

**ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL
COUNTY OF CAMDEN**

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

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2020**

ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL

Auditor's Management Report on Administrative
Findings - Financial, Compliance and Performance

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

The Honorable Chairperson and
Members of the Board of Trustees
Environment Community Opportunity Charter School
County of Camden, New Jersey 08102

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Board of Trustees of the Environment Community Opportunity Charter School, in the County of Camden, State of New Jersey, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, which were separately issued in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report dated February 5, 2021.

As part of our audit, we also 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 issued in conjunction with the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the Board of Trustees of the Environment Community Opportunity Charter School, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and is intended for the information of the Charter School's management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Respectfully submitted,



BOWMAN & COMPANY LLP
Certified Public Accountants
& Consultants



Michael D. Cesaro
Certified Public Accountant
Public School Accountant No. CS 01191

Voorhees, New Jersey
February 5, 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE**SCOPE OF AUDIT**

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary / School Business Administrator and the Treasurer of School Moneys, 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 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (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>
Jennifer Bailey	Board Secretary / School Business Administrator	\$ 156,250.00
Jeffrey M. Berk	Treasurer of School Money	158,700.00

There is a blanket dishonesty bond covering all other employees with the following coverage: \$500,000.00 per loss.

FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING, AND REPORTING**Examination of Claims**

Sampled claims paid during the fiscal year under audit did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to signatures, certification, or supporting documentation.

Payroll Account

The net salaries of sampled employees of the Charter School were deposited in the net payroll account. Employees' payroll deductions and the employer's share of fringe benefits were deposited in the payroll agency account.

Sampled payrolls were approved by the Lead Person/Head of School and were certified by the Chairman of the Board and the Board Secretary / School Business Administrator.

Sampled salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefit premium withholdings due to the general fund.

Sampled payrolls were delivered to the Treasurer of School Moneys with a warrant made to his order for the full amount of the payroll.

Sampled payrolls were delivered to the Board Secretary who then deposited with warrants in separate bank accounts for net payroll and withholdings.

Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A sample of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30 for proper classification of orders as encumbrances and accounts payable. Our sample did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to classification of orders.

FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING, AND REPORTING (CONT'D)

Travel

A sample of travel expenditures during the fiscal year under audit did not indicate any reportable noncompliance.

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 randomly sampled expenditure transactions. We also tested the coding of all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit sampling procedures. In addition, a sample was selected that specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.3. Our samples did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to classification of expenditures.

Board Secretary's Records

Our audit of the financial and accounting records maintained by the Board Secretary indicated that they were in satisfactory condition.

Treasurer of School Moneys' Records

Our audit of the financial and accounting records maintained by the Treasurer of School Moneys indicated that they were in satisfactory condition.

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

The E.S.S.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, Title IIA, and Title IV of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

The audit of compliance for E.S.S.A. did not indicate any reportable noncompliance.

Other Special Federal and / or State Projects

The Charter School's other special projects were approved as listed on exhibits K-3 and K-4 located in the CAFR.

Our audit of the federal and state funds on a sample basis indicated that 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 other special projects.

The audit of compliance for other special projects did not indicate any reportable noncompliance.

TPAF Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a sample of the biweekly reimbursements filed with the Department of Education for Charter School employees who are members of the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund. No exceptions were noted.

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 and N.J.S.A. 18A:66-90. The expenditure was inspected 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 the school contracts in general, are available on the following website:

<https://www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/lpcl.html>

Current statute is posted on the New Jersey Legislature website at:

<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(a) are \$40,000.00 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$29,000.00 (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 \$19,000.00 for 2019-20.

The Charter School's Members of the 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 audit, 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 with the provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.

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

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE

COVID-19 Emergency

In accordance with the Governor's Declaration of Emergency pertaining to the COVID 19 Virus all public, charter, non-public schools were ordered to close effective as of March 18, 2020 for an undetermined period to limit the spread of the virus. As a result, school food authorities (SFA) were required to institute alternate procedures to provide meals to free and reduced price eligible students during the period of school closures.

Therefore, SFAs were authorized to solicit and award emergency noncompetitive procurements and contracts with food service management companies in accordance with 2 CFR 200.320 and N.J.S.A.18A:18A-7. The SFAs were also authorized to submit contract modifications to their existing cost reimbursable or fixed price contracts as necessary to ensure the feeding of free and reduced price meal eligible students.

SFAs were notified of the requirement to maintain and report separate meal count records and financial records of all applicable costs incurred in providing meals to all free and reduced price meal eligible students during the emergency.

The school food service program was not selected as a major federal and / or State program. However, the program expenditures exceeded \$100,000.00 in federal and / or State support. Accordingly, we inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the School Food Authority (SFA) had 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.

Non-program foods were not purchased, prepared, sold, or offered for sale by the Charter School.

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE (CONT'D)

We also inquired of management about the emergency COVID-19 procedures / practices that the SFA instituted to provide meals to eligible students, maintenance of all applicable production records; meal counts; noncompetitive procurements; modification of existing contracts and applicable financial records to document the specific costs applicable to the emergency operations.

Net cash resources did not not exceed three months average expenditures.

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

STUDENT BODY ACTIVITIES

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the Charter School did not maintain a Student Activity Fund.

ENROLLMENT COUNTS AND SUBMISSIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT

Our audit procedures included a sample of enrollment information on October 15, 2019 and the last day of school for on-roll, special education, bilingual and low-income. The results of our procedures are presented in the schedule of audited enrollments.

Finding No. 2020-001 (CAFR Finding No. 2020-001)

Our audit of enrollment disclosed several students whose membership days reported in the Charter School Enrollment System varied from the Charter School's underlying documentation.

Recommendation

The Charter School must establish and implement procedures to ensure proper reporting of student membership days.

FACILITIES AND CAPITAL ASSETS

Our audit of the financial and accounting records for facilities and capital assets indicated that they were in satisfactory condition.

MISCELLANEOUS

Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Education Facilities

The Charter School was exempt from lead testing.

FOLLOW-UP ON PRIOR YEAR'S FINDINGS

There were no audit findings for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019.

There were no Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance audit reports issued during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,



BOWMAN & COMPANY LLP
Certified Public Accountants
& Consultants



Michael D. Cesaro
Public School Accountant No.01191

**ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL
APPLICATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOL AID
ENROLLMENT COUNT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019**

Grades	Submission to DOE reported On Roll	Sample														
		Reported on workpapers	Errors	50% Verification required 10/15/19	Verified signed registration forms	Errors	Verified # days enrolled	Errors	Special Ed/ Bilingual	Verified documentation	Errors	Verified # days Service Provided	Errors	Low Income	Verified documentation	Errors
Kindergarten	25	25		10		10								9	9	
One	30	30		15		14	1	1	1		1		12	12		
Two	26	26		14		13	1	1	1		1		13	13		
Three	35	35		20		20		4	4		4		16	16		
Four	25	25		12		12		3	3		3		9	9		
Five	19	19		9		9		4	4		4		8	8		
Six	23	23		9		8	1	3	3		3		8	8		
Seven	16	16		9		9		2	2		2		7	7		
Eight	3	3		3		3							2	2		
Nine																
Ten																
Eleven																
Twelve																
Total	202	202		101		98	3	18	18		18		84	84		

Percentage

3%

**ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL
APPLICATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOL AID
ENROLLMENT COUNT AS OF THE LAST DAY**

Grades	Submission to DOE reported On Roll	Sample														
		Reported on workpapers	Errors	50% Verification required 6/30/20	Verified signed registration forms	Errors	Verified # days enrolled	Errors	Special Ed/ Bilingual	Verified documentation	Errors	Verified # days Service Provided	Errors	Low Income	Verified documentation	Errors
Kindergarten	25	25		15		14	1							12	12	
One	30	30		15		15		1	1		1		13	13		
Two	26	26		12		12		3	3		3		10	10		
Three	35	35		15		15							15	15		
Four	25	25		13		13		1	1		1		10	10		
Five	19	19		10		10		2	2		2		9	9		
Six	23	23		14		14		3	3		3		10	10		
Seven	16	16		7		7		1	1		1		5	5		
Eight	3	3														
Nine																
Ten																
Eleven																
Twelve																
Total	202	202		101		100	1	11	11		11		84	84		

Percentage

1%

EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

REGULAR DISTRICT / CHARTER SCHOOL / RENAISSANCE SCHOOL PROJECT

SECTION 1

2% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2019-20 Total General Fund Expenditures Reported on CAFR Exhibit C-1	\$ 3,609,115.45 (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:	
On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	434,096.73 (B2a)
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	- (B2b)
Adjusted 2019-20 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1s)-(B2s)]	<u>\$ 3,175,018.72 (B3)</u>
2% of Adjusted 2019-20 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .02]	<u>\$ 63,500.37 (B4)</u>
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	<u>250,000.00 (B5)</u>
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment *	<u>- (K)</u>
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5) + (K)]	<u>\$ 250,000.00 (M)</u>

SECTION 2

Total General Fund - Fund Balances at June 30, 2020 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule, Ex. C-1)	<u>\$ 3,736,201.47 (C)</u>
Decreased by:	
Year-End Encumbrances	13,784.00 (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 ****	75,000.00 (C4)
Assigned Fund Balance - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	- (C5)
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)]	<u>\$ 3,647,417.47 (U1)</u>

SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus *** [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE ENTER -0-	<u>\$ 3,397,417.47 (E)</u>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------

Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2020

Restricted - Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures **	\$ - (C3)
Restricted - Excess Surplus *** [(E)]	<u>3,397,417.47 (E)</u>
Total Excess Surplus [(C3)+(E)]	<u>\$ 3,397,417.47 (D)</u>

EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION (CONT'D)

REGULAR DISTRICT / CHARTER SCHOOL / RENAISSANCE SCHOOL PROJECT

Footnotes:

* 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

Federal 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)
 Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)+(J4)]	 \$ - (K)

** This amount represents the June 30, 2019 Excess Surplus (C3 above) and must be included in the Audit Summary Line 90031. This amount was to be appropriated in the 2019-2020 general fund budget.

*** Amounts must agree to the June 30, 2020 CAFR and must agree to Audit Summary Line 90030.

Amount for Other Restricted 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 another 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 reserves	75,000.00
[Other Restricted Fund Balance not noted above]****	-
 Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	 \$ 75,000.00 (C4)

ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL
Audit Recommendations Summary
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

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

Not applicable

6. Application for State School Aid

None

7. Charter School Enrollment System (CHE)

The Charter School must establish and implement procedures to ensure proper reporting of student membership days.

8. Pupil Transportation

None

9. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

10. Miscellaneous

None

11. Follow-Up on Prior Year Findings

Not applicable

