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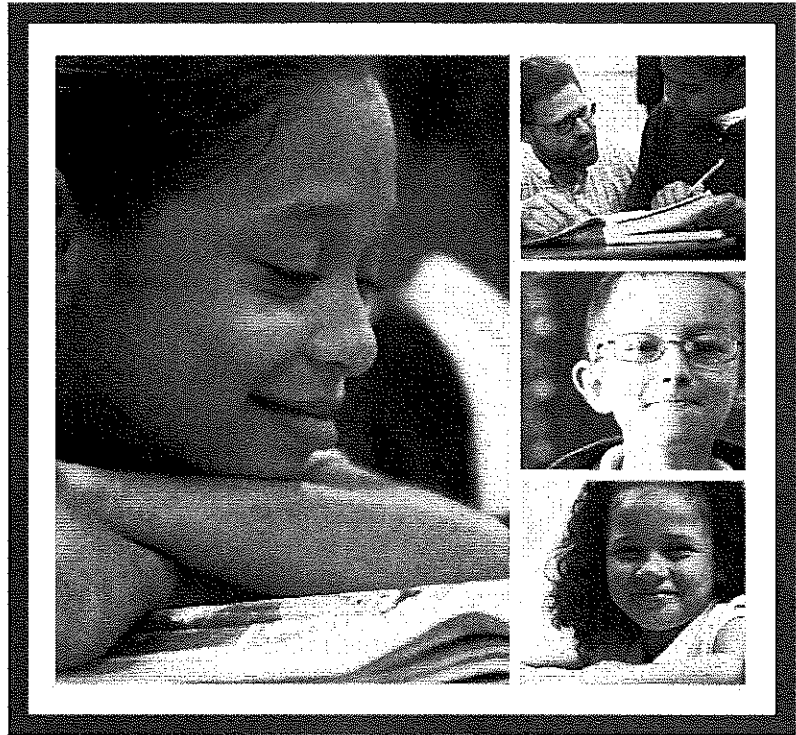
Charter School Board
Aspire Charter Academy
4900 W 15th Avenue
Gary, IN 46406

We have reviewed the Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report prepared by Plante & Moran, PLLC, Independent Public Accountants, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. In our opinion, the audit report was prepared in accordance with the guidelines established by the State Board of Accounts. Per the Independent Public Accountants' opinion, the financial statements included in the report present fairly the financial condition of Aspire Charter Academy, as of June 30, 2016, and the results of its operations for the period then ended, on the basis of accounting described in the report.

The Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report are filed in our office as a matter of public record.

Paul D. Joyce
Paul D. Joyce, CPA
State Examiner

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY



Financial Statements as of and for the Year
Ended June 30, 2016, Required
Supplemental Information and Additional
Information for the Year Ended
June 30, 2016, Federal Awards
Supplemental Information for the Year
Ended June 30, 2016 and Independent
Auditors' Reports

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors
Aspire Charter Academy

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining funds of Aspire Charter Academy (the "Academy") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Aspire Charter Academy's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. 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. 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 auditor's 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 opinions.

To the Board of Directors
Aspire Charter Academy

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective net position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining funds of Aspire Charter Academy as of June 30, 2016, and the respective changes in its net position, for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Required Supplemental Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and the budgetary comparison schedules, as identified in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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 supplemental 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.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Aspire Charter Academy's basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards and reconciliation of basic financial statements federal revenue with 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* (the "Uniform Guidance"), and combining statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - nonmajor governmental funds are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The schedule of expenditures of federal awards and reconciliation of basic financial statements federal revenue with schedule of expenditures of federal awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such 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 schedule of expenditures of federal awards and reconciliation of basic financial statements federal revenue with schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

To the Board of Directors
Aspire Charter Academy

The combining statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - nonmajor governmental funds has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on it.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 27, 2016, on our consideration of Aspire Charter Academy'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 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 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 Aspire Charter Academy's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Plante & Moran, PLLC

October 27, 2016

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

The discussion and analysis of Aspire Charter Academy's (the "Academy") financial performance provides an overall review of the Academy's financial activities as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Academy's financial performance as a whole. It should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes to the financial statements, which immediately follow this section.

Using this Annual Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the Academy financially as a whole. The Academy-wide financial statements provide information about the activities of the whole Academy, presenting both an aggregate view of the Academy's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. The fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental activities, these statements tell how services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements look at the Academy's operations in more detail than the Academy-wide financial statements by providing information about the Academy's most significant fund—the General Fund — with the other funds presented in one column as the nonmajor funds.

Management Discussion and Analysis
(Required Supplemental Information)

Basic Financial Statements

Academy-wide Financial Statements

Fund Financial Statements

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

(Required Supplemental Information)

Budgetary Information for the Governmental Funds

(Additional Information)

Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Nonmajor Governmental Funds

Reporting the Academy as a whole - Academy-wide Financial Statements

One of the most important questions asked about the Academy is, "As a whole, what is the Academy's financial condition as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, which appear first in the Academy's financial statements, report information on the Academy as a whole and its activities in a way that helps you answer this question. We prepare these statements to include all assets and liabilities, using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

The Academy's Statement of Net Position — the difference between assets and liabilities, as reported in the Statement of Net Position — is one way to measure the Academy's financial position. The relationship between revenues and expenses is the Academy's operating results. The Academy's goal is to provide services to our students, not to generate profits as private sector companies do. One must consider nonfinancial factors, such as the quality of the education provided and the safety of the Academy, to assess the overall health of the Academy.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report the activities of the Academy, all of which are classified as governmental. These activities encompass all the Academy's services, including instruction, support services and food services. State aid (based on student count) and state and federal grants finance most of these activities. The Academy has entered into a services agreement (the "agreement") with National Heritage Academies, Inc. (NHA) which requires NHA to provide administration, strategic planning and all labor, materials, equipment, and supervision necessary for the provision of educational services to students. As part of the consideration received under the agreement, NHA also provides the facility in which the Academy operates. Under the terms of the agreement, NHA receives as remuneration for its services an amount equal to the total revenue received by the Academy from all revenue sources.

Reporting the Academy's Fund Financial Statements

The Academy's fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds – not the Academy as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by state law. However, the Academy establishes other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or as required by state law (the School Lunch Fund is an example). The governmental funds of the Academy use the following accounting approach:

Governmental Funds – All of the Academy's services are reported in governmental funds. Governmental fund reporting focuses on showing how money flows into and out of funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. They are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting. Only those revenues that are "measurable" and "currently available" are reported. Liabilities are recognized when incurred. The governmental fund statements provide a short-term view of the operations of the Academy and the services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Academy's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the State of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds in reconciliations presented as part of the statements.

The Academy as a Whole

Recall that the Statement of Net Position provides the perspective of the Academy as a whole. The table below provides a summary of the Academy's net position as of June 30:

	2016	2015
Assets:		
Current assets	\$ 266,952	\$ 2,911,901
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>91,588</u>	<u>110,538</u>
Total assets	358,540	3,022,439
Liabilities - current	<u>239,500</u>	<u>2,873,626</u>
Net position:		
Invested in capital assets	91,588	110,538
Restricted - School Service Fund	-	668
Unrestricted	<u>27,452</u>	<u>37,607</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 119,040</u>	<u>\$ 148,813</u>

The unrestricted net position of governmental activities represent the accumulated results of life to date operations. These assets can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints such as legislative or legal requirements. The results of the current-year operations for the Academy as a whole are reported in the statement of activities, which shows the change in net position.

The results of operations for the Academy as a whole are reported in the summarized Statements of Activities (below) which show the changes in net position for the fiscal years ended June 30:

	2016	2015
Revenues:		
State aid	\$ 4,969,280	\$ 5,129,199
State aid reduction (Note 5)	(2,544,248)	-
Operating grants	2,166,275	2,246,331
Charges for services	80	174
Private sources - NHA	<u>2,362,305</u>	<u>-</u>
Total revenues	6,953,692	7,375,704
Expenses—		
Contracted service fee:		
Instruction	3,269,203	3,648,639
Support services	3,223,932	3,296,225
Food services	471,380	432,019
Depreciation (unallocated)	<u>18,950</u>	<u>19,520</u>
Total expenses	<u>6,983,465</u>	<u>7,396,403</u>
Change in net position	<u>\$ (29,773)</u>	<u>\$ (20,699)</u>

As reported in the statement of activities, the cost of governmental activities was \$6,983,465 for 2016. These activities were primarily funded by the Academy's state and local aid (based on student count) and governments that subsidized certain programs with grants. Revenues – *Private sources* – *NHA* represent a contribution granted by NHA for excess of Academy expenditures over public revenues available.

The Academy experienced a decrease in net position of \$29,773. Under the terms of the agreement with NHA, NHA provides a spending account to the board of directors for discretionary expenditures on an annual basis. The primary reason for the change in net assets is the timing of these discretionary expenditures.

A reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities appears on page 12.

Fund Financial Statements

As we noted earlier, the Academy uses funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes or as required by state law. Looking at funds helps the reader to consider whether the Academy is being accountable for the resources that the State and others provide to it and may provide more insight into the Academy's overall financial health.

The Academy's instruction and support services activities are reported in the General Fund. The School Lunch Fund represents food service activities, the Textbook Rental Fund represents activities related to textbook rentals, and the federal grant funds represent the activities for the federal grants other than child nutrition. The Academy's combined fund balance was \$27,452 at June 30, 2016.

A reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position appears on page 11.

Budgetary Highlights

Over the course of the year, the Academy revises its budget to reflect changes in revenues and expenditures. State law requires that the budget be amended to ensure that expenditures do not exceed appropriations. A schedule showing the Academy's original and final budget amounts compared with amounts actually paid and received is provided in the required supplemental information of these financial statements.

Budgeted revenues were increased by \$158,072 from the original budget. Revenues were changed to reflect the following:

State Aid	Decrease
Other State Sources	Increase
Federal Sources	Increase
Private Sources - NHA	Decrease

Budgeted expenditures were increased by \$196,347. This change was to reflect the change in anticipated funding. Significant variances between the final budget and the actual amount is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Capital Assets

At June 30, 2016, the Academy had \$91,588 invested in capital assets from board discretionary funds, primarily other equipment. Capital assets are substantially provided as part of the agreement with NHA.

General Economic Factors

The Academy depends on legislative and governmental support to fund its operations. Based on information currently available, no significant changes are expected to occur in the nature of the funding or operations of the Academy in 2017.

Contacting the Academy's Financial Management

The financial report is designed to provide users of the report with a general overview of the Academy's finances and to demonstrate the Academy's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report, contact the Chief Financial Officer of National Heritage Academies, Inc., 3850 Broadmoor SE, Ste. 201, Grand Rapids, MI 49512.

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2016

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS:	
Cash	\$ 100,945
Due from governmental revenue sources	<u>166,007</u>
Total current assets	<u>266,952</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:	
Capital assets	191,883
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(100,295)</u>
Total capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>91,588</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 358,540</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	
LIABILITIES:	
Unearned revenue	\$ 18,196
Contracted service fee payable	<u>221,304</u>
Total liabilities	<u>239,500</u>
NET POSITION:	
Invested in capital assets	91,588
Unrestricted	<u>27,452</u>
Total net position	<u>119,040</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 358,540</u>

See notes to financial statements.

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

	Expenses	Program Revenues		Governmental Activities Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants	
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS				
Governmental activities:				
Contracted service fee:				
Instruction	\$ 3,269,203	\$ -	\$ 955,612	\$ (2,313,591)
Support services	3,223,932	-	782,871	(2,441,061)
Food services	471,380	80	427,792	(43,508)
Depreciation (unallocated)	<u>18,950</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,950)</u>
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 6,983,465</u>	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 2,166,275</u>	(4,817,110)
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUES:				
State aid unrestricted				4,969,280
State aid reduction (Note 5)				(2,544,248)
Private sources - NHA				<u>2,362,305</u>
Total general purpose revenue				<u>4,787,337</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION				(29,773)
NET POSITION:				
Beginning of year				<u>148,813</u>
End of year				<u>\$ 119,040</u>

See notes to financial statements.

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

**BALANCE SHEET — GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2016**

	General Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash	\$ 100,945	\$ -	\$ 100,945
Due from governmental revenue sources	<u>2,365</u>	<u>163,642</u>	<u>166,007</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 103,310</u>	<u>\$ 163,642</u>	<u>\$ 266,952</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE			
LIABILITIES:			
Unearned revenue	\$ 14,012	\$ 4,184	\$ 18,196
Contracted service fee payable	<u>61,846</u>	<u>124,526</u>	<u>186,372</u>
Total liabilities	<u>75,858</u>	<u>128,710</u>	<u>204,568</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:			
Unavailable revenue	<u>-</u>	<u>34,932</u>	<u>34,932</u>
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	<u>75,858</u>	<u>163,642</u>	<u>239,500</u>
FUND BALANCE:			
Committed	14,436	-	14,436
Unassigned	<u>13,016</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,016</u>
Total fund balance	<u>27,452</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,452</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 103,310</u>	<u>\$ 163,642</u>	<u>\$ 266,952</u>
RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION			
Total governmental fund balance			\$ 27,452
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in the funds:			
Capital assets cost		\$ 191,883	
Accumulated depreciation		<u>(100,295)</u>	91,588
Due from governmental revenue sources not available to pay current period expenditures therefore deferred in the funds			34,932
Contracted service fee payable not due and payable in the current period and not reported in the funds			<u>(34,932)</u>
Net position of governmental activities			<u>\$ 119,040</u>

See notes to financial statements.

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES — GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

	General Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
State aid	\$ 4,969,280	\$ -	\$ 4,969,280
State aid reduction (Note 5)	(2,544,248)	-	(2,544,248)
Other state sources	600,728	52,755	653,483
Federal sources	-	1,557,557	1,557,557
Private sources	14,182	80	14,262
Private sources - NHA	<u>2,362,305</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,362,305</u>
Total revenues	<u>5,402,247</u>	<u>1,610,392</u>	<u>7,012,639</u>
EXPENDITURES — Contracted service fee:			
Instruction	2,086,867	1,182,336	3,269,203
Food services	-	471,380	471,380
Support services	<u>3,282,879</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,282,879</u>
Total expenditures	<u>5,369,746</u>	<u>1,653,716</u>	<u>7,023,462</u>
REVENUES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	32,501	(43,324)	(10,823)
OTHER FINANCING (USES) SOURCES — Operating transfers (out) in			
	<u>(42,656)</u>	<u>42,656</u>	<u>-</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	(10,155)	(668)	(10,823)
FUND BALANCE — Beginning of year	<u>37,607</u>	<u>668</u>	<u>38,275</u>
FUND BALANCE — End of year	<u>\$ 27,452</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 27,452</u>
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES			
Net change in fund balance — total governmental funds			\$ (10,823)
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures, in the statement of activities these costs are allocated over their useful lives as depreciation			(18,950)
Revenue reported in the statement of activities that does not provide current financial resources and are not reported as revenue in the governmental funds			34,932
Revenue reported in the governmental funds as available and measurable — reported in the statement of activities in prior years			93,879
Contracted service fee recognized consistent with the revenue policy			<u>(128,811)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities			<u>\$ (29,773)</u>

See notes to financial statements.

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND REPORTING ENTITY

Aspire Charter Academy (the "Academy") is a public benefit not-for-profit organization established under the laws of the State of Indiana that provides education based on rigorous teaching methods, parental involvement, student responsibility, and basic moral values. The Academy provides education, at no cost to the parent, to students in kindergarten through the eighth grade. Enrollment is open to all appropriately aged children without regard to gender, ethnic background, disability, and/or religious affiliation.

The Academy operates a public charter school established under Indiana Code 20-24-3-1 and is sponsored by Ball State University, which is responsible for oversight of the Academy's operations. Under this Charter, the Academy has agreed to pay to Ball State University an annual administrative fee equal to 3% of the state tuition support, which is included in the expenses assumed by NHA as described above. This amounted to approximately \$115,871 for the fiscal year 2016. The charter expires on June 30, 2019. Management believes the charter will continue to be renewed in the ordinary course of business.

The Academy is exempt from taxation as a governmental entity pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 115. The Academy qualifies for public charity status by meeting the requirements of Internal Revenue Code Sections 509(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).

The Board of Directors of the Academy has entered into a management agreement (the "agreement") with National Heritage Academies, Inc. (NHA) which requires NHA to provide administration, strategic planning and all labor, materials, equipment, and supervision necessary for the provision of educational services to students. As part of the consideration received under the agreement, NHA also provides the facility in which the Academy operates. The agreement will continue until the termination or expiration of the charter contract, unless at least 90 days written notice of intent to terminate or renegotiate is given by either the Academy or NHA.

Under the terms of the agreement, NHA receives all Academy revenue from all sources as their contracted service fee. NHA is entitled to any difference between the gross management fee and the operating costs of the school as compensation for management services rendered.

The financial reporting entity consists of the Academy and organizations for which the Academy is financially accountable. All funds, organizations, institutions, agencies, departments, and offices that are not legally separate are part of the Academy. In addition, any legally separate organizations for which the Academy is financially accountable are considered part of the reporting entity. Financial accountability exists if the Academy appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing body and is able to impose its will on the organization, or if the organization provided benefits to, or imposes financial burdens on the Academy. The Academy's financial reporting entity is composed of the following:

Primary Government: Aspire Charter Academy

In determining the financial reporting entity, the Academy complies with the provisions of Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Academy-wide and Fund Financial Statements — The Academy-wide financial statements (Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. All the Academy's government-wide activities are considered governmental activities.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenue includes (a) charges to customers or applicants who purchase use or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Revenues not classified as program revenues are reported instead as general revenue.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

Academy-wide Statements — The Academy-wide statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the Academy-wide financial statements.

When an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position, or fund balance are available, the Academy's policy is to first apply restricted resources. When an expense is incurred for purposes which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used, it is the Academy's policy to spend funds in this order: committed, assigned and unassigned.

Fund Based Statements — Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recognized as soon as it is both measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available if it is collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the Academy considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Revenue not meeting this definition is classified as a deferred inflow of resources. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. The contracted service fee to NHA is recorded consistent with the recognition of revenue. Interfund transfers are used to subsidize operations of the School Lunch Fund.

Fund Classification — The financial activities of the Academy are organized on the basis of funds. The operation of each fund is accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, fund balance, revenues, and expenditures. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

The Academy reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund — The general fund is the primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Additionally, the Academy reports the following fund types:

Special Revenue Funds – Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted to expenditure for specified purposes. The School District’s Special Revenue Funds include the School Lunch Fund, Textbook Rental Fund, and federal grant funds. Any operating deficit generated by these activities is the responsibility of the General Fund.

Estimates — The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“generally accepted accounting principles”) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenses and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash — Cash as of June 30, 2016 represents bank deposits, which are covered by federal depository insurance. Accordingly, there are no investments which are required to be categorized according to risk.

Unavailable and Unearned Revenue — Unavailable revenue is reported in connection with receivables for revenue that is not considered available and measurable to liquidate liabilities of the current period. Unearned revenue is reported in connection with funds that have been received for services which have not been performed and is therefore not yet earned. As of June 30, 2016, a deferred inflow for unavailable revenue was recognized for \$34,932 and a liability for unearned revenue was recognized for \$18,196.

Contracted Service Fee Payable — Contracted service fee payable as of June 30, 2016, represents a timing difference between funds received from governmental sources and amounts payable to NHA in accordance with the services agreement.

Capital Assets — Capital assets, which include other equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental column in the government-wide financial statements at historical cost. Capital assets are defined by the Academy as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year.

Other equipment is depreciated using the straight-line method over useful lives of 3–10 years, and leasehold improvements of 30 years.

Fund Balance — Fund balances may be classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned. The terms nonspendable and restricted are used either to indicate that certain assets do not represent spendable resources available for general educational programs or to earmark a portion of fund balance as legally segregated for a specific future use. The term committed represents amounts that can only be used for the specific purpose determined by a formal resolution of the board. The term assigned is used to classify the fund balance intended to be used by the board, but does not meet the criteria to be restricted or committed. The term unassigned is used for amounts that have not been restricted, committed, or otherwise assigned for future uses. At June 30, 2016, the Academy had \$14,436 in committed fund balance and \$13,016 in unassigned fund balance. The committed fund balance has been committed by resolutions of the board for student, parent and staff appreciation, staff retreat, athletics, and board training and development.

3. BUDGETARY INFORMATION

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis utilizing accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and consistent with state law for the general and special revenue funds. The budget document presents information by fund and function. State law requires the Academy to have its budget in place by July 1. The budgets can be amended by the Board of Directors as considered necessary. The budgets were amended to increase budgeted revenues and expenditures by \$158,072 and \$196,347, respectively. During the year, the Academy incurred contracted service fee expenditures which were in excess of the amounts budgeted due to the reserve for uncollectible accounts of \$2,544,248 (see Note 5), with a final budget and actual amounts of \$7,454,926 and \$9,567,710, respectively.

4. DEPOSITS

Deposits, made in accordance with Indiana Code 5-13 with financial institutions in the State of Indiana at June 30, 2016, were entirely insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or by the Indiana Public Deposit Insurance Fund. This includes any deposit accounts issued or offered by a qualifying financial institution. At June 30, 2016, the Academy had a deposit balance in the amount of \$101,420.

5. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

The Academy's accounts receivable balance consists of amounts due from the State of Indiana for tuition support relating to fiscal year 2013.

Pursuant to IC § 20-49-7, the State Board of Education was authorized to advance funds to charter schools via the State's Common School Fund thereby allowing charter schools to finance operations for periods when adequate tuition support was not received. These cash advances were made to charter schools through executed loan agreements with repayment terms that are defined in the statute.

In April 2013, the Indiana General Assembly repealed IC § 20-49-7 with the passing of House Bill 1001 and established an appropriation to forgive charter schools for cash advances previously made through the Common School Fund. The amounts forgiven under House Bill 1001 were to be applied against the related accounts receivable balance previously recorded by the School. The Academy did not receive funds from the Common School Fund and as such, no amount was forgiven by the State.

Members of the Indiana General Assembly have been informed that a number of charter schools remain with an accounts receivable balance and those charter schools believe that the State remains obligated for amounts not reimbursed through the provisions of House Bill 1001. Efforts are being made to resolve any outstanding obligations but at this time, the outstanding receivables have not been resolved. The Academy has recorded reduction in state aid in the amount of \$2,544,248 related to the amount not reimbursed through the provisions of House Bill 1001. The balance of \$166,007 in account receivable relates to routine amounts due from other state programs and federal programs.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Academy is exposed to various risks of loss related to general liability. Commercial insurance policies to cover certain risks of loss have been obtained. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage during fiscal year 2016, and claims did not exceed coverage less retained risk deductible amounts in the past three fiscal years.

7. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity of the Academy's governmental activities for the year ended June 30, 2016, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Disposals	Ending Balance
Governmental activities —				
Other equipment	\$ 240,533	\$ -	\$ (48,650)	\$ 191,883
Total capital assets at historical cost	<u>240,533</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(48,650)</u>	<u>191,883</u>
Less accumulated depreciation —				
Other equipment	<u>(129,995)</u>	<u>(18,950)</u>	<u>48,650</u>	<u>(100,295)</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(129,995)</u>	<u>(18,950)</u>	<u>48,650</u>	<u>(100,295)</u>
Total governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 110,538</u>	<u>\$ (18,950)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 91,588</u>

8. CONTINGENCIES

The Academy has received proceeds from several federal and state grants. Periodic audits of these grants are required and certain costs may be questioned as not being appropriate expenditures under the grant agreements. Such audits could result in the refund of grant monies to the grantor agencies. Management believes that any required refunds will be immaterial. No provision has been made in the accompanying financial statements for the refund of grant monies.

9. OPERATING LEASE

The Academy has entered into a sublease agreement with NHA for a facility to house the Academy. The lease term is from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016. Annual rental payments required by the lease are \$912,804 payable in twelve monthly payments of \$76,067. This lease is automatically renewed on a year-to-year basis unless a notice of non-renewal is provided by either the Academy or NHA.

The Academy subsequently renewed the sublease with NHA for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, at the same rental rate.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016**

	Original Budget	Final Amended Budget	Actual	(Under) Over Final Budget
REVENUES:				
State Aid	\$ 5,130,582	\$ 5,005,185	\$ 4,969,280	\$ (35,905)
State aid reduction - Note 5	-	-	(2,544,298)	(2,544,298)
Other State Sources	243,965	579,505	653,483	73,978
Federal Sources	1,790,948	1,831,961	1,557,557	(274,404)
Private Sources	-	-	14,262	14,262
Private Sources - NHA	93,084	-	2,362,305	2,362,305
Total Revenues	<u>7,258,579</u>	<u>7,416,651</u>	<u>7,012,589</u>	<u>(404,062)</u>
EXPENDITURES - Contracted Service Fee	<u>7,258,579</u>	<u>7,454,926</u>	<u>7,023,412</u>	<u>(431,514)</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	(38,275)	(10,823)	27,452
FUND BALANCE - Beginning of year	<u>-</u>	<u>38,275</u>	<u>38,275</u>	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCE - End of year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 27,452</u>	<u>\$ 27,452</u>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

	School Lunch	Textbook Rental	Title I	Title IIA	Totals
Revenue:					
Private sources	\$ 80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80
State sources	-	52,755	-	-	52,755
Federal sources	427,976	-	1,054,991	74,590	1,557,557
Total Revenue	<u>428,056</u>	<u>52,755</u>	<u>1,054,991</u>	<u>74,590</u>	<u>1,610,392</u>
Expenditures:					
Contracted service fee	471,380	52,755	1,054,991	74,590	1,653,716
Total expenditures	<u>471,380</u>	<u>52,755</u>	<u>1,054,991</u>	<u>74,590</u>	<u>1,653,716</u>
REVENUES UNDER EXPENDITURES	<u>(43,324)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(43,324)</u>
Other financing sources - Transfers in	42,656	-	-	-	42,656
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	<u>(668)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(668)</u>
Fund Balance - beginning	668	-	-	-	668
Fund Balance - ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

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

To Management and the Board of Directors
Aspire Charter Academy

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 the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Aspire Charter Academy (the "Academy") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 27, 2016.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Aspire Charter Academy'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 Academy's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy'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 Academy'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.

To Management and the Board of Directors
Aspire Charter Academy

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Aspire Charter Academy'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 Academy'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 Academy's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Plante & Moran, PLLC

October 27, 2016

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program;
Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors
Aspire Charter Academy

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Aspire Charter Academy's (the "Academy") compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Compliance Supplement that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2016. Aspire Charter Academy's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to its federal program.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Aspire Charter Academy's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above.

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* (the "Uniform Guidance"). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Aspire Charter Academy's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of Aspire Charter Academy's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, Aspire Charter Academy complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2016.

To the Board of Directors
Aspire Charter Academy

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of Aspire Charter Academy is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered Aspire Charter Academy's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy's 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 program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a 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 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 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 first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

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. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Plante & Moran, PLLC

October 27, 2016

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016**

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title Grant Number	Federal CFDA Number	Project / Award Number	Total Federal Awards Expended June 30, 2016
U.S. Department of Agriculture—			
Passed through the Indiana Department of Education:			
Child Nutrition Cluster - Cash Assistance:			
National School Breakfast Program	10.553	N/A	\$ 77,974
National School Lunch Program	10.555	N/A	<u>349,818</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			427,792
U.S. Department of Education—			
Passed through the Indiana Department of Education:			
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies			
2015	84.010	15-9685	38,966
2016		16-9685	<u>1,042,583</u>
Total Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies			1,081,549
Title II Improving Teacher Quality			
2014	84.367	14-9685	35,157
2015		15-9685	(16,460)
2016		16-9685	<u>10,329</u>
Total Title II Improving Teacher Quality			29,026
Special Education Cluster:			
IDEA Part B	84.027	14215-526-PN01	<u>(38,811)</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education			<u>1,071,764</u>
Total			<u>\$ 1,499,556</u>

Aspire Charter Academy

Reconciliation of Basic Financial Statements Federal Revenue with Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Year Ended June 30, 2016

Revenue from federal sources - As reported on financial statements (includes all funds)	\$ 1,557,557
Revenue reported in the statement of activities that does not provide current financial resources and is not reported as revenue in the governmental funds	34,933
Revenue reported in the governmental funds as available and measurable - Reported in the statement of activities in prior years	<u>(92,934)</u>
Federal expenditures per the schedule of expenditures of federal awards	<u>\$ 1,499,556</u>

Aspire Charter Academy

Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Year Ended June 30, 2016

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal grant activity of Aspire Charter Academy under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2016. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (the "Uniform Guidance"). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of Aspire Charter Academy, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows, if applicable, of Aspire Charter Academy.

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the same basis of accounting as the basic financial statements. Such expenditures are recognized following, as applicable, either the cost principles in OMB Circular A-87 or the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Negative amounts shown on the Schedule represent adjustments or credits made in the normal course of business to amounts reported as expenditures in prior years. Pass-through entity identifying numbers are presented where available. Aspire Charter Academy had no funds transferred to subrecipients during the year ended June 30, 2016. Aspire Charter Academy has not elected to use the 10 percent *de minimus* indirect cost rate to recover indirect costs as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Aspire Charter Academy

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs Year Ended June 30, 2016

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? Yes X No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes X None reported
- Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? Yes X No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? Yes X No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? 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 Section 2 CFR 200.516 (a)? Yes X No

Identification of major programs:

<u>CFDA Numbers</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
84.010	Title I, Part A

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

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? X Yes No

Section II - Financial Statement Audit Findings

None

Section III - Federal Program Audit Findings

None

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

**STATE SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016**

IV. STATE FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS SECTION

None

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR STATE AUDIT FINDINGS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

Prior year Finding Number	State Program	Original Finding Description	Status	Planned Corrective Action
2015-001	N/A	The Academy does not use certain state-prescribed forms. The Academy uses electronic forms (created by the Academy's accounting system). The use of other-than-prescribed forms is allowed only with prior approval by the State Board of Accounts.	Corrected	Not applicable

ASPIRE CHARTER ACADEMY

EXIT CONFERENCE FOR STATE COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

The content of this report was discussed on October 27, 2016, with Steve Conley, Chief Financial Officer, and Ann Strahota, Director of Audit.