# MARION CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT DIGITAL ACADEMY

# **MARION COUNTY**

AUDITED BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For The Year Ended June 30, 2006

Rea & Associates, Inc.

ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS CONSULTANTS



Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Board of Directors Marion City School District Digital Academy 910 East Church Street Marion, Ohio 43302

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Marion City School District Digital Academy, Marion County, prepared by Rea & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Marion City School District Digital Academy is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Jaylor

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

September 25, 2007

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# MARION CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT DIGITAL ACADEMY MARION COUNTY

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# Rea & Associates, Inc.

ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

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We're Ready For Your Future

June 29, 2007

To the Board of Directors Marion City School District Digital Academy Marion, OH

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of Marion City School District Digital Academy, Marion, Ohio (the Digital Academy), component unit of Marion City School District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2006. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Digital Academy's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Marion City School District Digital Academy, Marion, Ohio, as of June 30, 2006, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 29, 2007, on our consideration of the Digital Academy'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. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 2 through 4 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Kea & Associates, Inc.

The discussion and analysis of Marion City Digital Academy's (MCDA) financial performance provides an overall review of MCDA's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006. Readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to enhance their understanding of MCDA's financial performance.

#### **Highlights**

MCDA began operations in January 2003. MCDA is an online internet school which served 185 students during fiscal year 2003, 169 students during fiscal year 2004, 247 students during fiscal year 2005, and 248 students during fiscal year 2006. MCDA continues to contract with Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association (TRECA) for many of the services it needs to educate the students.

#### **Using the Basic Financial Statements**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements.

The statement of net assets and the statement of revenues, expenses, and change in net assets reflect how MCDA did financially during fiscal year 2006. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting similar to that which is used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting considers all of the current fiscal years' revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These statements report MCDA's net assets and change in those assets. This change in net assets is important because it tells the reader whether the financial position of MCDA has increased or decreased from the prior fiscal year. Over time, these increases and/or decreases are one indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating.

Table 1 provides a summary of MCDA's net assets for fiscal year 2006 and fiscal year 2005:

#### Table 1 Net Assets

	0007	Restated
	2006	2005
Assets:		
Current Assets	\$171,751	\$100,914
Capital Assets, Net	63,059	4,907
Total Assets	234,810	105,821
Liabilities:		
Current Liabilities	93,938	48,186
Net Assets:		
Invested in Capital Assets	63,059	4,907
Unrestricted	77,813	52,728
Total Net Assets	\$140,872	\$57,635

A review of the above table demonstrates a number of significant changes from the prior fiscal year. The increase in current assets (cash and cash equivalents) is due to MCDA receiving additional State foundation resources and operating grants during fiscal year 2006. The increase in capital assets and invested in capital assets is the result of computer purchases. MCDA purchased 62 desktop and 9 laptop computers during the fiscal year. The increase in current liabilities is primarily due to per pupil fees owed to the Marion City School District at fiscal year end.

Table 2 reflects the change in net assets for fiscal year 2006 and fiscal year 2005.

### Table 2 Change in Net Assets

		Restated
	2006	2005
Operating Revenues:		
Foundation	\$732,860	\$698,012
Other Operating Revenues	111	0
Non-Operating Revenues:		
Operating Grants	161,739	76,101
Interest Revenue	1,289	565
Total Revenues	895,999	774,678
Operating Expenses:		
Salaries	19,711	37,061
Fringe Benefits	10,116	7,783
Purchased Services	667,370	673,963
Materials and Supplies	37,144	35,344
Depreciation	16,275	1,390
Other Operating Expenses	62,146	3,544
Total Expenses	812,762	759,085
Increase in Net Assets	83,237	15,593
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	57,635	42,042
Net Assets at End of Year	\$140,872	\$57,635

Total revenues increased almost 16 percent from fiscal year 2005. This is largely the result of receiving Phase II of MCDA's Implementation Grant, although MCDA also received a larger distribution of State foundation monies in fiscal year 2006. Expenses increased 7 percent from fiscal year 2005, and while not a significant increase, the one notable increase in other expenses is due to resources MCDA had to return to the State. The overall increase is net assets is obviously due to the increase in revenues exceeding the increase in expenses.

#### **Budgeting**

MCDA is not required to follow the budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705.

#### **Capital Assets**

At the end of fiscal year 2006, MCDA had \$63,059 invested in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation). For further information regarding MCDA's capital assets, refer to Note 5 to the basic financial statements.

#### **Current Issues**

MCDA is sponsored by the Marion City School District. MCDA relies on State foundation funding as well as federal grants to provide the monies necessary to continue a technology oriented educational program. These funds will continue to help expand the current program.

The future of MCDA is dependent upon continued funding from the State as no local revenue can be generated through tuition or property taxes.

MCDA has committed itself to providing state of the art technology based educational opportunities to students. The management will aggressively pursue adequate funding to secure the financial stability of MCDA.

#### **Contacting MCDA's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of MCDA's finances and to reflect MCDA's accountability for the monies it receives. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to Robert Wood, Treasurer, Marion City Digital Academy, 910 East Church Street, Marion, Ohio 43302.

# Marion City School District Digital Academy Marion County Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2006

Assets: Current Assets: Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 171,751
<u>Non-Current Assets:</u> Depreciable Capital Assets, Net Total Assets	 63,059 234,810
Liabilities: <u>Current Liabilities:</u> Accounts Payable Accrued Wages Payable Due to Primary Government Intergovernmental Payable Total Current Liabilities	 5,612 9,636 60,026 18,664 93,938
<u>Net Assets:</u> Invested in Capital Assets Unrestricted	 63,059 77,813
Total Net Assets	\$ 140,872

See Accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements 5

# Marion City School District Digital Academy Marion County Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Assets For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2006

Operating Revenues: Foundation Other Operating Revenues	\$	732,860 111
Total Operating Revenues	. <u> </u>	732,971
Operating Expenses:		
Salaries		19,711
Fringe Benefits		19,711
Purchased Services		667,370
Materials and Supplies		37,144
Depreciation		16,275
Other Operating Expenses		62,146
	-	
Total Operating Expenses		812,762
Operating Loss		(79,791)
Non-Operating Revenues		
Operating Grants		161,739
Interest Revenue	-	1,289
Total Non-Operating Revenues		163,028
Change in Net Assets		83,237
Net Assets at Beginning of Year - Restated (Note 3)	<b></b>	57,635
Net Assets at End of Year	\$	140,872

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

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## Marion City School District Digital Academy Marion County Statement of Cash Flows For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2006

# Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Cash Received from Foundation	\$	732,860
Cash Received from Other Revenues		111
Cash Payments for Personal Services		(12,717)
Cash Payments for Fringe Benefits		(3,765)
Cash Payments for Goods and Services		(670,748)
Cash Payments for Other Expenses		(62,146)
Net Cash Used for Operating Activities		(16,405)
Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities		
Cash Received from Operating Grants		161,739
Cash Flows from Capital and Dalated Financian Activities		
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities Acquisition of Capital Assets		(74 407)
Acquisition of Capital Assets		(74,427)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Cash Received from Interest		1,289
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		72,196
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year		99,555
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$	171,751
Reconciliation of Operating Loss		
to Net Cash Used for Operating Activities		
Operating Loss	\$	(79,791)
- F	Ψ	(13,131)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss		
to Net Cash Used for Operating Activities		
Depreciation		16,275
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
Decrease in Inventory Held for Resale		1,359
Increase in Accounts Payable		5,612
Increase in Accrued Wages Payable		6,994
Increase in Due to Primary Government		14,482
Increase in Intergovernmental Payable		18,664
Net Cash Used for Operating Activities	\$	(16,405)

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

#### Note 1 - Description of the School

Marion City Digital Academy (MCDA) is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702. MCDA is an approved tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Management is not aware of any course of action or series of events that have occurred that might adversely affect MCDA's tax exempt status. MCDA's objective is to deliver a comprehensive educational program of high quality, tied to state and national standards, which can be delivered to students in the K-12 population entirely through distance learning technologies. It is to be operated in cooperation with the public schools to provide an innovative and cost-effective solution to the special problems of disabled students, students removed from school for disciplinary reasons, students needing advanced or specialized courses which are not available locally, and others, including home-schooled students who are not currently enrolled in any public school and who are not receiving a meaningful, comprehensive, and standards-based educational program. MCDA, which is part of the State's education program, is nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations. MCDA may acquire facilities as needed and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the school.

MCDA was approved for operation under a contract with the Marion City School District (the Sponsor) for a fiveyear period commencing on August 26, 2002. The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of MCDA and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration. The Sponsor is also the fiscal agent of MCDA with the Treasurer of the Sponsor performing the role of Treasurer for MCDA.

MCDA operates under the direction of a five-member Board of Directors made up of the Superintendent and four other licensed administrators of the Marion City School District. The Sponsor makes up a majority of the Board and can impose its will on MCDA; therefore, MCDA is a component unit of the Marion City School District. The Board of Directors is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract which include, but are not limited to, state-mandated provisions regarding student population, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admission standards, and qualifications of teachers. During fiscal year 2006, MCDA purchased services from the Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association (TRECA).

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The basic financial statements of MCDA have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. MCDA also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) statements and interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. MCDA does not apply Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) statements and interpretations issued after November 30, 1989. Following are the more significant of the MCDA's accounting policies.

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### A. Basis of Presentation

MCDA's basic financial statements consist of a statement of net assets; a statement of revenues, expenses, and change in net assets; and a statement of cash flows.

MCDA uses enterprise accounting to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. Enterprise accounting focuses on the determination of operating income, change in net assets, financial position, and cash flows. Enterprise accounting may be used to account for any activity for which a fee is charged to external users for goods or services.

#### **B.** Measurement Focus

MCDA is accounted for using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and liabilities associated with the operation of MCDA are included on the statement of net assets. The statement of revenues, expenses, and change in net assets presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total net assets. The statement of cash flows reflects how MCDA finances and meets its cash flow needs.

#### C. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. MCDA's financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded when the exchange takes place. Revenues resulting from nonexchange transactions, in which MCDA receives value without directly giving equal value in return, such as grants and entitlements, are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the fiscal year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which MCDA must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to MCDA on a reimbursement basis. Expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

#### **D. Budgetary Process**

Unlike other public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided by MCDA's contract with its Sponsor. The contract between MCDA and its Sponsor does prescribe a budget requirement. A line item budget is to be presented to MCDA's Board of Directors at all regular board meetings. The budget is to be reviewed and accepted or rejected at each meeting.

#### E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash held by MCDA is reflected as "Cash and Cash Equivalents" on the statement of net assets. Investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments. During fiscal year 2006, MCDA had no investments.

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### F. Capital Assets

All capital assets are capitalized at cost and updated for additions and reductions during the fiscal year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market value on the date donated. MCDA maintains a capitalization threshold of five hundred dollars. MCDA does not have any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

All capital assets are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. Capital assets, currently consisting of equipment, are depreciated over five years.

#### G. Net Assets

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation. Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by MCDA or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. MCDA first applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available. MCDA did not have any restricted net assets at fiscal year end.

#### **H.** Intergovernmental Revenues

MCDA currently participates in the State Foundation Program. Revenues received from these programs are recognized as operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements which specify the fiscal 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 MCDA on a reimbursement basis.

The amount of these grants is directly related to the number of students enrolled in MCDA. The Ohio Department of Education conducts reviews of enrollment data and full-time equivalency (FTE) calculations made by MCDA. These reviews are conducted to ensure that accurate student enrollment data is reported to the State, upon which State foundation funding is calculated.

The remaining grants and entitlements received by MCDA are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which eligibility requirements have been met.

#### I. Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of MCDA. For MCDA, these revenues are generally foundation payments from the State. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of MCDA. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### J. 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 those estimates.

#### Note 3 - Correction of an Error

In the prior fiscal year, MCDA incorrectly recorded capital assets. As a result of this correction, capital assets decreased \$26,831 from \$33,779 to \$6,948 and accumulated depreciation decreased \$10,655 from (\$12,696) to (\$2,041). As a result of this restatement, net assets as previously reported as of June 30, 2005, decreased \$16,176, from \$73,811 to 57,635.

#### Note 4 - Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At fiscal year end, \$74,732 of the School District's bank balance of \$174,732 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized.

#### Note 5 - Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, was as follows:

Restated Balance at 6/30/05	Additions	Reductions	Balance at 6/30/06
, <del></del>			
\$6,948	\$74,427	\$0	\$81,375
(2,041)	(16,275)	0	(18,316)
\$4,907	\$58,152	\$0	\$63,059
	Balance at 6/30/05 \$6,948 (2,041)	Balance at Additions   6/30/05 Additions   \$6,948 \$74,427   (2,041) (16,275)	Balance at 6/30/05 Additions Reductions   \$6,948 \$74,427 \$0   (2,041) (16,275) 0

#### Note 6 - Risk Management

MCDA 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 fiscal year 2006, MCDA obtained the following insurance coverages through Marion City School District's insurance policy.

Coverage provided by the Ohio School Plan:

General Liability	
Each Occurrence	\$1,000,000
Aggregate	3,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage for the past three fiscal years.

#### Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

#### A. State Teachers Retirement System

The School District contributes to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system administered by the State Teachers Retirement Board. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. STRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to the State Teachers Retirement System, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771.

New members have a choice of three retirement plans, a Defined Benefit Plan (DBP), a Defined Contribution Plan (DCP), and a Combined Plan (CP). The DBP offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service or on an allowance based on member contributions and earned interest matched by STRS funds multiplied by an actuarially determined annuity factor. The DCP allows members to place all of their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5 percent of earned compensation into an investment account. Investment decisions are made by the member. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age fifty and termination of employment. The CP offers features of both the DBP and DCP. In the CP, member contributions are invested by the member and employer contributions are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DBP. DCP and CP members will transfer to the DBP during their fifth year of membership unless they permanently select the DCP or CP. Existing members with less than five years of service credit as of June 30, 2001, were given the option of making a one time irrevocable decision to transfer their account balance from the existing DBP into the DCP or CP. This option expired on December 31, 2001.

A DBP or CP member with five or more years of credited service who becomes disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible spouses and dependents of these active members who die before retirement may qualify for survivor benefits. Members in the DCP who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

#### Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, plan members were required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District was required to contribute 14 percent; 13 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. Contribution rates are established by STRS, upon recommendation of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10 percent for members and 14 percent for employers.

The School District's required contribution for pension obligations for the DBP for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$4,719 and \$5,141, respectively; 50 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2006 and 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2005.

#### **B.** School Employees Retirement System

The School District contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the School Employees Retirement Board. SERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, plan members were required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District was required to contribute an actuarially determined rate. The rate for fiscal year 2006 was 14 percent of annual covered payroll; 10.58 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to statutory maximum amounts, by the SERS Retirement Board.

The School District's required contribution for pension obligations to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$2,424 and \$3,597, respectively; 57 percent has been contributed for the fiscal year 2006 and 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2005.

#### C. Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the State Teachers Retirement System or the School Employees Retirement System have an option to choose Social Security or the State Teachers Retirement System/School Employees Retirement System. As of June 30, 2006, none of the Board of Education members have elected Social Security. The Board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

#### Note 8 - Postemployment Benefits

The School District provides comprehensive health care benefits to retired teachers and their dependents through the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), and to retired classified employees and their dependents through the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs, and reimbursement of monthly Medicare premiums. Benefit provisions and the obligation to contribute are established by the Systems based on authority granted by State statute. Both systems are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis.

#### Note 8 - Postemployment Benefits (continued)

STRS retirees who participated in the Defined Benefit Plan or the Combined Plan and their dependents are eligible for health care coverage. The State Teachers Retirement Board has statutory authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. By law, the cost of coverage paid from STRS funds shall be included in the employer contribution rate, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For fiscal year 2006, the Board allocated employer contributions equal to 1 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Stabilization Fund. For the School District, this amount was \$363.

STRS pays health care benefits from the Health Care Stabilization Fund. The balance in the Fund was \$3.5 billion at June 30, 2006. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, net health care costs paid by STRS were \$282,743,000, and STRS had 119,184 eligible benefit recipients.

For SERS, coverage is made available to service retirees with ten or more years of qualifying service credit, and to disability and survivor benefit recipients. All members must pay a portion of their premium for health care. The portion is based on years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, employer contributions to fund health care benefits were 3.42 percent of covered payroll. In addition, SERS levies a surcharge to fund health care benefits equal to 14 percent of the difference between a minimum pay and the member's pay, pro-rated for partial service credit. For fiscal year 2006, the minimum pay was established at \$35,800. For the School District, the amount to fund health care benefits, including the surcharge, was \$1,136 for fiscal year 2006.

The surcharge, added to the unallocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate, provides for maintenance of the asset target level for the health care fund. The target level for the health care reserve is 150 percent of annual health care expenses. Expenses for health care at June 30, 2006, were \$158,751,207. The target level for the health care fund is 150 percent of the projected claims less premium contributions for the next fiscal year. As of June 30, 2006 the value of the health care fund was \$295.6 million, which is about 221 percent of next year's projected net health care costs. On the basis of actuarial projections, the allocated contributions will be insufficient, in the long term, to provide for a health care reserve equal to at least 150 percent of estimated annual net claim costs. SERS has approximately 59,492 participants currently receiving health care benefits.

#### Note 9 - Fiscal Agent

The sponsorship agreement states the Treasurer of the Sponsor shall serve as the fiscal officer of MCDA.

The Treasurer of the Sponsor shall perform the following functions while serving as the Treasurer of MCDA:

- A. Maintain the financial records of MCDA in the same manner as are financial records of school districts, pursuant to rules of the Auditor of State;
- B. Comply with the policies and procedures regarding internal financial control of MCDA; and
- C. Comply with the requirements and procedures for financial audits by the Auditor of the State.

#### Note 10 - Contract with TRECA

MCDA entered into a contract on July 13, 2005, with Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association (TRECA) for management consulting services. Under the contract, the following terms were agreed upon:

- 1. TRECA shall provide instructional, supervisory/administrative, and technical services sufficient to effectively implement MCDA's educational plan and MCDA's assessment and accountability plan.
- 2. All personnel providing services to MCDA on behalf of TRECA under the agreement shall be employees of TRECA and TRECA shall be solely responsible for all payroll functions, including retirement system contributions, and all other legal withholding and/or payroll taxes with respect to such personnel. All shall possess any certification or licensure which may be required by law.
- 3. The technical services provided by TRECA to MCDA shall include access to, and the use of, computer software, computer hardware, networking hardware, network services, and the services of technical support personnel necessary to implement the plan of operation.
- 4. MCDA shall secure the services of an Executive Director, who shall be the chief operating officer of the school, with primary responsibility for day-to-day operations of MCDA.
- 5. Curricular services provided by TRECA shall be limited to the standardized curriculum developed by TRECA.
- 6. In exchange for the services and support (including equipment) provided by TRECA, MCDA shall pay to TRECA \$3,600 per full-time student enrolled in MCDA per year. Part-time students may be enrolled on such terms as are agreed to by the parties.

For fiscal year 2006, \$367,548 was paid to TRECA.

To obtain TRECA's June 30, 2006, audited financial statements contact Scott Armstrong, Treasurer, at scott@treca.org.

#### Note 11 - Related Party Transactions

MCDA is a component unit of the Sponsor (Marion City School District). MCDA and Marion City School District entered into a 5-year sponsorship agreement on August 26, 2002, whereby terms of the sponsorship were established. Pursuant to this agreement, Marion City School District's Treasurer serves as MCDA's fiscal officer.

In fiscal year 2006, other payments were made by MCDA to Marion City School District were \$102,282. These represent payments of \$64,956 for administrative services provided by Marion City School District to MCDA and \$5,526 for reimbursements for supplies and equipment purchases made by Marion City School District for MCDA. An additional \$31,800, representing the fiscal year 2005 per pupil payment, was paid by MCDA to Marion City School District and is reflected in purchased services expense on the accompanying financial statements.

Payments made by MCDA to TRECA in fiscal year 2006 were \$441,905. This consists of the \$367,548 in student charges and \$74,357 in miscellaneous fees.

#### Note 12 - Contingencies

## A. Grants

MCDA received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of MCDA at June 30, 2006.

## **B.** Litigation

A lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio, Western Division on October 6, 2004, which challenges the funding of charter schools under equal protection, due process, and claims violation of a right to vote on the bodies administering public schools. This case is still pending. The effect of this suit, if any, on MCDA is not presently determinable.

## C. Full Time Equivalency

The Ohio Department of Education conducts reviews of enrollment data and full-time equivalency (FTE) calculations made by community 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. The conclusions of this review could result in state funding being adjusted. As a result of this review, there was no adjustment for fiscal year 2006 for MCDA

# Rea & Associates, Inc.

ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

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June 29, 2007

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Board of Directors Marion City School District Digital Academy Marion, Ohio

#### 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

We have audited the basic financial statements of Marion City School District Digital Academy, Marion, Ohio (the Digital Academy), a component unit of Marion City School District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated June 29, 2007. 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.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Digital Academy's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted certain matters that we have reported to management of the Digital Academy in a separate letter dated June 29, 2007.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Digital Academy'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*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the Digital Academy in a separate letter dated June 29, 2007.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and management, federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Kea & Associates, Inc.





# MARION CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT DIGITAL ACADEMY

MARION 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 Babbett

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED OCTOBER 9, 2007

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