



Dave Yost • Auditor of State



PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Provost Academy Ohio  
Franklin County  
1335 Dublin Road, Suite A-050  
Columbus, OH 43215

To the Board of Directors:

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

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Provost Academy Ohio, Franklin County, Ohio (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the School's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our opinion.

### ***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Provost Academy Ohio, Franklin County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2015, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 3 to the financial statements, during the year ended June 30, 2015, the School adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27* and also GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date*. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

As discussed in Note 14 to the financial statements, the School has suffered recurring losses from operations and has a net position deficiency. Note 15 describes Management's plans regarding these matters. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty. This matter does not affect our opinion on these financial statements.

**Other Matters**

*Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require this presentation to include *Management's Discussion and Analysis* and schedules of net pension liabilities and pension contributions listed in the table of contents, to supplement the basic financial statements. Although this information is not part of the basic financial statements, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board considers it essential for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, consisting of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries to the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not opine or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to opine or provide any other assurance.

**Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 1, 2016, on our consideration of the School's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

July 1, 2016

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(UNAUDITED)**

The discussion and analysis of Provost Academy Ohio (the School) financial performance provides an overall review of the School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (the MD&A) is 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. Certain comparative information between the current fiscal year and the prior fiscal year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

Key Financial Highlights for the School for the 2014-2015 school year are as follows:

- Total assets were decreased by \$13,055.
- Total liabilities were increased by \$1,526,865.
- Total net position was \$(1,824,976).
- Total operating and non-operating revenues were \$328,552. Total operating expenses were \$1,602,627.

**USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT**

This report consists of four parts: the MD&A, the basic financial statements, the notes to the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Position reflect how the School did financially during fiscal year 2015. These statements include all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting includes all of the current year revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These statements report the School's Net Position and changes in Net Position. This change in Net Position is important because it tells the reader whether the financial position of the School has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the School's student enrollment, per-pupil funding as determined by the State of Ohio, change in technology, required educational programs and other factors.

The School uses enterprise presentation for all of its activities.

**Statement of Net Position**

The Statement of Net Position answers the question of how the School did financially during 2015. This statement includes all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resource focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(UNAUDITED)**

Table 1 provides a summary of the School's Net Position for fiscal year 2015.

**Table 1  
Statement of Net Position**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>Restated 2014</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets	\$ 211,139	\$ 110,275
Capital Assets, net	<u>157,118</u>	<u>271,037</u>
Total Assets	<u>368,257</u>	<u>381,312</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>363,333</u>	<u>26,931</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current Liabilities	1,682,460	359,144
Other Long Term Liabilities	471,611	600,000
Net Pension Liability	<u>345,528</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,499,599</u>	<u>959,144</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<u>56,967</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Position</b>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	157,118	271,037
Unrestricted	<u>(1,982,094)</u>	<u>(821,938)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ (1,824,976)</u>	<u>\$ (550,901)</u>

During 2015, the School adopted GASB Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27," which significantly revises accounting for pension costs and liabilities. For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and the net pension liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. When accounting for pension costs, GASB 27 focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability*. GASB 68 takes an earnings approach to pension accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension systems and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

Under the new standards required by GASB 68, the net pension liability equals the School's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

1. Present value of estimated future pension benefits attributable to active and inactive employees' past service
2. Minus plan assets available to pay these benefits



**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(UNAUDITED)**

GASB notes that pension obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange" – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this pension promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the School is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of this liability. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the pension system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension system *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The pension system is responsible for the administration of the plan.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e. sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability. As explained above, changes in pension benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of the net pension liability, but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required pension payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability is satisfied, this liability is separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB 68, the School's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

As a result of implementing GASB 68, the School is reporting a net pension liability and deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to pension on the accrual basis of accounting. This implementation also had the effect of restating net position at June 30, 2014, from (\$577,832) to (\$550,901).

Over time, Net Position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2015, the School's net position totaled \$(1,824,976).

Current assets represent cash and cash equivalents, intergovernmental and accounts receivable. Current liabilities represent accrued expenses and amounts owed to the management company at fiscal year-end.

Current Liabilities increased \$1,526,865 due to the implementation of GASB 68 of \$345,528, Edison advances payable of \$383,405 and repayment of state aid of \$799,492.

**Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position**

Table 2 shows the change in Net Position for fiscal year 2015, as well as a listing of revenues and expenses. This change in Net Position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School as a whole, the financial position of the School has improved or diminished. The cause of this may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the current laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(UNAUDITED)**

**Table 2 – Change in Net Position**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>Operating Revenue</b>		
State Aid	\$ 286,020	\$ 698,420
Other Revenue	8,301	13,593
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<u>294,321</u>	<u>712,013</u>
<b>Non-Operating Revenues</b>		
Federal Grants	34,231	-
Total Non-Operating Revenues	<u>34,231</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>328,552</u>	<u>712,013</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Purchased Services: Edison Learning	1,307,266	1,105,835
Pension Expense	103,926	25,310
Sponsor Fees	8,678	20,953
Legal Fees	30,129	32,870
Accounting Fees	30,353	20,000
Depreciation	113,919	78,127
Directors Fees	8,100	6,300
Other	256	450
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,602,627</u>	<u>1,289,845</u>
<b>Decrease in Net Position</b>	(1,274,075)	(577,832)
<b>Net Position, Beginning of Year, Restated – See Note 3</b>	<u>(550,901)</u>	N/A
<b>Net Position, End of Year</b>	<u>(1,824,976)</u>	<u>(550,901)</u>

The information necessary to restate the 2014 beginning balances and the 2014 pension expense amounts for the effects of the initial implementation of GASB 68 is not available. Therefore, 2014 operating expenses still include pension expense of \$25,310 computed under GASB 27. GASB 27 required recognizing pension expense equal to the contractually required contributions to the plan. Under GASB 68, pension expense represents additional amounts earned, adjusted by deferred inflows/outflows. The contractually required contribution is no longer a component of pension expense.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(UNAUDITED)**

Under GASB 68, the 2015 statements report pension expense of \$103,926. Consequently, in order to compare 2015 total program expenses to 2014, the following adjustments are needed:

Total 2015 operating expenses under GASB 68	\$ 1,602,627
Pension expense under GASB 68	(103,926)
2015 contractually required contribution	<u>35,042</u>
Adjusted 2015 operating expenses	1,533,743
Total 2014 operating expenses under GASB 27	<u>1,289,845</u>
Increase in operating expenses not related to pension	<u>\$ 243,898</u>

**BUDGETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Unlike other public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 5705 (with the exception of section 5705.391 – Five Year Forecasts), unless specifically provided in the community school's contract with its Sponsor.

The contract between the School and its Sponsor does prescribe a budgetary process. The School must prepare and submit a detail budget for every fiscal year to the Board of Directors and its Sponsor. The five-year forecast is also submitted to the Ohio Department of Education, annually.

**CAPITAL ASSETS**

At fiscal year end, the School's net capital asset balance was \$157,118. This balance represents current year additions of \$0 offset by current year depreciation of \$113,919. For more information on capital assets, see Note 5 of the Basic Financial Statements.

**DEBT**

On June 30, 2014, the School entered into a Promissory Note with Edison Learning, Inc., in which the School promised to pay Edison Learning, Inc. a principal sum of \$600,000 with interest on May 31, 2019 for expenses incurred on behalf of the School in fiscal year 2015. This note has an annual interest rate of 10 percent and is repaid on a monthly basis. Monthly payments begin in July, 2015.

**CURRENT FINANCIAL ISSUES**

The School is a community school and is funded through the State of Ohio Foundation Program. The School relies on this, as well as, State and Federal funds as its primary source of revenue. The School continually evaluates the extent of the impact that changes in State funding will have on current year operations.

Overall, the School will continue to provide learning opportunities and apply resources to best meet the needs of students.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(UNAUDITED)**

**CONTACTING THE SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School's finances and to demonstrate accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information contact C. David Massa, CPA, of Massa Financial Solutions, LLC, 1335 Dublin Road, Suite 50A Columbus, Ohio 43215-7037 or e-mail at [dave@massasolutionsllc.com](mailto:dave@massasolutionsllc.com).

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2015**

**Assets**

*Current Assets:*

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	23,011
Intergovernmental Receivable		155,673
Grants Receivable		5,235
Accounts Receivable		27,220
		27,220

Total Current Assets 211,139

*Noncurrent Assets:*

Capital Assets:

Depreciable Capital Assets, net		157,118
		157,118

Total Noncurrent Assets 157,118

**Deferred Outflows of Resources**

Pension		363,333
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources		363,333

**Liabilities**

*Current Liabilities:*

Accounts Payable		164
Intergovernmental Payable		799,492
Edison Advances Payable		740,825
Unearned Revenue		13,590
Note Payable – Edison		128,389
Total Current Liabilities		1,682,460

*Long Term Liabilities:*

Note Payable - Edison		471,611
Net Pension Liability (See Note 9)		345,528
Total Long-Term Liabilities		817,139

**Deferred Inflows of Resources**

Pension		56,967
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		56,967

**Net Position**

Net Investment in Capital Assets		157,118
Unrestricted		(1,982,094)
Total Net Position	\$	(1,824,976)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**Statement of Revenues,  
Expenses and Change in Net Position  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

**Operating Revenues**

State Aid	\$ 286,020
Other Revenue	8,301
Total Operating Revenues	<u>294,321</u>

**Operating Expenses**

Purchased Services: Edison Learning	1,307,266
Pension Expense	103,926
Sponsor Fees	8,678
Legal Fees	30,129
Accounting Fees	30,353
Depreciation	113,919
Directors Fees	8,100
Other	256
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,602,627</u>

**Operating Loss** (1,308,306)

**Non-Operating Revenues**

Federal Grants	34,231
Total Non-Operating Revenues	<u>34,231</u>

**Change in Net Position** (1,274,075)

**Net Position, Beginning of Year, Restated – See Note 3** (550,901)

**Net Position, End of Year** \$ (1,824,976)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**Statement of Cash Flows  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015**

<b><u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</u></b>	
Cash Received from State of Ohio	\$ 1,036,787
Cash Received from Other Sources	7,509
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	<u>(1,058,528)</u>
Net Cash Used for Operating Activities	(14,232)
<b><u>Cash Flows from Non-capital Financing Activities</u></b>	
Cash Received from Federal Grants	<u>28,996</u>
Net Cash Provided by Non-capital Financing Activities	28,996
<b>Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>14,764</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>8,247</u>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year</b>	<u>\$ 23,011</u>
	<b>(Continued)</b>

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**Statement of Cash Flows  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET  
CASH (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

<b>Operating Loss</b>	\$ (1,308,306)
Depreciation	113,919
Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Deferred Inflows and Outflows:	
(Increase) in Intergovernmental Receivable	(8,825)
(Increase) in Deferred Outflows	(363,333)
(Increase) in Receivables	(23,315)
Increase in Deferred Inflows	56,967
Increase in Net Pension Liability	372,459
Increase in Unearned Revenue	11,866
Increase in Accounts Payable	164
Increase in Intergovernmental Payable	750,767
Increase in Edison Payable	383,405
	<hr/>
Net Cash Used for Operating Activities	<u>\$ (14,232)</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements



**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

**1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY**

Provost Academy Ohio, (the School) is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702. The School's mission is to provide an orderly and supportive environment whereby students experience preparations for college, career and life. The School operates on a foundation, which fosters character building for all students, parents and staff members. The School, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school district and is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The School may acquire facilities as needed and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the School.

The School was approved for operation under a contract with Ohio Council of Community Schools, ("OCCS") (the Sponsor) for a five year period commencing on July 1, 2013. The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of the School and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration or terminate the contract prior to its expiration.

The School operates under the direction of a Board of Directors (the Board). The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract which include, but are not limited to, state mandated provisions regarding student populations, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admissions standards, and qualifications of teachers. The Board controls the School's instructional and administrative staff.

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The basic financial statements of the School have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental nonprofit organizations. 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 School's accounting policies are described below.

**A. Basis of Presentation**

The School's basic financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Change in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows. Enterprise fund reporting focuses on the determination of the changes in Net Position, financial position and cash flows.

The Government Accounting Standards Board requires the presentation of all financial activity to be reported within one enterprise fund for year-ending reporting purposes. Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprise where the intent is that the cost (expense) of providing goods and services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

**B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by measurement focus. Under this measurement focus, all assets, deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are included on the balance sheet. The operating statement presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in net position.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting is used for reporting purposes. Revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**C. Budgetary Process**

Unlike other public schools located in the state of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705 (with the exception of section 5705.391 – Five Year Forecasts), unless specifically provided for in the School's sponsorship agreement. The contract between the School and its Sponsor requires a detailed budget for each year of the contract.

**D. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash received by the School is reflected as "Cash and Cash Equivalents" on the Statement of Net Position. The School did not have any investments during the year ended June 30, 2015.

**E. Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

**F. Capital Assets and Depreciation**

Capital assets are capitalized at cost. The costs of additions are capitalized and expenditures for repairs and maintenance are expensed when incurred. When property is sold or retired, the related costs and accumulated depreciation are removed from the financial records and any gain or loss is included in additions to or deductions from net assets. Depreciation of capital assets is calculated utilizing the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the asset which are as follows:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Useful Life</u>
Computers and Software	3 years
Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment	5 years
Leasehold Improvements	3 years

The School's policy for asset capitalization threshold is \$5,000. Assets or certain asset groups not meeting the capitalization threshold are not capitalized and are not included in the assets represented in the accompany Statement of Net Position.

**G. Intergovernmental Revenues**

The School currently participates in the State Foundation Program. Revenues received from this program are recognized as operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Grants and entitlements are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which eligibility requirements have been met.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**G. Intergovernmental Revenues (Continued)**

Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

The School also participates in various federal programs passed through the Ohio Department of Education.

Under the above programs the School recorded \$286,020 this fiscal year from the State Foundation Program and \$34,231 from Federal grants.

**H. Compensated Absences**

Vacation is taken in a manner which corresponds with the school calendar; therefore the School does not accrue vacation time as a liability.

Sick/personal leave benefits are earned by full-time employees at the rate of eight days per year and cannot be carried into the subsequent years. No accrual for sick time is made since unused time is not paid to employees upon employment termination.

**I. Accrued Liabilities**

Obligations incurred but unpaid at June 30 are reported as accrued liabilities in the accompanying financial statements. These liabilities consisted of accounts payables of \$164, intergovernmental payable of \$799,492, note payable of \$600,000 and Edison advances payable of \$740,825 at June 30, 2015.

**J. Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions**

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. Non exchange transactions, in which the School receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditures requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**K. Net Position**

Net Position represents the difference between assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources. Net Position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restriction imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. The School applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available. Net investment in capital assets consist of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

**L. Operating Revenues and Expenses**

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities of the School. For the School, these revenues are primarily the State Foundation program. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the School. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating. There were no non-operating expenses reported at June 30, 2015.

**M. Deferred Inflows and Deferred Outflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the School, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the statement of net position for pension. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension are explained in Note 9.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized until that time. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources consisted of deferred inflows for pension. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension are reported on the statement of net position. (See Note 9)

**N. Unearned Revenue**

Unearned revenue represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period.

**O. Pensions**

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension plans and additions to/deletions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension systems. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension systems report investments at fair value.

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**3. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE AND RESTATEMENT OF NET POSTION**

For fiscal year 2015, the School implemented the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions" and GASB Statement No. 71, "Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date—an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68." GASB 68 established standards for measuring and recognizing pension liabilities, deferred outflows of resources deferred inflows of resources and expense/expenditure. The implementation of this pronouncement had the following effect on net position as reported June 30, 2014:

Net position June 30, 2014	(\$577,832)
Adjustments:	
Deferred Outflow - Payments Subsequent to Measurement Date	<u>26,931</u>
Restated Net Position June 30, 2014	<u><u>(\$550,901)</u></u>

Other than employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date, the School made no restatement for deferred inflows/outflows of resources as the information needed to generate these restatements was not available.

**4. RECEIVABLES**

**A. Accounts Receivable**

The School has accounts receivables totaling \$27,220 at June 30, 2015. These receivables represented monies earned, but not received as of June 30, 2015.

**B. Intergovernmental Receivable**

The School has intergovernmental receivables totaling \$155,673 at June 30, 2015. These receivables represented monies due to the School from government sources, but not received as of June 30, 2015.

**C. Grants Receivable**

The School has grants receivables totaling \$5,235 at June 30, 2015. These receivables represented monies earned, but not received as of June 30, 2015.

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**5. CAPITAL ASSETS**

For the period ending June 30, 2015, the School's capital assets consisted of the following:

	<u>Balance 06/30/14</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance 06/30/15</u>
<b>Capital Assets:</b>				
Computers and Software	\$ 330,650	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 330,650
Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment	18,514	-	-	18,514
<b>Total Capital Assets</b>	<b>349,164</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>349,164</b>
<b>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</b>				
Computers and Software	(75,350)	(110,217)	-	(185,567)
Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment	(2,777)	(3,702)	-	(6,479)
<b>Total Accumulated Depreciation</b>	<b>(78,127)</b>	<b>(113,919)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(192,046)</b>
<b>Capital Assets, Net</b>	<b>\$ 271,037</b>	<b>\$(113,919)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 157,118</b>

**6. NOTE PAYABLE**

On June 30, 2014, the School signed a five year promissory note with Edison Learning, Inc. for the sum of \$600,000 payable monthly at ten percent interest for expenses incurred by Edison Learning, Inc. on behalf of the School during fiscal year 2015. Repayment of the Note begins in July, 2015.

<b>Promissory Note</b>					<b>Balance</b>
<u>Year</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>June 30,</u>	
June 2015	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000	
June 2016	\$ 600,000	\$ 128,389	\$ 54,221	\$ 471,611	
June 2017	\$ 471,611	\$ 141,834	\$ 40,774	\$ 329,777	
June 2018	\$ 329,777	\$ 156,685	\$ 25,925	\$ 173,092	
June 2019	<u>\$ 173,092</u>	<u>\$ 173,092</u>	<u>\$ 9,518</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	

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**7. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

The changes in the School's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2015 were as follows:

	Principal Outstanding			Principal Outstanding	Due Within
	06/30/14	Additions	Deductions	06/30/15	One Year
Net Pension Liability:					
STRS	-	39,088	-	39,088	-
SERS	-	306,440	-	306,440	-
Total Net Pension Liability	-	345,528	-	345,528	-
Note Payable - Edison	600,000	-	-	600,000	128,389
Total Long-Term Obligations	600,000	345,528	-	945,528	128,389

**8. RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Property & Liability**

The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, the School contracted with Willis of New York, Inc. for nonprofits and maintained general liability insurance with a \$1,250,000 single occurrence limit and \$20,000,000 annual aggregate and a combined policy aggregate coverage for various liability coverage in the amount of \$25,000,000.

**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS**

**A. Net Pension Liability**

The net pension liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for pensions. Pensions are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension liability represents the School's proportionate share of each pension plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

Ohio Revised Code limits the School's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The School cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the School does receive the benefit of employees' services in exchange for compensation including pension.

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**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (Continued)**

**A. Net Pension Liability (Continued)**

GASB 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension liability* on the accrual basis of accounting.

**B. Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

Plan Description – The School's non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3309. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about SERS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially Reduced Benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit

\* Members with 25 years of service credit as of August 1, 2017, will be included in this plan.

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on year of service; 2.2 percent for the first thirty years of service and 2.5 percent for years of service credit over 30. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

One year after an effective benefit date, a benefit recipient is entitled to a three percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). This same COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit.



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**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (Continued)**

**B. Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS) (Continued)**

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers.

The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 13.18 percent. The remaining 0.82 percent of the 14 percent employer contribution rate was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$20,219 for fiscal year 2015.

**C. Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

Plan Description – School licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS Web site at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org).

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation will be 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. With certain exceptions, the basic benefit is increased each year by two percent of the original base benefit. For members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, the first two percent is paid on the fifth anniversary of the retirement benefit. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or age 55 with 25 years of service, or 30 years of service regardless of age. Age and service requirements for retirement will increase effective August 1, 2015, and will continue to increase periodically until they reach age 60 with 35 years of service or age 65 with five years of service on August 1, 2026.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.5 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.5 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, member contributions are allocated among investment choices by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (Continued)**

**C. Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of services. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50.

New members who choose the DC plan or Combined Plan will have another opportunity to reselect a permanent plan during their fifth year of membership. Members may remain in the same plan or transfer to another STRS plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's Combined Plan account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS has therefore included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB 68 reporting purposes.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. New members on or after July 1, 2013, must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit that apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The statutory maximum employee contribution rate was increased one percent July 1, 2014, and will be increased one percent each year until it reaches 14 percent on July 1, 2016. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, plan members were required to contribute 12 percent of their annual covered salary. The School was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2015 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$14,823 for fiscal year 2015. There were no contributions to the DC and Combined Plans for fiscal year 2015.

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

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2014, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$306,440	\$39,088	\$345,528
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.00605500%	0.00016070%	
Pension Expense	\$90,018	\$13,908	\$103,926

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**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (Continued)**

**D. Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)**

At June 30, 2015, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$2,608	\$376	\$2,984
Change in proportionate share	288,058	37,249	325,307
School contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>20,219</u>	<u>14,823</u>	<u>35,042</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$310,885</u>	<u>\$52,448</u>	<u>\$363,333</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	<u>\$49,736</u>	<u>\$7,231</u>	<u>\$56,967</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$49,736</u>	<u>\$7,231</u>	<u>\$56,967</u>

\$35,042 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2016. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2016	\$60,232	\$7,598	\$67,830
2017	60,232	7,598	67,830
2018	60,232	7,598	67,830
2019	<u>60,234</u>	<u>7,600</u>	<u>67,834</u>
Total	<u>\$240,930</u>	<u>\$30,394</u>	<u>\$271,324</u>

**E. Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (Continued)**

**E. Actuarial Assumptions – SERS (Continued)**

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and plan members to that point. The projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes does not explicitly incorporate the potential effects of legal or contractual funding limitations.

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. For a newly hired employee, actuarial calculations will take into account the employee's entire career with the employer and also take into consideration the benefits, if any, paid to the employee after termination of employment until the death of the employee and any applicable contingent annuitant. In many cases actuarial calculations reflect several decades of service with the employer and the payment of benefits after termination.

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2014, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.25 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	4.00 percent to 22 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	3 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent net of investments expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal

For post-retirement mortality, the table used in evaluating allowances to be paid is the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set back one year for both men and women. Special mortality tables are used for the period after disability retirement.

The most recent experience study was completed June 30, 2010.

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted averaged of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major assets class are summarized in the following table:

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (Continued)**

**E. Actuarial Assumptions – SERS (Continued)**

Asset Class	Target		Long-Term Expected	
	Allocation		Real Rate of Return	
Cash	1.00	%	0.00	%
US Stocks	22.50		5.00	
Non-US Stocks	22.50		5.50	
Fixed Income	19.00		1.50	
Private Equity	10.00		10.00	
Real Assets	10.00		5.00	
Multi-Asset Strategies	15.00		7.50	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>%</b>		

**Discount Rate** The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.75 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all 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 benefits to determine the total pension liability.

**Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.75 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
School's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$437,200	\$306,440	\$196,459

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**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (Continued)**

**F. Actuarial Assumptions – STRS**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2014, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.75 percent
Projected salary increases	2.75 percent at age 70 to 12.25 percent at age 20
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	2 percent simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2 percent per year; for members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, 2 percent COLA paid on fifth anniversary of retirement date.

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table (Projection 2022—Scale AA) for Males and Females. Males’ ages are set-back two years through age 89 and no set-back for age 90 and above. Females younger than age 80 are set back four years, one year set back from age 80 through 89 and not set back from age 90 and above.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2014, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study, effective July 1, 2012.

The 10 year expected real rate of return on pension plan investments was determined by STRS’ investment consultant by developing best estimates of expected future real rates of return for each major asset class. The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	31.00 %	8.00 %
International Equity	26.00	7.85
Alternatives	14.00	8.00
Fixed Income	18.00	3.75
Real Estate	10.00	6.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	3.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>	

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2014. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS’ fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2014. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.75 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2014.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**9. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (Continued)**

**F. Actuarial Assumptions – STRS (Continued)**

***Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate*** The following table presents the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.75 percent, as well as what the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.75 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
School's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$55,960	\$39,088	\$24,822

**10. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**A. School Employees Retirement System**

Health Care Plan Description - The School contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 45 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. The Health Care Plan includes hospitalization and physicians' fees through several types of plans including HMO's, PPO's, Medicare Advantage, and traditional indemnity plans as well as a prescription drug program. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. Health care is financed through a combination of employer contributions and retiree premiums, copays and deductibles on covered health care expenses, investment returns, and any funds received as a result of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Retirees and their beneficiaries are required to pay a health care premium that varies depending on the plan selected, the number of qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required basic benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund. For fiscal year 2015, 0.82 percent of covered payroll was allocated to health care. In addition, employers pay a surcharge for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated according to service credit earned. For fiscal year 2015, this amount was \$20,450. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**10. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (Continued)**

**A. School Employees Retirement System (Continued)**

The School's contributions for health care (including surcharge) for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015, and 2014 were \$1,258 and \$506, respectively. For fiscal year 2015 and 2014, 100 percent has been contributed.

**B. School Teachers Retirement Systems**

Plan Description – The School District participates in the cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit Health Plan administered by the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS Ohio to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. All benefit recipients, for the most recent year, pay a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For fiscal year 2015, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. The School's contributions for health care for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2015, and 2014 were \$0 and \$181 respectively. The full amount has been contributed for fiscal years 2015 and 2014.

**11. CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

The School received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of the School, any such adjustments will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the School.

**B. Litigation**

There are currently no matters in litigation with the School as defendant.



**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**11. CONTINGENCIES (Continued)**

**C. Full-Time Equivalency**

The Ohio Department of Education conducts reviews of enrollment data and full-time equivalency (FTE) calculations made by the schools. These reviews are conducted to ensure the schools are reporting accurate student enrollment data to the State, upon which State foundation funding is calculated. A reviewed performed by ODE revealed the School was overpaid by \$799,492 during fiscal year 2015. This amount will be repaid in 19 equal monthly installments.

As of the date of this report, ODE has not finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2015 Foundation funding for the School; therefore, any additional financial statement impact is not determinable at this time. ODE and management believe this will result in either an increase or reduction to the liability of the School.

**12. SPONSOR CONTRACT**

The School contracted with Ohio Council of Community Schools (OCCS) as its sponsor and oversight services as required by law. Sponsorship fees are calculated as a three percent of state funds received by the School from the State of Ohio. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, the total sponsorship fees paid totaled \$8,678.

**13. AGREEMENT WITH EDISON LEARNING, INC./ PURCHASED SERVICES EXPENSE**

On May 15, 2013, the School contracted with Edison Learning, Inc. to provide educational programs that offer educational excellence and educational innovation based on Edison Learning, Inc.'s unique school design, comprehensive educational programs, and management principles. The contract may be renewed for an additional five-year term. Under the contract, Edison Learning, Inc. is responsible and accountable to the School's Board of Directors for the administration, operation, and performance of the School in accordance with the School's contract with OCCS to operate the School. Significant provisions of the contract are as follows:

**A. Financial Provisions**

**1. Management Consulting and Operation Fee**

In consideration for the variety of Professional and Administrative Management Services provided by Edison Learning, the School shall pay to Edison Learning a management fee of \$250,000 per academic year of the Charter School.

**2. The School's Financial Responsibility**

The School is responsible for initial startup costs and rent. The School is also responsible to pay for legal fees, accounting, sponsor fees and other expenses directly related to activities of the Board.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**13. AGREEMENT WITH EDISON LEARNING, INC./ PURCHASED SERVICES EXPENSE (Continued)**

**A. Financial Provisions (Continued)**

**3. Edison Financial Responsibilities**

Edison Learning, Inc. is responsible for costs associated with operating the School. Such costs shall include, but shall not be limited to, salaries and benefits, including payroll taxes; pension and retirement; the purchase of curriculum materials, textbooks, computers and other equipment, software, and supplies; insurance premiums, utilities, janitorial services, and financial management services related to the operation of the School and repairs and maintenance of the School's facilities, except for capital repair. Edison Learning, Inc. shall equip the School's facilities with desks and other furniture and furnishings and these items are considered property of Edison Learning, Inc. Edison Learning, Inc. must secure and maintain commercial general liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage; educator liability coverage; automobile liability insurance, for, personal injury and property damage; property insurance for facilities; and workers' compensation insurance for employees.

**4. Budget**

Edison Learning, Inc. shall provide the School with an annual budget, in reasonable detail, by April 15 of each fiscal year for the following fiscal year.

**B. Educational Services**

Edison Learning, Inc. provides electronic educational services to 9-12 students, in addition to executing the financial responsibilities noted above.

**C. Personnel**

All personnel working at the School are employees of the School.

**D. Agreement Termination**

**1. Termination by the School**

The School may terminate the contract in the event Edison Learning, Inc. materially breaches the contract and Edison Learning, Inc. fails to remedy such breach within 90 days of its receipt of written notice of such breach from the School.

**2. Termination by Edison Learning, Inc.**

Edison Learning, Inc. may terminate the contract in the event the School materially breaches the contract and the School fails to remedy such breach within 90 days of its receipt of written notice of such breach from Edison Learning, Inc.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**13. AGREEMENT WITH EDISON LEARNING, INC./ PURCHASED SERVICES EXPENSE (Continued)**

**E. Edison Learning, Inc. - Purchased Services**

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, Edison Learning, Inc. incurred the following expenses on behalf of the School:

**Direct Site Expenses:**

Salaries and Wages and Benefits	\$ 310,683
Professional and Technical Services	328,894
Property Services	39,459
Curriculum and materials	487,775
Other Direct Costs	<u>140,455</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 1,307,266</u>

**14. FISCAL DISTRESS**

Several factors have caused the School to experience fiscal distress. The School's cash balance at June 30, 2015 was \$23,011. Additionally, the School has significant liabilities at June 30, 2015 which has resulted in a deficit net position of (\$1,824,976). Overcoming this deficit may be difficult without significant increases in student enrollments and related revenues in order to pay off outstanding liabilities and cover ongoing operating costs.

**15. MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The amount owed to Edison Learning, Inc. at June 30, 2015 is for unpaid operating expenses and outstanding advances for the start-up of the School. Edison Learning, Inc. remains committed to the success of the School both academically and financially. During the current year, stronger efforts in student recruitment and the use of Federal funds are improving the financial performance of the School.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY  
SCHOOL EMPLOYER'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OHIO  
LAST FISCAL YEAR (1)**

	<u>2014</u>
School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.006055%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 306,440
School's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 153,411
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	199.75%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	71.70%

(1) Fiscal year 2014 was the School's first year of operations.

Amounts presented as of the School's measurement date  
which is the prior fiscal year end.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY  
STATE TEACHER'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OHIO  
LAST FISCAL YEAR (1)**

	<u><b>2014</b></u>
School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.00016070%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 39,088
School's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 105,878
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	36.92%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	74.70%

(1) Fiscal year 2014 was the School's first year of operations.

Amounts presented as of the School's measurement date  
which is the prior fiscal year end.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL'S CONTRIBUTIONS  
SCHOOL EMPLOYER'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OHIO  
LAST TWO FISCAL YEARS**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 20,219	\$ 24,632
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>\$ (20,219)</u>	<u>\$ (24,632)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
School's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 153,411	\$175,940
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	13.18%	14.00%

Note: Fiscal year 2014 was the School's first year of operations.

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL'S CONTRIBUTIONS  
STATE TEACHER'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OHIO  
LAST TWO FISCAL YEARS**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 14,823	\$ 2,299
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>\$ (14,823)</u>	<u>\$ (2,299)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
School's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 105,878	\$ 16,421
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	14.00%	14.00%

Note: Fiscal year 2014 was the School's first year of operations.

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Provost Academy Ohio  
Franklin County  
1335 Dublin Road, Suite A-050  
Columbus, OH 43215

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the Provost Academy Ohio, Franklin County, Ohio (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 1, 2016, wherein we noted the School adopted Governmental Accounting Standard No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions-an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27* and also GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date*. We also noted the School has suffered recurring losses from operations and has a net position deficiency.

### ***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the School's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the School's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider finding 2015-001 to be a material weakness.

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of reasonably assuring whether the School's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2015-001.

***School's Response to Finding***

The School's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not audit the School's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

***Purpose of this Report***

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the School's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

July 1, 2016

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
JUNE 30, 2015**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2015-001**

**Material Weakness / Material Noncompliance  
Student Attendance Records**

**Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.08** provides the formula by which Community Schools are funded. Community Schools receive funding from the state through the per-pupil foundation allocation. A full-time student is one who attends the entire school day and entire school year which would result in the student having a full-time equivalency of 1.00. A student who attends less than the entire day and entire school year would have an FTE equal to the total hours attended in proportion to the total hours offered by the school.

Pursuant to **Ohio Rev. Code § 3301.0714**, schools must enter data regarding enrollment and attendance of students into the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) Education Management Information System (EMIS). Community School's receive state funding based on the information provided to ODE via EMIS, which should be substantiated by sufficient maintenance of records indicating the time spent by each student engaging in learning opportunities.

On June 23, 2015, ODE completed a review of the School's enrollment in order to determine each student's percentage of FTE based on the percentage of learning opportunities offered by the School to that student. During the review, ODE found the School's attendance documentation and policies needed to be updated to be compliant with law. ODE identified deficiencies in which the School did not have sufficient supporting documentation of student attendance records. ODE also noted the impact attendance records have on truancy and mandatory withdrawal if a student misses 105 consecutive hours of learning opportunities.

We reviewed the School's policies concerning Student Attendance, including enrollment, learning opportunity documentation, withdrawals and truancy. We found the School's policies were inconsistent with FTE requirements in that the policies did not adequately allow for proper tracking of student learning hours and the only support maintained for learning opportunities were hours logged within the online learning portal. Outside learning opportunities were not properly documented or supported. Additionally, we noted the policies did not include the 105 hour rule in relation to identifying and withdrawing truant students.

In addition to reviewing the School's policies, we requested supporting documentation for 60 students engaged in learning during the 2015 fiscal year. Of this sample, the School was unable to provide student logs to document the number of learning hours for all 60 students tested. Failure to properly track student hours also impacts truancy and mandatory withdrawal when a student misses 105 consecutive hours of learning opportunities. This was consistent with the findings of ODE during its 2015 FTE review of the School.

The policy deficiencies result in insufficient supporting documentation over student attendance and properly identifying and withdrawing truant students. The failure by the School to properly maintain supporting documentation of attendance of its students resulted in a large liability for repayment of state foundation payments. This liability will be repaid from future state foundation payments received by the School. This failure, unless rectified, could result in the loss of future state foundation payments to the School.

We recommend the School improve its policy concerning student attendance records and truancy. We recommend the School establish thorough internal controls to facilitate the maintenance of proper student attendance documentation.

PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)

<p>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS (Continued)</p>
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FINDING NUMBER 2015-001 (Continued)

**Material Weakness / Material Noncompliance (Continued)**  
**Student Attendance Records (Continued)**

**Officials' Response:** To address the Material Weakness finding during the 2014-15 school year, Provost Academy Ohio implemented a student work log feature at the launch of the 15-16 school year to ensure appropriate documentation was collected verifying all learning activities and minutes are captured within the student learning system (SLS), as well as outside of the system.

This feature requires students to retroactively log all time spent throughout their coursework before they can access their courses for a particular day. These minutes are then verified by a Highly Qualified Teacher to ensure accuracy. We are confident with the implementation of the student work log feature within our SLS, we have corrected the material weakness found during the 2014-15 school year.

PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO  
FRANKLIN COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
JUNE 30, 2015

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <b><i>Explain</i></b>
2014-001	Material Noncompliance / Material Weakness – Student Attendance Records	No	Reissued as finding 2015-001.

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**PROVOST ACADEMY OHIO**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

**This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.**

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
AUGUST 9, 2016**