**Financial Statements** 

June 30, 2019 and 2018



## **Independent Auditors' Report**

## Board of Trustees Growing Up Green Charter School

## **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Growing Up Green Charter School (the "School"), which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2019 and 2018, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

## Management's Responsibility 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; this includes 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.

## Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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#### **Board of Trustees Growing Up Green Charter School** Page 2

## Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the School as of June 30, 2019 and 2018, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, during the year ended June 30, 2019, Growing Up Green Charter School adopted new accounting guidance resulting in a change in the manner in which it presents net assets and reports certain aspects of its financial statements. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

## Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 7, 2019, on our consideration of the 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 School's internal control over financial report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP

Harrison, New York October 7, 2019

Statements of Financial Position

	June 30,			
		2019		2018
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,164,815	\$	1,896,611
Grants and contracts receivable		88,997		429,014
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		331,000		179,945
Due from related party		337,612		530,785
Total Current Assets		3,922,424		3,036,355
Property and equipment, net		1,007,047		1,256,332
Restricted cash - line of credit		758,889		755,215
Restricted cash - escrow		71,624		71,374
Security deposits		65,000		65,000
	\$	5,824,984	\$	5,184,276
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$	152,100	\$	49,226
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes		894,256		727,089
Deferred rent, current portion		18,209		61,294
Refundable advances		18,486		6,537
Total Current Liabilities		1,083,051		844,146
Deferred rent		154,826		173,035
Total Liabilities		1,237,877		1,017,181
Net assets, without donor restrictions		4,587,107		4,167,095
	<u>\$</u>	5,824,984	\$	5,184,276

Statements of Activities

	Year Ended June 30,			ne 30,	
	2019			2018	
OPERATING REVENUE					
Public School District					
Regular student enrollment	\$	12,793,980	\$	11,846,560	
Students with disabilities		2,072,349		1,840,939	
Facilities funding		421,883		410,038	
Grants and Contracts					
Federal - E-Rate, IDEA, and Titles		390,355		482,702	
State and local		20,286		45,563	
Total Operating Revenue		15,698,853		14,625,802	
EXPENSES					
Program Services					
Regular education		9,402,986		8,932,774	
Special education		4,121,843		3,452,820	
Other education - after school		272,467		268,886	
Total Program Services		13,797,296		12,654,480	
Supporting Services		10,101,200		12,001,100	
Management and general		1,641,839		1,382,111	
Fundraising		79,142		73,631	
Total Expenses		15,518,277		14,110,222	
Surplus from Operations		180,576		515,580	
		100,070		010,000	
SUPPORT AND OTHER REVENUE					
Contributions		234,201		145,236	
Other income		5,235		3,043	
Total Support and Other Revenue		239,436		148,279	
Change in Net Assets		420,012		663,859	
NET ASSETS					
Beginning of year		4,167,095		3,503,236	
		· ·		<u> </u>	
End of year	<u>\$</u>	4,587,107	\$	4,167,095	

#### Statement of Functional Expenses Year Ended June 30, 2019

			Progran	n Services		Management		
	No. of	Regular	Special	After		and		
	Positions	Education	Education	School	Total	General	Fundraising	Total
Personnel Services Costs								
Administrative staff personnel	16	\$ 859,126	\$ 439,210	\$-	\$ 1,298,336	\$ 634,903	\$ 48,015	\$ 1,981,254
Instructional personnel	94	4,652,804	2,098,155	169,190	6,920,149	1,411	-	6,921,560
Non-Instructional personnel	14	223,330	76,700		300,030	241,513	613	542,156
Total Salaries and Staff	124	5,735,260	2,614,065	169,190	8,518,515	877,827	48,628	9,444,970
Fringe benefits and payroll taxes		1,271,558	579,561	37,511	1,888,630	194,623	10,781	2,094,034
Retirement		73,263	33,392	2,161	108,816	11,214	621	120,651
Legal fees		25,062	11,423	739	37,224	3,838	212	41,274
Accounting and audit services		-	-	-	-	97,695	-	97,695
Other purchased services		264,179	78,960	1,768	344,907	216,019	4,373	565,299
Rent expense		693,998	316,316	20,473	1,030,787	106,222	5,884	1,142,893
Repairs and maintenance		44,477	20,272	1,312	66,061	6,808	377	73,246
Insurance		49,877	22,733	1,471	74,081	7,635	423	82,139
Utilities		92,189	42,019	2,720	136,928	14,111	782	151,821
Supplies and materials		194,533	52,734	19,423	266,690	2,675	148	269,513
Equipment and furnishings		33,352	10,040	234	43,626	1,211	67	44,904
Staff and professional developmer	nt	46,681	11,803	-	58,484	4,706	-	63,190
Marketing and recruiting		74,874	27,597	1,260	103,731	6,536	2,762	113,029
Technology		98,108	44,716	2,894	145,718	15,016	832	161,566
Food services		5,627	1,422	-	7,049	-	-	7,049
Student services		296,515	74,971	-	371,486	-	-	371,486
Office expense		122,156	55,677	3,604	181,437	18,696	1,036	201,169
Depreciation and amortization		240,898	109,799	7,106	357,803	36,871	2,043	396,717
Other		40,379	14,343	601	55,323	20,136	173	75,632
Total Expenses		\$ 9,402,986	\$ 4,121,843	\$ 272,467	<u>\$ 13,797,296</u>	\$ 1,641,839	\$ 79,142	\$ 15,518,277

#### Statement of Functional Expenses Year Ended June 30, 2018

			Progran	n Services		Management		
	No. of	Regular	Special	After		and		
	Positions	Education	Education	School	Total	General	Fundraising	Total
Personnel Services Costs								
Administrative staff personnel	17	\$ 727,430	\$ 305,733	\$-	\$ 1,033,163	\$ 512,853	\$ 43,808	\$ 1,589,824
Instructional personnel	97	4,485,631	1,764,823	161,893	6,412,347	1,213	-	6,413,560
Non-Instructional personnel	11	166,068	64,679		230,747	271,195	2,680	504,622
Total Salaries and Staff	125	5,379,129	2,135,235	161,893	7,676,257	785,261	46,488	8,508,006
Fringe benefits and payroll taxes		1,256,395	498,724	37,813	1,792,932	183,413	10,858	1,987,203
Retirement		94,464	37,497	2,843	134,804	13,791	816	149,411
Legal fees		16,817	6,676	506	23,999	2,456	145	26,600
Accounting and audit services		-	-	-	-	54,250	-	54,250
Other purchased services		204,719	62,344	1,869	268,932	133,583	611	403,126
Rent expense		723,684	287,265	21,780	1,032,729	105,646	6,254	1,144,629
Repairs and maintenance		60,664	24,081	1,826	86,571	8,856	524	95,951
Insurance		48,152	19,114	1,449	68,715	7,030	416	76,161
Utilities		103,880	41,235	3,126	148,241	15,165	898	164,304
Supplies and materials		227,656	62,862	21,759	312,277	2,965	176	315,418
Equipment and furnishings		25,535	7,712	218	33,465	1,060	63	34,588
Staff and professional developmer	nt	54,118	14,303	-	68,421	1,211	-	69,632
Marketing and recruiting		57,083	17,500	548	75,131	2,655	2,576	80,362
Technology		78,841	31,296	2,373	112,510	11,509	681	124,700
Food services		8,431	2,228	-	10,659	-	-	10,659
Student services		226,058	59,745	-	285,803	-	-	285,803
Office expense		104,112	41,327	3,133	148,572	15,198	900	164,670
Depreciation and amortization		241,377	95,814	7,265	344,456	35,237	2,086	381,779
Other		21,659	7,862	485	30,006	2,825	139	32,970
Total Expenses		\$ 8,932,774	\$ 3,452,820	\$ 268,886	<u>\$ 12,654,480</u>	<u>\$ 1,382,111</u>	\$ 73,631	\$ 14,110,222

#### Statements of Cash Flows

	Year Ended June 30,			ne 30,
	2019		2018	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Change in net assets	\$	420,012	\$	663,859
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets				
to net cash from operating activities				
Depreciation and amortization		396,717		381,779
Deferred rent		(61,294)		(28,595)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities				
Grants and contracts receivable		340,017		(31,207)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		(151,055)		5,403
Due from related party		193,173		(161,362)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		102,874		(16,305)
Accrued payroll and payroll taxes		167,167		58,207
Refundable advances		11,949		(2,082)
Net Cash from Operating Activities		1,419,560		869,697
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Purchases of property and equipment		(147,432)		(178,880)
Restricted cash		(3,924)		(3,034)
Net Cash from Investing Activities		(151,356)		(181,914)
Net Cash nom investing Activities		(131,330)		(101,914)
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents		1,268,204		687,783
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS				
Beginning of year		1,896,611		1,208,828
End of success	<b>~</b>	0 404 045	۴	4 000 044
End of year	\$	3,164,815	\$	1,896,611

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

## 1. Organization and Tax Status

Growing Up Green Charter School (the "School") is a New York State, not-for-profit educational corporation that was incorporated on December 16, 2008 to operate a Charter School pursuant to Article 56 of the Education Law of the State of New York. The School was granted a provisional charter on December 16, 2008 valid for a term of five years and renewable upon expiration by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. The Board of Regents approved and issued several renewals to the School's charter expiring on June 30, 2022. The School's mission is to empower children to be conscious, contributing members of their community through a rigorous curriculum and an engaging green culture. Graduates of the School will be prepared to attend high performing schools where their interdisciplinary academic foundations, knowledge of sustainability, and strong sense of self sets them apart as leaders of the future. Classes commenced in Long Island City, New York, on September 9, 2009 and the School provided education to approximately 811 students in grades kindergarten through eighth during the 2018-2019 academic year.

The New York City Department of Education provides free lunches and transportation directly to some of the School's students. Such costs are not included in these financial statements. The School covers a portion of the cost of lunches for children not entitled to the free lunches.

Except for taxes that may be due for unrelated business income, the School is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and from state and local income taxes under comparable laws.

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

## Basis of Presentation and Use of Estimates

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"), which requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Accordingly actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Change in Accounting Principle

On July 1, 2018, the School adopted new guidance regarding the Presentation of Financial Statements for Not-for Profit Entities. This guidance requires the School to collapse the threecategory (unrestricted, temporarily restricted, and permanently restricted) classification of net assets into two categories: with donor restrictions and without donor restrictions. In addition, the new guidance requires the School to make certain expanded disclosures relating to (1) the liquidity of financial assets, and (2) expenses both by their natural and functional classification in one location in the financial statements. As a result of implementing this standard, prior year amounts for unrestricted net assets were reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

## Net Asset Presentation

Resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into net asset categories established according to nature and purpose as follows:

*Net assets without donor restrictions* - consist of resources available for the general support of the School's operations. Net assets without donor restrictions may be used at the discretion of the School's management and/or the Board of Trustees.

*Net assets with donor restrictions* – represents amounts restricted by donors for specific activities of the School or to be used at a future date. The School records contributions as net assets with donor restrictions if they are received with donor stipulations that limit their use either through purpose or time restrictions. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a time restriction ends or a purpose restriction is fulfilled, net assets with donor restrictions are classified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statements of activities as net assets released from restrictions. The School had no net assets with donor restrictions as of June 30, 2019 and 2018.

## Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash balances held in bank accounts and highly liquid financial instruments with maturities of three months or less at the time of purchase.

## **Restricted Cash**

Under the provisions of its charter, the School established an escrow account to pay for legal and audit expenses that would be associated with a dissolution, should it occur.

Under a line of credit agreement, the School granted the lender a security interest in one of its deposit accounts to secure the indebtedness of Growing Up Green II (see Note 9). At June 30, 2019, there was no balance payable on the line of credit.

## Property and Equipment

The School follows the practice of capitalizing all expenditures for property and equipment with costs in excess of \$1,000 and a useful life in excess of one year. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the term of the lease, inclusive of all renewal periods, which are reasonably assured, or the estimated useful life of the asset. Purchased property and equipment are recorded at cost at the date of acquisition. Minor costs of maintenance and repairs are expensed as incurred. All property and equipment purchased with government funding is capitalized, unless the government agency retains legal title to such assets, in which case it is expensed as incurred.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

## Property and Equipment (continued)

Depreciation and amortization is recognized on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of such assets as follows:

Equipment	5 years
Furniture and fixtures	7 years
Software	3 years
Website development	5 years

Property and equipment are reviewed for impairment if the use of the asset significantly changes or another indicator of possible impairment is identified. If the carrying amount for the asset is not recoverable, the asset is written down to its fair value. There were no asset impairments for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018.

## Refundable Advances

The School records certain government operating revenue as refundable advances until related services are performed, at which time they are recognized as revenue.

## Revenue and Support

Revenue from the state and local governments resulting from the School's charter status and based on the number of students enrolled is recorded when services are performed in accordance with the charter agreement. Federal and other state and local funds are recorded when expenditures are incurred and billable to the government agency.

Contributions are recognized when the donor makes a promise to give to the School that is, in substance, unconditional. Grants and other contributions of cash are reported as net assets with donor restrictions if they are received with donor stipulations. Restricted contributions and grants that are made to support the School's current year activities are recorded as net assets without donor restrictions. Contributions of assets other than cash are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation.

## Functional Expense Allocation

The majority of expenses can generally be directly identified with the program or supporting service to which they relate and are charged accordingly. Other expenses by function have been allocated among program and supporting services classifications on the basis of periodic time and expense studies and other basis as determined by management of the School to be appropriate.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

## Marketing and Recruitment

Marketing and recruitment costs are expensed as incurred for staff and student recruitment. Marketing and recruitment expense for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 was \$113,029 and \$80,362.

## Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes

The School recognizes the effect of income tax positions only if those positions are more likely than not to be sustained. Management has determined that the School had no uncertain tax positions that would require financial statement recognition or disclosure. The School is no longer subject to examinations by the applicable taxing jurisdictions for years prior to June 30, 2016.

## Subsequent Events Evaluation by Management

Management has evaluated subsequent events for disclosure and/or recognition in the financial statements through the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, which date is October 7, 2019.

## 3. Grants and Contracts Receivable

Grants and contracts receivable consist of federal, state and city entitlements and grants. The School expects to collect these receivables within one year.

## 4. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment consists of the following at June 30:

	2019	2018
Equipment	\$ 1,020,369	\$ 966,579
Furniture and fixtures	513,748	507,012
Software and website development	19,133	19,133
Leasehold improvements	1,469,859	1,382,953
	3,023,109	2,875,677
Accumulated depreciation		
and amortization	(2,016,062)	(1,619,345)
	<u>\$ 1,007,047</u>	\$ 1,256,332

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

## 5. Liquidity and Availability of Financial Assets

Financial assets available for general expenditure, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use within one year of the statement of financial position date, are comprised of the following at June 30, 2019:

Financial assets at year end:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,164,815
Grants and contracts receivable	88,997
Due from related party	337,612
	\$3,591,424

As part of the School's liquidity management plan, the status of grants and contracts receivable is monitored regularly and any excess cash is held in money market accounts and other liquid instruments until it is required for operational use.

## 6. Employee Benefit Plan

The School maintains a pension plan qualified under Internal Revenue Code 401(k), for the benefit of its eligible employees. Under the plan, the School provided matching contributions up to 5% of the participant's annual compensation. Employer match for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 amounted to \$120,651 and \$149,411.

## 7. Concentration of Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the School to concentrations of credit and market risk consist principally of cash and cash equivalents on deposit with financial institutions, which from time to time may exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") limit. The School does not believe that a significant risk of loss due to the failure of a financial institution presently exists. As of June 30, 2019 and 2018, approximately \$3,745,000 and \$2,470,000 of cash was maintained with an institution in excess of FDIC limits.

## 8. Concentration of Revenue and Support

The School receives a substantial portion of its revenue and support from the New York City Department of Education. For the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, the School received approximately 96% and 95% of its total revenue and support from the New York City Department of Education. If the charter school laws were modified, reducing or eliminating these revenues, the School's finances could be materially adversely affected.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

## 9. Related Party Transactions (not disclosed elsewhere)

## Friends of Growing Up Green

The School is an affiliate of Friends of Growing Up Green ("Friends of GUG"), a New York State not-for-profit corporation, through common management. Friends of GUG supports the School through technical and financial assistance. There were no material transactions between Friends of GUG and the School for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018.

## Growing Up Green Charter School II

The School is an affiliate of Growing Up Green Charter School II ("GUG II"), a New York State not-for-profit education corporation who both share common management and board members. The School was not required to consolidate financial statements with GUG II as the School does not have an economic interest in the net assets of GUG II. During the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, the School charged \$219,122 and \$247,872 of operating expenses to GUG II.

In addition, the School entered into four interest free loan agreements between February 2016 and January 2017, totaling \$346,000 with GUG II. During the year ended June 30, 2019, these loans were fully paid by GUG II. The outstanding balance of these loans due from GUG II at June 30, 2019 and 2018 was \$0 and \$259,500.

On March 21, 2017, the School co-signed a \$750,000 commercial line of credit with a financial institution along with GUG II. The School assigned and granted the lender a security interest in one of its deposit accounts with the financial institution. The line of credit was paid in full by GUG II as of June 30, 2019 and 2018 but remains open. At June 30, 2019 and 2018, the pledged amount was \$758,889 and \$755,215.

The balance due from GUG II at June 30, 2019 and 2018 was \$337,612 and \$530,785.

## 10. Commitments

## Facility Leases

The School is obligated under a non-cancelable operating lease for office and classroom space at 39-27 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Long Island City, New York, which expired on August 31, 2019, with a renewal option for an additional ten years. In August 2019, the lease was renewed through August 2029. The lease provides for rent escalations and the School is responsible for utilities, real estate taxes and other operating expenses.

On May 15, 2014, the School entered into an agreement to lease additional property at 36-49 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Long Island City, New York for a period of 10 years. The lease provides for rent escalations and the School is responsible for utilities, real estate taxes and other operating expenses. This location became the home of Growing Up Green Middle School starting with the 2014-2015 academic year.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### 10. Commitments (continued)

#### Facility Leases (continued)

The future minimum lease payments for both facility leases, including extension, are as follows for the years ending June 30:

2020	\$ 1,363,69	92
2021	1,431,16	6
2022	1,471,24	8
2023	1,505,80	)3
2024	1,541,17	7
Thereafter	6,011,46	<u>57</u>
	\$13,324,55	53

The School recognizes rent expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Rent expense in excess of payments is recorded as deferred rent in the accompanying statements of financial position. Rent expense for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 amounted to \$1,142,893 and \$1,144,629.

#### Equipment Leases

The School leases various copiers under non-cancelable operating leases expiring at various dates through November 2023. The future minimum lease payments under the copier leases are as follows for the years ending June 30:

2020	\$	55,186
2021		55,186
2022		46,707
2023		29,749
2024		12,395
	<u>\$</u>	199,223

Equipment leasing expense for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 amounted to \$50,817 and \$44,238.

#### **11. Contingency**

Certain grants and contracts may be subject to audit by the funding sources. Such audits might result in disallowances of costs submitted for reimbursement. Management is of the opinion that such cost disallowances, if any, will not have a material effect on the accompanying financial statements. Accordingly, no amounts have been provided in the accompanying financial statements for such potential claims.

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## 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 Auditors' Report

## Board of Trustees Growing Up Green Charter School

We have audited, in accordance with the 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, the financial statements of Growing Up Green Charter School (the "School"), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2019, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 7, 2019.

## Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the 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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 a 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 weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

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## **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the 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 matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## 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 School's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP

Harrison, New York October 7, 2019