

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY**

**ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE
FINANCIAL REPORT**

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

***Hope Academy Charter School
Board of Trustees
Asbury Park, New Jersey***

***Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023***

**ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE
FINANCIAL REPORT
OF THE
HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

Prepared by

***Hope Academy Charter School
Finance Department***

And

Meshinsky & Associates LLC, CPAs

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State Board of Education**

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Page

INTRODUCTORY SECTION	1
Letter of Transmittal	2
Organizational Chart	6
Roster of Officials.....	7
Consultants and Advisors	8
FINANCIAL SECTION.....	9
Independent Auditor’s Report	10
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PART I	14
Management’s Discussion and Analysis	15
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.....	21
SECTION A – CHARTER SCHOOL–WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	22
A-1 Statement of Net Position.....	23
A-2 Statement of Activities.....	24
SECTION B – FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	25
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	26
B-1 Balance Sheet.....	27
B-2 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance	28
B-3 Reconciliation of the Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities	29
PROPRIETARY FUNDS.....	30
B-4 Statement of Fund Net Position	31
B-5 Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position.....	32
B-6 Statement of Cash Flows	33
FIDUCIARY FUNDS	34
B-7 Statement of Fiduciary Net Position.....	N/A
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	36
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PART II	69
SECTION C – BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULES	70
C-1 Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund.....	71
C-2 Budgetary Comparison Schedule – Special Revenue Fund.....	73
NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.....	74
C-3 Budget-To-GAAP Reconciliation	75

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Page
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PART III	76
SCHEDULE L - SCHEDULES RELATED TO ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING FOR PENSIONS (GASB 68)	77
L-1 Schedules of the District’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability - PERS	78
L-2 Schedules of District Contributions - PERS.....	79
L-3 Schedules of the District’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability - TPAF.....	N/A
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION III.....	80
OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	82
SECTION E – SPECIAL REVENUE FUND	83
E-1 Combining Schedule of Revenues and Expenditures – Budgetary Basis	84
SECTION G – PROPRIETARY FUNDS	86
SECTION H – FIDUCIARY FUNDS.....	N/A
H-1 Combining Statement of Fiduciary Net Position	N/A
H-3 Student Activity Agency Fund Schedule of Receipts and Disbursements.....	N/A
H-4 Payroll Agency Fund Schedule of Receipts and Disbursements.....	N/A
STATISTICAL SECTION (UNAUDITED).....	90
INTRODUCTION TO THE STATISTICAL SECTION.....	91
FINANCIAL TRENDS.....	92
J-1 Net Assets/Position by Component.....	93
J-2 Changes in Net Assets/Position	94
J-3 Fund Balances – Governmental Funds	95
J-4 Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds.....	96
J-5 General Fund Other Local Revenue by Source (NJ).....	97
DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION	98
J-14 Demographic and Economic Statistics	99
J-15 Principal Employers, Current and Ten Years Ago.....	100
OPERATING INFORMATION.....	101
J-16 Full-Time Equivalent Charter School Employees by Function/Program	102
J-17 Operating Statistics	103
J-18 School Building Information.....	104
J-20 Insurance Schedule.....	105
J-21 Charter School Performance Framework, Financial Performance, Fiscal Ratios	106

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

		Page
SINGLE AUDIT SECTION.....		107
K-1	Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and On Compliance and Other Matters Based On an Audit of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards.....	108
K-2	Independent Auditor’s Report on Compliance For Each Major State Program; Report on Internal Over Compliance; And Report on Schedule of Expenditures of State Finance required by OMB New Jersey OMB Circular 04-04	110
K-3	Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.....	113
K-4	Schedule of Expenditures of State Financial Assistance – Schedule B	114
K-5	Notes to Schedules of Expenditures of Awards and Financial Assistance	115
K-6	Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs	118
K-7	Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings and Questioned Costs as Prepared by Management.....	121

INTRODUCTORY SECTION



**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
601 GRAND AVENUE
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY 07712
(732) 988-4227**

December 5, 2023

Honorable President and
Members of the Board of Trustees
Hope Academy Charter School
601 Grand Avenue
Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712

Dear Board Members:

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) of the Hope Academy Charter School for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. This ACFR includes the Charter School's Basic Financial Statements prepared in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34.

The Charter School has elected to continue with this financial reporting model which we believe will provide all users of this document with useful financial and statistical information. Responsibility for both the accuracy of the data, completeness and fairness of the presentation, including all disclosures, rests with the management of the Board of Trustees.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, the data presented in this report is accurate in all material respects and is reported in a manner designed to present fairly the financial position and results of operations of the Charter School. This report will provide the taxpayers of the Hope Academy Charter School with comprehensive financial data in a format enabling them to gain an understanding of the Charter School's financial affairs.

The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report is presented in four sections as follows:

- The Introductory Section contains a table of contents, Letter of Transmittal, List of Principal Officials, and an Organizational Chart of the Charter School;
- The Financial Section begins with the Independent Auditors' Report and includes the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Basic Financial Statements and Notes providing an overview of the Charter School's financial position and operating results, and other schedules providing detailed budgetary information;
- The Statistical Section includes selected economic and demographic information, financial trends, and the fiscal capacity of the Charter School, generally presented on a multi-year basis;
- The Single Audit Section — The Charter School is required to undergo an annual single audit in conformity with the provisions of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations", and the New Jersey State Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular 04-04, "Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants and State Aid". Information related to this single audit, including the independent auditor's report on the internal control and compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts and grants, along with findings and questioned costs, are included in the single audit section of this report.

Charter School Organization

An elected five-member Board of Trustees (the "Board") serves as the policy maker for the Charter School. With the expansion of the school there is a plan to expand to a seven member Board of Trustees in the upcoming fiscal year. The Board adopts an annual budget and directly approves all expenditures which serve as the basis for control over and authorization for all expenditures of Charter School tax money.

The Superintendent/Chief School Administrator (CSA) is the chief executive officer of the Charter School, responsible to the Board for total educational and support operations. The School Business Administrator is the chief financial officer of the Charter School, responsible to the Board for maintaining all financial records, issuing warrants in payment of liabilities incurred by the Charter School, acting as custodian of all Charter School funds, and investing idle funds as permitted by New Jersey law.

1. REPORTING ENTITY AND ITS SERVICES: Hope Academy Charter School is an independent reporting entity within the criteria adopted by the Government Auditing Standards Board (GASB) as established by GASB Statement No. 14. All funds and account groups of the Charter School are included in this report. The Charter School's Board of Trustees, constitutes the Charter School's reporting entity.

The Hope Academy Charter School provides a full range of educational services appropriate to grade levels Kindergarten through Grade 8. These services include regular, as well as special education, ELL and basic skills instruction. The Charter School completed the 2022-2023 school year with an enrollment of 265 students. The following details the student enrollment of the Charter School:

Average Daily Enrollment		
Fiscal Year	Student Enrollment	Percentage Change
2022-2023	281	+6.04%
2021-2022	265	+5.16%
2020-2021	252	+1.16%
2019-2020	249.1	+7.46%
2018-2019	231.8	+6.9%
2017-2018	216.57	+4.67%
2016-2017	206.9	+0.24%
2015-2016	206.4	+1.43%
2014-2015	203.5	-0.54%
2013-2014	204.6	-0.92%
2012-2013	206.5	+5.79%

2. ECONOMIC CONDITION AND OUTLOOK: Asbury Park continues to experience a period of development and expansion that is expected to continue through the Twenty-First Century. The increasing number of businesses within the community results in an increase in the employment level which results in an increased tax base, both residential and industrial. This expansion is evident on the east side of town and the planning grant received by the Asbury Park Housing Authority in 2016 will result in similar growth on the west side as well. The expansion is expected to continue which suggests Asbury Park will continue to prosper.

3. On February 28, 2017, Hope Academy was approved for a three year enrollment expansion which resulted in an increase of enrollment by 46 students in grades Kindergarten through Second, for a total of 253 students by the 2019-2020 school year. The school received approval for another five-year charter term after an expedited evaluation review by the NJ Department of Education. Hope Academy Charter School has been rated a Tier 1 school for three consecutive years. In November 2020, the school submitted an application and was approved to continue enrollment expansion to a maximum of 360 students by the end of the next Charter term, 2024-2025.

4. Hope Academy Charter School purchased its main facility at 601 Grand Avenue on November 29, 2016, resulting in an annual savings of \$174,000 over the prior lease agreement. The school renovated unfinished space to create a new Music Room and Records Room during the 2017-2018 school year. In June 2020, the school purchased an adjacent building at 500 Grand Avenue, to better accommodate students. The school moved forward with renovations during the 2020-21 fiscal year to bring the building in compliance with any municipal code violations. Due to the renovations and the COVID-19 Pandemic, the school was unable to open the building for the Kindergarten class during the 2020-21 school year. However Kindergarten students were able to use the facility during the 2021-22 school year. Having full ownership of both our buildings has allowed the school to realize an annual savings of approximately \$110,000 over the previous lease agreement. During the 2022-2023 school year the Board of Trustees worked collaboratively with school administrators to approve renovations to the 5th floor of campus 1 increasing the educational learning space which will continue throughout the 2023-24 school year.

5. INTERNAL ACCOUNTING CONTROLS: Management of the Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure designed to ensure that the assets of the Charter School are protected from loss, theft or misuse and to ensure that adequate accounting data are compiled to allow for the preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The internal control structure is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that these objectives are met. The concept of reasonable assurance recognizes that: (1) the cost of a control should not exceed the benefits likely to be derived; and (2) the valuation of costs and benefits require estimates and judgments by management.

As a recipient of Federal and State financial assistance, the Charter School is also responsible for ensuring that an adequate internal control structure is in place to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations related to those programs. This internal control structure is subject to periodic evaluation by the Charter School management.

As part of the Charter School's single audit described earlier, tests are made to determine the adequacy of the internal control structure, including that portion related to Federal and State financial assistance programs, as well as to determine that the Charter School has complied with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and grants.

6. BUDGETARY CONTROLS: In addition to internal accounting controls, the Charter School maintains budgetary controls. The objective of these budgetary controls is to ensure compliance with legal provisions embodied in the annual appropriated budget approved by the voters of the municipality. Annual appropriated budgets are adopted for the general fund and the special revenue fund. The final budget amount, as amended for the fiscal year, is reflected in the financial section.

An encumbrance accounting system is used to record outstanding purchase commitments on a line item basis. Open encumbrances at year-end are either canceled or are included as re-appropriations of fund balance in the subsequent year. Those amounts to be re-appropriated are reported as reservations of fund balance at June 30, 2021.

7. CASH MANAGEMENT: The investment policy of the Charter School is guided in large part by state statute as detailed in "Notes to the Financial Statement" Note 3. The Charter School had adopted a cash management plan which requires it to deposit funds in public depositories protected from loss under the provisions of the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act ("GUDPA"). GUDPA was enacted in 1970 to protect Government Units from a loss of funds on deposit with a failed banking institution in New Jersey. The law requires governmental units to deposit public funds only in public depositories located in New Jersey, where the funds are secured in accordance with the Act.

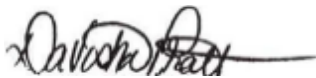
8. RISK MANAGEMENT: The Charter School carries various forms of insurance, including but not limited to general liability, automobile liability and comprehensive collision, hazard and theft insurance on property and contents.

9. OTHER INFORMATION: Independent Audit - State statutes require an annual audit by independent certified public accountants or registered municipal accountants. The accounting firm of Meshinsky & Associates LLC, CPA's, was appointed by the Board. In addition to meeting the requirements set forth in State statutes, the audit also was designed to meet the requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1984 and the Single Audit Act Amendment of 1996 and the related OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of State, Local Governments and Non-Profits Organizations" and New Jersey Circular Letter 04-04 OMB, "Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants, and State Aid." The auditor's report on the basic financial statements and specific required supplemental information is included in the financial section of this report. The auditors' reports, related specifically to the single audit, are included in the single audit section of this report.

10. ANTI-BULLYING: On January 5, 2011, Governor Chris Christie signed into law P.L. 2010, Chapter 122, known as the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. The Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act ("Act") requires initial and on-going training for all staff members, Anti-Bullying Specialists, Anti-Bullying Coordinators, administrative staff and Board members. N.J.S.A. 18A:37-22(d) and requires every teacher to complete at least two hours of instruction on harassment, intimidation, and bullying prevention in each professional development period. In 2020-21, training was provided for harassment, intimidation and bullying prevention to comply with the training requirements of the Act.

11. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: We would like to express our appreciation to the members of the Hope Academy Charter School Board of Trustees for their concern in providing fiscal accountability to the citizens and taxpayers of the Charter School and thereby contributing their full support to the development and maintenance of our financial operation. The preparation of this report could not have been accomplished without the efficient and dedicated services of our staff.

Respectfully submitted,



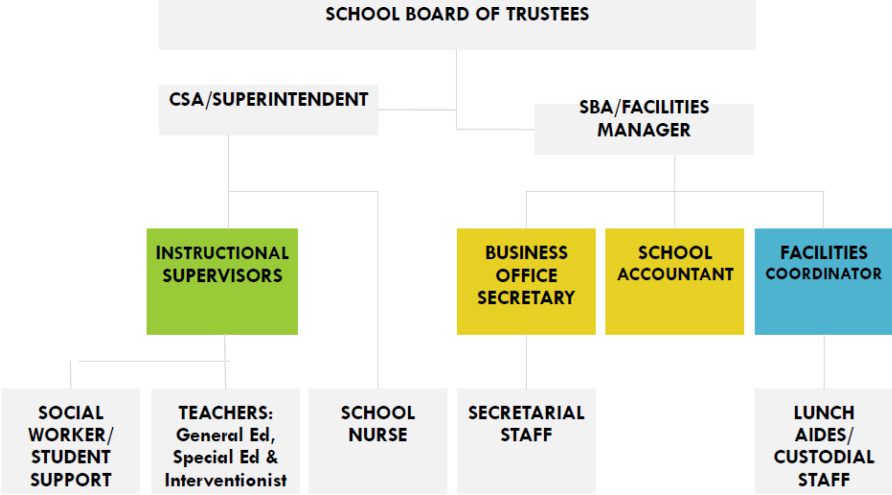
DaVisha T. Pratt
Principal / CSA



Felicia Kennedy
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

22-23 ORGANIZATION CHART



**ROSTER OF OFFICIALS
JUNE 30, 2023**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Claudia Morgan, President

Sheree Sanders-Jones, Vice President

Kevin Elam, Trustee

Jakora Holman, Trustee

Kanesha Jones, Trustee

Jasmine Marshall-Butler, Trustee

Estelle Cadet, Trustee

OTHER OFFICIALS

DaVisha Pratt, Superintendent/Chief School Administrator

Felicia Kennedy, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

CONSULTANTS AND ADVISORS

Audit Firm

Meshinsky & Associates LLC
Certified Public Accountants
1155 W. Chestnut Street, Suite 2D
Union, New Jersey 07083

Attorney

Adams Gutierrez & Lattiboudere, LLC
Woodbridge Towers
555 Route 1 South, Suite 240
Iselin, New Jersey 08830

Official Depository

TD Bank
2200 Highway 66
Neptune, New Jersey 07753

FINANCIAL SECTION



MESHINSKY & ASSOCIATES LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS,
CONSULTANTS & INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES

Independent Auditor's Report

Honorable President
Members of the Board of Trustees
Hope Academy Charter School
County of Monmouth
Asbury Park, New Jersey

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hope Academy Charter School in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Charter School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above, present fairly in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Hope Academy Charter School in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey as of June 30, 2023 and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Hope Academy Charter School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Hope Academy Charter School's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Hope Academy Charter School's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Hope Academy Charter School's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, the schedules related to accounting and reporting for pensions and the schedules related to accounting and reporting for postemployment benefits other than pensions, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise of Hope Academy Charter School's basic financial statements. The accompanying combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the introductory and statistical sections but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 5, 2023 on our consideration of Hope Academy Charter School's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Hope Academy Charter School internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering Hope Academy Charter School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Meshinsky & Associates, LLC, CPA's



Philip T. Meshinsky
Licensed Public-School Accountant
No. CS00233400
Meshinsky & Associates LLC, CPA's
Union, New Jersey

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PART I

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
UNAUDITED**

The discussion and analysis of Hope Academy Charter School's financial performance provides an overall review of the Charter School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Charter School's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to enhance their understanding of the Charter School's financial performance. Certain comparative information between the current year (2022 to 2023) and the prior year (2021 to 2022) is required to be presented in the MD & A.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for 2023 are as follows:

- ❖ General revenues accounted for \$6,537,006 in revenue or 92% percent of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and operating grants and contributions accounted for \$592,080 or 8% percent of total revenues of \$7,129,086.
- ❖ The Charter School had \$6,387,035 in expenses; only \$582,080 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues of \$6,537,006 were adequate to provide for these programs.
- ❖ Among governmental funds, the General Fund had \$5,944,361 in revenues and \$5,291,024 in expenditures. The General Fund's fund balance increased \$653,337 from 2022. This increase was anticipated by the Board of Trustees.

Using this Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand Hope Academy Charter School as a financial whole, an entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

The *Statement of Net Position* and *Statement of Activities* provide information about the activities of the whole Charter School, presenting both an aggregate view of the Charter School's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the Charter School's most significant funds with all other non-major funds presented in total in one column. In the case of Hope Academy Charter School, the General Fund is by far the most significant fund.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
UNAUDITED
(CONTINUED)**

Reporting the Charter School as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the Charter School to provide programs and activities, the view of the Charter School as a whole looks at all financial transactions and ask the question, "How did we do financially during 2023?" The *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities* answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector businesses. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

These two statements report the Charter School's net position and changes in that position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the Charter School as a whole, the financial position of the Charter School have improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial and some not. Non- financial factors include current laws in New Jersey restricting revenue growth, facility condition, required educational programs and other factors.

In the *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities*, the Charter School is divided into two kinds of activities:

- ❖ Governmental Activities — All of the Charter School's programs and services are reported here including instruction, administration, support services and capital outlay.
- ❖ Business-Type Activities — These services are provided on a charge for goods or services basis to recover all the expenses of the goods or services provided. The Food Service enterprise fund is reported as a business activity.

Reporting the Charter School's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the Charter School's funds. The Charter School uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. The Charter School's governmental funds are the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
UNAUDITED
(CONTINUED)**

Governmental Funds

The Charter School's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in the future years. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Charter School's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps the reader determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities*) and governmental funds are reconciled in the financial statements.

Enterprise Fund

The enterprise fund uses the same basis of accounting as business-type activities; therefore, these statements are essentially the same.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the Charter School-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the basic financial statements can be found starting on page 35 of this report.

The Charter School as a Whole

Recall that the *Statement of Net Position* provides the perspective of the Charter School as a whole. Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position.

The Charter School's financial position is the product of several financial transactions including the net results of activities.

The Charter School's combined net position were \$5,327,577 for 2023 and \$4,407,912 for 2022.

Governmental Activities

The Charter School's total revenues were \$6,747,117 for 2023 and \$6,466,000 for 2022, this includes \$907,452 for 2023 and \$1,001,308 for 2022 of state reimbursed TPAF social security, pension and post retirement medical contributions.

The total cost of all program and services was \$6,092,396 for 2023 and \$5,802,493 for 2022. Instruction comprises 52% for 2023 and 49% for 2022 of Charter School expenditures.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
UNAUDITED
(CONTINUED)**

Business-Type Activities

Revenues for the Charter School's business-type activities (food service program) were comprised of charges for services and federal and state reimbursements.

- ❖ Food service expenditures exceeded revenues by (\$3,017) for 2023 and revenues exceeded expenditures by \$54,502 for 2022.
- ❖ Charges for services represent \$0 for 2023 and \$26,775 for 2022 of revenue. This represents amounts paid by patrons for daily food.
- ❖ Federal and state reimbursements for meals, including payments for free and reduced lunches and breakfast, and state snack program were \$285,625 for 2023 and \$309,756 for 2022.

Governmental Activities

The *Statement of Activities* shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Instruction expenses include activities directly dealing with the teaching of pupils and the interaction between teacher and student, including extracurricular activities.

Administration includes expenses associated with administrative and financial supervision of the Charter School.

Support services include the activities involved with assisting staff with the content and process of teaching to students, including curriculum and staff development and the costs associated with operating the facility.

Capital Outlay represents instructional and/or non-instructional equipment purchased and is capitalized when such equipment is over the \$2,000 threshold.

The Charter School's Funds

All governmental funds (i.e., general fund and special revenue fund presented in the fund-based statements) are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Total revenues amounted to \$6,747,117 for 2023 and \$6,466,000 for 2022 and expenditures were \$6,092,396 for 2023 and \$5,802,493 for 2022. The net change in fund balance was most significant in the general fund, an increase of \$654,721 for 2023 and an increase of \$663,507 for 2022.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
UNAUDITED
(CONTINUED)**

The Charter School's Funds (Continued)

As demonstrated by the various statements and schedules included in the financial section of this report, the Charter School continues to meet its responsibility for sound financial management. The following schedules present a summary of the revenues of the governmental funds for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and the amount and percentage of increases and decreases in relation to prior year revenues.

Revenues	Amount	Percent of Total	Increase/ (Decrease) From 2022	Percent of Increase/ (Decrease)
Local Sources	\$ 1,936,449	28.70%	\$ 575,778	42.32%
State Sources	4,069,384	60.31%	128,731	3.27%
Federal Sources	741,284	10.99%	(423,392)	(36.35%)
Total	<u>\$ 6,747,117</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$ 281,117</u>	

The following schedule represents a summary of general fund and special revenue fund expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and the percentage of decreases and increases in relation to prior year amounts.

Expenditures	Amount	Percent of Total	Increase/ (Decrease) From 2022	Percent of Increase/ (Decrease)
Instruction	\$ 2,333,559	38.30%	\$ 193,525	9.04%
Administration	2,236,292	36.71%	192,066	1.81%
Support Services	1,186,444	19.47%	(47,710)	(3.87%)
Capital Outlay	336,101	5.52%	(47,978)	(12.49%)
Total	<u>\$ 6,092,396</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$ 289,903</u>	

Changes in expenditures were the results of varying factors. Current expense decreased due to reductions in staff and medical costs.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The Charter School's budget is prepared according to New Jersey law, and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023
UNAUDITED
(CONTINUED)**

Over the course of the year, the Charter School revised the annual operating budget in accordance with state regulations. Revisions in the budget were made to recognize revenues that were not anticipated and to prevent over-expenditures in specific line item accounts.

Capital Assets (Net of Depreciation)

At the end of the fiscal year 2023, the Charter School had \$5,619,737 invested in capital assets and \$5,580,209 for 2022.

For the Future

The Hope Academy Charter School is in good financial condition presently. The Charter School is proud of its community support. A major concern is the continued enrollment growth of the Charter School with the increased reliance on federal and state funding.

In conclusion, the Hope Academy Charter School has committed itself to financial excellence for many years. In addition, the Charter School's system for financial planning, budgeting, and internal financial controls are well regarded. The Charter School plans to continue its sound fiscal management to meet the challenge of the future.

Contacting the Charter School's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the Charter School's finances and to show the Charter School's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary at Hope Academy Charter School, 601 Grand Avenue, Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SECTION A – CHARTER SCHOOL–WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Charter School. These statements include the financial activities of the overall Charter School, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double-counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the governmental and business-type activities of the Charter School.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
ASSETS:			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,689,429	\$ 66,244	\$ 3,755,673
Interfund Receivables	701,975	-	701,975
Receivables	334,035	19,969	354,004
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	20,986	-	20,986
Capital Assets, Net	5,618,717	1,020	5,619,737
Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents	85,719	-	85,719
Total Assets	10,450,861	87,233	10,538,094
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:			
Pensions	245,273	-	245,273
Deferred Outflows of Resources	245,273	-	245,273
LIABILITIES:			
Interfund Payable	646,537	-	646,537
Accounts Payable	89,756	-	89,756
Unearned Revenue	1,068	16,546	17,614
Noncurrent Liabilities			
Long-Term Liabilities	4,027,593	-	4,027,593
Pensions	544,394	-	544,394
Total Liabilities	5,309,348	16,546	5,325,894
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:			
Pensions	129,896	-	129,896
Deferred Inflows of Resources	129,896	-	129,896
NET POSITION:			
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	1,591,124	-	1,591,124
Restricted For:			
Student Activities	10,565	-	10,565
Unassigned	3,655,201	70,687	3,725,888
Total Net Position	\$ 5,256,890	\$ 70,687	\$ 5,327,577

The accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Statement of Activities
 For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Indirect Expenses Allocation	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position		
			Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES:								
Instruction	\$ 2,351,790	\$ 846,586	\$ -	\$ 210,111	\$ -	\$ (2,988,265)	\$ -	\$ (2,988,265)
Administration	986,798	398,393	-	-	-	(1,385,191)	-	(1,385,191)
Support Services	1,138,897	-	-	-	-	(1,138,897)	-	(1,138,897)
Capital Outlay	151,883	-	-	-	-	(151,883)	-	(151,883)
Unallocated								
Depreciation	126,204	-	-	-	-	(126,204)	-	(126,204)
Employee Benefits	381,969	-	-	381,969	-	-	-	-
Total Governmental Activities	5,137,541	\$ 1,244,979	-	592,080	-	(5,790,440)	-	(5,790,440)
BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES:								
Food Service	289,877		-	286,860	-	-	(3,017)	(3,017)
Total Business-Type Activities	289,877		-	286,860	-	-	(3,017)	(3,017)
Total Primary Government	\$ 5,427,418		\$ -	\$ 878,940	\$ -	\$ (5,790,440)	\$ (3,017)	\$ (5,793,457)
GENERAL REVENUES								
General Purposes						\$ 1,822,683	\$ -	\$ 1,822,683
Federal and State Aid Not Restricted						4,600,557	-	4,600,557
Investment Earnings						59,502	-	59,502
Miscellaneous Revenue						54,264	-	54,264
Total General Revenues						6,537,006	-	6,537,006
Change in Net Position						746,566	(3,017)	743,549
Net Position - Beginning of Year (Adjusted)						4,510,324	73,704	4,584,028
Net Position - Ending						\$ 5,256,890	\$ 70,687	\$ 5,327,577

The accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

SECTION B – FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The individual Fund statements and schedules present more detailed information for the individual fund in a format that segregates information by fund type.

**GOVERNMENTAL
FUNDS**

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Governmental Funds
 Balance Sheet
 June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total
ASSETS:			
Cash	\$ 3,244,474	\$ 444,955	\$ 3,689,429
Restricted Cash	75,154	10,565	85,719
Interfund Receivables	701,975	-	701,975
Receivables From Other Governments	15,196	215,337	230,533
Tax Levy Receivable	103,502	-	103,502
Prepaid Expenses	19,373	1,613	20,986
	<u>\$ 4,159,674</u>	<u>\$ 672,470</u>	<u>\$ 4,832,144</u>
Total Assets			
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES:			
Liabilities:			
Interfund Payable	\$ -	\$ 646,537	\$ 646,537
Accounts Payable	75,456	14,300	89,756
Unearned Revenue	-	1,068	1,068
	<u>75,456</u>	<u>661,905</u>	<u>737,361</u>
Total Liabilities			
Fund Balances:			
Restricted:			
Student Activities	-	10,565	10,565
Unassigned:			
General Fund	4,084,218	-	4,084,218
	<u>4,084,218</u>	<u>10,565</u>	<u>4,094,783</u>
Total Fund Balances			
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 4,159,674</u>	<u>\$ 672,470</u>	

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position (A-1) are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in governmental funds. The cost of the assets is \$6,733,011 and the accumulated depreciation is \$1,114,294. 5,618,717

Net pension liability of \$544,394, deferred inflows of resources of \$129,896 less deferred outflows of resources of \$245,273 related to pensions are not reported in the governmental funds (429,017)

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the funds. (4,027,593)

Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 5,256,890

The accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Governmental Funds
 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and
 Changes in Fund Balance
 For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Total
REVENUES:			
Local Sources:			
Local Tax Levy	\$ 1,800,926	\$ -	\$ 1,800,926
Interest on Investments	59,502		59,502
Miscellaneous	54,264	21,757	76,021
Total Local Sources	1,914,692	21,757	1,936,449
State Sources	4,029,669	39,715	4,069,384
Federal Sources	-	741,284	741,284
Total Revenues	5,944,361	802,756	6,747,117
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
Instruction	2,047,383	286,176	2,333,559
Administration	2,236,292	-	2,236,292
Student Related Services	-	5,373	5,373
Support Services	671,248	509,823	1,181,071
Capital Outlay	336,101	-	336,101
Total Expenditures	5,291,024	801,372	6,092,396
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	653,337	1,384	654,721
FUND BALANCE, JULY 1	3,430,881	9,181	3,440,062
FUND BALANCE, JUNE 30	\$ 4,084,218	\$ 10,565	\$ 4,094,783

The accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures
 and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds
 to the Statement of Activities
 For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Total net change in fund balances - governmental fund (from B-2)	\$	654,721
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities (A-2) are different because:		
<p>Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, on the statement of activities, the cost of those assets if capitalized is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation exceeded capital outlays in the current fiscal year.</p>		
Capital Asset Additions	\$	184,218
Depreciation Expense		(144,435)
		39,783
<p>Pension costs associated with the PERS pension plan are reported in the governmental funds as expenditures in the year the school pension contribution is paid. However, on the statement of activities, the net difference between the current and prior year net pension liability is recognized</p>		
		52,062
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$	746,566

The accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Proprietary Funds
 Statement of Fund Net Position
 June 30, 2023

	Business-Type Activities
	Food Service
ASSETS:	
Current Assets:	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 66,244
Intergovernmental Accounts Receivable:	
Federal	19,106
State	863
Total Current Assets	86,213
Non-Current Assets:	
Equipment	2,550
Accumulated Depreciation	(1,530)
Total Non-Current Assets	1,020
Total Assets	\$ 87,233
LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION:	
Liabilities:	
Unearned Revenue	\$ 16,546
Total Liabilities	16,546
NET POSITION:	
Unassigned	70,687
Total Liabilities and Net Position	\$ 87,233

The accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Proprietary Funds
 Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
 For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Business-Type Activities
OPERATING REVENUES:	
Charges for Services:	
Daily sales -Program (reimbursable program) Meals	\$ -
Total Operating Revenues	-
OPERATING EXPENSES:	
Salaries	47,263
Depreciation	255
Cost of Sales	242,359
Total Operating Expenses	289,877
OPERATING (LOSS)	(289,877)
NONOPERATING REVENUES:	
State Sources:	
State School Lunch Program	5,197
State School Breakfast Program	1,864
Federal Sources:	
National School Breakfast Program	102,533
National School Lunch Program	159,393
National School Snack Program	16,638
Interest Income	1,235
Total Nonoperating Revenues	286,860
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	(3,017)
TOTAL NET POSITION, JULY 1	73,704
TOTAL NET POSITION, JUNE 30	\$ 70,687

The accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Proprietary Fund
Statement of Cash Flows
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Business-Type Activities
	Food Service
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Cash Received from Customers	\$ -
Cash Payments to Suppliers and Employees	305,143
Net Cash Used In Operating Activities	305,143
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Cash Received from State and Federal Reimbursements	285,625
Interest Income	1,235
Net Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities	286,860
Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(18,283)
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of the Year	84,527
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of the Year	\$ 66,244
Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Used in:	
Operating Activities:	
Operating Loss Used for Operating Activities	\$ (289,877)
Depreciation	255
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:	
Decrease in Intergovernmental Accounts Receivable	9,524
Decrease in Prepaid Expenses	1,850
Decrease in Interfund Accounts Payable	(43,441)
Increase in Unearned Income	16,546
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	\$ (305,143)

The accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

***FIDUCIARY
FUNDS***

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Hope Academy Charter School have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The GASB is the accounting standard-setting body responsible for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant accounting policies of the Charter School are described below.

For fiscal year 2016, the Charter School implemented the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions" and GASB Statement No. 71, "Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68." GASB 68 established standards for measuring and recognizing pension liabilities, deferred outflows of resources and expense/expenditure.

A. Reporting Entity

The Charter School is an instrument of the State of New Jersey, established to function as an educational institution. Its mission is to establish a character school to serve as a neighborhood resource and as a model for other similar schools. The Hope Academy Charter School is committed to achieving the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and producing high academic achievement by all students. The Charter School will integrate a holistic curriculum, utilize learner center techniques, family and care giver centered approaches, comprehensive community involvement, cutting edge technology and an intimate nurturing environment that will enhance positive self-images.

The primary criterion for including activities within the Charter School's reporting entity, as set forth in Section 2100 of the GASB's Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards, is the degree of oversight responsibility maintained by the Charter School management. Oversight responsibility includes financial interdependency, selection of governing authority, designation of management, and ability to significantly influence operations and accountability for fiscal matters. The combined financial statements include all funds and account groups of the Charter School.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

B. Basis of Presentation. Basis of Accounting

The Charter School's basic financial statements consist of Charter School-wide statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Charter school-wide Statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Charter School as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the overall Charter School, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double-counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the governmental and business-type activity of the Charter School. Governmental activities generally are financed through intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental and business-type activity of the Charter School at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the business-type activity of the Charter School and for each function of the Charter School's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function.

Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function or business segment is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the Charter School. *Fund Financial Statements:* During the fiscal year, the Charter School segregates transactions related to certain Charter School functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. The fund financial statements provide information about the Charter School's funds, including its fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category — *governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary* — are presented. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has elected to require New Jersey Charter Schools to treat each governmental fund as a major fund in accordance with the option noted in GASB No. 34, paragraph 76. The NJDOE believes that the presentation of all funds as major is important for public interest and to promote consistency among Charter School financial reporting models.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Basis of Presentation. Basis of Accounting (Continued)

The Charter School reports the following governmental funds:

General Fund: The general fund is the general operating fund of the Charter School and is used to account for all expendable financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Included are certain expenditures for vehicles and movable instructional or non- instructional equipment which are classified in the capital outlay subfund.

As required by the New Jersey State Department of Education, the Charter School includes budgeted capital outlay in this fund. Generally accepted accounting principles as they pertain to governmental entities state that general fund resources may be used to directly finance capital outlays for long-lived improvements as long as the resources in such cases are derived exclusively from unrestricted revenues. Resources for budgeted capital outlay purposes are normally derived from State of New Jersey Aid and appropriated fund balance. Expenditures are those that result in the acquisition of or additions to fixed assets for land, existing buildings, improvements of grounds, construction of buildings, additions to or remodeling of buildings and the purchase of built-in equipment. These resources can be transferred from and to Current Expense by Board resolution.

Special Revenue Fund: The special revenue fund is used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue from State and Federal Government, (other than major capital projects, debt service or the enterprise funds) and local appropriations that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

Capital Projects Fund: The capital projects fund is used to account for all financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by proprietary funds).

Debt Service Fund: Not applicable.

The Charter School reports the following proprietary fund:

Enterprise (Food Service) Fund: The enterprise fund accounts for all revenues and expenses pertaining to the cafeteria operations. The food service fund is utilized to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises. The stated intent is that the cost (i.e. expenses including depreciation and indirect costs) of providing goods or services to the students on a continuing basis are financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Basis of Presentation. Basis of Accounting (Continued)

Additionally, the Charter School reports the following fund type:

Fiduciary Funds: The Fiduciary Funds are used to account for assets held by the Charter School on behalf of others and includes Student Activities Fund, Payroll and Payroll Agency Funds.

Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements.

Charter School-wide, Proprietary, and Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements: The financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting; the enterprise fund and fiduciary funds use the accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred revenue, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures. The Charter School is entitled to receive monies under the established payment schedule and the unpaid amount is considered to be an "accounts receivable". Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements: Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

All governmental and business-type activities and enterprise funds of the Charter School follow FASB Statements and Interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, Accounting Principles Board Opinions, and Accounting Research Bulletins, unless those pronouncements conflict with GASB pronouncements.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

C. Budgets/Budgetary Control

Annual appropriated budgets are prepared in the spring of each year for the general and special revenue funds. Budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting except for special revenue funds. The legal level of budgetary control is established at line item accounts within each fund. Line item accounts are defined as the lowest (most specific) level of detail as established pursuant to the minimum chart of accounts referenced in N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.2(m)1. All budget amendments/transfers must be approved by School Board resolution. All budget amounts presented in the accompanying supplementary information reflect the original budget and the amended budget (which have been adjusted for legally authorized revisions of the annual budgets during the year).

Appropriations, except remaining project appropriations, encumbrances, and unexpended grant appropriations, lapse at the end of each fiscal year. The capital projects fund presents the remaining project appropriations compared to current year expenditures.

Formal budgetary integration into the accounting system is employed as a management control device during the fiscal year. For governmental funds, there are no substantial differences between the budgetary basis of accounting and generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) with the exception of the special revenue fund as noted below. Encumbrance accounting is also employed as an extension of formal budgetary integration in the governmental fund types. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

The accounting records of the special revenue fund are maintained on the grant accounting budgetary basis. The grant accounting budgetary basis differs from GAAP in that the grant accounting budgetary basis recognizes encumbrances as expenditures and also recognizes the related revenues, whereas the GAAP basis does not. Sufficient supplemental records are maintained to allow for the presentation of GAAP basis financial reports.

The following presents a reconciliation of the Special Revenue Funds from the budgetary basis of accounting to the GAAP basis of accounting:

Total Revenues & Expenditures (Budgetary Basis)	\$ 801,372
Adjustments:	
Less Encumbrances at June 30,2023	-
Plus Encumbrances at June 30,2022	-
Total Revenues and Expenditures (GAAP Basis)	<u>\$ 801,372</u>

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

D. Encumbrances Accounting

Under encumbrance accounting purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of resources are recorded to reserve a portion of the applicable appropriation. Open encumbrances in governmental funds other than the special revenues fund are reported as reservations of fund balances at fiscal year-end as they do not constitute expenditures or liabilities but rather commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods and services.

Open encumbrances in the special revenue fund for which the Charter School has received advances are reflected in the balance sheet as deferred revenues at fiscal year-end.

The encumbered appropriation authority carries over into the next fiscal year. An entry will be made at the beginning of the next fiscal year to increase the appropriation reflected in the certified budget by the outstanding encumbrance amount as of the current fiscal year end.

E. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity

Interfund Transactions:

Transfers between governmental and business-type activities on the Charter School – wide statements are reported in the same manner as general revenues.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as Interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds and after non-operating revenues/expenses in the enterprise fund. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

Inventories:

Inventory purchases, other than those recorded in the enterprise fund, are recorded as expenditures during the year of purchase. Enterprise fund inventories are valued at cost, which approximates market, using the first-in/first-out (FIFO) method.

Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts:

No allowance for uncollectible accounts has been recorded as all amounts are considered collectible.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Assets, Liabilities, and Equity (Continued)

Capital Assets:

The Charter School has established a formal system of accounting for its capital assets. Purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost. Donated capital assets are valued at their estimated fair market value on the date received. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized. The Charter School does not possess any infrastructure. The capitalization threshold used by Charter Schools in the State of New Jersey is \$2,000.

All reported capital assets except for land and construction in progress are depreciated. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method under the half-year convention over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Lives</u>
School Buildings	50
Building Improvements	20
Electrical/Plumbing	30
Office & Computer Equipment	5-10

In the fund financial statements, fixed assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition. Fixed assets are not capitalized and related depreciation is not reported in the fund financial statements.

Unearned Revenue:

Unearned revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. Grants and entitlement received before the eligibility requirements are met are recorded as unearned revenue.

Accrued Liabilities and Long-term Obligations:

All payables, accrued liabilities, and long-term obligations are reported on the Charter School – wide financial statements. In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources are reported as obligations of the funds.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Assets, Liabilities, and Equity (Continued)

Net Position:

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balance of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Net position are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Charter School or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. The Charter School's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Fund Balance Reserves:

The Charter School reserves those portions of fund balance which are legally segregated for a specific future use or which do not represent available expendable resources and, therefore, are not available for appropriation or expenditure. Unreserved fund balance indicates that portion which is available for appropriation in future periods. There is no fund balance reserve for the current year.

Revenues — Exchange and Nonexchange Transactions:

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On the modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the Charter School, available means within sixty days of the fiscal year end.

Nonexchange transactions, in which the Charter School receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements, and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the Charter School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Charter School on a reimbursement basis. On the modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: state and local revenues available as an advance, interest, and tuition.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Assets, Liabilities, and Equity (Continued)

Operating Revenues and Expenses:

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the enterprise fund. For the Charter School, these revenues are sales for food service. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of the enterprise fund.

Allocation of Indirect Expenses:

The Charter School reports all direct expenses by function in the Statement of Activities. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a function. Indirect expenses are allocated to functions but are reported separately in the Statement of Activities. Employee benefits, including the employer's share of social security, workers compensation, and medical and dental benefits, were allocated based on salaries of that program. Depreciation expense, where practicable, is specifically identified by function and is included in the indirect expense column of the Statement of Activities. Depreciation expense that could not be attributed to a specific function is considered an indirect expense and is reported separately on the Statement of Activities. Interest on long-term debt is considered an indirect expense and is reported separately on the Statement of Activities.

Extraordinary and Special Items:

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of management and are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither of these types of transactions occurred during the fiscal year.

Management Estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Accrued Salaries and Wages:

Certain Charter School employees who provide services to the Charter School over the ten-month academic year have the option to have their salaries evenly disbursed during the entire twelve-month year. New Jersey statutes require that these earned but undisbursed amounts be retained in a separate bank account.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

A. Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net pension for the State of New Jersey Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and the State of New Jersey Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and additions to/deductions from the PERS's and TPAF's net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the PERS and the TPAF. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Pension Plan investments are reported at fair value.

B. Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Principles

Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Charter School implemented GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*. As a result of implementing this statement, the Charter School is required to measure certain investments at fair value for financial reporting purposes. In addition, the Charter School is required to measure donated capital assets at acquisition value (an entry price); these assets were previously required to be measured at fair value. Statement No. 72 requires disclosures to be made about fair value measurements, the level of fair value hierarchy, and valuation techniques. Implementation of this Statement did not impact the Charter School's financial statements.

The Charter School implemented GASB Statement No. 73, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets that are Not Within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68*. Implementation of this Statement did not impact the Charter School's financial statements.

The Charter School implemented GASB Statement No. 76, *The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments*. Implementation of this Statement did not impact the Charter School's financial statements.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Principles (Continued)

Recently Issued and Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

The GASB has issued the following Statements which will become effective in future years as shown below:

Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*. This Statement requires governments that enter into tax abatement agreements to disclose information about those agreements. This Statement will be effective for the year ended June 30, 2023. Management does not expect this Statement to impact the Charter School's financial statements.

Statement No. 78, *Pensions Provided Through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans*. The objective of this Statement is to address a practice issue regarding the scope and applicability of Statement No. 68,

Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions. This Statement will be effective for the year ended June 30, 2023. Management does not expect this Statement to impact the Charter School's financial statements.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Impact of Recently Issued Accounting Principles (Continued)

Recently Issued and Adopted Accounting Pronouncements (Continued)

Statement No. 79, *Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants*. This Statement addresses accounting and financial reporting for certain external investment pools and pool participants. This Statement will be effective for the year ended June 30, 2023. Management does not expect this Statement to impact the Charter School's financial statements.

Statement No. 80, *Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 14*. The objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by clarifying the financial statement presentation requirements for certain component units. This Statement amends the blending requirements established in paragraph 53 of Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity, as amended*. This Statement will be effective for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Management does not expect this Statement to impact the Charter School's financial statements.

Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*. The objective of this Statement is to improve accounting and financial reporting for irrevocable split-interest agreements by providing recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of the agreement. This Statement will be effective for the year ended June 30, 2023. Management does not expect this Statement to impact the Charter School's financial statements.

Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues – an amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, 68 and 73*. The objective of this Statement is to address certain issues that have been raised with respect to Statements No. 67, *Financial Reporting for Pension Plans*, No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, and No. 73, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not Within The Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68*. This Statement will be effective for the year ended June 30, 2023. Management has not yet determined the potential impact on the Charter School's financial statements.

NOTE 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents includes amounts in deposits, money market accounts and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Investments are stated at cost, or amortized cost, which approximates market. The amortized cost method involves valuing a security at its cost on the date of purchase and thereafter assuming a constant amortization to maturity of any discount or premium. The Board classifies certificates of deposit which have

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CONTINUED)

original maturity dates of more than three months but less than twelve months from the date of purchase, as investments.

GASB Statement No. 3 requires disclosure of the level of custodial credit risk assumed by the Board in its cash, cash equivalents and investments. Category 1 includes deposits/investments held by the Board's custodial bank trust department or agent in the Board's name. Category 2 includes uninsured and unregistered deposits/investments held by the Board's custodial bank trust department or agent in the Board's name. Category 3 includes uninsured or unregistered deposits/investments held by a broker or dealer, or held by the Board's custodial bank trust department or agent but not in the Board's name. These categories are not broad representations that deposits or investments are "safe" or "unsafe".

Deposits

New Jersey statutes require that charter schools deposit public funds in public depositories located in New Jersey which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation, or by any other agency of the United States that insures deposits made in public depositories. Charter schools are also permitted to deposit public funds in the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

New Jersey statutes require public depositories to maintain collateral for deposits of public funds that exceed depository insurance limits as follows:

The market value of the collateral must equal at least five percent of the average daily balance of collected public funds on deposit.

In addition to the above collateral requirement, if the public funds deposited exceed 75% of the capital funds of the depository, the depository must provide collateral having a market value at least equal to 100% of the amount exceeding 75%.

All collateral must be deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, or a banking institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System and has capital funds of not less than \$25,000,000.

Investments

New Jersey statutes permit the Board to purchase the following types of securities:

- a. Bonds or other obligations of the United States or obligations guaranteed by the United States.
- b. Bonds of any Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal National Mortgage Agency or of any United States Bank for Cooperatives which have a maturity date not greater than twelve months from the date of purchase

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CONTINUED)

Investments (Continued)

c. Bonds or other obligations of the charter school.

The Charter School had no investments as of June 30, 2023. Cash and cash equivalents of the Charter School consisted of the following:

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Proprietary Fund	Fiduciary Fund	Total
Operating Account	\$ 3,319,628	\$ 455,520	\$ 66,244	\$ -	\$ 3,841,392

The carrying amount of the Board’s cash and cash equivalents at June 30, 2023 was \$3,841,392 and the bank balance was \$4,297,258. All bank balances were covered by federal depository insurance and/or covered by a collateral pool maintained by the banks as required by New Jersey statutes.

Risk Category

All bank deposits, as of the balance sheet date, are entirely insured or collateralized by a collateral pool maintained by public depositories as required by the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act. In general, bank deposits are classified as to credit risk by three categories described below:

Category 1 — Insured or collateralized with securities held by the Board or by its agent in the Board’s name.

Category 2 — Collateralized with securities held by the pledging public depository’s trust department or agent in the Board’s name.

Category 3 — Uncollateralized, including any deposits that are collateralized with securities held by the pledging public depository, or by its trust department or agent, but not in the Board’s name.

As of June 30, 2023, the Board had funds invested and on deposit in checking accounts. These funds constitute “deposits with financial institutions” as defined by GASB Statement No. 3 and are classified as Category 1, both at year-end and throughout the year.

New Jersey Cash Management Fund

All investments in the Fund are governed by the regulations of the Investment Council, which prescribe specific standards designed to insure the quality of investments and to minimize the risks related to investments. In all the years of the Division of Investment’s existence, the Division has never suffered a default of principal or interest on any short-term security held by it due to the bankruptcy of a

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 2: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CONTINUED)

Risk Category (Continued)

New Jersey Cash Management Fund (Continued)

securities issuer; nevertheless, the possibility always exists, and for this reason a reserve is being accumulated as additional protection for the “Other-than-State” participants. In addition to the Council regulations, the Division sets further standards for specific investments and monitors the credit of all eligible securities issuers on a regular basis.

As of June 30, 2023, the Charter school had no funds on deposit with the New Jersey Cash Management Fund.

NOTE 3: RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2023 consisted of accounts, intergovernmental, grants, and miscellaneous.

All receivables are considered collectible in full. A summary of the principal items of intergovernmental receivables follows:

	Governmental Fund Financial Statements	Governmental Wide Financial Statements
State Aid	\$ 118,698	\$ 119,561
Federal Aid	215,337	234,443
Other	-	-
Total Receivables, Net	\$ 334,035	\$ 354,004

NOTE 4: INTERFUND TRANSFERS AND BALANCES

Transfers between funds are used to repay expenses paid by another fund.

The following interfund balances remained on the fund financial statements at June 30, 2023:

Fund	Interfund Receivable	Interfund Payable
General Fund	\$ 701,975	\$ 646,537
Fiduciary Fund	-	55,438
Total	\$ 701,975	\$ 701,975

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Retirements</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Land				
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:	\$ 1,415,722	\$ -		\$ 1,415,722
Building and Building Improvements	5,052,403	-	-	5,052,403
Construction in Progress	-	161,678	-	161,678
Equipment	80,668	22,540	-	103,208
Totals at Historical Cost	<u>6,548,793</u>	<u>184,218</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,733,011</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation For:				
Building and Building Improvements	906,200	126,204	-	1,032,404
Equipment	63,659	18,231	-	81,890
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>969,859</u>	<u>144,435</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,114,294</u>
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated				
Net of Accumulated Depreciation	<u>5,578,934</u>	<u>39,783</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,618,717</u>
Government Activity Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 5,578,934</u>	<u>\$ 39,783</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,618,717</u>

On January 11, 2001, the NJ State Department of Education announced that effective July 1, 2001, the capitalization threshold used by school districts in the State of New Jersey is increased to \$2,000. The previous threshold was \$500. Applying the higher capitalization threshold retroactively (removal of old assets from the General Fixed Assets Account Group) will be permitted by the State regulations in situations where (1) the assets have been fully depreciated, or (2) the assets have exceeded their useful lives. The retirement of machinery and equipment is due to the retroactive application of the higher threshold of equipment capitalization. That is, the School has removed from their records assets with a historical cost greater than \$500 but not greater than \$2,000 that were fully depreciated or had exceeded their useful lives.

Depreciation expense of \$144,435 was charged as follows:

Instruction	\$ 18,231
Unallocated	<u>126,204</u>
Total	<u>\$144,435</u>

NOTE 6: OBLIGATIONS UNDER EQUIPMENT LEASES

The Charter School is leasing two (2) copiers for a period of 48 months with monthly payments in the amount of \$758 commencing May 2017 and expiring April 2021. In December 2020, the School leased two (2) copiers for a period of 60 months commencing January 2021 in the amount of \$145 per month. The following is a schedule of the future minimum lease payments under the capital leases at June 30, 2023:

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 6: OBLIGATIONS UNDER EQUIPMENT LEASES (CONTINUED)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2023-2026	<u>\$ 6,090</u>
Total minimum lease payments	<u><u>\$ 6,090</u></u>

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS

A substantial number of the Charter School's employees participate in one of the following defined benefit pension plans: the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund ("TPAF") and the Public Employees' Retirement System ("PERS"), which are administered by the New Jersey Division of Pensions and Benefits (the "Division"). In addition, employees may participate in the Defined Contribution Retirement Program, which is a defined contribution pension plan. This plan is administered by Prudential Financial for the Division. Each plan has a Board of Trustees that is primarily responsible for its administration. The Division issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to:

State of New Jersey
Division of Pensions and Benefits
P.O. Box 295
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0295
<http://www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions>

General Information about the Pension Plans

Plan Descriptions

Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund - The Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, with a special funding situation, which was established as of January 1, 1955, under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:66. The State of New Jersey (the "State") is responsible to fund 100% of the employer contributions, excluding any local employer early retirement incentive (ERI) contributions. The TPAF's designated purpose is to provide retirement benefits, death, disability and medical benefits to certain qualified members. Membership in the TPAF is mandatory for substantially all teachers or members of the professional staff certified by the State Board of Examiners, who have titles that are unclassified, professional and certified. The TPAF's Board of Trustees is primarily responsible for the administration of the TPAF.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

General Information about the Pension Plans (Cont'd)

Public Employees' Retirement System - The Public Employees' Retirement System is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan which was established as of January 1, 1955, under the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:15A. The PERS's designated purpose is to provide retirement, death, disability and medical benefits to certain qualified members. Membership in the PERS is mandatory for substantially all full-time employees of the Charter School, provided the employee is not required to be a member of another state-administered retirement system or other state pensions fund or local jurisdiction's pension fund. The PERS's Board of Trustees is primarily responsible for the administration of the PERS.

Defined Contribution Retirement Program - The Defined Contribution Retirement Program is a multiple-employer defined contribution pension fund established on July 1, 2007 under the provisions of Chapter 92, P.L. 2007, and Chapter 103, P.L. 2007 (N.J.S.A. 43:15C-1 et. seq.). The DCRP is a tax-qualified defined contribution money purchase pension plan under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) § 401(a) et seq., and is a "governmental plan" within the meaning of IRC § 414(d). The DCRP provides retirement benefits for eligible employees and their beneficiaries. Individuals covered under DCRP are employees enrolled in TPAF or PERS on or after July 1, 2007, who earn salary in excess of established "maximum compensation" limits; employees enrolled in New Jersey State Police Retirement System (SPRS) or the Police and Firemen's Retirement System (PFRS) after May 21, 2010, who earn salary in excess of established "maximum compensation" limits; employees otherwise eligible to enroll in TPAF or PERS on or after November 2, 2008, who do not earn the minimum annual salary for tier 3 enrollment but who earn salary of at least \$5,000.00 annually; and employees otherwise eligible to enroll in TPAF or PERS after May 21, 2010 who do not work the minimum number of hours per week required for tiers 4 or 5 enrollment, but who earn salary of at least \$5,000.00 annually.

Vesting and Benefit Provisions

Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund - The vesting and benefit provisions are set by N.J.S.A. 18A:66. TPAF provides retirement, death and disability benefits. All benefits vest after ten years of service, except for medical benefits, which vest after 25 years of service or under the disability provisions of TPAF. Members are always fully vested for their own contributions and, after three years of service credit, become vested for 2% of related interest earned on the contributions. In the case of death before retirement, members' beneficiaries are entitled to full interest credited to the members' accounts.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

General Information about the Pension Plans (Cont'd)

The following represents the membership tiers for TPAF and PERS:

<u>Tier</u>	<u>Definition</u>
1	Members who were enrolled prior to July 1, 2007
2	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after July 1, 2007 and prior to November 2, 2008
3	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after November 2, 2008 and prior to May 22, 2010
4	Members who were eligible to enroll after May 22, 2010 and prior to June 28, 2011
5	Members who were eligible to enroll on or after June 28, 2011

Service retirement benefits of 1/55th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tiers 1 and 2 members upon reaching age 60 and to tier 3 members upon reaching age 62. Service retirement benefits of 1/60th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tier 4 members upon reaching age 62 and tier 5 members upon reaching age 65. Early retirement benefits are available to tiers 1 and 2 members before reaching age 60, tiers 3 and 4 before age 62 with 25 or more years of service credit, and tier 5 before age 65 with 30 or more years of service credit. Benefits are reduced by a fraction of a percent for each month that a member retires prior to the retirement age for his/her respective tier. Deferred retirement is available to members who have at least 10 years of service credit and have not reached the service retirement age for the respective tier.

Public Employees' Retirement System - The vesting and benefit provisions are set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A and 43:3B. The PERS provides retirement, death and disability benefits. All benefits vest after ten years of service, except for medical benefits, which vest after 25 years of service or under the disability provisions of the PERS.

The membership tiers for PERS are the same as previously noted for TPAF.

Service retirement benefits of 1/55th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tiers 1 and 2 members upon reaching age 60 and to tier 3 members upon reaching age 62. Service retirement benefits of 1/60th of final average salary for each year of service credit is available to tier 4 members upon reaching age 62 and tier 5 members upon reaching age 65. Early retirement benefits are available to tiers 1 and 2 members before reaching age 60, tiers 3 and 4 before age 62 with 25 or more years of service credit and tier 5 with 30 or more years of service credit before age 65. Benefits are reduced by a fraction of a percent for each month that a member retires prior to the age at which a member can receive full early retirement benefits in accordance with their respective tier.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

General Information about the Pension Plans (Cont'd)

Tier 1 members can receive an unreduced benefit from age 55 to age 60 if they have at least 25 years of service. Deferred retirement is available to members who have at least 10 years of service credit and have not reached the service retirement age for the respective tier.

Defined Contribution Retirement Program - Eligible members are provided with a defined contribution retirement plan intended to qualify for favorable Federal income tax treatment under IRC Section 401(a), a noncontributory group life insurance plan and a noncontributory group disability benefit plan. A participant's interest in that portion of his or her defined contribution retirement plan account attributable to employee contributions shall immediately become and shall at all times remain fully vested and nonforfeitable. A participant's interest in that portion of his or her defined contribution retirement plan account attributable to employer contributions shall be vested and nonforfeitable on the date the participant commences the second year of employment or upon his or her attainment of age 65, while employed by an employer, whichever occurs first.

Contributions

Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund - The contribution policy is set by N.J.S.A. 18A:66 and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 78, P.L. 2011, the active member contribution rate increased from 5.5% of annual compensation to 6.5% plus an additional 1% phased-in over 7 years beginning in July 2012. The member contribution rate was 7.20% in State fiscal year 2017. The phase-in of the additional incremental member contribution rate takes place in July of each subsequent State fiscal year. The State's contribution is based on an actuarially determined amount, which includes the employer portion of the normal cost and unfunded accrued liability. Funding for noncontributory group insurance benefits is based on actual claims paid. For fiscal year 2021, the State's pension contribution was less than the actuarial determined amount.

Under current statute, all employer contributions are made by the State of New Jersey on-behalf of the Charter School and all other related non-contributing employers. No normal or accrued liability contribution by the Charter School has been required over the preceding fiscal years. These on-behalf contributions by the State of New Jersey are considered a special funding situation, under the definition of GASB 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

General Information about the Pension Plans (Cont'd)

The Charter School commenced operations on September 1, 2001 and the enrollment process of Charter School employees in the TPAF began upon hiring of applicable personnel. As a result of the timing of participation in the pension plan, at June 30, 2023 there are no contractual requirements to contribute. Timing of participation aside, the Charter School would not have been required to make any contributions to the pension plan during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 because of the 100% special funding situation with the State of New Jersey.

Based on the most recent TPAF measurement date of June 30, 2018 and the timing of the Charter School's participation in the pension plan, there was no State contractually required contribution, on-behalf of the Charter School, to the pension plan for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Charter School employee contributions to the pension plan during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 were \$184,931.

Public Employees' Retirement System - The contribution policy is set by N.J.S.A. 43:15A and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. Members contribute at a uniform rate. Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 78, P.L. 2011, the active member contribution rate increased from 5.5% of annual compensation to 6.5% plus an additional 1% phased-in over seven years beginning in July 2012. The member contribution rate was 7.20% in State fiscal year 2017. The phase-in of the additional incremental member contribution rate takes place in July of each subsequent State fiscal year. The rate for members who are eligible for the Prosecutors Part of PERS (Chapter 366, P.L. 2001) increased from 8.5% of base salary to 10%. Employers' contribution amounts are based on an actuarially determined rate. The Charter School's contribution amounts are based on an actuarially determined amount, which includes the normal cost and unfunded accrued liability.

The Charter School's contractually required contribution rate for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 was 15.73% of the Charter School's covered payroll. This amount was actuarially determined as the amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, including an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

General Information about the Pension Plans (Cont'd)

Based on the most recent PERS measurement date of June 30, 2023, the Charter School's contractually required contribution to the pension plan for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 was \$45,490 and was paid by April 1, 2023. Charter School employee contributions to the pension plan during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023 were \$23,455.

Defined Contribution Retirement Program - The contribution policy is set by N.J.S.A. 43:15C-3 and requires contributions by active members and contributing employers. In accordance with Chapter 92, P.L. 2007 and Chapter 103, P.L. 2007, plan members are required to contribute 5.5% of their annual covered salary. In addition to the employee contributions, the Charter School contributes 3% of the employees' base salary, for each pay period, to Prudential Financial not later than the fifth business day after the date on which the employee is paid for that pay period.

At June 30, 2023, the Charter School had no employees participating in this program.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

Public Employees' Retirement System - At June 30, 2023, the Charter School reported a liability of \$544,394 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022. The total pension liability was calculated through the use of updated procedures to roll forward from the actuarial valuation date to the measurement date of June 30, 2022. The Charter School's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Charter School's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. For the June 30, 2022 measurement date, the Charter School's proportion was .0036217288%, which was an increase of .0024038389% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the Charter School recognized pension expense of \$48,448 in the government-wide financial statements. This pension expense was based on the pension plan's June 30, 2022 measurement date.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Cont'd)

Public Employees' Retirement System (Cont'd) - At June 30, 2023, the Charter School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to PERS from the following sources:

Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
\$ 245,273	\$ 129,896

Actuarial Assumptions

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022. The total pension liability was calculated through the use of updated procedures to roll forward from the actuarial valuation date to the measurement date of June 30, 2022. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation Rate:	
Price	2.75%
Wage	3.25%
Salary Increases:	
Through 2026	2.00% - 6.55% Based on Years of Service
Thereafter	3.00% - 7.00% Based on Years of Service
Investment Rate of Return	7.00%
Mortality Rate Table	PUB-2010
Period of Actuarial Experience	
Study upon which Actuarial Assumptions were Based	July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2018 July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2018 Respectively

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

Actuarial Assumptions (Cont'd)

For PERS, pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Employee Preretirement Mortality Table for male and female active participants. Mortality tables are set back 2 years for males and 7 years for females. In addition, the tables provide for future improvements in mortality from the base year of 2013 using a generational approach based on the plan actuary's modified MP-2014 projection scale. Post-retirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Male and Female Mortality Tables (setback 1 year for males and females) for service retirements and beneficiaries of former members and a one-year static projection based on mortality improvement Scale AA. In addition, the tables for service retirements and beneficiaries of former members provide for future improvements in mortality from the base year of 2013 using a generational approach based on the plan actuary's modified MP-2014 projection scale. Disability retirement rates used to value disabled retirees were based on the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table (set back 3 years for males and set forward 1 year for females).

For PERS, in accordance with State statute, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments (7.00% at June 30, 2021) is determined by the State Treasurer, after consultation with the Directors of the Division of Investments and Division of Pensions and Benefits, the board of trustees and the actuaries. The long-term expected rate of return was determined using a building block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic rates of return for each major asset class included in PERS's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2022 are summarized in the following tables:

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

Actuarial Assumptions (Cont'd)

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate Of Return</u>
US Equity	27.00%	8.12%
Non-U.S. Developed Markets Equity	13.50%	8.38%
Emerging Markets Equity	5.50%	10.33%
Private Equity	13.00%	11.80%
Real Estate	8.00%	11.19%
Real Assets	3.00%	7.60%
High Yield	4.00%	4.95%
Private Credit	8.00%	8.10%
Investment Grade Credit	7.00%	3.38%
Cash Equivalents	4.00%	1.75%
U.S. Treasuries	4.00%	1.75%
Risk Mitigation Strategies	3.00%	4.91%

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability at June 30, 2022 was 7.00% for PERS. For PERS, the respective single blended discount rates were based on the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00%, and a municipal bond rate of 2.21% as of June 30, 2021, based on the Bond Buyer Go 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index which includes tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rates for PERS assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current member contribution rates and that contributions from employers will be made based on the contribution rate in the most recent fiscal year. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make projected future benefit payments of current plan members through 2062 for PERS. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was applied to projected benefit payments through 2062 for PERS, and the municipal bond rate was applied to projected benefit payments after that date in determining the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of Charter School's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) - The following presents the net pension liability of the State as of June 30, 2022, calculated using a discount rate of 5.00% as disclosed above, as well as what the State net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1% lower or 1% higher than the current rate.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 7: PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

	PERS		
	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
Charter School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 585,396	\$ 455,665	\$ 345,259

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the respective fiduciary net position of the PERS and additions to/deductions from PERS's respective fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PERS. Accordingly, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value. For additional information about PERS, please refer to the plan's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) which can be found at www.nj.gov/treasury/pensions.

NOTE 8: STATE POST-RETIREMENT MEDICAL BENEFITS

P.L. 1987, c.384 of P.L. 1990, c.6 required Teachers' Pensions and Annuity Fund ("TPAF") and the Public Employees' Retirement System ("PERS"), respectively, to fund post-retirement medical benefits for those State employees who retire after accumulating 25 years of credited service or on a disability retirement. P.L. 2007, c.103 amended the law to eliminate the funding of postemployment medical benefits through the TPAF and PERS. It created separate funds outside of the pension plans for the funding and payment of postemployment medical benefits for retired State employees and retired educational employees. As of June 30, 2015, there were 107,314 retirees receiving postemployment medical benefits, and the State contributed \$1.25 billion on their behalf. The cost of these benefits is funded through contributions by the State in accordance with P.L. 1994, c.62. Funding of post- retirement medical premiums changed from a pre-funding basis to a pay-as-you-go basis beginning in fiscal year 1994.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 8: STATE POST-RETIREMENT MEDICAL BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

The State is also responsible for the cost attributable to P.L. 1992 c.126, which provides free health benefits to members of PERS and the Alternate Benefit Program who retire from a Board of Education, Charter School or county college with 25 years of service. The State paid \$214.1 million toward Chapter 126 benefits for 19,056 eligible retired members in fiscal year 2015.

NOTE 9: POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB)

General Information about the OPEB Plan

The State of New Jersey reports a liability as a result of its statutory requirements to pay other postemployment (health) benefits for State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan. The State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan is a multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan that is administered on a pay-as-you-go basis. Accordingly, no assets are accumulated in a qualifying trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for the Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions. The State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan provides medical, prescription drug, and Medicare Part B reimbursement to retirees and their covered dependents of local education employers.

The employer contributions for the participating local education employers are legally required to be funded by the State of New Jersey in accordance with N.J.S.A 52:14-17.32f. According to N.J.S.A 52:14- 17.32f, the State provides employer-paid coverage to employees who retire from a board of education or county college with 25 years or more of service credit in, or retires on a disability pension from, one or more of the following plans: the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF), the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), the Police and Firemen Retirement System (PFRS), or the Alternate Benefit Program (ABP). Pursuant to Chapter 78, P.L. 2011, future retirees eligible for postretirement medical coverage who have less than 20 years of creditable service on June 28, 2011 will be required to pay a percentage of the cost of their health care coverage in retirement provided they retire with 25 or more years of pension service credit. The percentage of the premium for which the retiree will be responsible will be determined based on the retiree's annual retirement benefit and level of coverage.

The total nonemployer OPEB liability does not include certain other postemployment benefit obligations that are provided by the local education employers. The reporting of these benefits are the responsibility of the individual local education employers.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 9: POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (CONT'D)

Basis of Presentation

The Schedule presents the State of New Jersey's obligation under NJSA 52:14-17.32f. The Schedule does not purport to be a complete presentation of the financial position or changes in financial position of the State Health Benefit Local Education Retired Employees Plan or the State of New Jersey. The accompanying Schedule was prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Such preparation requires management of the State of New Jersey to make a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reported amounts. Due to the inherent nature of these estimates, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Total Nonemployer OPEB Liability

The total nonemployer OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2021, which was rolled forward to June 30, 2022. The actuarial assumptions vary for each plan member depending on the pension plan the member is enrolled in. This actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods in the measurement:

Total Nonemployer OPEB Liability \$67,809,962,608

	TPAF/ABP	PERS
Inflation Rate	2.50%	2.50%
	Based on Years of Service	Based on Years of Service
Salary Increases:		
Through 2026	1.55% - 4.45%	2.00% - 6.00%
Thereafter	1.55% - 4.45%	3.00% - 7.00%

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 9: POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (CONT'D)

Preretirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2010 Headcount-Weighted Healthy Employee Male/Female mortality table with fully generational mortality improvement projections from the central year using the MP-2019 scale. Postretirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2019 Headcount- Weighted Healthy Annuitant Male/Female mortality table with fully generational improvement projections from the central year using the MP-2019 scale. Disability mortality was based on the RP-2010 Headcount- Weighted Disabled Male/Female mortality table with fully generational improvement projections from the central year using the MP-2019 scale.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation were based on the results of actuarial experience studies for the periods July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2019, July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2019, and July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2016 for TPAF and PERS, respectively.

Health Care Trend Assumptions

For pre-Medicare medical benefits, the trend rate is initially 5.6% and decreases to a 4.5% long-term trend rate after seven years. For post-65 medical benefits, the actual fully-insured Medicare Advantage trend rates for fiscal year 2021 through 2022 are reflected. The assumed post-65 medical trend is 4.5% for all future years. For prescription drug benefits, the initial trend rate is 7.0% and decreases to a 4.5% long-term trend rate after seven years. For the Medicare Part B reimbursement, the trend rate is 5.0%.

Discount rate

The discount rate for June 30, 2022 was 2.21%. This represents the municipal bond return rate as chosen by the Division. The source is the Bond Buyer Go 20-Bond Municipal Bond Index, which includes tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher. As the long-term rate of return is less than the municipal bond rate, it is not considered in the calculation of the discount rate, rather the discount rate is set at the municipal bond rate.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 9: POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (CONT'D)

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

	Total OPEB Liability
Balance as of June 30, 2021 Measurement Date	\$ 3,630,526
Changes for the Year:	
Service Cost	392,963
Interest Cost	93,803
Changes of Benefit Terms	-
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	461,771
Changes in Assumptions or Other Inputs	(949,529)
Member Contributions	2,981
Gross Benefit Payments	(92,915)
Net Changes	(90,926)
Balance as of June 30, 2022 Measurement Date	\$ 3,539,600

Sensitivity of Total Nonemployer OPEB Liability to changes in the discount rate:

The following presents the total nonemployer OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022, respectively, calculated using the discount rate as disclosed above as well as what the total nonemployer OPEB liability would be if it was calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rate:

At 1% Decrease (1.21%)	At Discount Rate (2.21%)	At 1% Increase (3.21%)
\$81,748,410,002	\$67,809,962,608	\$56,911,439,160

Sensitivity of Total Nonemployer OPEB Liability to changes in the healthcare trend rate:

The following presents the total nonemployer OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the healthcare trend rate as disclosed above as well as what the total OPEB liability would be if it was calculated using a healthcare trend rate that is 1- percentage point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rate:

1% Decrease	Healthcare Cost Trend Rate	1% Increase
\$54,738,488,540	\$67,809,962,608	\$83,375,182,975

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 9: POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB) (CONT'D)

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Charter School recognized OPEB expense of \$381,969.

Special Funding Situation

The participating employer allocations included in the supplemental schedule of special funding amounts by employer for each employer are provided as employer is required to record in their financial statements, as an expense and corresponding revenue, their proportionate share of total OPEB expense attributable to the State of New Jersey under the special funding situation and to include their respective amount of total OPEB liability in their notes to their financial statements. The total OPEB liability and service cost for each employer was determined separately based on actual data for each employer's participants.

NOTE 10: RISK MANAGEMENT

The charter school is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

Property and Liability Insurance

The charter school maintains commercial insurance coverage for property, liability, student accident and surety bonds. A complete schedule of insurance coverage can be found in the Statistical Section of this Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2023**

NOTE 11: LONG TERM LIABILITIES

On November 29, 2016 the school purchased the building in the amount of \$4,312,500. The school obtained a first mortgage from TD Bank in the amount of \$3,056,250 with interest of 3.04% due November 1, 2041 requiring monthly principle and interest payments of \$14,662. The mortgage is collateralized by the land, building and equipment. In addition, the school obtained a second mortgage from NJEDA in the amount of \$1,018,750 with the interest at 2.50% due December 1, 2021 requiring monthly principle and interest payments of \$5,416. This mortgage is subject to a first mortgage held by TD Bank.

On June 9, 2020, the School purchased an additional building located at 500 Grand Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ in the amount of \$1,325,000. The School obtained a first mortgage from TD Bank in the amount of \$712,000 with interest at 3.70% due July 1, 2040 requiring monthly principal and interest payments of \$4,223. The mortgage is collateralized by the land, building and equipment. In addition, the School obtained a second mortgage from NJEDA in the amount of \$178,000 with interest at 3.50% due July 1, 2030 requiring monthly principal and interest payments of \$1,037 This mortgage is subject to a first mortgage held by TD Bank.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the following changes occurred in long term obligations from governmental activities:

	Balance July 1, 2022	Additions	Deductions	Balance June 30, 2023
NJEDA	\$ 805,180	\$ -	\$ 45,105	\$ 760,075
TD Bank	2,567,759	-	98,168	2,469,591
TD Bank	664,490	-	26,193	638,297
TD Bank	166,280	-	6,650	159,630
	<u>\$ 4,203,709</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 176,116</u>	<u>\$ 4,027,593</u>

NOTE 12: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated through December 5, 2023, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. Events occurring after that date have not been evaluated to determine whether a change in the financial statements would be required. The COVID-19 outbreak in the United States and specifically in New Jersey has caused disruption of the School's normal financial operations. Though the impact on the School's operation cannot be reasonably estimated at this date, it is likely that there will be an impact on certain revenue in the General Fund other than state aid and the local tax levy.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PART II

SECTION C – BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULES

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
General Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Budget Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Final to Actual
REVENUES:					
Local Sources:					
Equalization Aid-Local Share	\$ 1,800,926	\$ -	\$ 1,800,926	\$ 1,800,926	\$ -
Total Local Sources	1,800,926	-	1,800,926	1,800,926	-
Categorical Aid:					
Equalization Aid-State Share	2,768,952	-	2,768,952	2,768,952	-
Security Aid	143,154	-	143,154	143,154	-
Special Education Categorical Aid	210,111	-	210,111	210,111	-
Total Categorical Aid	3,122,217	-	3,122,217	3,122,217	-
Other Sources:					
Interest Income	-	-	-	59,502	59,502
Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-	54,264	54,264
On-Behalf TPAF Pension Contributions (Non-Budgeted)	-	-	-	596,136	596,136
On-Behalf TPAF Post Retirement Medical Contributions (Non-Budgeted)	-	-	-	157,041	157,041
Reimbursed TPAF Social Security Contributions (Non-Budgeted)	-	-	-	154,275	154,275
Total other Sources	-	-	-	1,021,218	1,021,218
Total Revenues	\$ 4,923,143	\$ -	\$ 4,923,143	\$ 5,944,361	\$ 1,021,218
EXPENDITURES:					
Instruction:					
Kindergarten - Salaries of Teachers	\$ 147,266	\$ -	\$ 147,266	\$ 147,266	\$ -
Grades 1 - 5 - Salaries of Teachers	974,648	-	974,648	974,648	-
Grades 6 - 8 - Salaries of Teachers	435,203	-	435,203	435,203	-
Other Salaries for Instruction	313,611	-	313,611	295,263	18,348
Other Purchased Services	90,507	-	90,507	62,713	27,794
General Supplies	56,956	-	56,956	45,619	11,337
Textbooks	91,460	-	91,460	86,204	5,256
Miscellaneous	12,560	-	12,560	467	12,093
Total Instruction	2,122,211	-	2,122,211	2,047,383	74,828
Administration					
Salaries of Principals	385,546	-	385,546	385,546	-
Salaries of Secretarial/Clerical Assistants	186,731	-	186,731	166,720	20,011
Total Benefits Cost	478,608	-	478,608	347,415	131,193
Purchases Prof/Tech Services	23,655	-	23,655	23,130	525
Other Purchased Professional Services	103,966	-	103,966	103,171	795
Other Purchased Services	115,785	-	115,785	110,971	4,814
Communications/Telephone	38,250	-	38,250	34,998	3,252
Supplies and Materials	34,778	-	34,778	34,755	23
Interest Expense	110,121	-	110,121	108,417	1,704
Miscellaneous Expenses	9,548	-	9,548	13,717	(4,169)
Total Administration	\$ 1,486,988	\$ -	\$ 1,486,988	\$ 1,328,840	\$ 158,148

See Management's Discussion and Analysis section of this report for explanation of significant budget variances, original and final.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
General Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Budget Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Final to Actual
(Continued From Prior Page)					
Support Services:					
Salaries	\$ 267,596	\$ -	\$ 267,596	\$ 267,381	\$ 215
Purchased Prof/Ed Services	137,979	-	137,979	134,109	3,870
Cleaning, Repair, and Maintenance Services	118,952	-	118,952	108,728	10,224
Insurance for Property, Liability and Fidelity	74,736	-	74,736	74,078	658
Supplies and Materials	11,329	-	11,329	10,329	1,000
Energy Costs (Heat and Electricity)	65,175	-	65,175	52,485	12,690
Miscellaneous Expenses	27,042	-	27,042	24,138	2,904
Total Support Services	702,809	-	702,809	671,248	31,561
Capital Outlay:					
Building and Improvements	410,354	-	410,354	183,511	226,843
Instructional Equipment	7,570	-	7,570	7,570	-
Non-Instructional Equipment	31,457	-	31,457	4,650	26,807
Mortgage Principle	140,370	-	140,370	140,370	-
Total Capital Outlay	589,751	-	589,751	336,101	253,650
On-Behalf TPAF Pension Contributions (Non-Budgeted)				596,136	(596,136)
On-Behalf TPAF Post Retirement Medical Contributions (Non-Budgeted)				157,041	(157,041)
Reimbursed TPAF Social Security Contributions (Non-Budgeted)				154,275	(154,275)
Total Expenditures	4,901,759	-	4,901,759	5,291,024	(389,265)
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	21,384	-	21,384	653,337	631,953
Fund Balance, July 1	3,430,881	-	3,430,881	3,430,881	-
Fund Balance, June 30	<u>\$ 3,452,265</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,452,265</u>	<u>\$ 4,084,218</u>	<u>\$ 631,953</u>
Recapitulation of Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures:					
Budgeted Fund Balance	<u>\$ 3,452,265</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,452,265</u>	<u>\$ 4,084,218</u>	<u>\$ 631,953</u>
Total	<u>\$ 3,452,265</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,452,265</u>	<u>\$ 4,084,218</u>	<u>\$ 631,953</u>

See Management's Discussion and Analysis section of this report for explanation of significant budget variances, original and final.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Special Revenue Fund
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Original Budget	Budget Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance Final to Actual
REVENUE SOURCES:					
Federal	\$ 741,284	\$ -	\$ 741,284	\$ 741,284	\$ -
State	39,715	-	39,715	39,715	-
Local	15,000	-	15,000	21,757	(6,757)
Total Revenues	795,999	-	795,999	802,756	(6,757)
EXPENDITURES:					
Instruction:					
Salaries of Teachers	223,909	-	223,909	223,909	-
Other Salaries for Instruction	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies and Materials	28,925	-	28,925	28,925	-
Purchased Prof/Tech Services	33,342	-	33,342	33,342	-
Total Instruction	286,176	-	286,176	286,176	-
Support Services:					
Support Salaries	111,457	-	111,457	111,457	-
Personal Services - Employee Benefits	42,174	-	42,174	42,174	-
Purchased Pro/Ed Services	154,931	-	154,931	154,931	-
Other Objects	94,326	-	94,326	94,326	-
Repairs and Maintenance	39,715	-	39,715	39,715	-
Supplies and Materials	67,220	-	67,220	67,220	-
Student Activities	-	-	-	5,343	(5,343)
Total Support Services	509,823	-	509,823	515,166	(5,343)
Capital Outlay:					
Construction Services	-	-	-	-	-
Noninstructional Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Total Capital Outlay:	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	795,999	-	795,999	801,342	(5,343)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,384</u>	<u>\$ 1,384</u>
Fund Balance, July 1				9,181	
Fund Balance, June 30				<u>\$ 10,565</u>	
Recapitulation:					
Restricted					
Student Activities				<u>\$ 10,565</u>	
Total Fund Balance				<u>\$ 10,565</u>	

NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Required Supplementary Information
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule
 Note to RSI
 Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

**Note A - Explanation of Differences between Budgetary Inflows and Outflows and
 GAAP Revenues and Expenditures**

		<u>General Fund</u>		<u>Special Revenue Fund</u>
Sources/Inflows of Resources				
Actual amounts (budgetary) "revenues" from the budgetary comparison schedules	[C-1]	\$ 5,944,361	[C-2]	\$ 802,756
Difference - Budget to GAAP				
Grant accounting budgetary basis differs from GAAP in that encumbrances are recognized as expenditures, and the related revenue is recognized		-		-
Total revenues as reports on the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance - governmental funds.				
	[B-2]	<u>\$ 5,944,361</u>	[B-2]	<u>\$ 802,756</u>
Uses/Outflows of resources				
Actual amounts (budgetary basis) "total outflows" from the budgetary comparison schedule	[C-1]	\$ 5,291,024	[C-2]	\$ 801,372
Differences - Budget to GAAP:				
Encumbrances for supplies and equipment ordered but not received are reported in the year the order is placed for budgetary purposes, but in the year the supplies are received for financial accounting purposes		-		-
Total expenditures as reported on the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances - governmental funds.				
	[B-2]	<u>\$ 5,291,024</u>	[B-2]	<u>\$ 801,372</u>

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – PART III

**SCHEDULE L - SCHEDULES RELATED TO ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING FOR
PENSIONS (GASB 68)**

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULES
SCHEDULE OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PERS)
LAST TWO PLAN YEARS
UNAUDITED**

	Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	
	2023	2022
Charter School's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 544,394	\$ 279,291
Charter School's covered employees payroll	N/A	N/A
Charter School's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of it's covered employee payroll	N/A	N/A
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	N/A	N/A

Note: This schedule does not contain ten years of information as GASB No. 68 was implemented during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015.

**HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULES
 SCHEDULE OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS
 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PERS)
 LAST TWO FISCAL YEARS
 UNAUDITED**

	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	
	2023	2022
Contractually required contribution	\$ 45,490	\$ 27,610
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	(45,490)	(27,610)
Contribution deficiency/(excess)	\$ -	\$ -

Note: This schedule does not contain ten years of information as GASB No. 68 was implemented during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015.

NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION III

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

A. Benefit Changes

There were none.

B. Changes in Assumptions

The discount rate changed from 7.00% as of June 30, 2021 to 7.50% as of June 30, 2022.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SECTION E – SPECIAL REVENUE FUND
DETAIL STATEMENTS**

The Special Revenue Fund is used to account for the proceeds of specific sources (other than expandable trusts or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes

HOPE COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOL
Special Revenue Fund
Combining Schedule of Program Revenues and Expenditures - Budgetary Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	ARP Homeless	CSP RC	Local Grant	Student Activities Fund	Grand Total
REVENUE SOURCES:					
Federal Sources	\$ 661	\$ 240,316	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 741,284
State Sources	-	-	-	-	39,715
Local Sources	-	-	15,000	6,757	21,757
Total Revenues	\$ 661	\$ 240,316	\$ 15,000	\$ 6,757	\$ 802,756
EXPENDITURES:					
Instruction:					
Salaries of Teachers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,646	\$ -	223,909
Other Salaries for Instruction	-	-	-	-	-
Purchased Prof/Tech Services	-	-	-	-	28,925
Supplies and Materials	-	16,858	354	-	33,342
Total Instruction	-	16,858	15,000	-	286,176
Support Services:					
Support Salaries	-	61,432	-	-	\$ 111,457
Personal Services - Employee Benefits	-	5,131	-	-	42,174
Purchased Pro/Ed Services	-	49,200	-	-	154,931
Other Objects	-	90,541	-	-	94,326
Repairs and Maintenance	-	-	-	-	39,715
Supplies and Materials	661	17,154	-	-	67,220
Student Activities	-	-	-	5,373	5,373
Total Support Services	661	223,458	-	5,373	515,196
Capital Outlay:					
Noninstructional Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Construction Services	-	-	-	-	-
Total Capital Outlay:	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 661	\$ 240,316	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,373	\$ 801,372
Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	-	-	-	1,384	-
Fund Balance July 1	-	-	-	9,181	-
Fund Balance, June 30	-	-	-	<u>\$ 10,565</u>	-

**SECTION G – PROPRIETARY FUNDS
DETAIL STATEMENTS**

Proprietary Funds are used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises – where the intent of the charter school’s board is that the costs of providing goods or services be financed through user charges.

Food Services Fund – This fund provides for the operation of food services in all schools within the school district.

**THIS SECTION HAS ALREADY BEEN INCLUDED IN STATEMENTS B-4, B-5,
AND B-6.**

SECTION H – FIDUCIARY FUNDS

NOT APPLICABLE

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**STATISTICAL SECTION
(UNAUDITED)**

GASB requires that ten years of statistical data be presented. The following information is presented utilizing information available. Each year thereafter, an additional year's data will be included until ten years of data is presented.

Contents

Financial Trends

These schedules contain trend information to help the reader understand how the charter school's financial performance and well-being have changed over time.

Revenue Capacity (Not Applicable To Charter School)

These schedules contain information to help the reader assess the district's most significant local revenue source, the property tax.

Debt Capacity

These schedules present information to help the reader assess the affordability of the charter school's current levels of outstanding debt and the charter school's ability to issue additional debt in the future.

Demographic and Economic Information

These schedules offer demographic and economic indicators to help the reader understand the environment within which the charter school's financial activities take place.

Operating Information

These schedules contain service and infrastructure data to help the reader understand how the information in the charter school's financial report relates to the services the district provides and the activities it performs.

Sources: *Unless otherwise noted, the information in these schedules is derived from the Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports (ACFR) for the relevant year. The charter school implemented GASB Statement 34 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004; schedules presenting charter school-wide information include information beginning in that year.*

FINANCIAL TRENDS

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Net Position by Component
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
(accrual basis of accounting)
 Unaudited

	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,									
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Governmental Activities										
Invested in Capital Assets, Net or Related Debt	\$1,591,124	\$1,375,225	\$1,301,362	\$1,269,607	\$ 741,131	\$ 691,783	\$ 440,105	\$ 161,671	\$ 180,690	\$ 199,709
Restricted	10,565	9,181.00	6,837.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unassigned	3,655,201	2,949,802	2,189,883	1,577,895	1,328,121	1,120,534	947,915	886,286	494,856	910,038
Total Governmental Activities Net Assets/Position (Deficit)	<u>\$5,256,890</u>	<u>\$4,334,208</u>	<u>\$3,498,082</u>	<u>\$2,847,502</u>	<u>\$2,069,252</u>	<u>\$1,812,317</u>	<u>\$ 1,388,020</u>	<u>\$1,047,957</u>	<u>\$ 675,546</u>	<u>\$1,109,747</u>
Business-Type Activities										
Unassigned	\$ 70,687	\$ 73,704	\$ 19,202	\$ 31,718	\$ 27,413	\$ 26,339	\$ 38,736	\$ 62,325	\$ 51,720	\$ 39,463
Total Business-Type Activities Net Position	<u>\$ 70,687</u>	<u>\$ 73,704</u>	<u>\$ 19,202</u>	<u>\$ 31,718</u>	<u>\$ 27,413</u>	<u>\$ 26,339</u>	<u>\$ 38,736</u>	<u>\$ 62,325</u>	<u>\$ 51,720</u>	<u>\$ 39,463</u>
Charter School-wide										
Invested in Capital Assets, Net or Related Debt	\$1,591,124	\$1,375,225	\$1,301,362	\$1,269,607	\$ 741,131	\$ 691,783	\$ 440,105	\$ 161,671	\$ 180,690	\$ 199,709
Restricted	10,565	9,181	6,837.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unassigned	3,725,888	3,023,506	2,209,085	1,609,613	1,355,534	1,146,873	986,651	948,611	546,576	949,501
Total Charter School Net Position	<u>\$5,327,577</u>	<u>\$4,407,912</u>	<u>\$3,517,284</u>	<u>\$2,879,220</u>	<u>\$2,096,665</u>	<u>\$1,838,656</u>	<u>\$ 1,426,756</u>	<u>\$1,110,282</u>	<u>\$ 727,266</u>	<u>\$1,149,210</u>

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Changes in Net Position
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
 Unaudited

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Expenses										
Governmental Activities:										
Instruction	\$ 3,198,376	\$ 3,086,564	\$ 2,545,030	\$ 2,184,840	\$ 2,083,770	\$ 1,871,371	\$ 1,677,519	\$ 1,668,512	\$ 1,695,594	\$ 1,695,261
Administration	1,385,191	1,132,643	1,252,099	1,089,576	1,070,503	1,008,098	873,959	720,048	649,632	715,776
Support Services	1,138,897	1,116,703	585,424	640,938	650,608	493,446	640,505	908,291	1,017,742	1,316,623
Capital Outlay	151,883	334,432	194,396	162,400	27,458	114,516	178,482	24,299	53,708	-
Unallocated										
Depreciation	126,204	131,171	116,136	115,038	97,207	96,892	95,732	19,019	19,019	19,019
Employee Benefits	381,969	485,931	396,816	201,094	294,040	409,502	-	-	-	-
Total Governmental Activities Net Assets/Position	<u>6,382,520</u>	<u>6,287,444</u>	<u>5,089,901</u>	<u>4,393,886</u>	<u>4,223,586</u>	<u>3,993,825</u>	<u>3,466,197</u>	<u>3,340,169</u>	<u>3,435,695</u>	<u>3,746,679</u>
Business-Type Activities:										
Food Service	289,877	282,029	129,781	163,807	188,206	186,335	190,129	146,673	132,874	143,122
Total Business-Type Activities Expenses	<u>289,877</u>	<u>282,029</u>	<u>129,781</u>	<u>163,807</u>	<u>188,206</u>	<u>186,335</u>	<u>190,129</u>	<u>146,673</u>	<u>132,874</u>	<u>143,122</u>
Total Charter School Expenses	<u>\$ 6,672,397</u>	<u>\$ 6,569,473</u>	<u>\$ 5,219,682</u>	<u>\$ 4,557,693</u>	<u>\$ 4,411,792</u>	<u>\$ 4,180,160</u>	<u>\$ 3,656,326</u>	<u>\$ 3,486,842</u>	<u>\$ 3,568,569</u>	<u>\$ 3,889,801</u>
Program Revenues										
Governmental Activities:										
Operating Grants and Contributions	592,080	602,891	484,525	307,621	359,682	456,324	39,496	71,166	78,028	71,401
Total Governmental Activities Expenses	<u>592,080</u>	<u>602,891</u>	<u>484,525</u>	<u>307,621</u>	<u>359,682</u>	<u>456,324</u>	<u>39,496</u>	<u>71,166</u>	<u>78,028</u>	<u>71,401</u>
Business-Type Activities:										
Charges for Services	-	-	-	3,520	6,133	4,093	2,915	2,494	3,302	3,696
Operating Grants and Contributions	286,860	336,531	117,265	164,592	183,147	169,845	163,675	154,784	141,777	142,440
Total Business-Type Activities Expenses	<u>286,860</u>	<u>336,531</u>	<u>117,265</u>	<u>168,112</u>	<u>189,280</u>	<u>173,938</u>	<u>166,590</u>	<u>157,278</u>	<u>145,079</u>	<u>146,136</u>
Total Charter School Program Revenues	<u>878,940</u>	<u>939,422</u>	<u>601,790</u>	<u>475,733</u>	<u>548,962</u>	<u>630,262</u>	<u>206,086</u>	<u>228,444</u>	<u>223,107</u>	<u>217,537</u>
Net (Expense)/Revenue										
Governmental Activities	\$ (5,790,440)	\$ (5,684,553)	\$ (4,605,376)	\$ (4,086,265)	\$ (3,863,904)	\$ (3,537,501)	\$ (3,426,701)	\$ (3,269,003)	\$ (3,357,667)	\$ (3,675,278)
Business-Type Activities	(3,017)	54,502	(12,516)	4,305	1,074	(12,397)	(23,589)	10,605	12,205	3,014
Total Charter School-wide Net Expense	<u>\$ (5,793,457)</u>	<u>\$ (5,630,051)</u>	<u>\$ (4,617,892)</u>	<u>\$ (4,081,960)</u>	<u>\$ (3,862,830)</u>	<u>\$ (3,549,898)</u>	<u>\$ (3,450,290)</u>	<u>\$ (3,258,398)</u>	<u>\$ (3,345,462)</u>	<u>\$ (3,672,264)</u>
General Revenues and Other Changes in Net Position										
Governmental Activities:										
General Purposes	\$ 1,822,683	\$ 1,332,994	\$ 1,043,212	\$ 911,852	\$ 758,933	\$ 562,243	\$ 535,785	\$ 539,439	\$ 574,921	\$ 590,882
Federal and State Aid Not Restricted	4,600,557	4,988,369	4,035,226	3,743,091	3,344,635	3,244,708	3,013,381	3,059,255	2,936,983	3,207,009
Miscellaneous Income	113,766	27,677	14,321	49,310	17,271	30,532	158,160	42,720	34,391	43,986
Total Governmental Activities	<u>6,537,006</u>	<u>6,349,040</u>	<u>5,092,759</u>	<u>4,704,253</u>	<u>4,120,839</u>	<u>3,837,483</u>	<u>3,707,326</u>	<u>3,641,414</u>	<u>3,546,295</u>	<u>3,841,877</u>
Business-Type Activities:										
Investment Earnings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ 38
Total Business-Type Activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>38</u>
Total Charter School-wide	<u>\$ 6,537,006</u>	<u>\$ 6,349,040</u>	<u>\$ 5,092,759</u>	<u>\$ 4,704,253</u>	<u>\$ 4,120,839</u>	<u>\$ 3,837,483</u>	<u>\$ 3,707,326</u>	<u>\$ 3,641,414</u>	<u>\$ 3,546,347</u>	<u>\$ 3,841,915</u>
Change in Net Assets/Position										
Governmental Activities	\$ 746,566	\$ 664,487	\$ 487,383	\$ 617,988	\$ 256,935	\$ 299,982	\$ 280,625	\$ 372,411	\$ 188,628	\$ 166,599
Business-Type Activities	(3,017)	54,502	(12,516)	4,305	1,074	(12,397)	(23,589)	10,605	12,257	3,052
Total Charter School	<u>\$ 743,549</u>	<u>\$ 718,989</u>	<u>\$ 474,867</u>	<u>\$ 622,293</u>	<u>\$ 258,009</u>	<u>\$ 287,585</u>	<u>\$ 257,036</u>	<u>\$ 383,016</u>	<u>\$ 200,885</u>	<u>\$ 169,651</u>

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Fund Balances - Governmental Funds
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)
 Unaudited

	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,									
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
General Fund										
Unassigned	\$ 4,084,218	\$ 3,430,881	\$ 2,769,718	\$ 2,202,172	\$ 1,992,191	\$ 1,821,697	\$ 1,669,352	1,568,796	1,153,326	910,038
Total General Fund	<u>\$ 4,084,218</u>	<u>\$ 3,430,881</u>	<u>\$ 2,769,718</u>	<u>\$ 2,202,172</u>	<u>\$ 1,992,191</u>	<u>\$ 1,821,697</u>	<u>\$ 1,669,352</u>	<u>\$ 1,568,796</u>	<u>\$ 1,153,326</u>	<u>\$ 910,038</u>

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)
 Unaudited

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Revenues:										
Local Sources:										
Local Tax Levy	\$ 1,800,926	\$ 1,309,817	\$ 1,043,212	\$ 911,852	\$ 758,933	\$ 562,243	\$ 535,785	\$ 539,439	\$ 574,921	\$ 590,882
Interest In Investments	59,502	2,274	2,195	2,159	1,880	1,670	1,410	1,153	744	-
Miscellaneous	76,021	48,580	30,422	47,151	15,391	28,862	156,750	144,271	41,147	46,802
State Sources	4,069,384	3,957,313	3,538,724	3,610,851	3,125,862	3,039,504	2,822,145	2,790,436	2,637,767	2,603,485
Federal Sources	741,284	1,148,016	565,915	238,767	247,328	252,026	230,732	237,281	369,744	672,109
Total Revenues	<u>6,747,117</u>	<u>6,466,000</u>	<u>5,180,468</u>	<u>4,810,780</u>	<u>4,149,394</u>	<u>3,884,305</u>	<u>3,746,822</u>	<u>3,712,580</u>	<u>3,624,323</u>	<u>3,913,278</u>
Expenditures:										
Instruction	2,333,559	2,140,034	1,811,011	1,642,031	1,519,573	1,447,363	1,279,558	1,344,338	1,358,919	1,347,742
Administration	2,236,292	2,044,226	2,004,237	1,647,230	1,615,768	1,361,039	1,232,993	1,062,902	1,011,428	1,151,952
Support Services	1,186,444	1,234,154	585,424	640,938	650,608	572,278	640,505	865,571	956,980	1,227,966
Capital Outlay	336,101	384,079	212,250	192,477	192,951	351,280	243,210	24,299	53,708	-
Total Expenditures	<u>6,092,396</u>	<u>5,802,493</u>	<u>4,612,922</u>	<u>4,122,676</u>	<u>3,978,900</u>	<u>3,731,960</u>	<u>3,396,266</u>	<u>3,297,110</u>	<u>3,381,035</u>	<u>3,727,660</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	<u>\$ 654,721</u>	<u>\$ 663,507</u>	<u>\$ 567,546</u>	<u>\$ 688,104</u>	<u>\$ 170,494</u>	<u>\$ 152,345</u>	<u>\$ 350,556</u>	<u>\$ 415,470</u>	<u>\$ 243,288</u>	<u>\$ 185,618</u>

Source: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 General Fund - Other Local Revenue by Source
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
(modified accrual basis of accounting)
 Unaudited

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Interest	Miscellaneous Revenue	Total
2023	\$ 59,502	\$ 76,021	\$ 135,523
2022	2,274	25,403	27,677
2021	2,195	12,126	14,321
2020	2,159	47,151	49,310
2019	1,880	15,391	17,271
2018	1,670	28,862	30,532
2017	1,410	156,750	158,160
2016	1,153	144,271	145,424
2015	744	41,147	41,891
2014	-	46,802	46,802

Source: Charter School records

DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC INFORMATION

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Demographic and Economic Statistics
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Year	Population*	Personal Income**	Per Capita Personal Income***	Unemployment Rate ****
2023	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2017	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2016	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2015	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2014	16,116	26,370	13,516	7.4

Source:

* Population information provided by the NJ Dept of Labor and Workforce Development.

** Personal income has been estimated based upon the municipal population and per capita personal income presented.

*** Per capita personal income by municipality estimated based upon the 2010 Census published by the US Bureau of Economic Analysis.

**** Unemployment data provided by the NJ Dept of Labor and Workforce Development.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Principal Employers
Current Year and Nine Years Ago
Unaudited

<u>Employer</u>	<u>2022(1)</u>			<u>2013 (1)</u>		
	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Municipal Employment</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Municipal Employment</u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

(1) Data was not available from sources contacted.

OPERATING INFORMATION

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Full-Time Equivalent Charter School Employees by Function
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
Unaudited

Function	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,									
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Instruction	31	29	27	25	24	23	23	22	18	19
Administrative	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	6	3.8
Support Services	8	9	9	7	7	5	3	4	7.5	1.7
Food Service	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	0
Total	47.0	45.0	41.0	37.0	36.0	34.0	32.0	32.0	31.5	24.5

Source: Charter School Personnel Records

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Operating Statistics
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
Unaudited

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	Enrollment	Operating Expenditures*	Cost Per Pupil	Percentage Change	Teaching Staff**	Pupil / Teacher Ratio	Average Daily Enrollment (ADE)***	Average Daily Attendance (ADA)***	Percent Change in Average Daily Enrollment	Student Attendance Percentage
2023	281	5,756,295	20,485	6.24%	31	9.06:1	264.1	274.1	10.73%	96.22%
2022	265	5,418,414	20,447	17.09%	29	9.1:1	257.6	247.7	2.68%	96.17%
2021	252	4,400,672	17,463	14.30%	27	9.3:1	250.9	240.2	0.01%	0.00%
2020	250	3,819,320	15,277	-1.85%	25	10:1	249.1	239.9	7.46%	95.96%
2019	236	3,673,290	15,565	4.20%	25	9.8:1	231.8	225.3	9.28%	93.07%
2018	218	3,256,364	14,937	-1.94%	23	10.6:1	216.6	210.7	4.69%	97.30%
2017	207	3,153,056	15,232	-3.66%	23	9.4:1	206.9	197.2	0.00%	95.95%
2016	207	3,272,811	15,811	-3.06%	22	9.4:1	206.4	197.2	1.39%	95.94%
2015	204	3,327,327	16,310	-8.55%	18	11:1	203.53	195.3	-0.53%	95.16%
2014	209	3,727,660	17,836	-3.57%	19	11:1	204.6	194.7	-0.93%	94.87%

Sources: Charter School records.

Note: Enrollment based on annual final Charter School count.

* Operating expenditures equal total expenditures less debt service and capital outlay.

** Teaching staff includes only full-time equivalents of certified staff.

*** Average daily enrollment and average daily attendance are obtained from School Register Summary (SRS).

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 School Building Information
 Last Ten Fiscal Years
 Unaudited

	Fiscal Year Ending June 30,									
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<u>Charter School Building</u>										
601 Grand Avenue										
Square Feet	32,630	32,630	32,630	32,630	32,630	32,630	32,630	32,630	32,630	32,630
Capacity (students)										
Enrollment	250	250	250	250	236	218	207	207	206	209
500 Grand Avenue										
Square Feet	6,450	6,450	6,450	6,450						
Capacity (students)										
Enrollment										

Source: Charter School Facilities Office

Note: Increased in square footage and capacity are the result of an additions.

Enrollment is based on the annual October Charter School count.

Commercial General Liability Coverage

Named Insured: Hope Academy Charter School

Policy Term: 7/1/2022 to 7/1/2023

Coverage Form Used

[X] Occurrence Form [] Claims Made Form Retroactive Date:

Limits of Liability

General Liability	
Per Occurrence Limit	5,000,000
Fund Aggregate	100,000,000
Employee Benefits Liability Limit	5,000,000
Deductible	2,500
School Leaders Professional Liability	5,000,000
Per Occurrence	5,000,000
Aggregate	5,000,000
Deductible	5,000
Sexual Abuse and Molestation	10,000,000
Fund Aggregate	30,000,000
Boiler Machinery	100,000,000
Employee Dishonesty	500,000 per loss
Money and Securities	2,500,000
Environmental Impairment Liability	1,000,000
Fund Aggregate	25,000,000
Critical Incident Management	25,000
School Leaders Professional	5,000,000
Deductible	5,000

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
 Charter School Performance Framework Financial Indicators
 Fiscal Ratios
 Last Three Fiscal Years

	2021	2022	2023	Source
	Audit	Audit	Audit	
Cash	\$ 2,471,896	\$ 2,728,588	\$ 3,841,392	Audit: Exhibit A-1
Current Assets (Includes CASH)	3,236,134	4,504,655	4,918,357	Audit: Exhibit A-1
Total Assets	8,914,374	10,084,864	10,538,094	Audit: Exhibit A-1
Current Liabilities	441,907	992,164	753,907	Audit: Exhibit A-1
Total liabilities	5,255,965	5,475,169	5,325,894	Audit: Exhibit A-1
Net Assets	3,658,409	4,609,695	5,212,200	Audit: Exhibit A-1
Total Revenue	5,694,549	7,288,462	7,415,946	Audit: Exhibit A-2
Total Expenses	5,214,682	6,569,473	6,672,397	Audit: Exhibit A-2
Change in Net Assets	474,867	718,989	743,549	Audit: Exhibit A-2
Depreciation Expense	142,459	147,423	144,435	Financial Statements/Audit Workpapers
Interest Expense	139,368	121,351	108,417	Financial Statements/Audit Workpapers
Principal Payments	156,360	171,639	176,116	Financial Statements/Audit Workpapers
Interest Payments	139,368	121,351	108,417	Financial Statements/Audit Workpapers
Final Average Daily Enrollment	250.9	257.6	281.0	DOE Enrollment Reports
March 30th Budgeted Enrollment	252	265	287	Charter School Budget

Changes

RATIOS ANALYSIS...						Changes	
Near Term Indicators		2021	2022	2023	3 Yr CUM	Source:	Target
1a.	Current Ratio	7.32	4.50	6.52		Current Assets/Current Liabilities	>1.1
1b.	Unrestricted Days Cash	172.86	151.61	210.13		Cash/(Total Expenses/365)	30-60
1c.	Enrollment Variance	99%	99%	99%		Average Daily Enrollment/Budgeted Enrollment	>95%
1d.*	Default	NO	NO	NO		Audit	not in default
Sustainability Indicators							
2a.	Total Margin	8%	10%	10%		Change in Net Assets/Total Revenue	positive
2b.	Debt to Asset	0.59%	0.54%	0.51%		Total Liabilities/Total Assets	<9
2c.**	Cash Flow	451,913	256,692	1,112,804		Net change in cash flow from prior years	3 yr cum positive
2d.	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	2.56	3.37	3.50		(Change in Net Assets+Depreciation+Interest Expense)/(Principal & Interest Payments)	>1.10

* Is school in default of loan covenant(s) and/or is delinquent with debt service payments? Yes or No

** 2022 = 2022 Cash - 2021 Cash

Refer questions to charterfinance@doe.state.nj.us

SINGLE AUDIT SECTION



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN
AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
"GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS"
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Honorable President and
Members of the Board of Trustees
Hope Academy Charter School
County of Monmouth
Asbury Park, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and in compliance with audit requirements as prescribed by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund of the Hope Academy Charter School (Charter School), in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Charter School's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents, and have issued our report thereon dated December 5, 2023.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Charter School's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Charter School's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Charter School's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weakness or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weakness. However, material weakness may exist that have not been identified.

Reporting on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Charter School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matter that are required to be reported under audit requirements as prescribed by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey.

We also noted other matters that we reported to the Board of Trustees of the Hope Academy Charter School in a separate report entitled, Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings dated December 5, 2023.

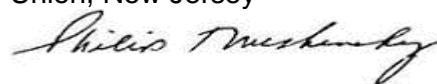
Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, The Hope Academy Charter School Board of Trustees, the New Jersey State Department of Education and other state awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meshinsky & Associates, LLC CPA's
Union, New Jersey



Philip T. Meshinsky
Licensed Public School Accountant No.
CS00233400
Meshinsky & Associates LLC, CPA's

December 5, 2023



MESHINSKY &
ASSOCIATES LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS,
CONSULTANTS & INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES

K-2
Page 1

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE
AND NEW JERSEY OMB CIRCULAR 15-08**

Honorable President and Members
of the Board of Trustees Hope
Academy Charter School
County of Monmouth
Asbury Park, New Jersey

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal and State Program
Opinion on Each Major Federal and State Program**

We have audited Hope Academy Charter School's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the OMB Compliance Supplement and the New Jersey OMB Circular 15-08 that could have a direct and material effect on each of Hope Academy Charter School's major federal and state programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. Hope Academy Charter School's major federal and state programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Hope Academy Charter School complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal and state programs for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal and State Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) and the New Jersey OMB Circular 15-08. Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Hope Academy Charter School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Hope Academy Charter School's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Hope Academy Charter School's federal and state programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Hope Academy Charter School's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, Government Auditing Standards, the Uniform Guidance and New Jersey OMB Circular 15-08 will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Hope Academy Charter School's compliance with the requirements of each major federal and state programs as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, the Uniform Guidance, and New Jersey OMB Circular 15-08, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Hope Academy Charter School's, compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Hope Academy Charter School's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and New Jersey OMB Circular 15-08, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Hope Academy Charter School's, internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal and state program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance (continued)

over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal and state program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal and state program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance and New Jersey OMB Circular 15-08,. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meshinsky & Associates, LLC CPA's
Union, New Jersey



Philip T. Meshinsky
Licensed Public-School Accountant
No. CS00233400
Meshinsky & Associates LLC, CPA's

December 5, 2023

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Federal Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/ Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	Federal Award Identification Number	Program or Award Amount	Grant Period		Balance at June 30, 2022	Cash Received	Budgetary Expenditures	Balance at June 30, 2023	
				From	To				Accounts Receivable	Unearned Revenue
U.S. Department of Education										
Passed through State Department of Education										
Special Revenue Fund:										
ESEA Consolidated										
Title 1 Part A	84.010A	S010A210030	\$ -	7/1/21	6/30/22	\$ (42,033)	\$ 42,033	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Title 1 Part A	84.010A	A010A200030	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	139,171	(157,837)	(18,666)	\$ -
Title II Part A	84.010A	S367A200029	-	7/1/20	6/30/21	(7,413)	7,413	-	-	-
Title II Part A	84.367A	S367A210029	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	7,500	(14,709)	(7,209)	-
ESEA Consolidated						<u>(49,446)</u>	<u>196,117</u>	<u>(172,546)</u>	<u>(25,875)</u>	<u>-</u>
Individuals with Disabilities Cluster										
I.D.E.A. Part B Basic	84.027A	H027A210100	-	7/1/21	6/30/22	(13,977)	13,977	-	-	-
I.D.E.A. Part B Basic	84.027A	H027A200100	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	48,538	(70,722)	(22,184)	-
ARP-Preschool	84.173X	H173X210114	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	359	(359)	-	-
Total Individuals with Disabilities Cluster						<u>(13,977)</u>	<u>62,874</u>	<u>(71,081)</u>	<u>(22,184)</u>	<u>-</u>
Education Stabilization Funds										
CRRSA ESSER II	84.425D	S425D200027	-	7/1/21	6/30/22	(444,134)	444,134	-	-	-
CRRSA-ESSER II	84.425D	S425D210027	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	480	(480)	-	-
CRRSA-Mental Health	84.425D	S425D210027	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	10,764	(14,678)	(3,914)	-
ARP-ESSER III	84.425U	S425U210027	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	157,314	(196,128)	(38,814)	-
ARP-Mental Health	84.425U	S425Y210027	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	232	(232)	-	-
ARP-Beyond School	84.425U	S4254210027	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	29,955	(29,955)	-	-
ARP-Summer Learning	84.425U	S4254210027	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	10,349	(15,207)	(4,858)	-
ARP-Homeless	84.425U	S4254210027	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	-	(661)	(661)	-
Other Federal Grants	84.425U	S4254210027	-	7/1/21	6/30/22	(46,049)	46,049	-	-	-
Total Education Stabilization Funds						<u>(490,183)</u>	<u>699,277</u>	<u>(257,341)</u>	<u>(48,247)</u>	<u>-</u>
U.S. Department of Education										
Passed through New Jersey Public Charter School Association										
Charter School Program-RC	84.282A	S282A200020	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	121,285	(240,316)	(119,031)	-
Total Charter School Program						<u>-</u>	<u>121,285</u>	<u>(240,316)</u>	<u>(119,031)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Special Revenue Fund						<u>(553,606)</u>	<u>1,079,553</u>	<u>(741,284)</u>	<u>(215,337)</u>	<u>-</u>
U.S. Department of Agriculture										
Passed through State Department of Agriculture										
Enterprise Fund:										
National School Breakfast Program	10.553	221NJ304N1099	-	7/1/21	6/30/22	(12,086)	12,086	-	-	-
National School Breakfast Program	10.553	231NJ304N1099	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	91,315	(102,533)	(11,218)	-
National School Lunch Program	10.555	221NJ304N1099	-	7/1/21	6/30/22	(7,151)	7,151	-	-	-
National School Lunch Program	10.555	231NJ304N1099	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	151,505	(159,393)	(7,888)	-
National School Snack Program	10.558	231NJ304N1099	-	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	16,638	(16,638)	-	-
Total Enterprise Fund						<u>(19,237)</u>	<u>278,695</u>	<u>(278,564)</u>	<u>(19,106)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Federal Financial Award.						<u>\$ (572,843)</u>	<u>\$ 1,358,248</u>	<u>\$ (1,019,848)</u>	<u>\$ (234,443)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

The accompanying Notes to Schedules of Expenditures of Awards and Financial Assistance are an integral part of this schedule.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Schedule of Expenditures of State Financial Assistance
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

State Grantor/Program Title	Grant or State Project Number	Program or Award Amount	Grant Period		Balance at June 30, 2022			Balance at June 30, 2023			MEMO	
			From	To	Unearned Revenue (Accounts Receivable)	Cash Received	Budgetary Expenditures	Accounts Receivable	Unearned Revenue/ Interfund Payable	Budgetary Receivable		Cumulative Total Expenditures
State Department of Education												
General Fund:												
<i>State Aid- Public Cluster</i>												
Equalization Aid- State Share	22-495-034-5120-071	\$ 2,645,248	7/1/21	6/30/22	\$ (386,731)	\$ 386,731	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Equalization Aid- State Share	23-495-034-5120-071	2,768,952	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	2,665,450	(2,768,952)	(103,502)	-	-	2,768,952	
Special Education Categorical Aid	23-495-034-5120-089	210,111	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	210,111	(210,111)	-	-	-	210,111	
Security Aid	23-495-034-5120-084	143,154	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	143,154	(143,154)	-	-	-	143,154	
Total State Aid- Public Cluster					(386,731)	3,405,446	(3,122,217)	(103,502)	-	-	3,122,217	
On- Behalf TPAF Post Retirement Contributions	23-495-034-5094-001	157,041	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	157,041	(157,041)	-	-	-	157,041	
On- Behalf TPAF Pension Contributions	23-495-034-5094-002	596,136	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	596,136	(596,136)	-	-	-	596,136	
Reimburse TPAF - Social Security	23-495-034-5094-003	138,951	7/1/21	6/30/22	(6,530)	6,530	-	-	-	-	-	
Reimburse TPAF - Social Security	22-495-034-5094-003	154,275	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	139,079	(154,275)	(15,196)	-	-	154,275	
Total General Fund					(393,261)	4,304,232	(4,029,669)	(118,698)	-	-	4,029,669	
Special Revenue:												
Capital Maintenance Grant	23-100-034-5120-509	39,715	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	39,715	(39,715)	-	-	-	39,715	
State Plumbing Grant	67789/67790/68025	23,081	7/1/21	6/30/22	(23,081)	23,081	-	-	-	-	-	
Security Grant	23-495-034-5120-084	16,660	7/1/21	6/30/22	(16,660)	16,660	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Special Revenue Fund					(39,741)	79,456	(39,715)	-	-	-	39,715	
State Department of Agriculture												
Enterprise Fund:												
National School Breakfast Program	23-100-010-3350-023	1,864	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	1,864	(1,864)	-	-	-	1,864	
National School Lunch Program (State Share)	23-100-010-3350-023	5,197	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	4,334	(5,197)	(863)	-	-	5,197	
National School Lunch Program (State Share)	22-100-010-3350-023	14,704	7/1/21	6/30/22	(10,256)	10,256	-	-	-	-	-	
Total Enterprise Fund					(10,256)	16,454	(7,061)	(863)	-	-	7,061	
Total All Funds					(443,258)	4,400,142	(4,076,445)	(119,561)	-	-	4,076,445	
State Financial Assistance Not Subject to Major Program Determination:												
General Funds:												
On- Behalf TPAF Post Retirement Contributions	23-495-034-5094-001	157,041	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	(157,041)	157,041	-	-	-	(157,041)	
On- Behalf TPAF Pension Contributions	23-495-034-5094-002	596,136	7/1/22	6/30/23	-	(596,136)	596,136	-	-	-	(596,136)	
Total General Fund					-	(753,177)	753,177	-	-	-	(753,177)	
Total State Financial Assistance					\$ (482,999)	\$ 3,646,965	\$ (3,323,268)	\$ (119,561)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,323,268	

The accompanying Notes to Schedules of Expenditures of Awards and Financial Assistance are an integral part of this schedule.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Notes to Schedules of Expenditures of Awards and Financial Assistance
June 30, 2023

NOTE 1. GENERAL

The accompanying schedules of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance include federal and state award activity of the Board of Trustees, Hope Academy Charter School. The Board of Trustees is defined in Note 1 to the board's basic financial statements. All federal and state awards received directly from federal and state agencies, as well as federal awards and state financial assistance passed through other government agencies is included on the schedule of expenditures of federal awards and state financial assistance.

NOTE 2. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accompanying schedules of expenditures of awards and financial assistance are presented on the budgetary basis of accounting with the exception of programs recorded in the food service fund, which are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. These bases of accounting are described in Note 1 to the board's basic financial statements. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of 2 (CFR) Part 200 -Uniform Guidance Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) and the audit requirements as prescribed by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey; New Jersey Circular 15-08 OMB, Single Audit Policy for Recipients of Federal Grants, State Grants and State Aid. Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the presentation of, the basic financial statements.

NOTE 3. RELATIONSHIP TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The basic financial statements present the general fund and special revenue fund on a GAAP basis. Budgetary comparison statements or schedules (RSI) are presented for the general fund and special revenue fund to demonstrate finance-related legal compliance in which certain revenue is permitted by law or grant agreement to be recognized in the audit year, whereas for GAAP reporting, revenue is not recognized until the subsequent year or when expenditures have been made.

The general fund is presented in the accompanying schedules on the modified accrual basis with the exception of the revenue recognition of the one or more deferred June state aid payments in the current budget year, which is mandated pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:22-44.2*. For GAAP purposes payments are not recognized until the subsequent budget year due to the state deferral and recording of the one or more June state aid payments in the subsequent year. The special revenue fund is presented in the accompanying schedules on the grant accounting budgetary basis which recognizes encumbrances as expenditures and also recognizes the related revenues, whereas the GAAP basis does not.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Notes to Schedules of Expenditures of Awards and Financial Assistance
June 30, 2023

NOTE 3. RELATIONSHIP TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

The net adjustment to reconcile from the budgetary basis to the GAAP basis is none for the general fund and none for the special revenue fund. See Notes to the Required Supplementary Information for a reconciliation of the budgetary basis to the modified accrual basis of accounting for the general and special revenue funds. Awards and financial assistance revenues are reported in the board's basic financial statements on a GAAP basis as presented below:

	Federal	State	Total
General Fund	\$ -	\$ 4,029,669	\$ 4,029,669
Special Revenue Fund	741,284	39,715	780,999
Enterprise Fund	278,564	7,061	285,625
Total Awards & Financial Assistance	<u>\$ 1,019,848</u>	<u>\$ 4,076,445</u>	<u>\$ 5,096,293</u>

NOTE 4. RELATIONSHIP TO FEDERAL STATE FINANCIAL REPORTS

Amounts reported in the accompanying schedules agree with the amounts reported in the related federal and state financial reports.

NOTE 5. FEDERAL AND STATE LOANS OUTSTANDING

Hope Academy Charter School has no loan balances outstanding at June 30, 2023.

NOTE 6. OTHER

Revenues and expenditures reported under the Food Distribution Program represent current year value received and current year distributions respectively. The amount reported as TPAF Pension Contributions represents the amount paid by the state on behalf of the charter school for the year ended June 30, 2023. TPAF Social Security Contributions represents the amount reimbursed by the state for the employer's share of social security contributions for TPAF members for the year ended June 30, 2023.

NOTE 7. ON-BEHALF PROGRAMS NOT SUBJECT TO STATE SINGLE AUDIT

On-behalf Sate Programs for TPAF Pension and Post-Retirement Medical Benefits Contributions payments are not subject to a State single audit and, therefore, are excluded from major program determination. The Schedule of State Financial Assistance provides a reconciliation of State financial assistance reported in the Charter School's basic financial statements and the amount subject to State single audit and major program determination.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Notes to Schedules of Expenditures of Awards and Financial Assistance
June 30, 2023

NOTE 7. ON-BEHALF PROGRAMS NOT SUBJECT TO STATE SINGLE AUDIT (CONTINUED)

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>
Title I, Part A: Grants to Local Education Agencies	<u>\$ 157,837</u>

NOTE 8. SCHOOLWIDE PROGRAM FUNDS

Schoolwide programs are not separate federal programs as defined in Uniform Guidance; amounts used in schoolwide programs are included in the total expenditures of the program contributing the funds in the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards. There are no funds by program included in schoolwide programs in the charter school.

NOTE 9. INDIRECT COST RATE

The Charter Schools has elected not to use the 10-Percent de-minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Section I – Summary of Auditor’s Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditors’ report issued on financial statements Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

1) Material weakness(es) identified? _____ Yes X No

2) Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? _____ Yes X None Reported

Noncompliance material to basic financial statements noted? _____ Yes X No

Federal Awards

Internal Control over major programs:

1) Material weakness (es) identified? _____ Yes X No

2) Significant deficiencies identified? _____ Yes X None Reported

Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for major programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200 section .516(a)? _____ Yes X No

Identification of major programs:

<u>CFDA Number(s)</u>	<u>FAIN Number(s)</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
84.425D	S425D210027	CRRSA-ESSER II
84.425U	S425U210027	ARP-ESSER

Dollar threshold used to distinguish type A or type B Programs: 750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? _____ X Yes _____ No

State Awards

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs: \$750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? Yes No

Internal control over major programs:

1) Material weakness(es) identified? Yes No

2) Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes None Reported

Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major programs Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with NJ Circular 15-08-OMB? Yes No

Identification of major state programs:

GMIS Number(s)	Name of State Program
<u>23-495-034-5120-078</u>	<u>EQUALIZATION AID</u>
<u>23-495-034-5120-089</u>	<u>SPECIAL EDUCATION CATEGORICAL AID</u>
<u>23-495-034-5120-084</u>	<u>SECURITY AID</u>

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

This section identifies the significant deficiencies, material weaknesses, fraud, illegal acts, violations of provisions of contracts and grant agreements, and abuse related to the financial statements for which *Government Auditing Standards* requires reporting in a NJ Circular 15-08-OMB. See paragraphs 13.15 and 13.35.

Finding

There were no matters reported.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

***Section III – Federal Awards and State
Financial Assistance Findings and
Questioned Costs***

This section identifies audit findings required to be reported by audit requirements for federal awards and NJ Circular 15-08-OMB, as applicable.

FEDERAL AWARDS

Findings

There were no matters reported.

STATE AWARDS

Findings

There were no matters reported.

HOPE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Summary Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings
And Questioned Costs As Prepared by Management
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

This section identifies the status of prior-year findings related to the basic financial statements and federal and state awards that are required to be reported in accordance with Chapter 6.12 of *Government Auditing Standards*, NJ Circular 04-04-OMB or 15-08-OMB as applicable.

Findings

There were no matters reported.