	8	8	8	8		8		20	20	
Totals	583	583	-	293	293	293	293	53	53	53	-	53	-	174	174	-
Percentage			0.00%				0.00%				0.00%					0.00%

SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

TRENTON STEM-TO-CIVICS CHARTER SCHOOL
APPLICATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOL AID
ENROLLMENT COUNT AS OF LAST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR 2019

Grades	Submission to DOE Reported on Roll	Reported on Workpapers	Errors	50% Verification Required 6/30/19	Verified Signed Registration Forms	Verified # of Days		Errors	Submission to DOE Reported Special Ed /Bilingual	Verified Documentation	Errors	Verified # of Days Service Provided	Errors	Low Income	Verified Documentation	Errors
						Enrolled	Enrolled									
Six	80	80		40	40	40	40		5	5		5		27	27	
Seven	73	73		37	37	37	37		7	7		7		28	28	
Nine	126	126		63	63	63	63		13	13		13		31	31	
Ten	99	99		50	50	50	50		11	11		11		43	43	
Eleven	84	84		42	42	42	42		6	6		6		17	17	
Twelve	83	83		42	42	42	42		8	8		8		19	19	
Totals	545	545	-	274	274	274	274	-	50	50	-	50	-	165	165	-
Percentage			0.00%					0.00%			0.00%		0.00%			0.00%

EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-7 requires that excess surplus for regular school districts and charter schools is calculated using 2% for June 30, 2005 and thereafter. Pursuant to P.L. 2007, c.62, the minimum is \$250,000, effective with the year ending June 30, 2007.

Charter schools are not subject to the excess surplus limitations. Charter school auditors are required to document the calculation of excess surplus pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-7* solely for the purpose of adherence to *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-22.4(e)*, which provides that a district board of education may petition the Commissioner to pay a lower per-pupil rate if the charter school spends "significantly less than budgeted and has accumulated a sizable surplus."

As communicated in the FY 2018-2019 State Budget Notification broadcast to school districts dated July 13, 2018, applicable to districts that received an increase in state aid that remains unexpended/unencumbered at June 30, 2019, any amount remaining unexpended/unencumbered at June 30, 2019 falls to unreserved general fund surplus and may not be included as an adjustment to the excess surplus calculation. Also, applicable to districts that received an increase in state aid for 2018-2019, and communicated in the July 13 broadcast, was authorization by the Commissioner to designate additional surplus for use in 2019-2020 by board resolution between July 01, 2018 and August 1, 2018 in an amount not to exceed the increase in State Aid.

CALCULATION:

Complete Sections 1 and 2. If the total of Section 2 is **greater** than the applicable portion of Section 1, enter the difference in Section 3. If the difference results in a negative, enter a zero in Section 3. The applicable sections are to be submitted as part of the Auditor's Management Report.

Note that beginning with the excess surplus calculation for the year ending June 30, 2012 the transfer to food services is not an allowable adjustment (increase) to total general fund expenditures.

School Bus Advertising Revenue:

Districts were provided guidance to budget and recognize current year school bus advertising revenue on line 315, 10-1992. Under *N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-7.1* and *N.J.S.A. 18A:39-31*, an adjustment to the audited excess surplus calculation is permitted in the year revenue earned under a school bus advertising contract is recognized by the district. Statute doesn't state that the district is limited to the amount not used to reduce fuel costs; accordingly, the full amount may be used as an adjustment to excess surplus in the year of recognition/receipt only. Refer to illustration on page III-4.39 – Line (J3).

N.J.S.A. 18A:39-31 requires that 50 percent (50%) of recognized school bus advertising revenue be used to offset the fuel costs of providing pupil transportation services. Of the total revenue recognized, any portion of the 50% required by statute to be used as an offset to fuel costs in the year of revenue recognition, but not used for that purpose must be established as a restricted fund balance at year end. Report the restricted year end balances on Audsum lines 90028 (Bus Advertising Revenue Reserved for Fuel Costs – Current Year Adjustment), and Audsum 90029 (Bus Advertising Revenue Reserved for Fuel Costs – Prior Year Adjustment). Include the amount(s) as adjustments in the “Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance” calculation (refer to illustration on page III-4.34 of this Audit Program). Note that the school district budget software will preload these amounts from Audsum onto the Recapitulation of Balances Line 15 in the columns for the respective years. The prior year balance in this reserve (Audsum line 90029) was budgeted in the subsequent year’s budget (2018-2019) and the current year balance in this reserve (Audsum line 90028) must be budgeted in the 2nd subsequent year’s budget (2019-2020). An edit will verify that the amounts on lines 90028 and 90029 are budgeted as a revenue source. Line 90028 will preload onto Line D-2 of the budgetary calculation of Additional Excess Surplus report in the 2019-2020 budget software.

In the recapitulation of fund balance reported at the end of the Budgetary Comparison Schedule (Exhibit C-1), the reserve for each of two possible years should be reported separately. Separate lines are provided in the Audsum data collection (line 90028 for current year and line 90029 for subsequent year) for each applicable year’s reserve. GASBS No. 54 requires the further categorization of the bus advertising reserve for fuel costs account balance on the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet (Exhibit B-1). Based upon the withdrawal requirements, the bus advertising reserve for fuel costs has significant externally imposed restrictions on its use and should be categorized as “Restricted” fund balance. The same categorization is applicable to the General Fund Budgetary Comparison Schedule (Exhibit C-1).

EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

TRENTON STEM-TO-CIVICS CHARTER SCHOOL

SECTION 1

A. 2% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2018-19 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR, Ex. C-1	\$ 10,411,295 (B)
Increased by:	
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund	- (B1a)
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund	- (B1b)
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Regular	- (B1c)
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Inclusion	- (B1d)
Decreased by:	
Oh-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	(734,900) (B2a)
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	<u>- (B2b)</u>
Adjusted 2018-19 General Fund Expenditures	<u>9,676,395 (B3)</u>
2% of Adjusted 2018-19 General Fund Expenditures	<u>193,528 (B4)</u>
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	250,000 (B5)
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment *	<u>- (K)</u>
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance/Undesignated-Unreserved Fund Balance	<u>\$ 250,000 (M)</u>

SECTION 2

Total General Fund - Fund Balance @ 6/30/2019 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1)	\$ 13,452 (C)
Decrease by:	
Year-end Encumbrances	- (C1)
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	- (C2)
Legally Restricted - Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures **	- (C3)
Other Restricted Fund Balances ****	- (C4)
Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	<u>- (C5)</u>
Total Unassigned Fund Balance	<u>13,452 (U1)</u>

SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus ***	<u>\$ - (E)</u>
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Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2019

Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures **	\$ - (C3)
Reserved Excess Surplus ***	<u>- (E)</u>
Total Excess Surplus	<u>- (D)</u>

Footnotes:

EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

TRENTON STEM-TO-CIVICS CHARTER SCHOOL

* Allowable adjustment to expenditures on line K must be detailed as follows. This adjustment line (as detailed below) is to be utilized when applicable for:

(H) Federal Impact Aid. The passage of P.L. 2015, c.46 amended N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41 to permit a board of education to appropriate federal impact aid funds to establish or supplement a federal impact aid legal reserve in the general fund. Accordingly, the Federal Impact Aid adjustment to expenditures is limited to the portion of Federal Impact Aid Section 8002 and Section 8003 received during the fiscal year and recognized as revenue on the General Fund Budgetary Comparison Schedule, but not transferred to the Federal Impact Aid Reserve - General (8002 or 8003) by board resolution during June 1 to June 30 of the fiscal year under audit. Amounts transferred to the reserve are captured on line (C4);

(I) Sale and Lease-Back (Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10);

(J1) Extraordinary Aid;

(J2) Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid;

(J3) Recognized Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue; and

(J4) Family Crisis Transportation Aid.

Notes to auditor: Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10 for restrictions on the inclusion of Extraordinary Aid, Family Crisis Transportation Aid, and Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid.

Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid	\$	-	(H)
Sale & Lease-Back		-	(I)
Extraordinary Aid		-	(J1)
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid		-	(J2)
Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized		-	(J3)
Family Crisis Transportation Aid		-	(J4)
		<hr/>	
Total Adjustments	\$	-	(K)

** This amount represents the June 30, 2019 Excess Surplus (C3 above) and must be included in the Audit Summary Worksheet Line 90031.

*** Amounts must agree to the June 30, 2019 CAFR and must agree to Audit Summary Worksheet Line 90030.

**** Amount for Other Reserved Fund Balances must be detailed for each source. Use in the excess surplus calculation of any legal reserve that is not state mandated or that is not legally imposed by an other type of government, such as the judicial branch of government, must have departmental approval. District requests should be submitted to the Division of Administration and Finance prior to September 30.

Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance

Statutory restrictions:			
Approved unspent separate proposal	\$	-	
Sale/lease-back reserve		-	
Capital reserve		-	
Maintenance reserve		-	
Emergency reserve		-	
Tuition reserve		-	
School Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset Reserve - current year		-	
School Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset Reserve - prior year		-	
Impact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sections 8002 and 8003)		-	
Impact Aid Capital Fund Reserve (Sections 8007 and 8008)		-	
Other state/government mandated reserve		-	
[Other Restricted Fund Balance not noted above] ****		-	
		<hr/>	
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$	-	(C4)

**TRENTON STEM-TO-CIVICS CHARTER SCHOOL
AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

Findings and Recommendations:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

None

3. School Purchasing Programs

None

4. School Food Service

None

5. Student Body Activities

None

6. Application for State School Aid/Charter School Enrollment System/Charter School Aid

None

7. Pupil Transportation

None

8. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

9. Miscellaneous

None

10. Status of Prior Year Audit Findings/Recommendations

None