

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL  
LIVINGSTON, ALABAMA  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL  
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SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

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FINANCIAL SECTION  
UNIVERSITY CHARTER SCHOOL  
LIVINGSTON, ALABAMA  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



## Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors  
University Charter School  
Livingston, Alabama

### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of University Charter School, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of University Charter School, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ***Basis for Opinions***

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

### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; 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.

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

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

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

considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

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

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 8-16 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 supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

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

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the University Charter School's basic financial statements. The budgetary schedules and other schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the budgetary schedules, other schedules, and the accompanying Schedule of

Expenditures of Federal and State Awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 18, 2024, on our consideration of University Charter School's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 University Charter School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Rebekah Barr, CPA PC  
Certified Public Accountant  
Wilson, North Carolina

June 18, 2024

## **Management’s Discussion and Analysis University Charter School September 30, 2023**

As management of University Charter School, we offer readers of University Charter School’s audited financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of University Charter School for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023. We encourage readers to read the information presented herein in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the School’s financial statements, which follow this narrative.

The Management’s Discuss and Analysis reflects an element of the reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* issued in June 1999.

### **Financial Highlights**

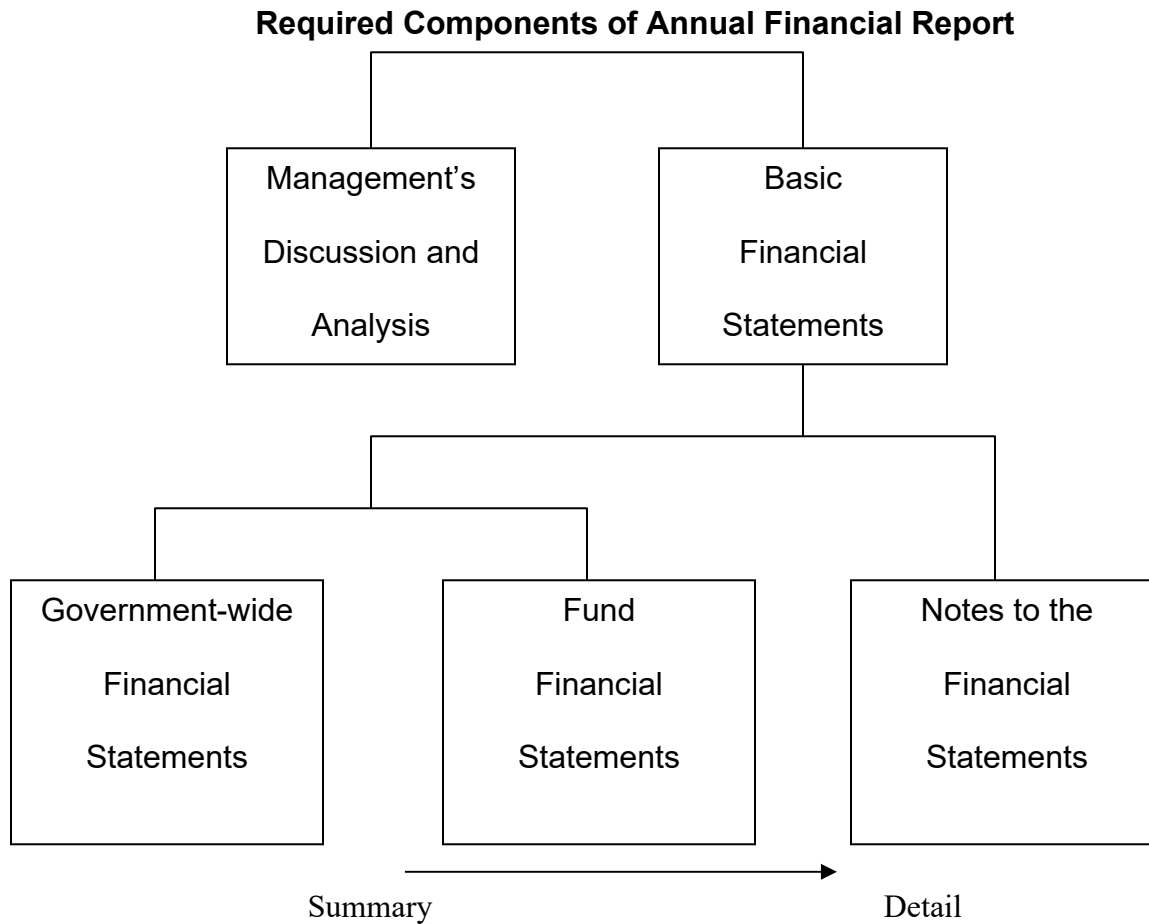
- The School continued construction on a new 77,367 SF facility that will provide adequate space for the School to address the growth needs for its full PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grade enrollment. Financing was secured in the amount of \$20,000,000 for this new facility in December 2021 along with a Line of Credit in the amount of \$1,750,000 in December 2022. In April 2023, a New Markets Tax Credit subsidy provided the school with additional equity for the construction as well as some limited equity for working capital.
- The assets of University Charter School exceeded its liabilities at the close of the fiscal year 2023 by \$2,499,672 (*net position*).
- The school’s total net position increased by \$2,241,356.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, University Charter School’s governmental funds reported an ending fund balance of \$3,115,092, \$823,999 of which was assigned for Federal fund use.
- The Average Daily Membership (ADM) for K-12 grade levels continues to grow. In 2022-2023 the ADM was 550.65 compared to 538 in the previous year.
- Enrollment for PreK-12 grade levels as of September 30, 2023 was 693.
- The School expended an average of \$11,937 of State, local and federal current expense dollars per pupil for the fiscal year 2022-2023 compared to \$12,697 in the previous year. Capital Outlay and Debt service are not included as a part of this calculation.

### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as a summary to University Charter School’s basic financial statements. The School’s basic financial statements consist of three components; 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements (see Figure 1). The basic financial statements present two distinct financial perspectives of the School through the use of government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader’s understanding of the financial condition of University Charter School.



Figure 1



### Basic Financial Statements

The first two statements (Exhibits 1 and 2) in the basic financial statements are the **Government-wide Financial Statements**. They provide both short and long-term information about the School’s financial standing.

The next statements (Exhibits 3 through 5) are **Fund Financial Statements**. These statements focus on the activities of the individual segments of the School’s government and are more detailed than the government-wide financial statements.

Immediately following the fund financial statements are the **Notes to the Financial Statements** (i.e. “Notes”). The Notes offer a detailed explanation of the data contained in those statements. Next, **supplemental information** is provided to show details about the School’s funds. Budgetary information for the School can also be found in this section of the statements.

**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**University Charter School**  
**September 30, 2023**

**Government-wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the School's finances, similar in format to the financial statements of a private-sector business. The government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the School's financial states, as a whole.

The two government-wide statements report the School's net position and how they have changed. Net position equals the difference between the School's total assets and total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Measuring net position is one way to gauge the School's financial condition.

The government-wide statements are divided into two categories: 1) governmental activities; and 2) business-type activities. The governmental activities include most of the School's basic functions such as instructional services and business services. These functions are funded almost entirely through state, county, and federal educational funds. University Charter School has no business-type activities, consequently, all of University Charter School's net position are reported as governmental activities.

The government-wide financial statements are enumerated in Exhibits 1 and 2 of this report.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements provide a more detailed look at the School's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. University Charter School, like all other governmental entities in Alabama, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate fiscal accountability.

**Governmental Funds** – Governmental funds are used to account for functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash flow in and out, and monies remaining at year-end that will be available for spending in the next fiscal year. The governmental funds statements – the *Balance Sheet* and the *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance* - are reported using the modified accrual accounting method, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash and provide a short term focus. The governmental fund financial statements assist the reader in determining whether there has been an increase or a decrease in the financial resources available to finance the School's programs. The relationship between government activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation that is an integral part of the fund financial statements.

University Charter School is required by the Alabama statute to adopt an annual budget. The budgetary comparison statements are not included in the basic financial statements, but are part of the supplemental statements and schedules following the notes. The budget incorporates input

**Management’s Discussion and Analysis**  
**University Charter School**  
**September 30, 2023**

from the faculty, management and the Board of Directors of the School and specifies which activities will be pursued and which services the School will provide during the year. It also authorized the school to obtain funds from identified sources to finance current period activities. The budgetary statement demonstrates how well the School has complied with the budget ordinance and whether or not the School has succeeded in providing the services as originally planned.

**Notes to the Financial Statements** – The notes provide additional information essential to facilitating a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page 22 of this report.

**Required Supplementary Information** - In addition to the basic financial statements and the accompanying notes, this report also presents certain *Required Supplementary Information* other than the MD&A consisting of a budgetary comparison schedule for the general fund and each major special revenue fund that has a legally adopted annual budget. If necessary, the schedule includes an accompanying note explaining the differences between actual amounts as reported on the basis of budgeting and the GAAP basis of reporting.

**Government-Wide Financial Analysis** – As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as one useful indicator of a school’s financial condition. The assets of University Charter School exceeded liabilities by \$2,499,672 as of September 30, 2023. As of September 30, 2022, the net position of University Charter School stood at \$258,316. The School’s net position increased by \$2,241,356 for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, compared to 2022. The amount of \$27,025,946 reflects the School’s investment in capital assets (e.g., construction in progress, vehicles, building and improvements, furniture and equipment). University Charter School uses these capital assets to provide services to its students; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. An additional portion of University Charter School’s net assets represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The amount \$818,174 is restricted for federal grants. The remaining balance of (\$3,312,272) is unrestricted. The deficit in unrestricted net assets was created when recording net pension and OPEB liabilities each year.

University Charter School has no business-type activities. Consequently, the School’s net position is reported as Governmental Activities.

**Figure 2**  
**University Charter School's Net Position**

	<b>Governmental Activities FY2023</b>	<b>Governmental Activities FY2022</b>
Current and Other Assets	\$ 3,740,742	\$ 3,986,480
Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation	\$ 27,025,946	\$ 13,650,472
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 30,766,688</b>	<b>\$ 17,636,952</b>
Deferred outflows of resources	\$ 6,832,532	\$ 5,402,366
<b>Total assets and deferred outflows of resources</b>	<b>\$ 37,599,220</b>	<b>\$ 23,039,318</b>
Current and Other Liabilities	\$ 625,516	\$ 2,027,138
Long-term Liabilities	\$ 30,959,159	\$ 17,920,191
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 31,584,675</b>	<b>\$ 19,947,329</b>
Deferred inflows of resources	\$ 3,514,873	\$ 2,833,673
<b>Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources</b>	<b>\$ 35,099,548</b>	<b>\$ 22,781,002</b>
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 4,993,770	\$ 1,191,473
Restricted for:		
Capital Projects		
Federal Funds	\$ 818,174	\$ 778,336
Unrestricted	\$ (3,312,272)	\$ (1,711,493)
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 2,499,672</b>	<b>\$ 258,316</b>

Several aspects of the School’s financial operations positively influenced the total unrestricted governmental net position:

- The School adopted an annual budget. The School’s performance was measured using this budget on a monthly basis, allowing changes to be made in spending as needed to remain within the confines of the budget.
- The School applied for and was awarded several grants to assist with the meeting educational needs of the student population.
- Funding increased proportionately with an increase in the student enrollment.

**Management's Discussion and Analysis  
University Charter School  
September 30, 2023**

**Figure 3  
University Charter School's Changes in Net Assets**

	<u>Governmental Activities FY2023</u>	<u>Governmental Activities FY2022</u>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 85,085	\$ 58,764
Operating grants and contributions	\$ 8,319,832	\$ 7,528,722
General revenues:		
Grants and Contributions not Restricted for Specific Programs	\$ 6,235,387	\$ 1,179,808
Miscellaneous	\$ 38,232	\$ 22,660
Proceeds from Forgiveness of Paycheck Protection Program	\$ -	\$ 452,600
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>\$ 14,678,536</u>	<u>\$ 9,242,554</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Instructional Services	\$ 7,883,276	\$ 5,505,342
Instructional support services	\$ 1,276,732	\$ 1,200,193
Operation and maintenance services	\$ 646,044	\$ 377,844
Auxiliary services	\$ 339,436	\$ 480,482
Capital Outlay	\$ -	\$ -
General administrative services and central support services	\$ 687,105	\$ 464,270
Other	\$ 286,019	\$ 561,955
Debt Service Interest and fiscal charges	\$ 1,318,568	\$ 166,641
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>\$ 12,437,180</u>	<u>\$ 8,756,727</u>
Increase in net position before proceeds	\$ 2,241,356	\$ 485,827
Proceeds from long term debt	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Increase in net position	\$ 2,241,356	\$ 485,827
Net position, Oct 1	\$ 258,316	\$ (227,511)
Reinstatement	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Net position, Sept 30	<u>\$ 2,499,672</u>	<u>\$ 258,316</u>

**Governmental activities.** Governmental activities increased the School's net position by \$2,499,672.

Program revenues provided 55% of all revenues. Operating grants and contributions contribute 99% of program revenues. The major sources of revenues in this category are State foundation program funds and federal funds restricted for specific programs. General revenues, primarily

**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**University Charter School**  
**September 30, 2023**

donations and contributions, are used to provide the revenue to expenses not covered by program revenues.

Instructional expenditures, primarily salaries and benefits for classroom teachers, are the largest expense function of the School.

- In addition to teacher salaries and benefits, instructional services includes teacher aides, substitute teachers, textbooks, depreciation of instructional buildings, professional development, and classroom instructional materials, supplies and equipment.
- Instructional support services include salaries and benefits for school principals, assistant principals, librarians, counselors, school secretaries, school bookkeepers, speech therapists, and school nurses, and professional development expenses.
- Operation and maintenance services include utilities, security services, janitorial services, maintenance services, and depreciation of maintenance vehicles.
- Auxiliary services include food services and transportation services. Food service expenditures include purchased food, food preparation and service supplies, and kitchen equipment.
- General administrative services include salaries and benefits for the superintendent, assistants, clerical and financial staff, and other personnel that provide system-wide support for the School. Also includes are legal expenses, liability insurance, training for board members and general administrative staff, printing costs, and depreciation of central office equipment and facilities.
- Interest and fiscal charges include interest on long-term debt issues and other expenses related to the issuance and continuance of debt issues.
- Other expenses include the salaries and benefits for extended day personnel, materials, supplies, equipment, related depreciation and other expenses for operating programs outside of those for educating students in the K through 12 instructional programs.
- Capital outlay includes expenditures for leasehold improvements and equipment.

**Management’s Discussion and Analysis**  
**University Charter School**  
**September 30, 2023**

**Governmental Funds.** The focus of University Charter School’s governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of usable financial resources. Such information is useful in assessing University Charter School’s financing requirements. Specifically, unassigned fund balance can be a useful measure of a government’s net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year. The general fund is the chief operating fund of University Charter School. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the General Fund was \$2,291,093, while total fund balance for all funds reached \$3,115,092.

**Capital Asset and Debt Administration**

**Capital assets.** University Charter School’s investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of September 30, 2023, totals \$26,923,794 for Construction in Progress (not depreciated) and other assets totaling \$102,152 (net of depreciation). Capital assets include construction in progress, vehicles, building improvements, and furniture and equipment costing \$5,000 or more.

**Figure 4**  
**University Charter School's Capital Assets**

	<b>Governmental Activities FY2023</b>	<b>Governmental Activities FY2022</b>
Capital Assets not being depreciated:		
Construction in Progress	\$ 26,923,794	\$ 13,510,712
<b>Total Capital Assets Not Depreciated</b>	<b>\$ 26,923,794</b>	<b>\$ 13,510,712</b>
Capital Assets being depreciated:		
Vehicles	\$ 46,694	\$ 60,552
Buildings and Improvements	\$ 41,838	\$ 61,030
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 13,620	\$ 18,178
<b>Total Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation</b>	<b>\$ 102,152</b>	<b>\$ 139,760</b>

Depreciation is required by GASB 34. Additional information about the School’s capital assets can be found in the notes to the basic financial statements.

**Long-term Debt.** As of September 30, 2023, University Charter School’s long-term debt less net pension liability and OPEB liability was \$22,032,176. This debt was for the start of construction for the new facility that will house grades 4-12. Additional information about the School’s long-term debt can be found in the notes to the basic financial statements.

**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**University Charter School**  
**September 30, 2023**

**Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget**

The following key economic indicators reflect the growth and prosperity of the School:

- The School will be adding additional seats in each grade level over time.
- The School does not receive local funding from local county or city tax dollars.
- University Charter School Board of Directors will continue planning on how to operate efficiently during the current year.

At the time these financial statements were prepared and audited, the Board was unaware of any circumstances that could significantly affect the Board's financial health in the future.

**Requests for Information**

This report is designed to provide an overview of the School's finances for those with an interest in this area and to show the Board's accountability for the money it receives. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to the Ginger Lusty, CFO, University Charter School, PO Box 1053, Livingston, Alabama, 35470, telephone (205) 652-3848.



**University Charter School  
Statement of Net Position  
September 30, 2023**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,868,128
Grants receivable	1,118,471
Inventories	5,825
Other receivables	748,318
Capital assets (Note III):	
Land, improvements, and construction in progress	26,923,794
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	102,152
Total capital assets	27,025,946
Total assets	30,766,688
 <b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	 6,832,532
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts payable - trade	625,516
Accrued interest payable	-
Long-term liabilities:	
Net pension liability	7,950,000
Net OPEB liability	976,983
Due within one year	-
Due in more than one year	22,032,176
Total liabilities	31,584,675
 <b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	 3,514,873
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	4,993,770
Restricted for:	
Federal funds	818,174
Unrestricted	(3,312,272)
Total net position	\$ 2,499,672

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

University Charter School  
Statement of Activities  
September 30, 2023

Functions/Programs	Program Revenues				Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position		
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Primary Government		
					Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
<b>Primary government:</b>							
Governmental Activities:							
Instructional services	\$ 7,883,276	\$ -	\$ 5,036,872	\$ -	\$ (2,846,404)	\$ -	\$ (2,846,404)
Instructional support	1,276,732	-	1,276,732	-	-	-	-
Operation and maintenance	646,044	-	646,044	-	-	-	-
Auxiliary services	339,436	-	339,436	-	-	-	-
General administration and central support	687,105	-	687,105	-	-	-	-
Other	286,019	85,085	333,643	-	132,709	-	132,709
Interest on long-term debt	1,318,568	-	-	-	(1,318,568)	-	(1,318,568)
Total governmental activities	<u>12,437,180</u>	<u>85,085</u>	<u>8,319,832</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,032,263)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,032,263)</u>
Business-type activities:							
School food service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total business-type activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total primary government	<u>\$ 12,437,180</u>	<u>\$ 85,085</u>	<u>\$ 8,319,832</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>(4,032,263)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,032,263)</u>
General revenues:							
Grants and Contributions not Restricted for Specific Programs					6,235,387	-	6,235,387
Miscellaneous					38,232	-	38,232
Transfers					-	-	-
Total general revenues, special items, and transfers					<u>6,273,619</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,273,619</u>
Change in net position					2,241,356	-	2,241,356
Net position, beginning					258,316	-	258,316
Net position-ending					<u>\$ 2,499,672</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,499,672</u>

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

**University Charter School  
Balance Sheet  
Governmental Funds  
September 30, 2023**

	Major Funds			Total Governmental Funds
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,589,876	\$ 21,719	\$ (743,467)	\$ 1,868,128
Grants receivable	165,157	953,314	-	1,118,471
Inventories	-	5,825	-	5,825
Other receivables	-	-	748,318	748,318
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>2,755,033</b>	<b>980,858</b>	<b>4,851</b>	<b>3,740,742</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable - trade	463,940	156,725	4,851	625,516
Short term note payable	-	-	-	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>463,940</b>	<b>156,725</b>	<b>4,851</b>	<b>625,516</b>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>				
	-	134	-	134
Fund balances:				
Nonspendable:				
Inventories	-	5,825	-	5,825
Assigned:				
Federal funds	-	818,174	-	818,174
Unassigned	2,291,093	-	-	2,291,093
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<b>2,291,093</b>	<b>823,999</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,115,092</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 2,755,033</b>	<b>\$ 980,724</b>	<b>\$ 4,851</b>	

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

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	27,025,946
Net OPEB asset	-
Deferred outflows of resources	6,832,532
Liabilities for earned but unavailable revenues in fund statements. Some liabilities, including bonds payable and accrued interest, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.	(22,032,176)
Net Pension Liability	(7,950,000)
Net OPEB Liability	(976,983)
Deferred inflows of resources	(3,514,739)
<b>Net position of governmental activities</b>	<b>\$ 2,499,672</b>

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

**University Charter School**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

	Major Funds			Total Governmental Funds
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	
<b>Revenues</b>				
State	\$ 5,603,192	\$ -	\$ 192,079	\$ 5,795,271
Federal	-	1,818,727	-	1,818,727
Local	3,403,775	409,712	3,212,819	7,026,306
Other	38,232	-	-	38,232
Total revenues	9,045,199	2,228,439	3,404,898	14,678,536
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>Current:</b>				
Instructional services	3,659,808	1,377,064	-	5,036,872
Instructional support	985,188	291,544	-	1,276,732
Operation and maintenance	646,044	-	-	646,044
Auxiliary services	26,652	312,784	-	339,436
General administration and central support	649,275	37,830	-	687,105
Other	116,640	169,379	-	286,019
<b>Capital outlay</b>	236,437	-	13,176,645	13,413,082
<b>Debt service:</b>				
Principal	-	-	-	-
Interest and other charges	581,407	-	737,161	1,318,568
Total expenditures	6,901,451	2,188,601	13,913,806	23,003,858
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	2,143,748	39,838	(10,508,908)	(8,325,322)
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Transfers to other funds	(935,731)	-	935,731	-
Proceeds from long term debt	-	-	9,573,177	9,573,177
Total other financing sources (uses)	(935,731)	-	10,508,908	9,573,177
Net change in fund balance	1,208,017	39,838	-	1,247,855
Fund balances-beginning	1,083,076	781,086	-	1,864,162
Increase in inventory	-	3,075	-	3,075
Fund balances-ending	\$ 2,291,093	\$ 823,999	\$ -	\$ 3,115,092

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

**University Charter School**  
**Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**Governmental Funds to the Statements of Activities**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2023**

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

Net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 1,247,855
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current period.	13,375,474
Contributions to the pension plan in the current fiscal year are not included on the statement of activities.	489,306
Contributions to the OPEB plans in the current fiscal year are not included on the statement of activities	87,881
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.	
Proceeds from forgiveness of Paycheck Protection Program	-
The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of issuance costs, premiums, discounts and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items.	(9,573,177)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.	
Pension expense	(3,208,279)
OBEP expense	(180,779)
Change in inventory	3,075
Rounding adjustment	-
Total changes in net position of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 2,241,356</u></u>

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

**University Charter School**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023**

I. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the University Charter School, Alabama (the School) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the Board's accounting policies are described below:

A. Reporting Entity

GASB Statements No. 14, 39, 61 and 80 establish standards for defining and reporting on the financial reporting entity. The definition of the reporting entity is based primarily on the notion of financial accountability. A primary government is financially accountable for agencies that make up its legal entity. It is also financially accountable for a legally separate agency if its officials appoint a voting majority of that agency's governing body and either it is able to impose its will on that agency or there is a potential for the agency to provide specific financial benefits to, or to impose specific financial burdens on, the primary government. There are no material component units which should be included as part of the financial reporting entity of the School.

The School is a legally separate agency of the State of Alabama.

B. Basis of Presentation

*Government-wide Financial Statements:* The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School's finances. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions. Although other governments may report both governmental activities and business-type activities, the School has no business-type activities.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the School's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. The School does not allocate indirect expenses to the various functions. Program revenues include (a) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or program and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

*Fund Financial Statements:* The fund financial statements provide information about the School funds, including fiduciary funds, if any. Separate statements for each fund category – *governmental and fiduciary* – are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental and enterprise funds are aggregated and reported as other governmental funds. The School currently has no fiduciary funds.

The School reports the following major governmental funds:

*General Fund.* The General Fund is the primary operating fund of the School. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The School's General Fund primarily received Education revenues from the Education Trust Fund (ETF), appropriated by the Alabama Legislature, and from local taxes. The State Department of Education allocated amounts appropriated from the ETF to the school board on a formula basis.

*Special Revenue Fund.* This fund is used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. Various federal and local funding sources are included in this fund. Some of the significant federal funding sources include the federal funds for Special Education and Title I in addition to various smaller grants, which are required to be spent for the purposes of the applicable federal grants. Also included in this fund are the public and non-public funds received by the local schools which are generally not considered restricted or committed.

#### C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

*Government-Wide Financial Statement.* The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Non-exchange transactions, in which the School gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On the accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements are reported using a current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when 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. For this purpose, the School considers revenues reported in the governmental funds (excluding state and federal reimbursements) to be available if the revenues are collected within thirty (30) days after year-end. Revenues from state and federal funds are considered available if transactions eligible for reimbursement have taken place. Expenditures generally are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred. Principal and interest on general long-term debt are recorded when due or when amounts have been accumulated in the debt service fund for payments to be made early in the following year.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the School's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Local school activity funds under the control of school principals use the cash basis of accounting during the year. However, these funds have been restated to the modified accrual basis of accounting in these financial statements.

#### D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position/Fund Balances

*Deposits and Investments.* Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Investments are stated at fair value.

The State Attorney General has issued a legal opinion that boards of education may not put public funds at risk by investing in companies not insured by the federal government.

*Receivables.* Receivables are reported as accounts receivable and due from other governments in the government-wide financial statements and as accounts receivable, due from other funds, and due from other governments in the fund financial statements. Receivables due from other governments include amounts due from grantors for grants issued for specific programs and local taxes. Management has considered the need for an allowance for uncollectible amounts and no allowance has been recorded.

*Property Tax Calendar.* The Sumter County omission levies property taxes for all jurisdictions including the school boards and municipalities within the county. Millage rates for property taxes are levied at the first regular meeting of the County Commission in February of each year. Property taxes are assessed for property as of October 1 of the

preceding year based on the millage rates established by the County Commission. Property taxes are due and payable the following October 1 and are delinquent after December 31.

*Inventories and Prepaid Items.* Inventories are valued at cost, which approximates market, using the first-in/first-out (FIFO) method. The costs of governmental fund type inventories are recorded as expenditures when purchased except commodities donated by the federal government and purchased food items which are expensed when consumed. Prepaid items, such as insurance premiums and rent are recorded as expenditures in governmental funds when paid.

In the government-wide financial statements, inventories and prepaid items are recorded on an accrual basis using the consumption method. Expenses reflect the amount of materials and supplies consumed and the amount of prepaid items applicable to the current period.

### Capital Assets

Purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical costs in the statement of net assets. Donated assets are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. The cost of maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized. Capital assets are recorded as expenditures at the acquisition date in the fund financial statements. The School has no general infrastructure assets.

Depreciation of capital assets is recorded in the statement of activities on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset. Capitalization thresholds (the dollar values above which asset acquisitions are added to the capital asset accounts) and the estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the government-wide financial statements are as follows:

	Capitalization Threshold	Estimated Useful Life
Leasehold improvements	\$ 5,000.00	15 years
Vehicles	\$ 5,000.00	5-7 years

The capitalization threshold for Land, Construction in Progress, and Inexhaustible Land Improvements is \$1 or more. However, these capital assets are not depreciated.

### ***Long-Term Obligations***

In the government-wide financial statements, the unmatured principal of long-term debt and compensated absences are reported in the statement of net position. Interest expense for long-term debt, including accrued interest payable, is reported in the statement of activities. Debt issuance costs include all costs incurred to issue the debt including insurance, financing and other related costs. Debt issuance cost (except for prepaid insurance costs) are recognized as an expense in the period incurred.

Premiums and discounts on debt are capitalized and amortized under accrual accounting and the annual amortization of these accruals is included in the statement of activities. The unamortized portion is reported in the statement of net position.

In the fund financial statements, bond premiums and the face amount of debt issued during the year are reported as an other financing source. Debt issuance costs are not deducted from the amount reported as an other financing source but are reported as debt service expenditures. Any discount is reported as an other financing use. Expenditures for debt principal, interest and related costs are reported in the fiscal year payment is made. The balance sheet does not reflect a liability for long-term debt.



## **Compensated Absences**

### **Paid Sick Leave**

a. Persons Eligible for Paid Sick Leave – All regular full time employees are eligible for paid sickleave. Earning and Accumulation of Paid Sick Leave – All eligible employees earn sick leave days at the rate of either seven and one-half (7.5) hours or eight (8) hours per month based upon their daily work hours and contract commitment (10 month, 11 month, or 12 month). Employee’s unused paid sick leave will “roll over” from year to year and accumulate an unlimited number of sick leave days. New employees may transfer all unused earned sick leave from another Alabama school board, as permitted by law, upon certification by the previous employer.

b. Use of Sick Leave – Eligible employees may only use paid sick leave for absences caused by personal illness; incapacitating personal injury; attendance upon an ill member of the employee’s immediate family; death of a family member; death or care of an individual with whom unusually strong personal ties exist because of a relationship. UCS will deduct sick pay from the Employee’s “sick leave bank” in increments of three and one-half (3.5) or four (4) or seven and one-half (7.5) or eight (8) hours at a time based upon their daily work hours. Employee’s unused sick leave balance will rollover into an eligible retirement account as service credit as determined by law at an employee’s retirement. If Employee resigns or UCS terminates employee, the employee will be permitted to transfer unused sick leave to another Alabama public school, for use by the employee as provided by law.

**Personal Leave** – Personal leave must be requested in accordance with such procedures as may be established by the Head of School or the Board. Personal leave may not be taken during the first or last week of school, or immediately before or after a holiday unless special permission is granted by either the Head of School, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer or Principal. Ten (10) month, eleven (11) month and twelve (12) month full time employees are eligible for personal leave.

a. Unused Personal Leave -- Unused personal leave days will roll over into the employee’s sick leave balance at the end of the year.

b. Employee will not be permitted to “cash out” or be paid a lump sum for unused personal leave at any time during his employment. If the Employee provides the required notice of resignation/retirement or if USC terminates employment without cause, then unused personal pay will be cashed out to Employee on a pro rata basis: 0% if the termination occurs in the first calendar quarter; 25% if the termination occurs in the second calendar quarter; 50% if the termination occurs in the third calendar quarter; and 75% if the termination occurs in the last calendar quarter.

## **Pensions**

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, the Teachers’ Retirement System of Alabama (the “Plan”) financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting. Contributions are recognized as revenues when earned, pursuant to Plan requirements. Benefits and refunds are recognized as revenues when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the Plan. Expenses are recognized when the corresponding liability is incurred, regardless of when the payment is made. Investments are reported at fair value. Financial statements are prepared in accordance with requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Under these requirements, the Plan is considered a component unit of the State of Alabama and is included in the State’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

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

In addition to assets, the statement of net 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 and will be recognized as an outflow of resources

(expense/expenditure) in a subsequent period. The School has several items that meets this criterion – pension and OPEB related deferrals and contributions made to the plans subsequent to the measurement date.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net 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 position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The School has several items that meets this criterion – pension and OPEB related deferrals.

### ***Net Position/Fund Balances***

Net Position is reported on the government-wide financial statements and is required to be classified for accounting and reporting purposes into the following net position categories:

*Net investment in capital assets* – Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and outstanding principal balances of debt attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Any significant unspent proceeds at year-end related to capital assets are reported as restricted funds.

*Restricted* – Constraints imposed on net position by external creditors, grantors, contributors, laws or regulations of other governments, or law through constitutional provision or enabling legislation.

*Unrestricted* – Net position that is not subject to externally imposed stipulations. Unrestricted net position may be designated for specific purposes by action of the School.

Fund equity is reported in the fund financial statements. Governmental funds report restrictions of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose.

### ***Fund Balances***

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report aggregate amounts for five classifications of fund balances on the constraints imposed on the use of these resources. The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form – prepaid items or inventories; or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

The spendable portion of the fund balance comprises the remaining four classifications: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

*Restricted Fund Balance.* This classification reflects the constraints imposed on resources either (a) externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

*Committed Fund Balance.* These amounts can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal resolutions of the School – the government’s highest level of decision-making authority. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the School removed the specified use by taking the same type of action imposing the commitment. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

*Assigned fund balance.* – The classification reflects the amounts constrained by the School’s “intent” to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The Board of Education and management have the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes. Assigned fund balances include all remaining amounts (except negative balances) that are reported in governmental funds, other than the General Fund, that are not classified as nonspendable and are neither restricted nor committed. A total of \$724,156 is assigned to special revenue funds.

*Unassigned fund balance* – This fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. It is also used to report negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the School’s policy to use restricted resources first, then committed, assigned, and unassigned – in order as needed.

**Estimates**

Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing these financial statements in accordance with GAAP. Those estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported revenues and expenses. Actual results could vary from the estimates that were used.

**The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (“CARES”) Act**

CARES was signed into law in March 2020 in order to provide economic assistance for businesses and individuals that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. During 2023, the School received payments primarily from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (“CRF”) program which is included in nonoperating grants in the accompanying statements of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances.

II. Deposits and Investments

**Deposits**

As of September 30, 2023, the carrying amount of the School’s bank deposits was \$1,868,128 and the bank balance was \$2,410,577, of which \$389,657 was covered by federal depository insurance. The remaining \$2,020,920 as a credit risk. The School does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk.

III. Capital Assets

Changes in capital assets of governmental activities was as follows for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	<b>Beginning Balances</b>	<b>Increases</b>	<b>Decreases</b>	<b>Ending Balances</b>
<b>Governmental activities:</b>				
<b>Capital assets not being depreciated:</b>				
Construction in Progress	\$ 13,510,712	\$ 13,413,082	\$ -	\$ 26,923,794
<b>Capital assets being depreciated:</b>				
Vehicles	69,292	-	-	69,292
Building and improvements	99,561	-	-	99,561
Furniture and equipment	22,790	-	-	22,790
<b>Total capital assets being depreciated</b>	<b>191,643</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>191,643</b>
<b>Less Accumulated Depreciation</b>				
Vehicles	8,740	13,858	-	22,598
Building and improvements	38,531	19,192	-	57,723
Furniture and equipment	4,612	4,558	-	9,170
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciable</b>	<b>51,883</b>	<b>\$ 37,608</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>89,491</b>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>139,760</u>			<u>102,152</u>
<b>Governmental activity capital assets, net</b>	<u><b>\$ 13,650,472</b></u>			<u><b>\$ 27,025,946</b></u>

Depreciation was charged to instructional services.

#### IV. Pension Plan

##### a. Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System

*Plan Description.* The Teachers' Retirement System (TRS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement plan (the "Plan"), was established as of September 15, 1939, under the provisions of Act Number 419, Acts of Alabama 1939, for the purpose of providing retirement allowances and other specified benefits for qualified persons employed by State-supported educational institutions. The responsibility for the general administration and operation of the TRS is vested in its Board of Control. The TRS Board of Control consists of 15 trustees. The Plan is administered by the Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA). The **Code of Alabama 1975**, Section 16-25-2, grants the authority to establish and amend the benefit terms to the TRS Board of Control. The plan issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at [www.rsa.al.gov](http://www.rsa.al.gov).

*Benefits Provided.* State law established retirement benefits as well as death and disability benefits and any ad hoc increase in postretirement benefits for the TRS. Benefits for TRS members vest after 10 years of creditable service. TRS members are eligible for retirement after age 60 with 10 years or more of creditable service or with 25 years of service (regardless of age) and are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for life. Service and disability retirement benefits are based on a guaranteed minimum or a formula method, with the member receiving payment under the method that yields the highest monthly benefit. Under the formula method, members of the TRS are allowed 2.0125% of their average final compensation (highest 3 of the last 10 years) for each year of service.

Act Number 2012-377, Acts of Alabama, established a new tier of benefits (Tier 2) for members hired on or after January 1, 2013. Tier 2 TRS members are eligible for retirement after age 62 with 10 years or more of creditable service and are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for life. Service and disability retirement benefits are based on a guaranteed minimum or a formula method, with the member receiving payment under the method that yields the highest monthly benefit. Under the formula method, Tier 2 members of the TRS are allowed 1.65% of their average final compensation (highest 5 of the last 10 years) for each year of service. Members are eligible for disability retirement if they have 10 years of creditable service, and currently in-service, and determined by the RSA Medical Board to be permanently incapacitated from further performance of duty. Preretirement death benefits are calculated and paid to the beneficiary based on the member's age, service credit, employment status and eligibility for retirement.

*Contributions.* Covered members of the TRS contributed 5% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute until September 30, 2011. From October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012, covered members of the TRS were of required by statute to contribute 7.25% of earnable compensation. Effective October 1, 2012, covered members of the TRS are required by statute to contribute 7.50% of earnable compensation. Certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS contributed 6% of earnable compensation as required by statute until September 30, 2011. From October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012, certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS were required by statute to contribute 8.25% of earnable compensation. Effective October 1, 2012, certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters of the TRS are required by statute to contribute 8.50% of earnable compensation.

Effective October 1, 2022, the Tier 2 covered members contribution rate increased from 6% to 6.2% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute. Effective October 1, 2022, the Tier 2 certified law enforcement, correctional officers, and firefighters contribution rate increased from 7% to 7.2% of earnable compensation to the TRS as required by statute.

Participating employers' contractually required contribution rate for the year ended September 30, 2023, was 12.59% of annual pay for Tier 1 members and 11.44% of annual pay for Tier 2 members. These required contribution rates are a percent of annual payroll, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with member contributions, is expected to finance the cost of benefits earned by members during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Total employer contributions to the pension plan from the Board were \$489,306 for the year ended September 30, 2023.

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

At September 30, 2023, the Board reported a liability of \$7,950,000 for its proportionate share of the collective net pension liability. The collective net pension liability was measured as of September 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the collective net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2022. The Board's proportion of the collective net pension liability was based on the employers' shares of contributions to the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating TRS employers. At September 30, 2022, the Board's proportion was 0.049819%.

For the year ended September 30, 2023, the Board recognized pension expense of \$3,208,279. At September 30, 2023, the Board reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 711,000	\$ 107,000
Changes of assumptions	224,000	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	545,000	7,000
Changes in proportion and differences between Board contributions and proportionate share of contributions	1,680,000	-
Board contributions subsequent to the measurement date	489,306	-
Total	<u>\$ 3,649,306</u>	<u>\$ 114,000</u>

The \$489,306 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Board contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended September 30, 2023. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

**Year ended June 30:**

2024	\$ 1,150,000
2025	839,000
2026	960,000
2027	97,000
Thereafter	-

**Actuarial Assumptions.** The total pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2022, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	3.25 to 5.00 percent, including inflation and productivity factor
Investment rate of return	7.45 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

The actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2021, were based on the results of an investigation of the economic and demographic experience for the TRS based upon participant data as of September 30, 2020. The Board of Control accepted and approved these changes in September 2022 which became effective at the beginning of fiscal year 2021.

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Teacher tables with the following adjustments, projected generationally using scale MP-2021 adjusted by 66-2/3% beginning with year 2019:

Group	Membership Table	Set Forward (+)/ Setback (-)	Adjustment to Rates
Service Retirees	Teacher Retiree - Below Median	Male: +2, Female: +2	Male: 108% ages <63, 96% ages >67: Phasing down 63-67 Female: 112% <69 98% > age 74 Phasing down 69-74
Beneficiaries	Contingent Survivor - Below Median	Male: +2, Female: None	None
Disable Retirees	Teacher Disability	Male: +8, Female: +3	None

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target asset allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return (*)
Fixed Income	15.00%	2.80%
U. S. Large Stocks	32.00%	8.00%
U. S. Mid Stocks	9.00%	10.00%
U. S. Small Stocks	4.00%	11.00%
International Developed Market Stocks	12.00%	9.50%
International Emerging Market Stocks	3.00%	11.00%
Alternatives	10.00%	9.00%
Real Estate	10.00%	6.50%
Cash	5.00%	2.50%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

(\*) Includes assumed rate of inflation of 2.00%

*Discount rate.* The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that the employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, components of the pension plan's fiduciary net position were projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments

of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

*Sensitivity of the County’s proportionate share of the net pension asset to changes in the discount rate.* The following presents the Board’s proportionate share of the collective net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.45%, as well as what the Board’s proportionate share of the collective net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.45%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.45%) than the current rate:

	<b>1% Decrease (6.45%)</b>	<b>Discount Rate (7.45%)</b>	<b>1% Increase (8.45%)</b>
Board's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 10,386,000	\$ 7,950,000	\$ 1,150,000

*Pension plan fiduciary net position.* Detailed information about the pension plan’s fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued RSA Comprehensive Annual Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022. The supporting actuarial information is included in the GASB Statement Number 67 Report for the TRS prepared as of September 30, 2022. The auditor’s report on the Schedule of Employer Allocations and Pension Amounts by Employer and accompanying notes detail by employer and in aggregate information needed to comply with GASB Statement Number 68 as of September 30, 2022, along with supporting schedules is also available. The additional financial and actuarial information is available at [www.rsa-al.gov](http://www.rsa-al.gov).

**b. Other Employment Benefits**

**1. Healthcare Benefits**

*Plan description.* The Alabama Retired Education Employees’ Health Care Trust (the “Trust”) is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment healthcare plan that administers healthcare benefits to the retirees of participating state and local educational institutions. The Trust was established under the Alabama Retiree Health Care Funding Act of 2007 which authorized and directed the Public Education Employees’ Health Insurance Board (PEEHIB) to create an irrevocable trust to fund postemployment healthcare benefits to retirees participating in the Public Education Employees’ Health Insurance Plan (PEEHIP). Active and retire health insurance benefits are paid through PEEHIP. In accordance with GASB, the Trust is considered a component unit of the State of Alabama (the “State”) and is included in the State’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

The PEEHIP was established in 1983 pursuant to the provisions of the **Code of Alabama 1975**, Section 16-25A-4, (Act Number 83-455, Acts of Alabama) to provide a uniform plan of health insurance for active and retired employees of state and local educational institutions which provide instruction at any combination of grades K-14 (collectively, eligible employees), and to provide a method for funding the benefits related to the plan. The four-year universities participate in the plan with respect to their retired employees and are eligible and may elect to participate in the plan with respect to their active employees. Responsibility for the establishment of the health insurance plan and its general administration and operations is vested in the PEEHIB. The PEEHIB is a corporate body for purposes of management of the health insurance plan. The **Code of Alabama 1975**, Section 16-25A-4, provides the PEEHIB with the authority to amend the benefit provisions in order to provide reasonable assurance of stability in future years for the plan. All assets of the PEEHIP are held in trust for the payment of health insurance benefits. The Teachers’ Retirement System of Alabama (TRS) has been appointed as the administrator of the PEEHIP and, consequently, serves as the administrator of the Trust.

*Benefits provided.* PEEHIP offers a basic hospital medical plan to active members and non-Medicare eligible retirees. Benefits include inpatient hospitalization for a maximum of 365 days without a dollar limit, inpatient rehabilitation, outpatient care, physician services, and prescription drugs.

Active employees and non-Medicare eligible retirees who do not have Medicare eligible dependents can enroll in a health maintenance organization (HMO) in lieu of the basic hospital medical plan. The HMO includes hospital medical benefits, dental benefits, vision benefits, and extensive formulary. However, participants in the HMO are required to receive care from a participating physician in the HMO plan.

The PEEHIP offers four optional plans (Hospital Indemnity, Cancer, Dental, and Vision) that may be selected in addition to or in lieu of the basic hospital medical plan or HMO. The Hospital Indemnity Plan provides a per-day benefit for hospital confinement, maternity, intensive care, cancer, and convalescent care. The Cancer Plan covers cancer disease only and benefits are provided regardless of other insurance. Coverage includes a per-day benefit for each hospital confinement related to cancer. The Dental Plan covers diagnostic and preventative services, as well as basic and major dental services. Diagnostic and preventative services include oral examinations, teeth cleaning, x-rays, and emergency office visits. Basic and major services include fillings, general aesthetics, oral surgery not covered under a Group Medical Program, periodontics, endodontics, dentures, bridgework, and crowns. Dental services are subject to a maximum of \$1,250 per year for individual coverage and \$1,000 per person per year for family coverage. The Vision Plan covers annual eye examinations, eyeglasses, and contact lens prescriptions.

PEEHIP members may opt to elect the PEEHIP Supplemental Plan as their hospital medical coverage in lieu of the PEEHIP Hospital Medical Plan. The PEEHIP Supplemental Plan provides secondary benefits to the member's primary plan provided by another employer. Only active and non-Medicare retiree members and dependents are eligible for the PEEHIP Supplemental Plan. There is no premium required for this plan, and the plan covers most out-of-pocket expenses not covered by the primary plan. The plan cannot be used as a supplement to Medicare, the PEEHIP Hospital Medical Plan, or the State or Local Governmental Plans administered by the State Employees' Insurance Board (SEIB).

Effective January 1, 2020, Medicare eligible members and Medicare eligible dependents who are covered on a retiree contract were enrolled in the United Healthcare Group Medicare Advantage plan for PEEHIP retirees. Effective January 1, 2023, United Health Care (UHC) Group replaced the Humana contract. The Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug Plan (MAPDP) plan is fully insured by UHC and members are able to have all of their Medicare Part A (hospital insurance), Part B (medical insurance), and Part D (prescription drug coverage) in one convenient plan. With the UHC for PEEHIP, retirees can continue to see their same providers with no interruption and see and doctor who accepts Medicare on a national basis. Retirees have the same benefits in and out-of-network and there is no additional retiree cost share if a retiree uses an out-of-network provider and no balance billing from the provider.

*Contributions.* The **Code of Alabama 1975**, Section 16-25A-8, and the **Code of Alabama 1975**, Section 16-25A-8.1, provide the PEEHIB with the authority to set the contribution requirements for plan members and the authority to set the employer contribution requirements for each required class, respectively. Additionally, the PEEHIB is required to certify to the Governor and Legislature, the amount, as a monthly premium per active employee, necessary to fund the coverage of active and retired member benefits for the following fiscal year. The Legislature then sets the premium rate in the annual appropriation bill.

For employees who retired after September 30, 2005, but before January 1, 2012, the employer contribution of the health insurance premium is set forth by the PEEHIB for each retiree class is reduced by 2% for each year of service less than 25 and increased by 2% for each of year of service over 25 subject to adjustment by the PEEHIB for changes in Medicare premium costs required to be paid by a retiree. In no case does the employer contribution of the health insurance premium exceed 100% of the total health insurance premium cost for the retiree.

For employees who retired after December 31, 2011, the employer contribution to the health insurance premium set forth by the PEEHIB for each retiree class is reduced by 4% for each year of service less than 25 and increased by 2% for each year over 25, subject to adjustment by the PEEHIB for changes in Medicare premium costs required to be paid by a retiree. In no case does the employer contribution of the health insurance premium exceed 100% of the total health insurance premium cost for the retiree. For employees who retired after December 31, 2011, who



are not covered by Medicare, regardless of years of service, the employer contribution to the health insurance premium set forth by the PEEHIB for each retiree class is reduced by a percentage equal to 1% multiplied by the difference between the Medicare entitlement age and the age of the employee at the time of retirement as determined by the PEEHIB. This reduction in the employer contribution ceases upon notification to the PEEHIB of the attainment of Medicare coverage.

*OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of resource and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB.* At September 30, 2023, the Board reported a liability of \$976,983 for its proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability. The collective net OPEB liability was measured as of September 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2022. The Board's proportion of the collective net OPEB liability was based on a projection of the Board's long-term share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At September 30, 2022, the Board's proportion was 0.05606955%.

For the year ended September 30, 2023, the Board recognized OPEB expense of \$180,779, with no special funding situations. At September 30, 2023, the Board reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 44,808	\$ 1,975,380
Changes of assumptions	792,467	1,422,058
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	122,865	-
Changes in proportion and differences between Board contributions and proportionate share of contributions	2,135,205	3,301
Board contributions subsequent to the measurement date	87,881	-
Total	<u>\$ 3,183,226</u>	<u>\$ 3,400,739</u>

The \$87,881 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from the board's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ended September 30, 2023.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

**Year ended June 30:**

2024	\$ 74,327
2025	(160,427)
2026	48,296
2027	26,601
2028	(153,156)
Thereafter	(141,035)

*Actuarial assumptions.* The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2022, using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Projected Salary Increases (1)	3.25% - 5.00%
Long-Term Investment Rate of Return (2)	7.00%
Municipal Bond Index Rate at the Measurement Date	2.29%
Municipal Bond Index Rate at the Prior Measurement Date	2.25%
Projected Year for Fiduciary Net Position (FNP) to be Depleted	2051
Single Equivalent Interest Rate at the Measurement Date	3.97%
Single Equivalent Interest Rate at the Prior Measurement Date	3.05%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate:	
Initial Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	6.50%
Medicare Eligible	(**)
Ultimate Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	4.50% in 2028
Medicare Eligible	4.50% in 2025
(1) Includes 2.75% wage inflation.	
(2) Compounded annually, net of investment expense, and included inflation.	
(**) Initial Medicare claims are set based on scheduled increases through plan year 2022.	

The rates of mortality are based on the Pub-2010 Public Mortality Plans Mortality Tables, adjusted generationally based on scale MP-2021, with an adjustment of 66-2/3% to the table beginning with the year 2020. The mortality rates are adjusted forward and/or back depending on the plan and group covered, as shown in the table below:

Group	Membership Table	Set Forward (+)/ Setback (-)	Adjustment to Rates
Active Members	Teacher Employee - Below Median	None	65%
Service Retirees	Teacher - Below Median	Male: +2, Female: +2	Male: 108% ages <63, 96% ages >67: Phasing down 63-67 Female: 112% <69 98% > age 74 Phasing down 69-74
Disable Retirees	Teacher Disability	Male: +8, Female: +3	None
Beneficiaries	Teacher Contingent Survivor Below Median	Male: +2, Female: None	None

The decremental assumptions used in the valuation were selected based on the actuarial experience study prepared as of September 30, 2021, submitted to and adopted by the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama Board of September 13, 2022.

The remaining actuarial assumptions (e.g., initial per capita costs, health care cost trends, rate of plan participation, rates of plan election, etc.) used in the September 30, 2021 valuation.

The long-term expected return on plan assets is to be reviewed as part of regular experience studies prepared every five years, in conjunction with similar analysis for the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama. Several factors

should be considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption, including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation), as developed for each major asset class. These ranges should be combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The long-term expected rate of return on the OPEB plan investments is determined based on the allocation of assets by asset class and by the mean and variance of real returns.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of expected geometric real rates of return for each major asset class is summarized below:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return (*)
Fixed Income	30.00%	4.40%
U. S. Large Stocks	38.00%	8.00%
U. S. Mid Stocks	8.00%	10.00%
U. S. Small Stocks	4.00%	11.00%
International Developed Market Stocks	15.00%	9.50%
Cash	5.00%	1.50%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

(\*) Geometric mean, includes 2.5% inflation.

*Discount rate.* The discount rate, also known as the Single Equivalent Interest Rate (SEIR), as described by GASB Statement Number 74, used to measure the total OPEB liability at September 30, 2022, was 3.97%. Premiums paid to the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board for active employees shall include an amount to partially fund the cost of coverage for retired employees. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan contributions will be made at the current contribution rates. Each year, the State specifies the monthly employer rate that participating school systems must contribute for each active employee. Currently, the monthly employer rate is \$800 per non-university active member. Approximately, 12.990% of the employer contributions were used to assist in funding retiree benefit payments in 2022 and it is assumed that the 12.990% will increase at the same rate as expected benefit payments for the closed group reaching 20.00%. It is assumed the \$800 rate will increase with inflation at 2.50% starting in 2024. Retiree benefit payments for University members are paid by the Universities and are not included in the cash flow projections. The discount rate determination will use a municipal bond rate to the extent the trust is projected to run out of money before all benefits are paid. Therefore, the projected future benefit payments for all current plan members were projected through 2119. The long-term rate of return is used until the assets are expected to be depleted in 2051, after which the municipal bond rate is used.

*Sensitivity of the Board's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate.* The following table presents the Board's proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability of the Trust calculated using the current healthcare trend rate, as well as what the collective net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage point higher than the current rate:

	<b>1% Decrease (5.50% Decreasing to 3.50% for Pre-Medicare, Known Decreasing to 3.50% for Medicare Eligible)</b>	<b>Current Healthcare Trend Rate (6.50% Decreasing to 4.50% for Pre-Medicare, Known Decreasing to 4.50% for Medicare Eligible)</b>	<b>1% Decrease (7.50% Decreasing to 5.50% for Pre-Medicare, Known Decreasing to 5.50% for Medicare Eligible)</b>
Board's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 740,848	\$ 976,983	\$ 1,266,580

The following table presents the Board's proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability of the Trust calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the collective net OPEB liability would be if calculated using one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	<b>1% Decrease (6.00%)</b>	<b>Discount Rate (7.00%)</b>	<b>1% Increase (8.00%)</b>
Board's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 1,207,895	\$ 976,983	\$ 783,139

*OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position.* Detailed information about the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is located in the Trust's financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022. The supporting actuarial information is included in the GASB Statement Number 74 Report for PEEHIP prepared as of September 30, 2022. Additional financial and actuarial information is available at [www.rsa-al.gov](http://www.rsa-al.gov).

#### IV. Notes Payable

##### a. Line of Credit

During the fiscal year 2023, the School obtained a line of credit from its bank. The line of credit has a \$1,750,000 limit and carries a prime interest rate. The draws from the line of credit will be used for construction. The School did not make any draws during the fiscal year 2023.

##### b. Note Payable

On December 16, 2022, a direct borrowing note from the bank was obtained with a principal balance up to \$20,000,000. The loan is a construction loan during the building process with interest only payments at the prime rate until construction is completed. When the construction is completed, the construction loan will convert to a loan with principal and interest payments due monthly for 40 years. The note has a maturity date of December 15, 2061. September 10, 2050. The outstanding balance of the note on September 30, 2023 was \$19,567,676. Future debt maturities on this debt will be calculated when the construction is completed.

On April 27, 2023, the School entered into a borrowing and lease agreement through PNC Bank and using the New Market Tax Credits. The loans have been mostly through a Foundation to qualify for the credits; however, the School did receive two Empowerment Reinvestment Fund, LLC (ERF) qualified low-income community investments (QLICI) Loans A and B in the amounts of \$5,306,250 and \$1,968,750, respectively. At June 30, 2023 the School has drawn \$2,158,000 and \$306,500 from these two loans respectively. At the end of seven (7) years of loan compliance these two loans will be completely forgiven.

c. Changes in Debt

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Current Portion
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>					
Net pension liability (TRS)	\$ 3,284,000	\$ 4,666,000	\$ -	\$ 7,950,000	\$ -
Net OPEB liability	2,177,192	-	1,200,209	976,983	-
Direct Borrowing	12,458,999	7,108,677	-	19,567,676	-
ERF QLICI Loan A	-	2,158,000	-	2,158,000	-
ERF QLICI Loan B	-	306,500	-	306,500	-
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 17,920,191</u>	<u>\$ 14,239,177</u>	<u>\$ 1,200,209</u>	<u>\$ 30,959,159</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

VI. Risk Management

The School is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The School maintains general liability and errors and omissions insurance coverage of \$1 million per occurrence with a commercial carrier.

Employee health insurance is provided through the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Fund (PEEHIF), administered by the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board (PEEHIB). The Fund was established to provide a uniform plan of health insurance for current and retired employees of state educational institutions and is self-sustaining. Monthly premiums for employee and dependent coverage are determined annually by the plan's actuary and are based on anticipated claims in the upcoming year, considering any remaining fund balance on hand available for claims. The Board contributes a specified amount monthly to the PEEHIF for each employee of state educational institutions. The Board's contribution is applied against the employees' premiums for the coverage selected and the employee pays any remaining premium.

The School carries commercial coverage for all other risks of loss. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage in the prior year and claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past two fiscal years.

VII. Other Revenues and Expenses – Government Activities

Other expenses – governmental activities as reported in the statement of activities on page 16 consisted of the following:

<b>September 30,</b>	<b>2023</b>
Pre-K expenses	\$ 435,626
After School and Summer Programs	31,159
Fundraising	107,635
Other	26,719
	<u>\$ 601,139</u>

## VII. Summary Disclosure of Significant Contingencies

### Federal and State Assisted Programs

The School 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 moneys 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 moneys.

### IX. Significant Effects of Subsequent Events

The School has evaluated subsequent events from the date of the balance sheet through the date the report is available to be issued which is the date of the independent auditors' report. The School has not evaluated subsequent events after that date. There were no subsequent events during this period that requires disclosure.

**University Charter School**  
**SCHEDULE OF THE BOARD'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY**  
**Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama**  
**Last Five Fiscal Years\* (Dollar Amounts in Thousands)**

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Board's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	0.050%	0.035%	0.025%	0.018%	0.020%
Board's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 1,967	\$ 3,284	\$ 3,079	\$ 1,995	\$ 2,023
Board's covered-employee payroll **	\$ 3,488,296	\$ 2,607,470	\$ 1,901,492	\$ 1,012,464	\$ 213,412
Board's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	0.06%	0.13%	0.16%	0.20%	0.95%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	62.21%	76.44%	67.72%	69.85%	72.29%

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending September 30.

\*\* Employer's covered payroll during the measurement period is the total covered payroll (GASB 82). For FY 2023, the measurement period is October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022.

These schedules are presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, governments should present information for those years which is available.

**University Charter School  
Schedules of Employer's Contributions  
Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama  
Last Five Fiscal Years\***

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Contractually required contributions	\$ 489,306	\$ 410,279	\$ 305,000	\$ 359,371	\$ 163,307
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	489,306	410,279	305,000	359,371	163,307
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Board's covered payroll	\$ 4,248,004	\$ 3,488,296	\$ 2,607,470	\$ 1,901,492	\$ 1,012,464
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	11.52%	11.76%	11.70%	18.90%	16.13%

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending September 30.

These schedules are presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, governments should present information for those years which is available.

**Notes to required supplementary information**

Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization method	Level percent of pay
Single equivalent remaining amortization period	25 years, closed
Assets valuation method	Market Value of Assets
Actuarial assumptions:	
Investment rate of return	7.45%
Projected salary increases **	3.25% - 5.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments	None
** Includes price inflation at	2.50%



**University Charter School**  
**SCHEDULE OF THE BOARD'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY**  
**Alabama Retired Education Employees' Healthcare Trust**  
**Last Five Fiscal Years\***

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Board's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset)	0.056%	0.042%	0.029%	0.029%	0.021%
Board's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset)	\$ 976,983	\$ 2,177,192	\$ 1,853,634	\$ 1,080,483	\$ 1,686,811
Board's covered-employee payroll **	\$ 3,488,296	\$ 2,607,470	\$ 1,901,492	\$ 1,012,464	\$ 213,412
Board's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	28.01%	83.50%	97.48%	106.72%	790.40%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	48.39%	27.11%	19.80%	28.14%	14.81%

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending September 30.

\*\* Employer's covered payroll during the measurement period is the total covered payroll (GASB 82). For FY 2023, the measurement period is October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022.

These schedules are presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, governments should present information for those years which is available.

**University Charter School  
Schedules of Employer's Contributions  
Alabama Retired Education Employees' Healthcare Trust  
Last Five Fiscal Years\***

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Contractually required contributions	\$ 87,881	\$ 107,154	\$ 72,762	\$ 68,462	\$ 81,452
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	87,881	107,154	72,762	68,462	81,452
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Board's covered payroll	\$ 4,248,004	\$ 3,488,296	\$ 2,607,470	\$ 1,901,492	\$ 1,012,464
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	2.07%	3.07%	2.79%	3.60%	8.04%

\* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending September 30.

These schedules are presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, governments should present information for those years which is available.

**University Charter School  
Notes to Required Supplementary Information  
Alabama Retired Education Employees' Healthcare Trust  
For the year ended September 30, 2023**

**NOTE 1 - CHANGES IN ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS**

In 2021, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to reflect actual experience more closely. In 2021, economic assumptions and the assumed rates of salary increases were adjusted to reflect actual and anticipated experience more closely.

In 2019, the anticipated rates of participation, spouse coverage and tobacco use were adjusted to reflect actual experience more closely.

**NOTE 2 - RECENT PLAN CHANGES**

Beginning in plan year 2021, the Medicare Advantage Plan with Prescription Drug Coverage (MAPD) plan premium rates exclude the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Health Insurer Fee which was repealed on December 20, 2019.

Effective January 1, 2017, Medicare eligible medical and prescription drug benefits are provided through the United Healthcare Medicare Advantage Plan with Prescription Drug Coverage (MAPD).

The Health Plan is changed each year to reflect the Affordable Care Act (ACA) maximum annual out-of-pocket amounts.

**NOTE 3 - METHOD AND ASSUMPTIONS USED IN CALCULATIONS OF ACTUARIALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS**

The actuarially determined contribution rates in the Schedule of Employer Contributions are calculated as of September 30, three years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported. Therefore, the actuarially determined employer contribution for fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, is determined based on the actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2017. The following actuarial methods and assumptions were used to determine the most recent contribution rate reported in that schedule:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level percent of pay
Remaining Amortization Period	22 years, closed
Asset Valuation Method	Market Value of Assets
Inflation	2.750%
Healthcare Cost Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	6.75%
Medicare Eligible	5.00% (beginning in 2019)
Ultimate Trend Rate:	
Pre-Medicare Eligible	4.75%
Medicare Eligible	4.75%
Year of Ultimate Trend Rate	2027 for Pre-Medicare Eligible 2024 for Medicare Eligible
Investment Rate of Return	5.00%, including inflation

**University Charter School**  
**All Fund Types**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and**  
**Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023**

	2023		
	Final Budget	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable) Variance
<b>Revenues:</b>			
State	\$ 5,573,727	\$ 5,795,271	\$ (221,544)
Federal	2,271,952	1,818,727	453,225
Local	964,352	7,026,306	(6,061,954)
Other	-	38,232	(38,232)
Total revenues	<u>8,810,031</u>	<u>14,678,536</u>	<u>5,868,505</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Instructional services	5,275,628	5,036,872	238,756
Instructional support	1,287,257	1,276,732	10,525
Operation and maintenance	340,444	646,044	(305,600)
Auxiliary services	338,310	339,436	(1,126)
General administration and central support	585,807	687,105	(101,298)
Other	659,093	286,019	373,074
Capital outlay	10,262,079	13,413,082	(3,151,003)
Debt Service - Principal	-	-	-
Debt Service - Interest	-	1,318,568	(1,318,568)
Total expenditures	<u>18,748,618</u>	<u>23,003,858</u>	<u>(4,255,240)</u>
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>			
Other fund uses	-	-	-
Proceeds from long term debt	10,000,000	9,573,177	(426,823)
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$ 61,413</u>	1,247,855	<u>\$ 1,186,442</u>
<b>Fund balance:</b>			
Beginning of the year, July 1		1,864,162	
Increase in inventory		3,075	
End of the year, September 30		<u>\$ 3,115,092</u>	

**University Charter School**  
**Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023**

GRANTOR/PASS-THROUGH GRANTOR PROGRAM TITLE	FEDERAL ASSISTANCE LIVING NUMBER	STATE/ PASS-THROUGH GRANTOR'S NUMBER	EXPENDITURES
FEDERAL GRANTS:			
CASH ASSISTANCE			
<u>US Department of Education</u>			
Direct Awards:			
Charter School Program	84.282		\$ 300,448
Pass through State of Alabama:			
Special Education Cluster			
Idea Part B	84.027		145,204
Idea Part B PreK	84.027		4,211
ARPA Idea Part B	84.027X		23,351
ARPA Idea Part B Preschool	84.027X		2,704
Total Special Education Cluster			<u>175,470</u>
Title I Part A	84.010		356,260
Cancer Prevention and Control	93.898		15,000
CRRSA Act - ESSER II	84.425D		192,576
ARPA-ESSER-III	84.425U		438,619
ESSER II LETRS	84.425D		4,800
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
USDA School Breakfast Program	10.553		62,850
USDA School Snack Program	10.555		18,288
USDA School Lunch Program	10.555		221,364
USDA Supply Chain	10.555		26,693
USDA Team Nutrition Stipend Grant	10.574		4,073
USDA Team Nutrition Training Grant	10.574		2,286
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			<u>335,554</u>
TOTAL FEDERAL CASH ASSISTANCE			<u>1,818,727</u>
STATE AWARDS:			
CASH ASSISTANCE			
<u>State of Alabama</u>			
Direct Award:			
Foundations	XXXX		\$ 3,912,889
Various other state awards	XXXX		<u>1,690,303</u>
TOTAL STATE CASH ASSISTANCE			<u>5,603,192</u>
TOTAL STATE AND FEDERAL AWARDS			<u>\$ 7,421,919</u>

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards:

Note 1: 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.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is followed in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the SEFA). Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the related liability is incurred. In applying the Susceptible-to-accrual concept to intergovernmental revenues, the legal and contractual requirements of the numerous individual programs are used as guidance. There are, however, essentially two types of such revenues. In one, monies must be expended on the specific purpose or project before any amounts will be paid to the Board; therefore, revenues are recognized based upon the expenditures recorded. In the other, monies are virtually unrestricted as to purpose of expenditure and substantially irrevocable; i.e., revocable only for failure to comply with prescribed compliance requirements, such as with equal employment opportunity. These resources are reflected as revenues at the time of receipt or earlier if they meet the availability criteria.

Note 2: Fiscal Period Audited

Single audit testing procedures were performed for program transactions occurring during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023.

Note 3: Indirect Costs

The Board has not elected to use the 10% de minimis cost rate.



**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**

Board of Directors  
University Charter School  
Livingston, Alabama

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 and each major fund of University Charter School as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprises University Charter School's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 18, 2024.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is 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 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 the internal control over financial reporting 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.

## Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether University Charter School's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### Purpose of this report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Rebekah Barr, CPA PC  
Certified Public Accountant  
Wilson, North Carolina

June 18, 2024



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON  
INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Board of Directors  
University Charter School  
Livingston, Alabama

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We have audited University Charter School's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of University Charter School's major federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2023. University Charter School's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

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

***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

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

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

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements



of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to University Charter School's federal programs.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

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

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

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

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

### **Report on Internal Control Over Compliance**


A *deficiency in internal control* over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal 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 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 significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. 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.

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

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

  
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Rebekah Barr, CPA PC  
Certified Public Accountant  
Wilson, North Carolina

June 18, 2024



**University Charter School  
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023**

SECTION II. -- FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

None reported

SECTION III. -- FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

None reported.

**University Charter School  
Summary Schedule of Prior Year's Audit Findings  
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023**

There were no prior year audit findings.