



MICHAEL J. "MIKE"  
WAGUESPACK, CPA

## Report Highlights

# Orleans Parish Charter School – Noble Minds D/B/A Noble Minds Institute For Whole Child Learning

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## Why We Conducted This Audit

Pursuant to Act 370 of 2023, the Louisiana Department of the Treasury launched the K-12 School Transparency Project, which required school governing authorities to submit specified financial data. Information identified through that process formed the basis of the complaint that precipitated this investigative audit.

## What We Found

### Charter School Incurred Questionable Costs After Relinquishment of Its Charter

Noble Minds is a Louisiana nonprofit corporation that operated a Type 2 charter school in New Orleans, Louisiana under the name Noble Minds Institute for Whole Child Learning (NMI). The Noble Minds Board of Directors (Board) voted on December 4, 2024, to voluntarily relinquish NMI's charter effective June 30, 2025. After the Board voted to relinquish its charter, Noble Minds used public funds totaling \$606,010 to pay for the nonprofit's building lease for the next fiscal year; pay consultants for services that provided little to no benefit to the charter school during the current school year; provide improper incentive payments to charter school employees; and fund celebratory functions. By improperly using public funds to benefit the nonprofit corporation and/or donating public funds, Noble Minds management may have violated the Louisiana Constitution, which prohibits the donation of public funds, and state law.