# WARREN EASTON CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION, INC. and AFFILIATE

**COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

June 30, 2024 and 2023



REPORT	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	1
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Combined Statements of Financial Position	4
Combined Statements of Activities	5
Combined Statements of Functional Expenses	7
Combined Statements of Cash Flows	9
Notes to the Combined Financial Statements	10
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head	23
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 <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	24
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance	26
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	29
Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	30
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs	31
Combining Statements of Financial Position	36
Combining Statements of Activities	37
Corrective Action Plan	38



## REPORT





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#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Board of Directors of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate New Orleans, Louisiana

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying combined financial statements of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate (the Organizations) (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the combined statements of financial position as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related combined statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the combined financial statements.

In our opinion, the combined financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the combined financial position of the Organizations as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in their combined net assets and their combined cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

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

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the combined financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of combined financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the combined financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the

Organizations' ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the combined financial statements are available to be issued.

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

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

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

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

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

#### Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the combined financial statements as a whole. The accompanying schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to agency head and the accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards as required by *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the combined financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the combined financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the combined financial statements or to the combined financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the combined financial statements as a whole.

The accompanying combining statement of financial position and combining statement of activities, which are the responsibility of management, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the combined financial statements. Such information has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the combined financial statements, and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 5, 2025, on our consideration of the Organizations' internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 effectiveness of the Organizations' 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 Organizations' internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Can, Rigger & Ingram, L.L.C.

Metairie, Louisiana May 5, 2025



## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Combined Statements of Financial Position

June 30,	2024	2023
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,490,541	\$ 659,996
Restricted cash	302,365	162,205
Grant receivables	2,245,081	3,413,584
Other receivables	60,352	58,935
Inventory	5,017	5,017
Prepaid expenses	69,774	25,322
Total current assets	6,173,130	4,325,059
Rent reserve	3,401,208	4,161,954
Operating lease right-of-use assets, net	49,774	65,383
Finance lease right-of-use assets, net	12,658,552	13,355,353
Property and equipment, net	1,046,374	691,752
Total assets	\$ 23,329,038	\$ 22,599,501
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,063,302	\$ 744,716
Accrued expenses	47,651	230,925
Deferred revenues	14,756	14,756
Current portion of operating lease liabilities	16,090	15,609
Current portion of finance lease liabilities	392,921	363,377
Total current liabilities	2,534,720	1,369,383
Long-term liabilities		
Operating lease liabilities, less current portion	33,684	49,774
Finance lease liabilities, less current portion	12,947,338	13,340,259
Total long-term liabilities	12,981,022	13,390,033
Total liabilities	15,515,742	14,759,416
Net assets		
Without donor restrictions	7,417,684	7,521,955
With donor restrictions	395,612	318,130
Total net assets	7,813,296	7,840,085
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 23,329,038	\$ 22,599,501

## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Combined Statement of Activities

For the year ended June 30,	hout Donor estrictions			2024 Total
Revenue and Other Support				
Contributions	\$ 139,479	\$	67,724 <b>\$</b>	207,203
Grants				
Federal	2,607,593		-	2,607,593
State	-		-	-
Local Minimum Foundation Program	9,169,683		-	9,169,683
State Minimum Foundation Program	5,146,263		-	5,146,263
Student activity fees	579,773		302,365	882,138
Interest income	220,393		-	220,393
Other revenues	487,288		-	487,288
Net assets released from restrictions	292,607		(292,607)	
Total revenue and other support	18,643,079		77,482	18,720,561
Expenses				
Instructional	14,709,974		-	14,709,974
Management and general	3,969,783		-	3,969,783
Fundraising	67,593		-	67,593
Total expenses	18,747,350		-	18,747,350
Change in Net Assets	(104,271)		77,482	(26,789)
Net assets at beginning of year	7,521,955		318,130	7,840,085
Net assets at end of year	\$ 7,417,684	\$	395,612 \$	7,813,296

For the year ended June 30,	Without Donor Restrictions		With Donor Restrictions	2023 Total
Revenue and Other Support				
Contributions	\$ 955,213	\$	155,827 \$	1,111,040
Grants				
Federal	3,691,838		-	3,691,838
State	74,999		-	74,999
Local Minimum Foundation Program	8,064,082		-	8,064,082
State Minimum Foundation Program	5,230,336		-	5,230,336
Student activity fees	-		840,709	840,709
Interest income	136,604		-	136,604
Other revenues	389,204		-	389,204
Net assets released from restrictions	1,091,459		(1,091,459)	-
Total revenue and other support	19,633,735		(94,923)	19,538,812
_				
Expenses				
Instructional	16,188,531		-	16,188,531
Management and general	3,550,258		-	3,550,258
Fundraising	110,861		-	110,861
Total expenses	19,849,650		-	19,849,650
Change in Net Assets	(215,915)		(94,923)	(310,838)
Net assets at beginning of year	7,737,870		413,053	8,150,923
Net assets at beginning of year	1,131,010		413,033	0,130,923
Net assets at end of year	\$ 7,521,955	\$	318,130 \$	7,840,085

## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Combined Statement of Activities

## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Combined Statement of Functional Expenses

		Management	Fund-	2024
For the year ended June 30,	Instructional	& General	Raising	Totals
Salaries	\$ 7,133,455	\$ 792,606	\$-	\$ 7,926,061
Employee benefits	2,589,693	287,744	-	2,877,437
Depreciation	572,168	190,723	-	762,891
Equipment rental	-	25,227	-	25,227
Food services	605,444	67,272	-	672,716
Insurance	471,478	157,159	-	628,637
Other expenses	83,274	1,262,981	41,637	1,387,892
Other services	-	589,861	-	589,861
Professional services	268,255	268,255	-	536,510
Repairs and maintenance	340,490	113,497	-	453,987
Student activity	741,979	-	-	741,979
Supplies:				
Instructional	50,916	4,526	1,131	56,573
Other	279,282	6,206	24,825	310,313
Transportation	1,034,177	-	-	1,034,177
Travel	28,478	33,431	-	61,909
Utilities	510,885	170,295	-	681,180
Total	\$ 14,709,974	\$ 3,969,783	\$ 67,593	\$ 18,747,350

## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Combined Statement of Functional Expenses

		Management	Fund-	2023
For the year ended June 30,	Instructional	& General	Raising	Totals
Salaries	\$ 6,694,612	\$ 743,846	\$-	\$ 7,438,458
Employee benefits	2,466,852	274,094	-	2,740,946
Depreciation	560,726	186,909	-	747,634
Equipment rental	-	27,153	-	27,153
Food services	500,371	55,597	-	555,968
Insurance	503,444	167,815	-	671,258
Other expenses	64,942	984,952	32,471	1,082,365
Other services	-	464,894	-	464,894
Professional services	206,453	206,452	-	412,905
Repairs and maintenance	519,104	173,035	-	692,139
Student activity	936,514	-	-	936,514
Supplies:			-	
Instructional	53,792	4,782	1,195	59,769
Other	868,449	19,299	77,195	964,943
Transportation	2,258,072	-	-	2,258,072
Travel	67,054	78,716	-	145,770
Utilities	488,147	162,716	-	650,862
Total	\$ 16,188,531	\$ 3,550,258	\$ 110,861	\$ 19,849,650

## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Combined Statements of Cash Flows

For the years ended June 30,	2024		2023
Operating Activities			
Change in net assets	\$ (26,789)	\$	(310,838)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to			
net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation	50,481		93,554
Amortization of right-of-use assets	712,410		654,080
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Grant receivables	1,168,503		(1,575,702)
Other receivables	(1,417)		42,346
Prepaid expenses	(44,452)		3,691
Accounts payable	1,318,586		360,865
Accrued expenses	(183,274)		(29,168)
Deferred revenues	-		(3,407)
Operating lease liabilities	(15,609)		(15,346)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	2,978,439		(779,925)
Investing Activities			
Purchases of equipment	(405,103)		(157,590)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(405,103)		(157,590)
Financing Activities			
Principal payments on financing lease liabilities	(363,377)		(290,451)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(363,377)		(290,451)
Net change in cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash	2,209,959		(1,227,966)
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash at beginning of year	4,984,155		6,212,121
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash at end of year	\$ 7,194,114	\$	4,984,155
Reconciliation to Statements of Financial Position			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,490,541	\$	659,996
Restricted cash	302,365		162,205
Rent reserve	3,401,208		4,161,954
Cash, cash equivalents, and restricted cash at end of year	\$ 7,194,114	\$	4,984,155
Schedule of NonCash Investing and Financing Transactions			
Lease liabilities arising from obtaining right-of-use assets:			
Operating Leases	\$ -	\$	80,729
Financing leases	\$ -	\$	13,994,087
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these	 ial statemer	· ·	

#### Note 1: DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATIONS

Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. d/b/a Warren Easton Charter High School (the School), incorporated on March 21, 2006, is an educational institution organized to improve student learning, increase learning opportunities for all students, encourage the use of innovative teaching methods and a variety of governance, management, and administrative structures, be more thoroughly accountable for educational results, and create new professional opportunities for teachers and other employees. The School tracks its financial records among three areas – School, Foundation, and student activity funds (SAF).

Friends of Warren Easton (Friends), incorporated on August 25, 2015, is a non-profit organization created and operated for the benefit of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. During the year ended June 30, 2024, Friends was dissolved and all assets of Friends were transferred to the School.

The Organizations' program services consist of the following:

Instructional – The Organizations provide educational services to students in the greater New Orleans area for grades 9-12.

#### Note 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of Accounting

The combined financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) provides authoritative guidance regarding U.S. GAAP through the Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) and related Accounting Standards Updates (ASUs).

#### Principles of Combination

The combined financial statements include accounts of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Friends of Warren Easton, collectively referred to as the Organizations. All material intercompany account balances and transactions have been eliminated.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of U.S. GAAP combined financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the combined financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates that are particularly susceptible to significant changes in the near term are related to allocation of expenses by function, lease discount rates, and useful lives of property and equipment.

#### Note 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash and all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of 90 days or less.

#### **Restricted Cash**

Amounts included in restricted cash represent those required to be set aside by state law for the use of student activities.

#### Grant and Other Receivables

Grant and other receivables represent amounts owed to the Organizations which are expected to be collected within twelve months.

#### Inventory

Inventory consisted of items that are sold at the School's store, The Eagles' Nest. Items sold at the store include sweaters, T-shirts, socks, school supplies, etc. Inventory is stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost is determined by the first-in, first-out method. When evidence exists that the net realizable value of inventory is lower than its cost, the difference is recognized as a loss in the combined statements of activities in the period in which it occurs.

#### Rent Reserve

Rent reserve consists of amounts reserved for the payment of rent on 3030 Canal Street in accordance with the rental agreement.

#### **Property and Equipment**

All acquisitions of property and equipment in excess of \$5,000 and all expenditures for maintenance, renewals, and betterments that materially prolong the useful lives of assets are capitalized. Repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Property and equipment are carried at cost or, if donated, at the approximate fair value at the date of donation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method.

#### Leases

The Organizations lease printers and classroom/office space. The Organizations determine if an arrangement is a lease at inception. Operating leases are included in operating lease right-of-use (ROU) assets, other current liabilities, and operating lease liabilities in the combined statements of financial position.

#### Note 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Leases (Continued)

ROU assets represent the right to use an underlying asset for the lease term and lease liabilities represent the obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. Operating lease ROU assets and liabilities are recognized at commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. As most of the leases do not provide an implicit rate, the Organizations use a risk-free rate based on the information available at commencement date in determining the present value of lease payments. The operating lease ROU asset also includes any lease payments made and excludes lease incentives. The lease terms may include options to extend or terminate the lease when it is reasonably certain that the Organizations will exercise that option. Lease expense for lease payments is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

The Organizations' lease agreements do not contain any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants.

#### Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Organizations review long-lived assets, consisting of leasehold improvements and equipment, for impairment and determine whether an event or change in facts and circumstances indicates that their carrying amount may not be recoverable. The Organizations determine recoverability of assets by comparing the carrying value of the asset to the net future undiscounted cash flows that the asset is expected to generate. The impairment recognized is the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the fair market value of the asset. There were no asset impairments recorded during 2024 or 2023.

#### Net Assets

The Organizations report information regarding their combined financial position and combined activities according to two classes of net assets that are based upon the existence or absence of restrictions on use that are placed by its donors: net assets without donor restrictions and net assets with donor restrictions.

Net assets without donor restrictions are resources available to support operations and not subject to donor restrictions. The only limits on the use of net assets without donor restrictions are the broad limits resulting from the nature of the Organizations, the environment in which they operate, the purposes specified in their corporate documents and their application for tax-exempt status, and any limits resulting from contractual agreements with creditors and others that are entered into in the course of their operations.

Net assets with donor restrictions are resources that are subject to donor-imposed restrictions. Some restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that are restricted by a donor for use for a particular purpose or in a particular future period. Other restrictions may be perpetual in nature; such as those that are restricted by a donor that the resources be maintained in perpetuity.

#### Note 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### Net Assets (Continued)

When a donor's restriction is satisfied, either by using the resources in the manner specified by the donor or by the passage of time, the expiration of the restriction is reported in the combined financial statements by reclassifying the net assets from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions.

#### **Revenue Recognition**

A significant portion of the Organizations' grants and contracts are from government agencies. The benefits received by the public as a result of the assets transferred are not equivalent to commensurate value received by the government agencies and are therefore not considered exchange transactions. Grants and contracts are analyzed for measurable performance-related barriers or other barriers. Revenue is recognized as barriers are met. Funds received from non-exchange transactions in advance of barriers being met are recorded as refundable advances.

Contributions are recognized when cash, other assets, an unconditional promise to give, or notification of a beneficial interest is received. Conditional promises to give are not recognized until the conditions on which they depend have been substantially met or the donor has explicitly released the restriction. Contributions received with donor-imposed restrictions that are met in the same year in which the contributions are received are classified as net assets without donor restrictions.

Revenue from fundraising is recognized as revenue when performance obligations under the terms of the contracts are satisfied. Revenue received in advance is deferred and recognized over the periods to which the dates and fees relate. These amounts are included in performance obligation liabilities within the combined statements of financial position when present. There was no fundraising income received during the year ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

#### Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue consists of a grant award received in advance that relates to services to be rendered in a future period and is deferred and recognized as revenue in the period earned.

#### **Donated Assets**

Donated investments and other noncash donations are recorded as contributions at their fair values at the date of donation. There were no donated assets for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

#### Note 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Donated Services**

Donated services are recognized as contributions if the services (a) create or enhance nonfinancial assets or (b) require specialized skills, are performed by people with those skills, and would otherwise be purchased by the Organizations. Volunteers also provided fund-raising services throughout the year that are not recognized as contributions in the combined financial statements since the recognition criteria were not met. There were no donated services that met the criteria for recognition for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

#### Functional Allocation of Expenses

Directly identifiable expenses are charged to programs and supporting services. The majority of expenses are allocated based on actual time and effort. However, insurance, repairs and maintenance, utilities, and depreciation require allocation based on the square footage of the building.

#### Income Taxes

Under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the Organizations are exempt from taxes on income other than unrelated business income. Unrelated business income results from rent, administration of self-insurance activities, and commissions.

The Organizations utilize the accounting requirements associated with uncertainty in income taxes using the provisions of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) ASC 740, *Income Taxes*. Using that guidance, tax positions initially need to be recognized in the combined financial statements when it is more-likely-than-not the positions will be sustained upon examination by the tax authorities. It also provides guidance for derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, the Organizations have no uncertain tax provisions that qualify for recognition or disclosure in the combined financial statements.

#### Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications were made to prior year balances to conform with current year presentation.

#### Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through the date that the combined financial statements were available to be issued, May 5, 2025, and determined there were no events that occurred that required disclosure. No subsequent events occurring after this date have been evaluated for inclusion in these combined financial statements.

#### Note 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In February 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued guidance (Accounting Standards Codification [ASC] 842, Leases) to increase transparency and comparability among organizations by requiring the recognition of right-of-use (ROU) assets and lease liabilities on the combined statement of financial position. Most prominent among the changes in the standard is the recognition of ROU assets and lease liabilities by lessees for those leases classified as operating leases. Under the standard, disclosures are required to meet the objective of enabling users of financial statements to assess the amount, timing, and uncertainty of cash flows arising from leases.

The Organizations adopted the standard effective July 1, 2022 and recognized and measured leases existing at, or entered into after, July 1, 2022 (the beginning of the period of adoption) through a cumulative effect adjustment, with certain practical expedients available.

The Organizations elected the available practical expedients to account for existing capital leases and operating leases as finance leases and operating leases, respectively, under the new guidance, without reassessing (a) whether the contracts contain leases under the new standard, (b) whether classification of capital leases or operating leases would be different in accordance with the new guidance, or (c) whether the unamortized initial direct costs before transition adjustments would have met the definition of initial direct costs in the new guidance at lease commencement.

As a result of the adoption of the new lease accounting guidance, the Organizations recognized on July 1, 2022, beginning of the year of adoption, a lease liability at the carrying amount of the capital lease obligations on June 30, 2022, of \$13,994,087 and a right-of-use asset at the carrying amount of the capital lease asset of \$13,994,087. The Organization also recognized on July 1, 2022, beginning of the year of adoption, a lease liability of \$80,729, which represents the present value of the remaining operating lease payments of \$86,902, discounted using our incremental borrowing rate of 3.04%, and a right-of-use asset of \$80,729.

The standard had a material impact on the Organizations' combined statement of financial position, but did not have an impact on the combined statement of activities, nor combined statement of cash flows. The most significant impact was the recognition of ROU assets and lease liabilities for operating leases, while the accounting for finance leases remained substantially unchanged.

#### Note 3: LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Organizations maintain their financial assets primarily in cash and cash equivalents to provide liquidity to ensure funds are available as the Organizations' expenditures come due. The following reflects the Organizations' financial assets as of the combined statements of financial position dates, reduced by amounts not available for general use within one year of the combined statement of financial position dates because of contractual or donor-imposed restrictions.

June 30,		2024		2023
Total assets at year end	\$	23,329,038	\$	22,599,501
Less non-financial assets	•		•	
Inventory		(5,017)		(5,017)
Prepaid expenses and other assets		(69,774)		(25,322)
Operating lease right-of-use assets		(49,774)		(65,383)
Finance lesae right-of-use assets		(12,658,552)		(13,355,353)
Property and equipment, net		(1,046,374)		(691,752)
Financial assets at year-end		9,499,547		8,456,674
Less those not available for general expenditures within one year, due to contractual or donor-imposed restrictions				
Restricted by donor with time or purpose restrictions		(395,612)		(318,130)
Rent reserve		(3,401,208)		(4,161,954)
Board designations		(660,000)		(660,000)
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	\$	5,042,727	\$	3,316,590

#### Note 3: LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES (Continued)

The Organizations are principally supported by government grants. The goal of the Organizations are to maintain available financial assets to meet its next 30 days of operating expenses. As part of its liquidity management, the Organizations maintain cash accounts at a local bank, which pays interest on the balances maintained.

#### Note 4: GRANT AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Grant receivables were comprised of the following amounts as of June 30, 2024:

	2024	2023
Louisiana Department of Education		
Title I	\$ <b>478,230</b> \$	350,629
Title II	148,628	54,988
Title IV	35,397	9,205
IDEA B	387,392	341,281
Pre-Educator	90,368	69,887
Child Nutrition Program	27,794	137,300
Strong School System	319,319	-
ESSER	717,773	2,415,477
Other	40,180	34,817
	\$ <b>2,245,081</b> \$	3,413,584

Other receivables consist of \$60,352 and \$58,935 as of June 30, 2024 and 2023. Other receivables for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 consisted of donations from various donors. There was no credit loss for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

#### **Note 5: PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Property and equipment consisted of the following as of June 30:

	Estimated Useful		
	Lives (in years)	2024	2023
Leasehold improvements	7-10 <b>\$</b>	<b>1,296,841</b> \$	1,101,438
Equipment	3-6	1,930,449	1,705,140
Total depreciable property and equipment		3,227,290	2,806,578
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization		(2,180,916)	(2,114,826)
Total property and equipment, net	\$	<b>1,046,374</b> \$	691,752

Depreciation expense for the years ended June 30, 2024, and 2023, totaled \$50,481 and \$93,554, respectfully.

#### Note 6: LEASES

The Organizations have operating and finance leases for classroom/office space and printers. The leases have remaining lease terms of 4 to 19 years, some of which may include options to extend the leases for up to 15 years. As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, assets recorded under finance leases were \$13,994,087, and accumulated depreciation associated with finance leases was \$1,335,535 and \$638,734, respectively.

The components of lease expense consist of the following:

For the years ended June 30,	2024	2023
Operating lease cost	\$ 15,609	\$ 15,346
Finance lease cost		
Amortization of right-of-use asset	\$ 696,801	\$ 638,734
Interest on lease liabilities	465,782	388,307
Total finance lease cost	\$ 1,162,583	\$ 1,027,041

Weighted average remaining lease term and discount rates consist of the following:

For the years ended June 30,	2024	2023
Weighted average remaining lease term		
Operating leases	3 years	4 years
Finance leases	18 years	19 years
Weighted average discount rate		
Operating leases	3.04%	3.04%
Finance leases	3.44%	3.44%

#### Note 6: LEASES (Continued)

Future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable leases as of June 30, 2024, were as follows:

	Operating		Finance	
For the years ending June 30,	Leases			Leases
2024	\$	17,380	\$	845,742
2025		17,380		862,656
2026		17,380		879,910
2027		-		897,508
2028		-		915,458
Thereafter		-		13,891,737
Total future minimum lease payments		52,140		18,293,011
Less imputed interest		(2,366)		(4,952,752)
Present value of lease liabilities	\$	49,774	Ş	13,340,259

#### Note 7: NET ASSETS

A summary of net assets without donor restrictions follows:

June 30,		2024	2023
Undesignated	Ş	<b>3,356,476</b> \$	2,700,001
Board designated			
Rent reserve		3,401,208	4,161,954
Capital purchases		660,000	660,000
Total net assets without donor restrictions	\$	<b>7,417,684</b> \$	7,521,955

#### Note 7: NET ASSETS (Continued)

A summary of net assets with donor restrictions follows:

June 30,		2024	2023
Student activities funds	\$	302,364	\$ 162,205
Friends scholarships and other		-	56,031
Wellness		49,734	59,274
Alumni		24,679	24,649
Academic enhancements		18,835	15,971
Total net assets with donor restrictions	\$	395,612	\$ 318,130
A summary of the release of donor restrictions consists of the follo	owing:		
For the years ended June 30,		2024	2023
Purpose restrictions			
Student activites fund	\$	162,205	\$ 936,514
Scholarships		56,031	-
Alumni		19,859	14,811
Wellness		38,540	21,149
Academic enhancements		15,972	118,985
Total net assets released from donor restrictions	\$	292,607	\$ 1,091,459

#### **Note 8: CONCENTRATIONS**

The Organizations maintain cash deposits in several accounts at one financial institution. These accounts, except for the sweep accounts, are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Commission (FDIC) up to \$250,000. At June 30, 2024 and 2023, the Organizations had cash balances in excess of the FDIC insured limit totaling \$7,311,065 and \$5,507,508, respectively.

For the year ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, the Organizations received approximately 27% and 32% of its total revenue from State public school funds, and approximately 49% and 39% of its total revenue from Local public school funds, respectively. As of June 30, 2024 and 2023, the Organizations had 100% of its grant receivables from federal sources passed through state and local sources.

#### Note 9: COMMITMENTS

The Organizations have employment contracts with most of its employees. The contracts for the current year expired June 30, 2024. All contracts provided for a minimum annual salary and other benefits.

#### Note 10: RETIREMENT PLAN

Substantially all employees of the School participate in the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL). This system is a cost sharing, multiple-employer governmental defined benefit plan qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. TRSL provides retirement benefits as well as disability and survivor benefits to eligible participants. TRSL issues publicly available financial reports that include financial statements and required supplementary information of the TRSL. That report may be obtained by writing the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, P.O. Box 94123, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9123.

Participants vest immediately in employee contributions to TRSL. Retirement benefits vest after five years of service if the employee reaches age sixty; otherwise, benefits vest after twenty years of service. Benefits are established and amended by state statute. Upon retirement, participants may select from eight retirement payment options.

Participants are required to contribute 8% of the annual covered payroll to TRSL. For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, the School was required to contribute 24.1% and 24.8%, respectively, each year of the annual covered payroll of each participating employee. These contribution levels are established by law and set by the Public Retirement Systems Actuarial Committee.

For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, the School's contributions to TSRL totaled \$1,749,182 and \$1,958,349 and is included in employee benefits on the combined statement of functional expenses, respectively.

#### Note 11: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Louisiana Legislature approved a 2% administrative fee to be paid by all charter schools to NOLA Public Schools. For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, the School paid \$273,644 and \$238,378 in administrative fees, respectively.

NOLA Public Schools charges the School for the property and flood insurance costs, as further described in Note 12. For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, the School paid property & flood insurance costs to NOLA Public Schools of \$- and \$-, respectively.

#### Note 12: SCHOOL OPERATION/LEASEHOLD INTEREST

On July 1, 2011, the School's operating agreement renewal with NOLA Public Schools went into effect. This allows the School to use the facilities and contents located at 3019 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, or any other locations that may be approved by the School and NOLA Public Schools. This agreement expired on June 30, 2017. The agreement was renewed in June 2017 through June 30, 2026.

For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, the School paid annual usage fees (shared services including insurance costs) to NOLA Public Schools of \$- and \$-, respectively. NOLA Public Schools can increase this fee prior to the next fiscal year based on the actual cost of flood and property insurance they are able to obtain.

The School is responsible for all necessary maintenance to ensure that the facilities comply with all state and local health and safety standards and other applicable laws, regulations, and rules. If capital improvements are made by the School with non-public funds to any site which it operates, and the charter contract is revoked or terminated, the School will be reimbursed for the fair market value of such capital improvements. Assets purchased with public funds or obtained from public sources will automatically revert to NOLA Public Schools at the time the agreement is terminated. The School must maintain records of any assets acquired with private funds that will remain the property of the School.

The School also has the rights to use land, building and equipment that are owned by NOLA Public Schools for no fee. Use of the land, building and equipment is not recorded as an in-kind contribution from as the value of the use of the land, building and equipment is not readily determinable. The agreement is classified as an exchange transaction because both parties receive significant value from this arrangement. Accordingly, the present value of the benefit to be received in future years has not been recorded.

#### Note 13: RISK MANAGEMENT

The Organizations are exposed to various risks of loss from torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; business interruption; errors and omissions; employee injuries and illnesses; natural disasters; and employee health and accident benefits. Commercial insurance coverage is purchased for claims arising from such matters. There were no settled claims that exceeded this commercial coverage for the years ended June 30, 2024.



## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**



## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head

#### For the Year Ended June 30,

2024

#### Agency Head Name: Mervin Jackson, Principal

Purpose	Am	Amount		
Salary	\$	181,459		
Benefits - insurance		6,747		
Benefits - retirement		43,783		
Benefits - life insurance		40		
Benefits - short & long term disability		429		
Benefits - Fica and Medicare		26,538		
Cell phone		1,000		
Dues		5,305		
Car allowance		-		
Vehicle provided by government		-		
Per diem		-		
Reimbursements		-		
Travel		-		
Registration fees		-		
Conference travel		-		
Continuing professional education fees		-		
Housing		-		
Unvouchered expenses		-		
Special meals		-		
Total	\$	265,301		



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#### 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*

To the Board of Directors of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate New Orleans, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the combined financial statements of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate (the Organizations) (nonprofit organizations), which comprise the combined statement of financial position as of June 30, 2024, and the related combined statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the combined financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 5, 2025.

#### **Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the combined financial statements, we considered the Organizations' internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the combined financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness the Organizations' internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organizations' internal control.

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal controls, described

in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2024-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Organizations' combined financial statements are free from 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 combined financial statements. 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2024-002.

#### The Organizations' Response to Findings

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Organizations' response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. The Organizations' response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the combined financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

#### Purpose of this Report

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

Can, Rigge & Ingram, L.L.C.

Metairie, Louisiana May 5, 2025



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

Board of Directors Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation Inc and Affiliate New Orleans, Louisiana

#### **Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program**

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

We have audited Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate (the Organizations) (nonprofit organizations) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on the Organizations' major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024. The Organizations' major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the Organizations complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024.

#### Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

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

We are required to be independent of the Organizations and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our

opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Organizations' compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

#### **Responsibilities of Management for Compliance**

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statues, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Organizations' federal programs.

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance section above, as discussed below, we did identify a certain deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies is a deficiency, or a combination of material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2024-003 to be a significant deficiency.

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

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Organizations' response to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questions costs. The Organizations' response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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

Can, Rigge & Ingram, L.L.C.

Metairie, Louisiana May 5, 2025

## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through	<u>Assistance</u> <u>Listing</u>	<u>Pass-through</u> <u>Entity</u> Identifying	<u>Pa:</u> throu	<u>ount</u> ssed ugh to		l Federal
<u>Grantor/Program or Cluster Title</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>subre</u>	<u>cipient</u>	<u>Expe</u>	<u>nditures</u>
Department of Education/Passed-Through						
State of Louisiana Department of						
Education						
Special Education Cluster						
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	n/a	\$	-	\$	271,193
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	n/a		-		452,121
Title IV Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants	84.424	n/a		-		351,430
Title III English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	n/a		-		1,999
Career and Technical Education – Basic Grants to States	84.048	n/a		-		167,320
Title II Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	n/a		-		109,044
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425D	n/a		-		494,868
Total U.S. Department of Education						1,847,975
U.S. Department of Agriculture/Passed-						
Through State of Louisiana Department						
of Education						
Child Nutrition Cluster						
National School Lunch Program	10.555	n/a		-		626,831
Total Department of Education				-		626,831
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			\$		ć	2,474,806
Total Experimitures of rederal Awards			<u>ې</u>	-	\$	2,414,000

## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

#### Note 1: GENERAL

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) presents the expenditures of all federal awards of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate (the Organizations) (nonprofit organizations) for the year ended June 30, 2024. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Therefore, some amounts presented in this Schedule may differ from amounts presented in or used in the preparation of the basic combined financial statements.

#### Note 2: INDIRECT COST RATE

The Organizations have not elected to use the 10% de minimis indirect rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

#### **Note 3: RELATIONSHIP TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Federal awards revenues reported in the Organizations' basic combined financial statements reconcile to federal award expenditures as follows:

Federal grant revenue Surplus Child Nutrition Program funds received, not yet spent Immaterial unreconciled differences	\$ 2,607,593 (137,847) 5,060
Expenditures of federal awards	\$ 2,474,806

#### Note 4: LOANS

The Organizations did not expend federal awards related to loans or loan guarantees during the year.

#### Note 5: FEDERALLY FUNDED INSURANCE

The Organizations have no federally funded insurance.

#### Note 6: NONCASH ASSISTANCE

The Organizations received no noncash assistance.

## Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

#### Section I – Summary of Auditor's Results

#### **Financial Statements**

1.	Type of auditor's report issued Unmodified							
2. Internal control over financial reporting:								
	a.	Material weaknesses ident	Yes					
	b.	Significant deficiencies ider material weaknesses?	None noted					
	с.	Noncompliance material to	the financial statements noted?	No				
Federal Awards								
1.	Туре	of auditor's report issued o	n compliance for major programs	Unmodified				
2.	Inter	nal control over major prog	rams:					
	a.	Material weaknesses ident	ified?	No				
	<ul> <li>b. Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes</li> </ul>							
3.	<ol> <li>Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2CFR section 200.516(a)?</li> <li>Yes</li> </ol>							
4.	Iden	tification of major programs						
	_	Assistance Listing Number	Federal Progr	am				
	COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund – Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund							
		10.555	Child Nutrition Cluster - National	School Lunch Program				

5. Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs \$750,000

No

6. Auditee qualified as low-risk under 2CFR 200.520

Section II – Combined Financial Statement Findings

# Finding 2024-001Material Weakness – Internal Controls over Financial Reporting – FINANCIAL<br/>CLOSE/ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION (Originated in 2022)

- Criteria: The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) requires that not-for-profit entities maintain their accounting records and prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).
- Condition: As a result of audit procedures, we noted that material adjustments were necessary in order to correct/update the books and records of the School as of June 30, 2024. Prior to the adjustments, cash was understated by \$1,457,180, prepaid expenses were overstated by \$322,917, property was overstated by \$378,986, payables were understated by \$1,282,665, revenue was understated by \$353,568, and expenses were overstated by \$865,716.
- Cause: The books and records of the School were not completely and appropriately reconciled and closed prior to audit procedures.
- Effect: Assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses were materially misstated prior to the adjustments.

Recommendation: We recommend that the School implement and monitor controls to ensure all accounts are reconciled and closed timely after the end of each fiscal period.

Management Response: See corrective action plan on page 38.

#### Finding 2024-002 Noncompliance – LATE FILING FINDING (Originated in 2022)

- Criteria: Per Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, the School is required to complete and submit an audit to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor "within six months of the close of the local auditee's or vendor's fiscal year." Per Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards,* the School is required to complete and submit an audit to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse "within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditors' report(s), or nine months after the end of the audit period."
- Condition: The School did not complete and submit the audit to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor or the Federal Audit Clearinghouse within the required time periods.
- Cause: The School did not implement appropriate controls and processes to ensure that the audit was submitted within the required time periods.

Effect: MFP revenue and/or federal awards could be withheld if the required report is not submitted timely.

Recommendation: We recommend that the School implement controls and processes to ensure all required reports are submitted timely.

Management Response: See corrective action plan on page 38.

#### Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

Finding 2024-003 Significant Deficiency – Internal Controls – SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT

ALN 10.555 Child Nutrition Program United States Department of Agriculture Passed through State of Louisiana Department of Education 2024 Funding

- Criteria: In accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.303(a), the School must establish, document, and maintain effective internal control over Federal awards that provide reasonable assurance that the recipient of subrecipient is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. In addition, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.206(d), the School must comply with the government-wide suspension and debarment guidance in 2CFR Part 180 and individual Federal agency suspension and debarment requirements in title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These requirements restrict making Federal awards, subawards, and contracts with certain parties that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal awards or participating in Federal awards.
- Condition: Documentation of proper review for suspension and debarment was not maintained for 3 of 3 vendors tested as required.
- Cause: The School did not maintain documentation of its review of vendors for suspension and debarment prior to contracting with them for work performed under Federal awards.
- Effect: Documentation of a review for suspension and debarment was not maintained for vendors with contracts under Federal awards.

Questioned costs: None

Recommendation: We recommend that the School maintain documentation of its review for suspension and debarment for all vendors with contracts under Federal awards.

Management Response: See corrective action plan at page 38.

#### Section IV – Management Letter

No management letter was issued.

#### Section V – Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

# Finding 2023-001 Material Weakness – Internal Controls over Financial Reporting – FINANCIAL CLOSE/ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION

Criteria: The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) requires that not-for-profit entities maintain their accounting records and prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Recommendation: We recommend that the School implement and monitor controls to ensure all accounts are reconciled and closed timely after the end of each fiscal period.

Management Response and Current Status: Not resolved; See finding 2024-001

## Finding 2023-002 Significant Deficiency – Internal Controls over Financial Reporting – TRSL CONTRIBUTIONS

- Criteria: In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 11:887, member/employer contributions to the Teachers Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) must be paid by the 15<sup>th</sup> day after the end of the month.
- Recommendation: We recommend that the School design, implement, and monitor policies and procedures to ensure TRSL payments are made within the required timeline.

Management Response and Current Status: Resolved

#### Finding 2023-003 Noncompliance – LATE FILING FINDING

Criteria: Per Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, the School is required to complete and submit an audit to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor "within six months of the close of the local auditee's or vendor's fiscal year." Per Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards,* the School is required to complete and submit an audit to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse "within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditors' report(s), or nine months after the end of the audit period."

Recommendation: We recommend that the School implement controls and processes to ensure all required reports are submitted timely.

Management Response and Current Status: Not resolved; See finding 2024-002

# Finding 2023-004 Significant Deficiency – Internal Controls and Noncompliance – EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

- Criteria: In accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.313(d), the School must maintain property records and take physical inventory of property purchased with federal funds.
- Recommendation: We recommend that the School review all equipment purchases with federal funds and ensure that all items are included on the inventory listing and, thus, included as part of the annual inventory of property.

Management Response and Current Status: Resolved

### Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Combining Statements of Financial Position For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

June 30,	School	Foundation	Student Activity Funds	Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation	Friends of Warren Easton	Eliminating Entries	2024 Total
Assets							
Current assets							
Cash and cash equivalents \$	3,162,107	\$ 328,434	\$-	\$ 3,490,541	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,490,541
Restricted cash	-	-	302,365	302,365	-	-	302,365
Grant receivables	2,245,081	-	-	2,245,081	-	-	2,245,081
Other receivables	36,500	23,852	-	60,352	-	-	60,352
Inventory	5,017	-	-	5,017	-	-	5,017
Prepaid expenses	69,774	-	-	69,774	-	-	69,774
Total current assets	5,518,479	352,286	302,365	6,173,130	-	-	6,173,130
Rent reserve	3,401,208	-	-	3,401,208	-	-	3,401,208
Operating lease right-of-use assets, net	49,774	-	-	49,774			49,774
Finance lesae right-of-use assets, net	12,658,552	-	-	12,658,552			12,658,552
Property and equipment, net	1,046,374	-	-	1,046,374	-	-	1,046,374
Total assets \$	22,674,387	\$ 352,286	\$ 302,365	\$ 23,329,038	\$ -	\$-	\$ 23,329,038
Liabilities and Net Assets							
Current liabilities							
Accounts payable \$	2,036,481	\$ 26,821	\$-	\$ 2,063,302	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,063,302
Accrued expenses	47,651	-	-	47,651	-	-	47,651
Deferred revenues	14,756	-	-	14,756	-	-	14,756
Current portion of operating lease liabilities	16,090	-	-	16,090	-	-	16,090
Current portion of finance lease liabilities	392,921	-	-	392,921	-	-	392,921
Total current liabilities	2,507,899	26,821	-	2,534,720	-	-	2,534,720
Long-term liabilities							
Operating lease liabilities, less current portion	33,684	-	-	33,684	-	-	33,684
Finance lease liabilities, less current portion	12,947,338	-	-	12,947,338	-	-	12,947,338
Total long-term liabilities	12,981,022	-	-	12,981,022	-	-	12,981,022
Total liabilities	15,488,921	26,821	-	15,515,742	-	-	15,515,742
Net assets							
Without donor restriction	7,116,898	300,786	-	7,417,684	-	-	7,417,684
With donor restrictions	68,568	24,679	302,365	395,612	-	-	395,612
Total net assets	7,185,466	325,465	302,365	7,813,296	-	_	7,813,296
Total liabilities and net assets \$	22,674,387	\$ 352,286	\$ 302,365	\$ 23,329,038	\$-	\$-	\$ 23,329,038

### Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. and Affiliate Combining Statements of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

For the year ended June 30,	Wa	irren Easton	Fou	undation	Student ivity Funds	Cł Higl	en Easton harter hSchool ation, Inc.	riends of Warren Easton	Elimi	nations	2	024 Total
Revenue and Other Support												
Contributions	\$	89,273	\$	258,736	\$ -	\$	348,009	\$ -	\$ (	140,806)	\$	207,203
Grants												
Federal		2,607,593		-	-		2,607,593	-		-		2,607,593
State		-		-	-		-	-		-		-
Local Minimum Foundation Program		9,169,683		-	-		9,169,683	-		-		9,169,683
State Minimum Foundation Program		5,146,263		-	-		5,146,263	-		-		5,146,263
Student activity fees		-		-	882,138		882,138	-		-		882,138
Interest income		219,295		865	-		220,160	233		-		220,393
Other revenues		483,266		4,022	-		487,288	-		-		487,288
Total revenue and other support		17,715,373		263,623	882,138	1	8,861,134	233	(	140,806)		18,720,561
Expenses												
Instructional		13,925,496		16,500	741,978	1	4,683,974	26,000		-	:	14,709,974
Management and general		3,923,597		44,286	-		3,967,883	142,706	(	140,806)		3,969,783
Fundraising		58,354		9,239	-		67,593	-		-		67,593
Total expenses		17,907,447		70,025	741,978	1	8,719,450	168,706	(	140,806)		18,747,350
Change in Net Assets		(192,074)		193,598	140,160		141,684	(168,473)		-		(26,789)
Net assets at beginning of year		7,377,540		131,867	162,205		7,671,612	168,473		-		7,840,085
Net assets at end of year	\$	7,185,466	\$	325,465	\$ 302,365	\$	7,813,296	\$ -	\$	-	\$	7,813,296



## WARREN EASTON CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

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May 6, 2025

**RE: Corrective Action Plan** 

Warren Easton Charter High School respectfully submits the following corrective action plan for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Name and address of independent public accounting firm: Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC 111 Veterans Blvd Suite 350 Metairie, LA 70005

#### Audit Period:

Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

#### <u>Finding 2024-001 Material Weakness – Internal Controls over Financial Reporting – FINANCIAL</u> <u>CLOSE/ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION (Originated in 2022)</u>

Auditors Recommendation: We recommend that the School implement and monitor controls to ensure all accounts are reconciled and closed timely after the end of each fiscal period.

**Management response:** Warren Easton Charter High School acknowledges this continued material weakness in internal controls related to the financial close and account reconciliation process. The school experienced disruption due to turnover in key finance personnel and ongoing operational impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected timely and accurate completion of year-end procedures. To address this issue, Warren Easton has developed a corrective action plan to strengthen its financial reporting controls.

**Responsible Party:** Lindsay Carter, Chief Financial Officer **Estimated Completion Date:** June 30, 2025

#### Finding 2024-002 – Noncompliance – LATE FILING FINDING

Auditors Recommendation: We recommend that the School implement controls and processes to ensure all required reports are submitted timely.

**Management response:** Warren Easton Charter High School acknowledges the importance of timely financial reporting and recognizes the delay in the submission of its FY2023 financial statements. The late filing was primarily due to key personnel transitions and residual operational impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected the year-end closing timeline. In response, Warren Easton and its external auditors, Carr, Riggs & Ingram (CRI), have taken corrective steps to prevent recurrence and ensure timely compliance moving forward.

Responsible Party: Lindsay Carter, Chief Financial Officer



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Estimated Completion Date: June 30, 2025

<u>Finding 2024-003 Significant Deficiency – Internal Controls and Noncompliance – Suspension and Debarment</u>

**Auditors Recommendation:** We recommend that the School maintain documentation of its review for suspension and debarment for all vendors with contracts under Federal awards.

**Management response:** Warren Easton is reviewing and updating the procurement section of the policy manual to explicitly include procedures for verifying the suspension and debarment status of all vendors and contractors receiving federal funds. Documentation of each vendor's verification will be maintained in procurement files. A printed or PDF record from SAM.gov showing the vendor's status will be retained as audit evidence.

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Responsible Party: Lindsay Carter, Chief Financial Officer Estimated Completion Date: June 30, 2025

**FIGHTIN** 

Sincerely,

Chief Financial Officer

# Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. BESE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT

June 30, 2024



**Carr, Riggs & Ingram, L.L.C.** 3850 North Causeway Boulevard Suite 1400 Two Lakeway Center Metairie, LA 70002

504.837.9116 504.837.0123 (fax) CRIadv.com

#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of Directors of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. The Louisiana Department of Education, and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor New Orleans, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. (a nonprofit organization) (the School) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024; and to determine whether the specified schedules are free of obvious errors and omissions, in compliance with Louisiana Revised Statute 24:514 I. The School's management is responsible for the performance and statistical data.

The School has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements. Additionally, the Louisiana Department of Education and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated results are as follows:

#### <u>General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources</u> (Schedule 1)

- 1. We will select a random sample of 25 transactions, review supporting documentation, and observe that the sampled expenditures/revenues are classified correctly and are reported in the proper amounts among the following amounts reported on the schedule:
  - Total General Fund Instructional Expenditures,
  - Total General Fund Equipment Expenditures,
  - Total Local Taxation Revenue,
  - Total Local Earnings on Investment in Real Property,
  - Total State Revenue in Lieu of Taxes,
  - Nonpublic Textbook Revenue, and
  - Nonpublic Transportation Revenue

#### Class Size Characteristics (Schedule 2)

2. We will obtain a list of classes by school, school type, and class size as reported on the schedule. We will then trace a sample of 10 classes to the October 1st roll books for those classes and observe that the class was properly classified on the schedule.

Results: Exception noted. One (1) of ten (10) class sized per the EdLink 360 report did not match the class rosters provided by management.

#### Education Levels/Experience of Public School Staff (No Schedule)

3. We will obtain October 1st PEP data submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education (or equivalent listing prepared by management), including full-time teachers, principals, and assistant principals by classification, as well as their level of education and experience, and obtain management's representation that the data/listing was complete. We will then select a sample of 25 individuals, trace to each individual's personnel file, and observe that each individual's education level and experience was property classified on the PEP data or equivalent listing prepared by management.

Results: Exceptions noted. One (1) of twenty-five (25) teachers, principals, and assistant principals' education levels were not reported correctly. Two (2) of twenty-five (25) teachers, principals, and assistant principals' years of experience were not reported correctly.

#### Public School Staff Data: Average Salaries (No Schedule)

4. We will obtain June 30th PEP data submitted to the Louisiana Department of Education (or equivalent listing provided by management) of all classroom teachers, including base salary, extra compensation, and ROTC or rehired retiree status, as well as full-time equivalents, and obtain management's representation that the data/listing was complete. We will then select a sample of 25 individuals, trace to each individual's personnel file, and observe that each individual's salary, extra compensation, and full-time equivalents were properly included on the PEP data (or equivalent listing prepared by management).

# Results: Exception noted. One (1) of twenty-five (25) teachers, principals, and assistant principals' salary amounts were not reported correctly.

We were engaged by the School to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the United States Comptroller General. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the performance and statistical data. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc., as required by Louisiana Revised Statue 24:514 I, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Carr, Riggs & Ungram, L.L.C.

Metairie, Louisiana May 5, 2025

### Warren Easton Charter High School Foundation, Inc. Schedule 1

General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources For the Year Ended June 30, 2024			
General Fund Instructional and Equipment Expenditures General fund instructional expenditures: Teacher and student interaction activities: Classroom teacher salaries Other instructional staff activities Instructional staff employee benefits Purchased professional and technical services Instructional materials and supplies Less instructional equipment Total teacher and student interaction activities	\$ 3,647,533 1,770,817 1,647,348 1,471,421 218,382 89,657	-\$	8,845,158
Other instructional activities			2,584,901
Pupil support activities Less equipment for pupil support activities Net pupil support activities	917,089 		917,089
Instructional Staff Services Less equipment for instructional staff services Net instructional staff services	211,260		211,260
School Administration Less: Equipment for school administration Net school administration	822,076		822,076
Total general fund instructional expenditures		\$	13,380,484

Certain Local Revenue Sources

Not applicable to the School

#### Class Size Characteristics As of October 1, 2023

	Class Size Range									
	1 -	20	21	- 26	27	- 33	34+			
School Type	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number		
Elementary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Elementary Activity Classes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Middle/Jr. High	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Middle/Jr. High Activity Classes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
High	52%	301	20%	118	17%	96	1%	5		
High Activity Classes	6%	33	2%	11	1%	5	1%	4		
Combination	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Combination Activity Classes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		



## WARREN EASTON CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

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Louisiana Legislative Auditor 1600 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street P.O. Box 94397 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397

And

Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC 3850 North Causeway Boulevard Suite 1400 Two Lakeway Center Metairie, LA 70002

RE: Management's Response to

Board of Elementary and Secondary Education Agreed-Upon Procedures Warren Easton High School

FIGHTIN

To whom it may concern:

Warren Easton High School will review policies and procedures in regard to the comments for each schedule of performance and statistical data and make appropriate changes that will improve reporting on each schedule of performance and statistical data that are cost effective and within our budget constraints.

Sincerely,

Mervin Jackson, CEO

## Warren Easton Charter School Foundation, Inc.

STATEWIDE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT

June 30, 2024



**Carr, Riggs & Ingram, L.L.C.** 3850 North Causeway Boulevard Suite 1400 Two Lakeway Center Metairie, LA 70002

504.837.9116 504.837.0123 (fax) CRIadv.com

#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of Directors of Warren Easton Charter School Foundation, Inc. and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor New Orleans, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Warren Easton Charter School Foundation, Inc.'s management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Warren Easton Charter School Foundation, Inc. has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated results are as follows:

#### 1) Written Policies and Procedures

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories, if applicable, to public funds and the entity's operations:
  - i. *Budgeting*, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the above procedure.

Purchasing, including (1) how purchases are initiated, (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list, (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders, (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law, and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.

iii. *Disbursements*, including processing, reviewing, and approving.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the above procedure.

iv. Receipts/Collections, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the above procedure.

v. **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the above procedure.

vi. **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.

**Results:** Exceptions noted. There are no written policies and procedures for the following: (2) standard terms and conditions; (3) legal review; and (5) monitoring process.

vii. **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.

**Results:** Exceptions noted. The written policies do not contain information on allowable expenses, dollar thresholds by category of expense, documentation requirements, and required approvers.

viii. **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)**, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the above procedure.

ix. Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.

#### 2) Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and
  - i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

ii. Observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iii. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

**Results:** Exception noted. The Board/Finance Committee did not receive written updates of the progress of resolving the audit findings at each meeting until the findings were considered fully resolved.

#### 3) Bank Reconciliations

A. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:

i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);

**Results:** Exceptions noted. Bank reconciliations for two out of five accounts tested were not prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date.

ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and

iii. Management has documentation reflecting it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

#### 4) Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).

B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that

i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

- D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
  - i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).

**Results:** Exceptions noted. Two of the four deposits selected were not made within one business day of receipt at the collection location.

v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

# 5) Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)

A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).

- B. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that
  - i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

C. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and

i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and

ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

#### 6) Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/Purchase Cards (Cards)

A. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

- B. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement). Obtain supporting documentation, and
  - i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder; and

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.

**Results:** Exceptions noted. CRI noted a finance charge was assessed on the statement for the one card selected.

C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #6B above, <u>excluding fuel cards</u>, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2)

written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

#### 7) Travel and Travel-Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions)

A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

Randomly select 5 reimbursements and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected.

i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov);

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased;

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iii. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policies and Procedures procedure #1A(vii); and

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iv. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

#### 8) Contracts

A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, <u>excluding the</u> <u>practitioner's contract</u>, and

i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

ii. Observe that the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

#### 9) Payroll and Personnel

A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.

- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and
  - i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory);

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

iv. Observe that the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee's or official's cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

#### 10) Fraud Notice

A. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete.

Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

B. Observe that the entity has posted, on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

**Results:** No exceptions were found as a result of applying the procedure.

#### 11) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

- A. Perform the following procedures, verbally discuss the results with management, and report "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."
  - Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.

**Results:** We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

ii. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.

**Results:** We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

iii. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.

**Results:** We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

B. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

We were engaged by Warren Easton Charter School Foundation, Inc. to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of Warren Easton Charter School Foundation, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

Carr, Riggs & Chyram, L.L.C.

Metairie, Louisiana May 5, 2025



## WARREN EASTON CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

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FAGLI

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And

Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC 3850 N. Causeway Blvd Suite 1400 Metairie, LA 70002

RE: Management's Response to Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures Warren Easton Charter School Foundation, Inc.

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To whom it may concern:

Warren Easton Charter School Foundation, Inc. will review policies and procedures in regard to the comments for each financial function and make appropriate changes that will improve operations and internal controls in each area that are cost effective and within our budget constraints.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Carter Chief Financial Officer