

**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE**  
**ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

A Charter School and Component Unit of the  
District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
*for the fiscal year ended JUNE 30, 2020*

*King & Walker, CPAs, PL*

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*Certified Public Accountants*

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**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**  
A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

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Members:  
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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Board of Directors of Independence Academy  
(A Charter School under Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc.),  
a Charter School and Component Unit of the  
District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Independence Academy (“School”), a charter school under Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc., and a component unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School’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 *Governmental 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 School’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 School’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.

## ***Opinions***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the School, as of June 30, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## ***Emphasis of Matter***

As described in Note 1, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present only the financial position of the School at June 30, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended, and is not intended to be a complete presentation of Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc. These financial statements do not purport to and do not present fairly the financial position of Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc. as of June 30, 2020, and its changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## ***Other Matters***

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Budgetary Comparison Schedule, and Note to Required Supplementary Information, as shown 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 historic 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 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 Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 30, 2020 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 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 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 the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,



September 30, 2020  
Tampa, Florida

# **INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**

**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

*A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida*

## **MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)**

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The Management’s Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section of the annual financial report of Independence Academy (“School”), a charter school under Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc. provides an overview of the School’s activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.

Because the information contained in the MD&A is intended to highlight significant transactions, events, and conditions, it should be considered in conjunction with the School’s financial statements and notes to financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the School’s expenses exceeded revenues as shown on the School’s statement of activities by \$1,223,433.
- As shown on the statement of net position, the School reported an unrestricted net position balance of \$1,341,113.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The basic financial statements consist of three components:

- ✓ Government-wide financial statements
- ✓ Fund financial statements
- ✓ Notes to financial statements

#### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements provide both short-term and long-term information about the School’s overall financial condition in a manner similar to those of a private-sector business. The statements include a statement of net position and a statement of activities that are designed to provide consolidated financial information about the governmental activities of the School presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The statement of net position provides information about the government’s financial position, its assets and liabilities, using an economic resources measurement focus. The difference between the assets and liabilities, the net position, is a measure of the financial health of the School. The statement of activities presents information about the change in the School’s net position and the results of operations, during the fiscal year. An increase or decrease in net position is an indication of whether the School’s financial health is improving or deteriorating. To assess the overall financial position of the School, one needs to consider additional non-financial factors such as changes in the School student base funding level.

# INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY

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*A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida*

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)

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### **Fund Financial Statements**

Fund financial statements are one of the components of the basic financial statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the School's financial activities, focusing on its most significant funds rather than fund types. This is in contrast to the entity-wide perspective contained in the government-wide statements.

Governmental Funds: Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, the governmental funds utilize a spendable financial resources measurement focus rather than the economic resources measurement focus found in the government-wide financial statements. The financial resources measurement focus allows the governmental fund statements to provide information on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources as well as balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view that may be used to evaluate the School's near-term financing requirements. This short-term view is useful when compared to the long-term view presented as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. To facilitate this comparison, both the governmental funds balance sheet and the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation of governmental fund to governmental activities.

The governmental funds balance sheet and statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide detailed information about the School's most significant funds. The School operates the following funds: a General Fund to account for its general operations and internal account activities; a Debt Service Fund to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for principal and interest; and a Capital Projects Fund to account for charter school capital outlay funding to be used for lease, rent or construction of school facilities. All funds are considered are major funds for financial reporting purposes.

The School adopts an annual budget for its governmental funds. A budgetary comparison schedule, as required, has been provided for the General Fund to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

The notes provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

# INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY

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A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)

### GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The following is a summary of the School's current and prior year net position:

	Net Position, End of Year		
	Governmental Activities		
	6-30-19	6-30-20	Increase (Decrease)
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current and Other Assets	\$ 4,014,344	\$ 2,907,184	\$ (1,107,160)
Capital Assets, Net	16,433,286	16,042,892	(390,394)
Total Assets	<u>20,447,630</u>	<u>18,950,076</u>	<u>(1,497,554)</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current Liabilities	449,805	507,097	57,292
Long Term Liabilities	18,010,909	17,679,496	(331,413)
Total Liabilities	<u>18,460,714</u>	<u>18,186,593</u>	<u>(274,121)</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(1,577,623)	(1,636,604)	(58,981)
Restricted for Debt Service	1,046,385	1,058,974	12,589
Unrestricted	2,518,154	1,341,113	(1,177,041)
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 1,986,916</u>	<u>\$ 763,483</u>	<u>\$ (1,223,433)</u>

The School's current and other assets primarily consist of cash & cash equivalents and restricted investments included as cash equivalents for the School's bonded debt. Capital assets consist of land, buildings, improvements other than buildings, and furniture, fixtures, and equipment net of accumulated depreciation. Current liabilities primarily consist of accrued salaries and benefits payable and accounts payable to vendors. Long-Term liabilities consist of outstanding bonded debt.

Total net position amounted to \$763,483 as of June 30, 2020, representing a decrease of \$1,223,433 over the prior fiscal year.



# INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY

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A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)

The following is a summary of the School's change in net position for the current year and prior year:

	<b>Operating Results for the Year</b>		
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	<u>6-30-19</u>	<u>6-30-20</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Federal Through State and Local	\$ 7,869	\$ -	\$ (7,869)
State Sources	6,776,254	7,090,767	314,513
Local and Other	629,400	443,111	(186,289)
Special Item - Intercompany Transfer		(1,570,426)	(1,570,426)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>7,413,523</u>	<u>5,963,452</u>	<u>(1,450,071)</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Instruction	3,189,849	3,407,176	217,327
Pupil Personnel Services	477	24,736	24,259
Instructional Media	7,670	721	(6,949)
Instr. & Curriculum Development	49,496	59,987	10,491
Instructional Staff Training	8,338	5,170	(3,168)
Instructional-Related Technology	42,665	136,465	93,800
Board of Education	40,440	51,632	11,192
General Administration	844,711	787,720	(56,991)
School Administration	471,231	493,342	22,111
Facilities Acq. & Construction	1,089,703		(1,089,703)
Fiscal Services	151	347	196
Food Services	27,798		(27,798)
Central Services	1,750	3,398	1,648
Pupil Transportation	3,247	21,045	17,798
Operation of Plant	475,132	553,442	78,310
Maintenance of Plant	72,971	85,766	12,795
Administrative Technology Services		1,594	1,594
Community Service	317,834	251,809	(66,025)
Debt Service - Interest & Fiscal Charges	664,524	838,236	173,712
Unallocated Depreciation	104,396	464,299	359,903
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>7,412,383</u>	<u>7,186,885</u>	<u>(225,498)</u>
<b>Increase in Net Position</b>	<u>\$ 1,140</u>	<u>\$ (1,223,433)</u>	<u>\$ (1,224,573)</u>

The largest revenue source for the School is the State of Florida (94%). Revenues from State sources for current operations are primarily received through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) funding formula. The FEFP formula utilizes student enrollment data to determine the funds available for the School.

The largest concentrations of expenses were for Instruction related functions (51%), which primarily consisted of teacher salaries, General Administration (11%), which primarily consisted of contract management fees and district administration charges, and Debt Service (12%), which consisted of interest and fiscal charges associated with the School's bond issue.

# **INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**

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*A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida*

## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)**

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### **FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL'S FUNDS**

#### **Governmental Funds**

As the School completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$2,400,087.

#### **BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The budgets for the General Fund for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, were developed based on the School's anticipated revenues and expenditures and the expected student population for the school year. Over the course of the year, the School revised each fund's budget. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the actual expenditures were equal to the final budget. Refer to the Budgetary Comparison Schedule for additional information regarding the General Fund budget.

#### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

The School's capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2020, amounts to \$16,042,892 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings, improvements other than buildings, and furniture, fixtures, and equipment. Additional information regarding the School's capital assets can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

At June 30, 2020, the School had \$17,679,496 outstanding as a result of previously issued debt to finance the purchase of the School's educational facility and land. Additional information about the School's Debt is presented in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET**

Facts, decisions, or conditions that are expected to have a significant effect on the financial position or results of operations of the School in fiscal year 2020-21 include:

- Continued funding from FEFP.
- Expected increase in enrollment.

#### **REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the School's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to Director, Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc., 12902 East US Highway 92, Dover, Florida 33527.

**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

*June 30, 2020*

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,741,087
Investments - Restricted	1,119,328
Accounts Receivable	30,049
Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	16,720
Capital Assets:	
Land	2,037,500
Buildings, Net	13,821,042
Improvements Other Than Buildings, Net	99,960
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment, Net	84,390
Total Capital Assets, Net	<u>16,042,892</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>18,950,076</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts Payable	182,936
Salaries and Benefits Payable	322,793
Due to Other Agencies	1,368
Long Term Liabilities:	
Due in One Year - Bonds Payable	189,864
Due After One Year - Bonds Payable	<u>17,489,632</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u><b>18,186,593</b></u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(1,636,604)
Restricted for Debt Service	1,058,974
Unrestricted	1,341,113
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<u><u><b>\$ 763,483</b></u></u>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020*

		Program Revenues			Net (Expenses)
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
					Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:					
Instruction	\$ 3,407,176	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (3,407,176)
Pupil Personnel Services	24,736				(24,736)
Instructional Media	721				(721)
Instruction & Curriculum Development	59,987				(59,987)
Instructional Staff Training	5,170				(5,170)
Instructional-Related Technology	136,465				(136,465)
Board of Education	51,632				(51,632)
General Administration	787,720				(787,720)
School Administration	493,342				(493,342)
Fiscal Services	347				(347)
Central Services	3,398				(3,398)
Pupil Transportation	21,045				(21,045)
Operation of Plant	553,442				(553,442)
Maintenance of Plant	85,766				(85,766)
Administrative Technology Services	1,594				(1,594)
Community Service	251,809	243,924			(7,885)
Debt Service - Interest & Fiscal Charges	838,236			474,777	(363,459)
Unallocated Depreciation	464,299				(464,299)
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$ 7,186,885</b>	<b>\$ 243,924</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 474,777</b>	<b>(6,468,184)</b>
 Revenues:					
State Sources					6,615,990
Grants and Contributions not restricted to specific program					62,843
Local and Other					136,344
Special Item - Intercompany Transfer					(1,570,426)
Total Revenues					5,244,751
Change in Net Position					(1,223,433)
Net Position - July 1, 2019					1,986,916
Net Position - June 30, 2020					\$ 763,483

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

*June 30, 2020*

	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,741,087	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,741,087
Investments - Restricted		1,119,328		1,119,328
Accounts Receivable	30,049			30,049
Due from Other Funds		30,419		30,419
Prepaid Expenses and Deposits	16,720			16,720
Total Assets	\$ 1,787,856	\$ 1,149,747	\$ -	\$ 2,937,603
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 92,163	\$ 90,773	\$ -	\$ 182,936
Salaries and Benefits Payable	322,793			322,793
Due to Other Agencies	1,368			1,368
Due to Other Funds	30,419			30,419
Total Liabilities	446,743	90,773	-	537,516
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>				
Nonspendable	16,720			16,720
Restricted		1,058,974	-	1,058,974
Unassigned	1,324,393			1,324,393
Total Fund Balances	1,341,113	1,058,974	-	2,400,087
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 1,787,856	\$ 1,149,747	\$ -	\$ 2,937,603

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**  
**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET**  
**TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**  
*June 30, 2020*

<b>Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds</b>	\$	2,400,087
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the governmental funds. Long-term liabilities at year-end consist of a notes payable.		(17,679,496)
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported as assets in governmental funds.		<u>16,042,892</u>
<b>Total Net Position - Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u><u>763,483</u></u></b>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES**  
**IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020*

	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Capital Projects Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>				
Intergovernmental:				
Federal Through State and Local	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources	6,615,990		474,777	7,090,767
Local and Other	430,522	12,589		443,111
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>7,046,512</b>	<b>12,589</b>	<b>474,777</b>	<b>7,533,878</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current - Education:				
Instruction	3,407,176			3,407,176
Pupil Personnel Services	24,736			24,736
Instructional Media	721			721
Instruction & Curriculum Development	59,987			59,987
Instructional Staff Training	5,170			5,170
Instructional-Related Technology	136,465			136,465
Board of Education	51,632			51,632
General Administration	787,720			787,720
School Administration	493,342			493,342
Fiscal Services	347			347
Central Services	3,398			3,398
Pupil Transportation	21,045			21,045
Operation of Plant	553,442			553,442
Maintenance of Plant	85,766			85,766
Administrative Technology Services	1,594			1,594
Community Service	251,809			251,809
Fixed Capital Outlay:				
Other Capital Outlay	73,905			73,905
Debt Service:				
Principal		297,981		297,981
Interest & Fiscal Charges		396,891	474,777	871,668
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>5,958,255</b>	<b>694,872</b>	<b>474,777</b>	<b>7,127,904</b>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	1,088,257	(682,283)	-	405,974
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Special Item - Intercompany Transfer	(1,570,426)			(1,570,426)
Transfers In		697,416		697,416
Transfers (Out)	(694,872)		(2,544)	(697,416)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(2,265,298)</b>	<b>697,416</b>	<b>(2,544)</b>	<b>(1,570,426)</b>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(1,177,041)	15,133	(2,544)	(1,164,452)
Fund Balances, July 1, 2019	2,518,154	1,043,841	2,544	3,564,539
<b>Fund Balances, June 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$ 1,341,113</b>	<b>\$ 1,058,974</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 2,400,087</b>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF**  
**REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020*

**Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds** \$ (1,164,452)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount of depreciation expense (\$464,299) in excess of capital outlays (\$73,905) in the current period. (390,394)

Governmental funds report the effect of bond premiums when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are amortized in the statement of activities. This amount is the bond premium in the treatment of long-term debt and related items. 33,432

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the payment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. 297,981

**Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities** \$ (1,223,433)

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.



# INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY

(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)

A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June 30, 2020

### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### ➤ Reporting Entity

Independence Academy (“School”), a charter school under Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc. is a component unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida. The School’s charter is held by Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation organized pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, the Florida Not-For-Profit Corporation Act. The governing body of the School is the not-for-profit corporation Board of Directors, which is comprised of not less than three members.

The basic financial statements of the School present only the balances, activity and disclosures related to the School. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc. as of June 30, 2020, and its changes in financial position or budgetary comparisons, where applicable, for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The general operating authority of the School is contained in Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes. The School operates under a charter of the sponsoring school district, the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida, (“District”). The current charter is effective until June 30, 2022, and is subject to annual review and may be renewed by mutual agreement between the School and the District.

At the end of the term of the charter, the District may choose not to renew the charter under grounds specified in the charter. In this case, the District is required to notify the school in writing at least 90 days prior to the charter’s expiration. During the term of the charter, the District may also terminate the charter if good cause is shown. In the event of termination of the charter, the District shall assume operation of the School. The School is considered a component unit of the District; therefore, for financial reporting purposes, the School is required to follow generally accepted accounting principles applicable to state and local governmental units.

Criteria for determining if other entities are potential component units which should be reported within the School's basic financial statements are identified and described in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) *Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards*, Sections 2100 and 2600. The application of these criteria provides for identification of any entities for which the School is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the School are such that exclusion would cause the School's basic financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. Based on these criteria, no component units are included within the reporting entity of the School.

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### ➤ **Basis of Presentation**

Government-wide Financial Statements - Government-wide financial statements, including the statement of net position and the statement of activities, present information about the School as a whole.

Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the School's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and are thereby clearly identifiable to a particular function.

Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and 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 is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the School in the governmental funds. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is reported in a separate column. Because the focus of governmental fund financial statements differs from the focus of government-wide financial statements, a reconciliation is presented with each of the governmental fund financial statements.

The School's major governmental funds are as follows:

- General Fund – to account for all financial resources not required to be accounted for in another fund, and for certain revenues from the State that are legally restricted to be expended for specific current operating purposes.
- Debt Service Fund – to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for principal and interest.
- Capital Projects Fund – to account for financial resources that are restricted, committed or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays.

### ➤ **Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures, or expenses, are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

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The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Revenues from grants, entitlements, and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been satisfied.

Governmental fund financial statements are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, except for certain grant revenues, are recognized when they become measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The School considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 30 days of the end of the current fiscal year. When grant terms provide that the expenditure of resources is the prime factor for determining eligibility for Federal, State, and other grant resources, revenue is recognized at the time the expenditure is made. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, expenditures are generally recognized when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized when due. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation, are not recognized in governmental funds.

### ➤ **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents are defined as demand deposits, money market accounts, and short-term investments with original maturities of eight months or less from date of acquisition. The School considers all demand accounts and money market funds which are not subjected to withdrawal restrictions to be cash and cash equivalents.

The School's deposits must be placed with banks and savings and loans which are qualified as public depositories, prior to receipt of public monies, under Chapter 280, Florida statutes and the School's policy. The School maintains its cash accounts with one qualified public depository. The accounts routinely exceed the federally insured limit of \$250,000. Monies deposited in amounts greater than the insurance coverage are secured by the bank's pledging securities with the state treasurer in the collateral pool. The School has not experienced any losses in such accounts and does not believe it is exposed to any significant credit or custodial risk.

### ➤ **Investments**

The School had not adopted a written investment policy. Therefore, pursuant to Florida Statutes, the School is authorized to invest in the Florida PRIME investment pool, administered by the State Board of Administration (SBA); Securities and Exchange Commission registered money market funds with the highest credit quality rating from a nationally recognized rating agency; interest-

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bearing time deposits and savings accounts in qualified public depositories, as defined by Section 280.02, Florida Statutes; and direct obligations of the United States Treasury.

The School's investments are set aside to make debt service payments, maintain sinking or reserve funds, and to purchase or construct capital assets and are classified as restricted. These investments are reported as restricted in the Debt Service and Capital Projects Funds in the Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds.

### ➤ **Capital Assets**

Expenditures for capital assets acquired or constructed for general School purposes are reported in the governmental fund that financed the acquisition or construction. The capital assets so acquired are reported at cost in the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the governmental fund financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the School as those costing more than \$1,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated assets are recorded at fair value at the date of donation.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	3-5 years
Buildings	35 years
Improvements Other Than Buildings	5-20 years

### ➤ **Noncurrent Liabilities**

Long-term obligations that will be financed by resources to be received in the future by the general fund are reported in the government-wide financial statements, not in the general fund. Capital improvement debt is reported net of unamortized discount. The School amortizes debt discounts over the life of the debt using the straight-line method. Current-year information relative to changes in long-term debt is described in subsequent notes.

### ➤ **Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The School does not have any items that qualify for reporting in this category.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net

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position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until then. The School does not have any items that qualify for reporting in this category.

### ➤ **Net Position and Fund Balance Classification**

#### *Government-wide Financial Statements*

Net Position are classified and reported in three components:

- Net Investment in Capital Assets – consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings that are attributed to the acquisition or improvement of those assets.
- Restricted Net Position – consists of net position with constraints placed on their use either by external groups such as creditors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments.
- Unrestricted Net Position – all other net position that does not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets.”

#### *Fund Financial Statements*

GASB Codification Section 1800.142, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, defines the different types of fund balances that a governmental entity must use for financial reporting purposes. GASB requires the fund balance amounts to be reported within one of the following fund balance categories:

- Nonspendable – fund balance associated with inventories, prepaid expenses, long-term loans and notes receivable, and property held for resale (unless the proceeds are restricted, committed or assigned). All nonspendable fund balances at year end relate to assets that are in nonspendable form.
- Restricted – fund balance that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by the constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.
- Committed – fund balance that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the School’s Board of Governance.
- Assigned – fund balance that is intended to be used by the School’s management for specific purposes but does not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.
- Unassigned – fund balance that is the residual amount for the School’s general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

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### ➤ Order of Fund Balance Spending Policy

The School's policy is to apply expenditures against nonspendable fund balance, restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and unassigned fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. First, nonspendable fund balances are determined. Then restricted fund balances for specific purposes are determined (not including nonspendable amounts). Any remaining fund balance amounts for the non-general funds are to be classified as restricted fund balance. It is possible for the non-general funds to be classified as restricted fund balance. It is possible for the non-general funds to have negative unassigned fund balance when nonspendable amounts plus the amount of restricted fund balances for specific purposes exceed the positive fund balance for non-general fund.

### ➤ Revenue Sources

Revenues for current operations are received primarily from the District pursuant to the funding provisions included in the School's charter. In accordance with the funding provisions of the charter and Section 1002.33(17), Florida Statutes, the School reports the number of full-time equivalent students and related data to the District.

Under provisions of Section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, the District reports the number of full-time equivalent students and related data to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) for funding through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). Funding for the School is adjusted during the year to reflect the revised calculations by the FDOE under the FEFP and the actual weighted full-time equivalent students (FTE) reported by the School during designated full-time equivalent student survey periods. The Department may also adjust subsequent fiscal period allocations based upon an audit of the School's compliance in determining and reporting FTE and related data. Normally, such adjustments are treated as reductions or additions of revenue in the year when the adjustments are made.

The basic amount of funding through the FEFP under Section 1011.62 is the product of the (1) unweighted FTE, multiplied by (2) the cost factor for each program, multiplied by (3) the base student allocation established by the legislature. Additional funds for exceptional students who do not have a matrix of services are provided through the guaranteed allocation designated in Section 1011.62(1)(e)2., Florida Statutes. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the School reported 941.30 unweighted FTE and 993.8812 weighted FTE. Weighted funding represents 4% of total FEFP funding.

FEFP funding may also be adjusted as a result of subsequent FTE audits conducted by the Florida Auditor General pursuant to Section 1010.305, Florida Statutes, and Rule 6A-1.0453, Florida Administrative Code (FAC). Schools are required to maintain the following documentation for three years or until the completion of an FTE audit:

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- Attendance and membership documentation (Rule 6A-1.044, FAC).
- Teacher certificates and other certification documentation (Rule 6A-1.0503, FAC).
- Documentation for instructors teaching out-of-field (Rule 6A-1.0503, FAC).
- Procedural safeguards for weighted programs (Rule 6A-6.03411, FAC).
- Evaluation and planning documents for weighted programs (Section 1010.305, Florida Statutes, and Rule 6A-6.03411, FAC).

The School receives federal or state awards for the enhancement of various educational programs. This assistance is generally received based on applications submitted to and approved by various granting agencies. For federal or state awards in which a claim to these grant proceeds is based on incurring eligible expenditures, revenue is recognized to the extent that eligible expenditures have been incurred.

The School receives state funds through the District under charter school capital outlay funding pursuant to Section 1013.62, Florida Statutes. Funds are based upon a capital outlay plan submitted to the District and are to be used for lease, rent or construction of school facilities. The School also receives funding through donations and fundraising efforts, school lunch sales and local property tax collections.

The School follows the policy of applying restricted resources prior to applying unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted assets are available.

### ➤ **Income Taxes**

The School is exempt from Federal tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been included in the accompanying financial statements. Additionally, no uncertain tax positions have been made requiring disclosure in the related notes to financial statements. The School's income tax returns for the past three years are subject to examination by tax authorities and may change upon examination.

### ➤ **Use of Estimates**

In preparing the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the statement of net position and affect revenues and expenditures for the period presented. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

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### ➤ Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated all events subsequent to the balance sheet date and through the report date, which is the date these financial statements were available to be issued. Management is currently evaluating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the industry and has concluded that while it is reasonably possible that the virus could have a negative effect on the Organization's financial position, results of its operations and/or cash flows, the specific impact is not readily determinable as of the date of these financial statements. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

### 2. CASH DEPOSITS

*Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits.* In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School's deposits may not be returned to the School. The School does not have a custodial credit risk policy. All cash deposits are held in banks that qualify as public depositories under Florida law. All such deposits are insured by federal depository insurance and/or collateralized with securities held in Florida's multiple financial institution collateral pool as required by Chapter 280, Florida Statutes.

### 3. INVESTMENTS

The School categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

All of the School's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2020 are valued using quoted market prices (Level 1 inputs).

The School's investments at June 30, 2020, are reported as follows:

<u>Investment</u>	<u>Amount</u>
US Bank - First American Treasury Mutual Fund	\$ 1,119,328
Total	<u>\$ 1,119,328</u>

This investment is reported as a cash equivalent for financial statement reporting purposes.

### 4. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE – RELATED PARTY

Included in the accounts receivable balance reported in the statement of net position and the balance sheet – governmental funds, the School reported a receivable of \$17,578 as a result of money advanced for shared expenses awaiting reimbursement from Channelside Academy of Math and Science (\$578), Riverview Academy of Math and Science (\$514), Bell Creek Academy (\$578), Orange County Preparatory Academy (\$584), and Sunlake



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Academy of Math and Science (\$963), charter schools operated under the same charter-holder, and The Charter School at Waterstone (\$14,361), a charter school under the same management company. The School expects to receive full payment within one year from the financial statement date and no allowance for uncollectible accounts has been established.

### 5. INTERFUND RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES, AND TRANSFERS

At June 30, 2020, the Debt Service Fund was owed \$30,419 from the General Fund for the payment of costs of issuance awaiting reimbursement. The General Fund and Capital Project Fund transferred \$694,872 and \$2,544, respectively, to the Debt Service Fund for the payment of debt. The amounts of interfund receivables, payables, and transfers are netted together and not reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities.

### 6. CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Changes in capital assets are presented in the table below:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>				
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 2,037,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,037,500
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	2,037,500	-	-	2,037,500
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Buildings	14,262,500	-	-	14,262,500
Improvements Other Than Buildings	151,608	-	-	151,608
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	341,856	73,905	-	415,761
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	14,755,964	73,905	-	14,829,869
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Buildings	(33,958)	(407,500)	-	(441,458)
Improvements Other Than Buildings	(41,514)	(10,134)	-	(51,648)
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	(284,706)	(46,665)	-	(331,371)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(360,178)	(464,299)	-	(824,477)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, net	14,395,786	(390,394)	-	14,005,392
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, net	\$ 16,433,286	\$ (390,394)	\$ -	\$ 16,042,892

All depreciation expense was shown as unallocated on the Statement of Activities.

### 7. DUE TO OTHER AGENCIES

The amount due to other agencies on the School's statement of net position and balance sheet – governmental funds represents an amount due to the District School Board of Hillsborough County for a reimbursement of funds.

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### 8. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – RELATED PARTY

Included within the accounts payable balance reported in the accompanying statement of net position and balance sheet – governmental funds, the School reported a payable of \$36,518 as a result of shared expenditures paid by Bell Creek Academy (\$1,132), Valrico Lake Advantage Academy (\$23,770), Hillsborough Academy of Math and Science (\$3,644), and Advantage Academy of Hillsborough (\$2,080), charter schools under the same charter-holder, as well as The Charter School at Waterstone (\$5,892), a charter school operated by the same management company. Amounts are expected to be paid within one year.

### 9. BONDS PAYABLE

Bonds payable at June 30, 2020, are as follows:

<u>Bond Type</u>	<u>Amount Outstanding</u>	<u>Interest Rates</u>	<u>Annual Maturity To</u>
Revenue Bonds:			
Series 2019A	\$16,392,914	4.0 to 5.0 percent	2054
Series 2019B	133,169	5.0 percent	2021
<i>add:</i> Unamortized Bond Premium	<u>1,153,413</u>		
Total Bonds Payable	<u>\$17,679,496</u>		

**Revenue Bonds Series 2019A and 2019B** – On June 1, 2019, Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc., the School’s charter-holder, issued tax-exempt revenue bonds (Series 2019A) for \$16,565,638 and taxable revenue bonds (Series 2018B) for \$258,426 secured by a mortgage on the School’s property and buildings. The bonds were issued to finance the purchase of the School’s educational facility and land.

Series 2019A bonds are term bonds paying interest semi-annually at a rate of 4-5% with maturities starting December 15, 2019, and ending December 15, 2054. Series 2019B bonds are term bonds paying interest semi-annually at a rate of 5% with maturities starting December 15, 2019, and ending December 15, 2021.

As required by the bond resolution, the District has established a sinking fund and reserve account and has accumulated and maintained adequate resources in the sinking fund and reserve account.

In the event of default for non-payment of principal or interest on the bonds, the outstanding amounts will become due and payable. As required by the Loan Agreement, the School must meet the minimum debt service coverage ratio of 1.1 to 1 (the “debt Service Coverage Requirement”) as of June 30, 2020, and each year thereafter. The School’s debt service coverage ratio as calculated was 1.76.

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Annual requirements to amortize all bonded debt outstanding as of June 30, 2020, are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	Total	Principal	Interest
2021	\$ 1,005,250	\$ 189,864	\$ 815,386
2022	1,006,000	199,094	806,906
2023	1,005,500	207,005	798,495
2024	1,005,132	214,916	790,216
2025	1,005,763	224,145	781,618
2026-30	5,037,489	1,303,997	3,733,492
2031-35	5,051,619	1,679,769	3,371,850
2036-40	5,062,530	2,155,748	2,906,782
2041-45	5,073,375	2,763,577	2,309,798
2046-50	5,092,435	3,548,084	1,544,351
2051-55	4,603,040	4,039,884	563,156
<i>add: Unamortized Bond Premium</i>			
	<u>1,153,413</u>	<u>1,153,413</u>	
Total	<u>\$ 36,101,546</u>	<u>\$ 17,679,496</u>	<u>\$ 18,422,050</u>

### 10. CHANGES IN LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities:

Governmental Activities:	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deductions	Ending Balance	Due in One Year
Bonds Payable	\$ 16,824,064	\$ -	\$ (297,981)	\$ 16,526,083	\$ 189,864
Unamortized Premium	1,186,845		(33,432)	1,153,413	-
Total Bonds Payable	<u>18,010,909</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(331,413)</u>	<u>17,679,496</u>	<u>189,864</u>
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 18,010,909</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (331,413)</u>	<u>\$ 17,679,496</u>	<u>\$ 189,864</u>

### 11. PENSION PLAN

The School participates in a defined contribution tax sheltered annuity 401(k) plan for its full-time employees. Contributions made by the School totaled \$13,777 for the year ended June 30, 2020, which was computed at 2.5% of employee's deferral of wages for each participating employee. Contributions are directed to individual employee's accounts, and the individual employees allocate contributions and account balances among various available investment choices, therefore, the School has no liability for the administration or payments of benefits of the plan, and accordingly, the present value of the related benefits is not reflected in these financial statements. The rate of contribution is set annually by the School's Board of Directors.

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### 12. SCHEDULE OF STATE REVENUE SOURCES

The following is a schedule of the School's State revenue:

Source	Amount
Florida Education Finance Program	\$ 4,620,255
Class Size Reduction	1,090,554
Charter School Capital Outlay	474,777
Supplementary Academic Instruction	219,906
Discretionary Local Effort	172,197
ESE Guaranteed Allocation	131,679
School Recognition Program	93,458
Best & Brightest Teacher Scholarship	89,106
Instructional Materials	73,763
Safe Schools	47,393
Reading Allocation	39,135
Mental Health Assistance Allocation	22,999
Teachers Classroom Supply Program	13,846
Digital Media Allocation	1,699
Total State Revenue	<u>\$ 7,090,767</u>

As provided in the charter school contract, the District has charged the School an administrative fee totaling \$85,286.

### 13. OPERATING AGREEMENT

The School entered into a contract with Charter School Associates (CSA). The contract calls for CSA to provide the School with marketing, curriculum design and implementation; student and staff recruiting; principal selection; and general management of the School's operations. An annual fee is to be 10% of the School's gross operating revenue less the School's administrative fee, to be paid in monthly installments. Fees under this agreement incurred to CSA during the fiscal year amounted to \$702,433.

### 14. FUNDING AND CREDIT RISK CONCENTRATIONS

The School receives substantially all of its support and revenue from federal, state and local funding sources, passed through the District, in the form of performance and budget-based contracts. Continuing operation of the School is greatly dependent upon the continued support of these governmental agencies.

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### **15. TRANSFERS - RELATED PARTY**

The School transferred \$1,570,426 to Valrico Lake Academy, a charter school under the same charter holder, from excess of 90 days cash on hand to be placed in an interest bearing account held by Valrico Lake Academy for the purpose of generating interest income on behalf of the Board. Policies have been designed to ensure the prudent management of School funds, the availability of operating and capital funds as needed, and creating a fiscal benefit for the Governing board to further its mission and the mission of its Schools. This transaction is shown as a Special Item – Intercompany Transfer on the statement of activities and statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - governmental funds.

### **16. SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE AGREEMENT**

In July 2017, the School entered into an agreement with The Charter School at Waterstone, a charter school under the same management company, to operate the School's food service operations. The School incurs no cost and no revenue is received for food service operations.

### **17. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

The School participates in state grant programs, which are governed by various rules and regulations of the grantor agencies. Costs charged to the respective grant programs are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor agencies, therefore, to the extent that the School has not complied with the rules and regulations governing the grants, refunds of any money received may be required and the collectability of any related receivables at June 30, 2020, may be impaired.

In the opinion of the School, there are no significant liabilities relating to compliance with the rules and regulations governing the respective grants; therefore, no provision has been recorded in the accompanying financial statements for such contingencies.

### **18. RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the School carries commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage and settlement amounts have not exceeded insurance coverage for the current year or the three prior years.

### **19. LEGAL MATTERS**

In the normal course of conducting its operations, the School occasionally becomes party to various legal actions and proceedings. In the opinion of management, the ultimate resolution of such legal matters will not have a significant adverse effect on the accompanying financial statements.

**INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**  
**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND - (UNAUDITED)**

*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020*

	General Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Intergovernmental:				
Federal Through State and Local	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources	6,767,285	6,615,990	6,615,990	-
Local and Other	730,475	430,522	430,522	-
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>7,497,760</b>	<b>7,046,512</b>	<b>7,046,512</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
Current - Education:				
Instruction	3,354,808	3,407,176	3,407,176	-
Pupil Personnel Services	451	24,736	24,736	-
Instructional Media	6,562	721	721	-
Instruction & Curriculum Development	59,940	59,987	59,987	-
Instructional Staff Training	5,370	5,170	5,170	-
Instructional-Related Technology	169,480	136,465	136,465	-
Board of Education	34,134	51,632	51,632	-
General Administration	752,014	787,720	787,720	-
School Administration	441,085	493,342	493,342	-
Fiscal Services	326	347	347	-
Central Services	1,882	3,398	3,398	-
Pupil Transportation	3,492	21,045	21,045	-
Operation of Plant	488,339	553,442	553,442	-
Maintenance of Plant	82,453	85,766	85,766	-
Administrative Technology Services		1,594	1,594	-
Community Service	331,212	251,809	251,809	-
Fixed Capital Outlay:				
Other Capital Outlay	181,829	73,905	73,905	-
Debt Service:				
Principal	196,100	-	-	-
Interest & Fiscal Charges	328,048	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>6,437,525</b>	<b>5,958,255</b>	<b>5,958,255</b>	<b>-</b>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	1,060,235	1,088,257	1,088,257	-
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Special Item - Intercompany Transfer		(1,570,426)	(1,570,426)	-
Transfers (Out)		(694,872)	(694,872)	-
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,265,298)</b>	<b>(2,265,298)</b>	<b>-</b>
Net Change in Fund Balance	1,060,235	(1,177,041)	(1,177,041)	-
Fund Balance, July 1, 2019	2,518,154	2,518,154	2,518,154	-
<b>Fund Balance, June 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$ 3,578,389</b>	<b>\$ 1,341,113</b>	<b>\$ 1,341,113</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

See Independent Auditor's Report.

# **INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY**

**(A CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER ADVANTAGE ACADEMY OF HILLSBOROUGH, INC.)**

A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

## **NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**June 30, 2020**

### **1. BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

Budgets are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. During the fiscal year, expenditures were controlled at the object level (e.g., salaries and benefits, purchased services, materials and supplies and capital outlay) within each activity (e.g., instruction, pupil personnel services and school administration). Budgets may be amended by resolution at any Board meeting prior to the date for the annual report.

Members:  
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**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***

To the Board of Directors of Independence Academy  
(A Charter School under Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc.),  
a Charter School and Component Unit of the  
District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Independence Academy (“School”), a charter school under Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc., and a component unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School’s basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 30, 2020.

**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 opinions 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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the School’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or 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.



## **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 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.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "King & Walker, CPAs". The signature is written in a cursive, professional style.

September 30, 2020  
Tampa, Florida

Members:  
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American Institute of CPAs  
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**Management Letter as Required by Rules of the Florida Auditor General,  
Chapter 10.850, Florida Statutes, *Charter School Audits***

To the Board of Directors of Independence Academy  
(A Charter School under Advantage Academy of Hillsborough, Inc.),  
a Charter School and Component Unit of the  
District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of Independence Academy (“School”), a Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated September 30, 2020.

**Auditor’s Responsibility**

We conducted our audit 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 Chapter 10.850, Rules of the Auditor General.

**Other Reporting Requirements**

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. Disclosures in those reports and schedule, which are dated September 30, 2020, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

**Prior Audit Findings**

Section 10.854(1)(e)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no prior audit findings or recommendations.

**Official Title**

Section 10.854(1)(e)5., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title of the entity and the school code assigned by the Florida Department of Education be disclosed in this management letter. The official title and the school code assigned by the Florida Department of Education of the entity are Independence Academy, 296637.

## **Financial Condition and Management**

Sections 10.854(1)(e)2. and 10.855(11), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate whether or not the School has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the School did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Sections 10.854(1)(e)6.a. and 10.855(12), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures for the School. It is management's responsibility to monitor the School's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and review of financial information provided by same.

Section 10.854(1)(e)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

## **Transparency**

Sections 10.854(1)(e)7. and 10.855(13), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether the School maintains on its Web site the information specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit, we determined that the School maintained on its Web site the information specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes.

## **Additional Matters**

Section 10.854(1)(e)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address in the management letter any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Section 10.854(1)(e)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

## **Purpose of this Letter**

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the Board of Directors, applicable management, and District School Board of Hillsborough County, Florida and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature in black ink that reads "King & Walker, CPAs". The signature is written in a cursive style.

September 30, 2020  
Tampa, Florida