



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY

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Dave Yost • Auditor of State

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County
1701 East 13th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Promise Academy, Cuyahoga County, Ohio (the Academy), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy'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 Academy'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 Academy's internal control. Accordingly, we express no 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 Promise Academy, Cuyahoga County, as of June 30, 2014, 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.

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* 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 January 26, 2015, on our consideration of the 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. 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 Academy's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

January 26, 2015

**PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION and ANALYSIS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2014
(Unaudited)**

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of Promise Academy's (the Academy) financial performance provides an overall review of the Academy's financial activities for the period ending June 30, 2014. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Academy'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 Academy'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" issued in June of 1999.

Financial Highlights

- Total net position decreased to \$1,215,388 for the period ended June 30, 2014, down from, \$1,519,628 for the period ended June 30, 2013.
- Total assets were \$1,215,779 for the period ended June 30, 2014, a decrease from \$1,520,685 for the period ended June 30, 2013.
- Total liabilities decreased to \$391 from \$1,057. No payments were due to the Cleveland Municipal School District at year end.

Using this Financial Report

This report consists of three parts, the MD&A, the basic financial statements, and notes to those statements. The basic financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows.

Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position includes all assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resources 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.

(Continued)

**PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION and ANALYSIS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2014
(Unaudited)**

Table 1 provides a summary of the Academy's Statement of Net Position for the period ending June 30, 2014, comparing it with the Academy's Statement of Net Position for the period ending June 30, 2013:

(Table 1)

	2014	2013
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 601,609	\$ 679,770
Intergovernmental Receivable	<u>146,323</u>	<u>255,297</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>747,932</u>	<u>935,067</u>
Non-Current Assets		
Capital Assets (Net of Accumulated Depreciation and Amortization)	<u>467,847</u>	<u>585,618</u>
Total Non-Current Assets	<u>467,847</u>	<u>585,618</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 1,215,779</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,520,685</u></u>
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	<u>\$ 391</u>	<u>\$ 1,057</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>391</u>	<u>1,057</u>
Net Position		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	467,847	585,618
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>747,541</u>	<u>934,010</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 1,215,388</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,519,628</u></u>

(Continued)

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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION and ANALYSIS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2014
(Unaudited)**

Table 2 shows Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position for the period ending June 30, 2014, comparing it with the Academy's Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position for the period ending June 30, 2013:

(Table 2)

	2014	2013
Operating Revenues		
Foundation and Poverty Based Assistance Revenues	\$3,033,092	\$ 3,165,858
Other Operating Revenues	20,931	11,380
Total Operating Revenues	<u>3,054,023</u>	<u>3,177,238</u>
Operating Expenses		
Contracted Services Fee	2,513,124	2,420,000
Purchased Services	743,414	656,293
Other Operating Expenses	131,912	173,338
Minor Equipment	9,051	220,926
Materials and Supplies	195,566	123,689
Depreciation and Amortization	117,771	44,091
Total Operating Expenses	<u>3,710,838</u>	<u>3,638,337</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	(656,815)	(461,099)
Non-Operating Revenues		
Other Operating Revenues	932	1,407
Intergovernmental Revenue	351,643	665,135
Total Non-Operating Revenues	<u>352,575</u>	<u>666,542</u>
Net Income (Loss)	<u>(304,240)</u>	<u>205,443</u>
Net Position at Beginning of Year	<u>1,519,628</u>	<u>1,314,185</u>
Net Position at End of Year	<u>\$1,215,388</u>	<u>\$ 1,519,628</u>

(Continued)

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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION and ANALYSIS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2014
(Unaudited)**

Most expenses are in supplies and materials and in purchased services. Per contract, the Academy remits most of its revenue to the Cleveland Municipal School District, which incurs costs on behalf of the Academy to provide instruction and other costs. See Note 9 for more details.

Capital Assets

The Academy's asset capitalization minimum is \$5,000, at June 30, 2014.

Current Financial Issues

The Academy was formed in 2005 sponsored by the Cleveland Municipal School District. An idea to service students at risk of dropping out of school was turned into a community school by petitioning the Ohio Department of Education for a charter. Through the efforts of many individuals, the charter was issued, but the Academy was only physically materialized through the efforts of Dr. Eugene Sanders in February of 2007.

The Academy officially opened on February 5, 2007. The governing board of the Academy is composed of seven members, each appointed. The Academy receives its finances primarily from state aide. The average number of years experience for teachers was 15 years.

The Academy completed a 12,697 square feet expansion of its East Wing on its second floor by June 30, 2012. The cost of the expansion was \$352,502. Additional 10 offices were added, an exercise room, conference room, as well as testing and instructional areas. The Academy also added two offices on the first floor, for a total cost of \$9,697. Total square footage of the Academy is now 31,294.

Contacting the Academy's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's with a general overview of the Academy's finances and to show the Academy's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information contact Melinda Budavári, Treasurer at Promise Academy, 1701 East 13th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114 or e-mail at m.budavari@promise-academy.com

PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
AS OF JUNE 30, 2014

ASSETS

Current Assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 601,609	
Intergovernmental receivable	146,323	
Total current assets		\$ 747,932

Non-Current Assets:

Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization)		467,847
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TOTAL ASSETS 1,215,779

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities:

Accounts payable		391
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NET POSITION

Net investment in capital assets	\$ 467,847	
Unrestricted	747,541	

TOTAL NET POSITION \$ 1,215,388

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are integral parts of these financial statements.

PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND
CHANGE IN NET POSITION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

OPERATING REVENUES:

Foundation payments	\$ 3,033,092	
Other operating revenues	20,931	
Total operating revenues		3,054,023

OPERATING EXPENSES:

Contracted services fee	2,513,124	
Purchased services	743,414	
Other operating expenses	131,912	
Minor equipment	9,051	
Materials and supplies	195,566	
Depreciation and amortization	117,771	
Total operating expenses		3,710,838

OPERATING LOSS (656,815)

NON-OPERATING REVENUES:

Other non-operating revenues	932	
Intergovernmental revenue	351,643	
Total non-operating revenue		352,575

NET LOSS (304,240)

NET POSITION BEGINNING OF YEAR 1,519,628

NET POSITION END OF YEAR \$ 1,215,388

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are integral parts of these financial statements.

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**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
AS OF JUNE 30, 2014**

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Cash received from State of Ohio	\$ 3,033,092	
Cash received from other operating revenues	20,931	
Cash payments to contracted services	(2,513,722)	
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(336,597)	
Cash payments to purchased services	<u>(743,414)</u>	
Net cash used in operating activities		\$ (539,710)

CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

Cash received from other sources	932	
Cash received from intergovernmental revenue	<u>606,940</u>	
Net cash provided by non-capital financing activities		<u>607,872</u>

NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS 68,162

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR 679,770

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR \$ 747,932

**RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO
CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES:**

Operating loss		\$ (656,815)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation	117,771	
Decrease in accounts payable	<u>(666)</u>	
Total Adjustments		<u>117,105</u>

NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES \$ (539,710)

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements are integral parts of these financial statements.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL AND REPORTING ENTITY

Promise Academy (the Academy) is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702 to address the needs of students in grades nine through twelve. The Academy, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school district and is non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The Academy may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the Academy. The Academy qualifies as a 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 may adversely affect the Academy's tax exempt status.

The Academy was approved for operation under a contract with the Cleveland Municipal School District (the Sponsor). For the year ended June 30, 2014, the Academy was operating under a contract with the Sponsor that was entered into July 1, 2013 for a period of five years. The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of the Academy and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration or terminate the contract prior to its expiration.

The Academy operates under the direction of a seven member Governing Board. The Governing Board 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. The Governing Board controls the Academy's one instructional facility staffed by 19 certificated full time teaching personnel who provide services to 370 students.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Academy 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 Academy's accounting policies are described below.

A. Basis of Presentation

The Academy uses enterprise accounting to maintain its financial records during the school year. Enterprise accounting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position, 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 and services.

B. Measurement Focus

Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position presents increases (i.e. revenues and decreases (i.e. expenses) in total net assets. The Statement of Cash Flows provides information about how the Academy finances and meets the cash flow needs of its enterprise activities.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

C. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. The Academy'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 non-exchange transactions, in which the Academy 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 year when the resources are required to be used of the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the Academy must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Academy 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, except under Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.391, the Academy must prepare a five year spending plan and submit it to the Office of Community Schools at the Ohio Department of Education.

E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows and for presentation on the Statement of Net Position, investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Academy are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that are not purchased from the pool are reported as investments. During fiscal 2014, the Academy's cash equivalents were limited to a business sweep checking account. Interest revenue during fiscal year 2014 amounted to \$932.

F. Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities of the school. For the Academy, these revenues are primarily foundation payments from the state. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the Academy. Revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

G. 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.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

H. Net Position

Net position represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net position are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulation of other governments. There was no restricted net position.

I. Capital Assets and Depreciation

Capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The Academy maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The Academy does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized, and the cost 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 recorded capital assets are depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives. Improvements to capital assets are depreciated over the remaining useful life of the related capital assets.

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Years</u>
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	5
Leasehold Improvements	10

J. Current Liabilities

The Academy has recognized certain liabilities on its Statement of Net Position relating to expenses which are due but unpaid as of June 30, 2014

K. Intergovernmental Revenues

The Academy 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 are met.

The Academy may participate in various federal and state grant programs through the Ohio Department of Education. Grants and entitlements received under these programs are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

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

Amounts awarded under the above named program for the 2014 school year totaled \$2,664,306.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

3. DEPOSITS

At fiscal year end June 30, 2014, the carrying amount of the Academy's deposits was \$601,609 and the bank balance was \$610,867. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures", as of June 30, 2014, \$360,867 of the Academy's bank balance was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the Academy's deposits may not be returned. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105 percent of the carrying value of the deposits. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the Federal Reserve System, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the Academy.

The Academy has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the Academy or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being pledged.

4. CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of the Academy's capital assets at June 30, 2014 follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>6/30/13</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>6/30/14</u>
<u>Capital Assets Being Depreciated:</u>				
Leasehold Improvements	\$ 798,514	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 798,514
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	11,495	-	-	11,495
Total Capital Assets	<u>810,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>810,009</u>
<u>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</u>				
Leasehold Improvements	(214,696)	(116,691)	-	(331,387)
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	<u>(9,695)</u>	<u>(1,080)</u>	-	<u>(10,775)</u>
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(224,391)</u>	<u>(117,771)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(342,162)</u>
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	<u>\$ 585,618</u>	<u>\$ (117,771)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 467,847</u>

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The Academy 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 2014, the Academy contracted with commercial insurance companies for the following:

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

5. RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

A. Property and Liability (Continued)

Commercial General Liability:

Per Occurrence	\$3,000,000
General Aggregate	3,000,000
Products/Completed Ops	3,000,000
Personal & Advertising Injury	3,000,000

Education Legal/Employment Practice Liability:

Per Occurrence	2,000,000
Aggregate	2,000,000

There have been no claims filed during current audit period or in the previous two years.

B. Workers' Compensation

The Academy does not pay directly into the State Workers' Compensation System. All employees are contracted through Cleveland Municipal School District, which pays the Workers' Compensation System based on their payroll. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

A. School Employees Retirement System

Plan Description - The Cleveland Municipal School District ("CMSD") contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer pension plan. 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 state statute per Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by contacting the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746 or by calling toll free (800) 878-5853. It is also posted on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the CMSD is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current CMSD rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll. 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 Retirement Board acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund and Health Care Fund) of the System. For fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, the allocation to pension and death benefits is 13.10 percent. The remaining 0.90 percent of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is allocated to the Health Care and Medicare B Funds. The CMSD's contributions to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2014, 2013 and

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

A. School Employee Retirement System (Continued)

2012 were \$11,639,234, \$10,936,231, and \$11,238,769, respectively; 37.71 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2014 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2013 and 2012.

B. State Teachers Retirement System

Plan Description - The CMSD participates in the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio), a cost-sharing, multiple employer public employee retirement system. STRS Ohio provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS Ohio issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to STRS Ohio, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3371 or by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS Ohio website at 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. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary times a percentage that varies based on years of service, or an allowance based on a member's lifetime contributions and earned interest matched by STRS Ohio funds divided by an actuarially determined annuity factor. The DC Plan allows members to place all 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 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 DC Plan and the DB Plan. In the Combined Plan, 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 DB Plan. The DB portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60; the DC portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years 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 DC Plan 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.

Funding Policy - For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, plan members were required to contribute 11 percent of their annual covered salaries. The CMSD was required to contribute 14 percent; 13 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For fiscal year 2014, the portion used to fund pension obligations was also 13 percent. Contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board, upon recommendations of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10 percent for members and 14 percent for employers. Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

B. State Teachers Retirement System (Continued)

The CMSD's required contributions for pension obligations to the STRS Ohio for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2014, 2013, and 2012 were \$34,757,272, \$33,535,645, and \$37,451,090, respectively; 83.99 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2014 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2013 and 2012. Contributions to the DC and Combined Plans for fiscal year 2014 were \$1,406,140 made by the CMSD and \$1,104,824 made by the plan members.

C. Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the School Employees Retirement System or the Teachers Retirement System of Ohio have an option to choose Social Security or the School Retirement System. As June 30, 2014, no members of the Board of Education have elected Social Security.

7. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

A. School Employees Retirement System

Plan Description - The CMSD participates in two cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit OPEB plans administered by the School Employees Retirement System for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries, a Health Care Plan and a Medicare Part B plan. The Health Care Plan includes hospitalization and physicians' fees through several types of plans including HMO's, PPO's and traditional indemnity plans as well as a prescription drug program. The Medicare Part B Plan reimburses Medicare Part B premiums paid by eligible retirees and beneficiaries up to a statutory limit. Benefit provisions and the obligations to contribute are established by the System based on authority granted by State statute. The financial reports of both Plans are included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

Funding Policy – State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue.

Code Section 401h. For 2014, 0.16 percent of covered payroll was allocated to health care. In addition, employers pay a surcharge for employees earning less than an actuarially determined amount; for 2014 this amount was \$1,696,858.

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.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

7. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

A. School Employees Retirement System (Continued)

The CMSD's contributions for health care for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2014, 2013, and 2012 were \$142,159, \$133,572, and \$486,789 respectively; 37.71 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2014 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2013 and 2012.

The Retirement Board, acting with advice of the actuary, allocates a portion of the employer contribution to the Medicare B Fund. For 2014, this actuarially required allocation was 0.74 percent of covered payroll. The CMSD's contributions for Medicare Part B for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2014, 2013 and 2012 were \$657,483, \$617,772, and \$663,707 respectively; 37.71 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2014 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2013 and 2012.

B. State Teachers Retirement System

Plan Description - The CMSD contributes to the cost sharing multiple employer defined benefit Health Plan administered by the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio) for eligible retirees who participate in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS Ohio. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The plan is included in the report of STRS Ohio which may be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio law 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 Ohio. Active employee members do not contribute to the Plan. All benefit recipients pay a monthly premium. Under Ohio Law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For 2013, STRS Ohio allocated employer contributions equal to one percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Stabilization Fund. The CMSD's contributions for health care for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2014, 2013, and 2012 were \$2,673,636, \$2,579,665, and \$2,880,853 respectively; 83.99 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2014 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2013 and 2012.

8. OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

For fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, all employees are contracted through the Cleveland Municipal School District ("CMSD"). Policies and procedures are approved by CMSD's Board of Education and are applied to Compensated Absences, Insurance Benefits, and Deferred Compensation of the staff purchased from CMSD by contract. Please review the Other Employee Benefits Note in CMSD's basic notes to the financial statements in their Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

9. MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

The Academy has a sponsorship contract with Cleveland Municipal School District ('CMSD'), effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2018, for educational and financial management services. In exchange for its time, organization, oversight, monitoring, fees, costs and other services, CMSD receives three percent of the total amount of payments for operating expenses that the Academy receives from the State of Ohio. For the year ended June 30, 2014 this amounted to \$90,993.

The Cleveland Municipal School District has informed the Academy that the Contracted Service Fee of \$2,513,124 consists of payment for salaries, wages, and benefits.

10. PURCHASED SERVICES EXPENSES

For the year ended June 30, 2014, purchased service expenses were payments for services rendered by various vendors as follows:

Rentals	\$ 295,657
Utilities	221,091
Professional/Technical Services	55,310
Other Purchased Services	43,432
Communications	39,946
Instructional Improvement	25,458
Data Processing Services	22,525
Craft & Trade Services	10,784
Transportation	6,150
Postage	6,065
Repairs and Maintenance	5,698
Travel	5,365
Instructional Services	4,243
Legal	1,690
Total Purchased Services	<u><u>743,414</u></u>

11. OPERATING LEASE

On August 1, 2008, the Academy entered into a lease for the current school premises under a non-cancelable agreement that expires on July 31, 2023. The Academy has the option to terminate the lease at the end of the fifth lease year for a termination fee of \$100,000. The Academy also has the option to terminate the lease at the end of the tenth lease year without a termination fee. Lease terms also include a renewal option for an additional five year term at a rental rate equal to 90% of the then market rate for comparable office buildings. Rental expense under operating leases was \$297,865 in fiscal 2014.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014
(Continued)**

11. OPERATING LEASE (CONTINUED)

Building improvements totaling \$368,399 and \$430,115 were paid by the Academy during fiscal 2012 and fiscal 2009, respectively. These improvements are being amortized over a ten year period.

Future minimum rental payments due in each of the next five years are:

2015	\$ 375,358
2016	387,358
2017	438,116
2018	469,410
2019	469,410



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

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County
1701 East 13th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

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 Promise Academy, Cuyahoga County, (the Academy) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 26, 2015.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Academy'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 Academy'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 Academy'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. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Academy'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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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 Academy's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Academy's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave Yost
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

January 26, 2015



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

PROMISE ACADEMY

CUYAHOGA 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
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**