

**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, 2021**



**ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL**Auditor's Management Report on Administrative  
Findings - Financial, Compliance and Performance

## Table of Contents

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	<u>Page</u>
Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings - Financial, Compliance and Performance	1
Scope of Audit	2
Administrative Practices and Procedures	
Insurance	2
Official Bonds	2
Tuition Charges	N/A
Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting	
Examination of Claims	2
Payroll Account	2
Employee Position Control Roster	N/A
Encumbrances and Accounts Payable	2
Travel	3
Classification of Expenditures	3
• General Classifications	3
• Administrative Classifications	3
Board Secretary's Records	3
Treasurer of School Moneys' Records	3
Elementary and Secondary Education Act (E.S.E.A.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (E.S.S.A.)	3
Other Special Federal and / or State Projects	3
TPAF Reimbursement	3
TPAF Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures	3
School Purchasing Programs	4
Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids	4
School Food Service	4
Public Health Emergency	4
Student Body Activities	5
Enrollment Counts and Submissions to the Department	5
Pupil Transportation	N/A
Facilities and Capital Assets	5
Miscellaneous	5
Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Education Facilities	5
Follow-up on Prior Year Findings	5
Acknowledgment	6
Schedule of Audited Enrollments	7
Excess Surplus Calculation	9
Audit Recommendations Summary	11

**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, 2021, which were separately issued in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report dated February 23, 2022.

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 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the Board of Trustees of the Environment Community Opportunity Charter School, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, 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 23, 2022

**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 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

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

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
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 ACFR. This section of the ACFR 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 ACFR.

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 ACFR. This section of the ACFR 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 \$44,000.00 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$32,000.00 (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 \$19,600.00 for 2020-21.

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**

### **Public Health Emergency**

In accordance with the Governor's Declaration of Emergency pertaining to the public health emergency 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.

During fiscal year 2020-2021 the public health emergency was still applicable. As a result, School Food Authorities (SFAs) were required to provide meals in accordance with the regulations governing the National School Nutrition Seamless Summer Option (SSO) or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) option.

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 all children throughout the age of 18, as well as persons over 18 with disabilities as defined in the regulations.

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.

**SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE (CONT'D)**

Net cash resources did not exceed three months average expenditures.

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

**STUDENT BODY ACTIVITIES**

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, 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, 2020 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.

The Charter School maintained written procedures that appear to be adequate for the recording of student enrollment data.

**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**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, our procedures included a review of all prior year recommendations. Corrective action had been taken on all prior year findings.

We have also inspected any findings contained in the audit reports issued by the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC). Corrective action had been taken on all findings in the report dated July 2021.

**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, 2020**

Grades	Submission to DOE reported On Roll	Sample														
		Reported on workpapers	Errors	50% Verification required 10/15/20	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	19	19		7			7							7	7	
One	25	25		14			14							11	11	
Two	26	26		15			15							12	12	
Three	25	25		15			15		3	3		3		14	14	
Four	34	34		14			14		1	1		1		11	11	
Five	21	21		10			10		3	3		3		7	7	
Six	21	21		8			8		1	1		1		7	7	
Seven	25	25		17			17		6	6		6		13	13	
Eight	15	15		5			5							3	3	
Nine																
Ten																
Eleven																
Twelve																
<b>Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>211</b>		<b>105</b>			<b>105</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>		<b>14</b>		<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>	

Percentage

**ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL  
APPLICATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOL AID  
ENROLLMENT COUNT AS OF LAST DAY OF SCHOOL YEAR 2021**

Grades	Submission to DOE reported On Roll	Sample													
		Reported on workpapers	Errors	50% Verification required 6/30/21	Verified signed registration forms	Errors	Verified # days enrolled	Errors	Special Ed/ Bilingual	Verified documentation	Errors	Verified # days Service Provided	Errors	Low Income	Verified documentation
Kindergarten	19	19		12		12		1	1		1		11	11	
One	25	25		11		11							9	9	
Two	26	26		11		11		1	1		1		10	10	
Three	25	25		10		10		1	1		1		8	8	
Four	34	34		20		20		4	4		4		19	19	
Five	21	21		11		11		3	3		3		8	8	
Six	21	21		13		13		3	3		3		11	11	
Seven	25	25		8		8		1	1		1		6	6	
Eight	15	15		10		10		2	2		2		8	8	
Nine															
Ten															
Eleven															
Twelve															
<b>Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>211</b>		<b>106</b>		<b>106</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>		<b>16</b>		<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	

Percentage

**EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION**

**REGULAR DISTRICT / CHARTER SCHOOL / RENAISSANCE SCHOOL PROJECT**

**SECTION 1**

**4% Calculation of Excess Surplus**

2020-21 Total General Fund Expenditures Reported on ACFR Exhibit C-1	\$ 4,181,068.61 (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	_____ 551,066.14 (B2a)
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	_____ (B2b)
Adjusted 2020-21 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1s)-(B2s)]	<u>\$ 3,630,002.47 (B3)</u>
4% of Adjusted 2020-21 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .04]	<u>\$ 145,200.10 (B4)</u>
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	<u>250,000.00 (B5)</u>
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment *	_____ (K)
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5) + (K)]	<u>\$ 250,000.00 (M)</u>

**SECTION 2**

Total General Fund - Fund Balances at June 30, 2021 (Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule, Ex. C-1)	<u>\$ 3,777,445.39 (C)</u>
Decreased by:	
Year-End Encumbrances	_____ 722.02 (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 ****	<u>110,973.97 (C4)</u>
Assigned Fund Balance - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	_____ (C5)
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)]	<u>\$ 3,665,749.40 (U1)</u>

**SECTION 3**

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus *** [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE ENTER -0-	<u>\$ 3,415,749.40 (E)</u>
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**Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2021**

Restricted - Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures **	\$ - (C3)
Restricted - Excess Surplus *** [(E)]	<u>3,415,749.40 (E)</u>
Total Excess Surplus [(C3)+(E)]	<u>\$ 3,415,749.40 (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 Excess Surplus (C3 above) generated during June 30, 2020 and must be included in the Audit Summary Line 90031. This amount was to be appropriated in the 2021-2022 general fund budget.

\*\*\* Amounts must agree to the June 30, 2021 ACFR 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 Office of School 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
Restricted for Unemployment	35,973.97
[Other Restricted Fund Balance not noted above]****	_____
 Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	 \$ 110,973.97 (C4)

**ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL**  
Audit Recommendations Summary  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

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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)

None.

8. Pupil Transportation

None

9. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

10. Miscellaneous

None

11. Follow-Up on Prior Year Findings

A review was performed on the prior year recommendations and corrective action was taken on all prior year findings.

