

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA  
CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**

Audit of Consolidated Financial Statements

June 30, 2024



## **Contents**

---

<b>Independent Auditor's Report</b>	1 - 3
-------------------------------------	-------

---

### **Consolidated Financial Statements**

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position	4
Consolidated Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets	5
Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses	6
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows	7
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	8 - 15

---

### **Supplementary Information**

Schedule of Governing Board	17
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head	18
Consolidating Statement of Financial Position	19
Consolidating Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets	20

---

<b>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></b>	21 - 22
--	---------

---

<b>Schedule of Findings and Responses</b>	23
---	----

---

<b>Schedule of Prior Audit Findings</b>	24
---	----

## **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Board of Directors  
The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc.  
Thibodaux, Louisiana

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of The Maxine Giardina Charter School (the School), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of June 30, 2024, the related consolidated statements of activities and changes in net assets, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements (collectively, the financial statements).

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

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) 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 Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the 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 audit opinion.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 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 financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the 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 GAAS 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 financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS 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 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 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 School's 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 financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's 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 audit.

### **Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The schedule of governing board, the schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to agency head, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 24:513 A(3), the consolidating statement of financial position, and the consolidating statement of activities and changes in net assets are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the 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 financial statements as a whole.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 6, 2024 on our consideration of the School's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. 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 School's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "LaForte".

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA  
December 6, 2024

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**  
**June 30, 2024**

<b>Assets</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 977,880
Investments	272,865
Grants Receivable	31,913
Other Current Assets	<u>100</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>1,282,758</u>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
Building	635,945
Machinery and Equipment	314,606
Improvements	134,184
Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(1,017,183)</u>
<b>Total Fixed Assets, Net</b>	<u>67,552</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,350,310</u></u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$ 23,517
Accrued Liabilities	<u>218,287</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>241,804</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	
Without Donor Restrictions	<u>1,108,506</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>1,108,506</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,350,310</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Consolidated Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	<b>Without Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>With Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Revenue, Grants, and Other Support</b>			
State Public School Funding	\$ 1,252,894	\$ -	\$ 1,252,894
Federal Grant Revenue	252,121	-	252,121
Donations	14,219	-	14,219
Other Income and Gains, Net	109,205	-	109,205
Other Grant Revenue	53,522	-	53,522
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	3,168	(3,168)	-
<b>Total Revenue, Grants, and Other Support</b>	<b>1,685,129</b>	<b>(3,168)</b>	<b>1,681,961</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Program Services			
Education Programs	1,217,558	-	1,217,558
Supporting Services			
Management and General	397,219	-	397,219
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,614,777</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,614,777</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>70,352</b>	<b>(3,168)</b>	<b>67,184</b>
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	<b>1,038,154</b>	<b>3,168</b>	<b>1,041,322</b>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 1,108,506</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,108,506</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Consolidated Statement of Functional Expenses**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	<b>Program Services</b>	<b>Supporting Services</b>	
	<b>Education Programs</b>	<b>Management and General</b>	<b>Total</b>
Advertising	\$ -	\$ 162	\$ 162
Depreciation	26,590	-	26,590
Employee Benefits	299,079	90,037	389,116
Equipment	6,324	1,335	7,659
Food Services	59,705	-	59,705
Insurance	-	51,773	51,773
Miscellaneous and Dues	1,092	11,225	12,317
Phone, Internet, and Postage	8,609	2,345	10,954
Property Services	4,995	-	4,995
Purchased Services	53,450	29,787	83,237
Repairs	6,274	-	6,274
Salaries	712,052	203,441	915,493
Supplies, Materials, and Textbooks	34,838	6,943	41,781
Travel	3,451	171	3,622
Utilities	1,099	-	1,099
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,217,558</b>	<b>\$ 397,219</b>	<b>\$ 1,614,777</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.



**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC**  
**Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	
Change in Net Assets	\$ 67,184
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to	
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	
Depreciation	26,590
Unrealized Loss on Investments	(37,194)
(Increase) Decrease in:	
Grants Receivable	30,928
Increase (Decrease) in:	
Accounts Payable	(475)
Accrued Liabilities	(10,605)
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<u>9,244</u>
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<u>76,428</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(1,771)
Purchase of Investments	(3,938)
<b>Net Cash Used in Investing Activities</b>	<u>(5,709)</u>
<b>Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	70,719
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year</b>	<u>907,161</u>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year</b>	<u><u>\$ 977,880</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc. and Max Charter School Foundation, Inc. All material intercompany transactions have been eliminated.

#### Organization and Nature of Activities

The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc. d/b/a The MAX Academy at Nicholls State University (the School), was created as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Louisiana (the State) on June 27, 2006. The School applied to the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to operate a Type 2 charter school. On June 6, 2007, BESE approved the charter of the School. The charter was granted for an initial term of 3 years. The School was granted a 2-year extension, two additional 3-year extensions, and most recently another 3-year extension of the contract pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes (R.S.) 17:3992 and 3998, which expires in 2027.

The School serves eligible students in first through eighth grade. The School specializes in instruction for students with dyslexia and other related learning disabilities. A summary of the School's significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the accompanying consolidated financial statements follows.

Max Charter School Foundation, Inc. (the Foundation) was established on March 10, 2017, to assist the School in its education mission.

#### Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements are presented in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 958, *Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations*. The School is required to record unconditional promises to give (pledges) as receivables and revenues, and to distinguish between contributions received for each net asset category in accordance with donor-imposed restrictions. Under FASB ASC 958, the School is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to two classes of net assets:

*Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions* - Net assets that are resources available to support operations.

*Net Assets With Donor Restrictions* - Net assets that are resources that are restricted by the donor for use for a particular purpose or in a particular future period. When the 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 financial statements. Contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions.

In addition, the School is required to present a statement of cash flows.

# THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### **Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported on the consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements of the School are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting whereby revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

#### **Statement of Cash Flows**

For purposes of the consolidated statement of cash flows, the School considers all investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. At June 30, 2024, the School had \$668,945 of cash equivalents.

#### **Fair Values of Financial Instruments**

The School follows the provisions of the *Fair Value Measurement* Topic of the FASB ASC. Accordingly, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under Topic 820 are described as follows:

- Level 1 Inputs to the valuation methodology are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the School can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, such as:
  - Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
  - Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
  - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
  - Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full-term of the asset or liability.

- Level 3 Inputs that are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

# THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### **Fair Values of Financial Instruments (Continued)**

Following is a description of the valuation methodology used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodology used at June 30, 2024.

*Fixed Income Mutual Fund.* Valued at the closing price reported on the active market.

*Common Stocks.* Valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

The table in Note 8 sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the School's assets at fair value as of June 30, 2024. Classification within the fair value hierarchy table is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

#### **Investments**

In accordance with the *Not-for-Profit Entities* Topic 820 of the FASB ASC, the School's investments in marketable securities with readily determinable fair values, and all investments in debt securities are valued at their fair value in the consolidated statement of financial position. Unrealized and realized gains and losses are included in the change in net assets. Investments, consisting of certificates of deposit with original maturities greater than three months, are reported at original cost plus accrued interest. Dividend and interest income are accrued when earned.

#### **Revenues and Support**

##### State Public School Funding

The School's primary source of funding is through the State Public School Fund. For the year ended June 30, 2024, the School received \$1,252,894 from the State based on eligible students in attendance paid on a monthly basis.

##### Federal and State Grants

State and federal grants are on a cost reimbursement basis. An accrual is made when eligible expenses occur.

##### Other Grants and Contributions

Grants and contributions are recognized when the donor makes a promise to give to the School that is, in substance, unconditional. Grants and contributions that are restricted by the donor are reported as increases in net assets without donor restrictions if the restrictions expire in the year in which the contributions are recognized. All other donor-restricted grants and contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions.

##### Other Income

Revenue from other sources, including student activities and meals, is recorded and recognized as revenue in the period in which the School provides the service at the amount that reflects the consideration to which the School expects to be entitled for providing the service or good.

# THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### Revenues and Support (Continued)

##### Contracts vs. Contributions

The School utilizes the guidance in Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2018-08 in the assessment of whether a revenue is an exchange transaction (contract) or contribution (non-contract) and considers factors including commensurate value received, reciprocity, and donor-imposed conditions. Performance obligations are determined based on the nature of the services provided by the School. Revenue from performance obligations satisfied over time is recognized based on actual time incurred in relation to the total expected period of providing the service, which is deemed to be the school year, which is simultaneous with the fiscal year. The School believes that this method provides a faithful depiction of the transfer of services over the term of the performance obligation based on the inputs needed to satisfy the obligation. Generally, performance obligations satisfied over time relate to student activities and fees and tuition. The School measures the performance obligation throughout the school year. Revenue for performance obligations satisfied at a point in time, which includes mainly income from meals and is generally immaterial, is recognized when services are provided. The School determines the transaction price based on standard charges for goods or services provided to students, which are predetermined by management. Fees are generally nonrefundable, and total refunds issued annually are considered negligible.

#### Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Fixed assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if historical cost is not available. Betterments that naturally add to the value of related assets or materially extend the useful lives of assets are capitalized. Normal building maintenance and minor equipment purchases are included as expenses of the School.

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The following are the estimated useful lives of the fixed assets of the School:

Improvements	4 - 15 Years
Machinery and Equipment	5 - 10 Years
Building	15 Years

#### Income Taxes

The School is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a Section 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. However, income from certain activities not directly related to the School's tax-exempt purpose is subject to taxation as unrelated business income.

# THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### **Functional Expenses**

The cost of providing the School's various programs and supporting services have been summarized on a functional basis in the consolidated statement of activities and changes in net assets. The consolidated statement of functional expenses presents the natural classification detail of expenses by function. Expenses are recorded to program and function by direct identification.

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### **Concentrations**

The School received 74% of its revenues for the year ended June 30, 2024 from the State of Louisiana, subject to its charter school contract with the State.

#### **Compensated Absences**

The Board of Directors of the School grants all contracted employees of the School a total of 10 days of sick/personal pay per year, provided, however, that the employee is contracted for a full year. Contracted employees may carry over all unused sick/personal days from year to year. The liability at June 30, 2024 totaled \$26,599, which is included in accrued liabilities on the consolidated statement of financial position.

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements - Adopted**

As of July 1, 2023, the School adopted ASU 2016-13, *Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments*, and all subsequently issued related amendments, which changed the methodology used to recognize impairment of the School's contract receivables. Under this ASU, financial assets are presented at the net amount expected to be collected, requiring immediate recognition of estimated credit losses expected to occur over the asset's remaining life. This is in contrast to previous U.S. GAAP, under which credit losses were not recognized until it was probable that a loss had been incurred. The School performed its expected credit loss calculation based on historical contract receivable write-offs, including consideration of then-existing economic conditions and expected future conditions. The implementation of ASC 326 did not result in a significant impact to the financial statements.

# THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

#### Liquidity and Availability

The School's objective is to maintain liquid financial assets without donor restrictions sufficient to cover 60 days of program expenditures. It regularly monitors liquidity required to meet its operating needs and other contractual commitments. Expenditures are generally met within 30 days, utilizing the financial resources that the School has available. In addition, the School operates with a budget to monitor sources and uses of funds throughout the year.

Financial assets available for general expenditure, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use, within one year of the consolidated statement of financial position date, comprise the following:

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 977,880
Investments	272,865
Grants Receivable	<u>31,913</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,282,658</u></b>

### Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The School's cash and cash equivalents (book balances) at June 30, 2024 were \$977,880, which are stated at cost and approximate market.

The School periodically maintains cash in bank accounts in excess of insured limits. The School has not experienced any losses and does not believe that significant credit risk exists as a result of this practice. At June 30, 2024, deposits in excess of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation coverage were \$675,105.

### Note 3. Fixed Assets

Depreciation expense for the year ended June 30, 2024 was \$26,590.

All assets acquired with Louisiana Department of Education funds are owned by the School while used in the purpose for which they were purchased. The Louisiana Department of Education, however, has a reversionary interest in these assets. Should the charter not be renewed, title in any assets purchased with those funds will transfer to the appropriate agency. Assets purchased with private funds remain the property of the School.

# THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

### **Note 4. Accrued Liabilities**

As of June 30, 2024, the School had recorded accrued liabilities of \$218,287. This amount represents teachers' accrued salaries and benefits.

### **Note 5. Restriction on Assets**

Net assets with donor restrictions are restricted by donors for specific programs, purposes, or to assist specific departments of the School. These restrictions are considered to expire when payments for restricted purposes are made. At June 30, 2024, the School had \$885 in net assets with donor restrictions.

### **Note 6. Retirement Plans**

Certain employees of the School participate in the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (the TRSL). The TRSL is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered and controlled by a separate board of trustees. Pertinent information relative to the plan follows.

#### **Plan Description**

The TRSL provides retirement benefits as well as disability and survivor benefits. Ten years of service credit are required to become vested for retirement benefits, and five years to become vested for disability and survivor benefits. Benefits are established and amended by state statute. At June 30, 2024, the TRSL was 76.0% funded.

The TRSL issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the TRSL. That report may be obtained by writing to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, P.O. Box 94123, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9123.

#### **Funding Policy**

Plan members are required to contribute 8% of their annual covered salary. The School is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. During the year ended June 30, 2024, the employer contribution rate was 24.1%. Member contributions and employer contributions for the TRSL are established by state law, and rates are established by the Public Retirement System's Actuarial Committee. The School's contributions to the plan for the year ended June 30, 2024 were \$209,797, which are equal to the required contributions for the year.



## THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

---

#### Note 7. Uncertain Income Taxes

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America provide accounting and disclosure guidance about positions taken by an entity in its tax returns that might be uncertain. The School believes that it has appropriate support for any tax positions taken and, as such, does not have any uncertain tax positions that are material to the financial statements.

Penalties and interest assessed by income taxing authorities, if any, would be included in general administration expenses.

#### Note 8. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The School's assets recorded at fair value have been categorized based upon a fair value hierarchy in accordance with the *Fair Value Measurement* Topic of the FASB ASC. See Note 1 for a description of the School's accounting policies and valuation procedures.

The valuation of the School's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis at June 30, 2024 was as follows:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Investments				
Fixed Income Fund	\$ 26,239	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,239
Common Stocks	246,626	-	-	246,626
	<u>\$ 272,865</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 272,865</u>

#### Note 9. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through the date that the consolidated financial statements were available to be issued, December 6, 2024, and determined that the no events occurred that require disclosure.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Schedule of Governing Board**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Compensation</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Compensation</b>
Jake Giardina 918 East First Street Thibodaux, LA 70301 <i>Board Chair</i>	\$ - 0 -	Dr. Scot Rademaker 431 Slidell Street New Orleans, LA 70114 <i>Board Member</i>	\$ - 0 -
Karen Chauvin 214 Central Avenue Houma, LA 70364 <i>President</i>	\$ - 0 -	Dr. Albert Davis 111 East Killarney Place Thibodaux, LA 70310 <i>Board Member</i>	\$ - 0 -
Carol Broussard 137 Alamo Drive Houma, LA 70360 <i>Vice-President</i>	\$ - 0 -	Dr. Cleveland O. Hill 2130 Highway 3185 Thibodaux, LA 70301 <i>Board Member</i>	\$ - 0 -
James Buquet, III 1243 Bayou Black Drive Houma, LA 70360 <i>Treasurer</i>	\$ - 0 -	Larry Howell 112 Rue Bergere Thibodaux, LA 70301 <i>Board Member</i>	\$ - 0 -
Janice Fabregas 110 Rue Angelique Thibodaux, LA 70301 <i>Secretary</i>	\$ - 0 -	Dr. J. Steven Welsh 5309 Toby Lane Kenner, LA 70055 <i>Board Member</i>	\$ - 0 -
Melissa Eschette 521 Olive St. Thibodaux, LA 70301	\$ - 0 -	Jason Talbot 259 Donald Drive Thibodaux, LA 70301 <i>Board Member</i>	\$ - 0 -
Tiffany Hue 793 Lefort Bypass Road Thibodaux, LA 70301	\$ - 0 -		

See independent auditor's report.

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments**  
**to Agency Head**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

---

**Agency Head**

Angelic Rodrigue, Principal

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Salary	\$87,360
Benefits - Insurance	\$13,986
Benefits - Disability Insurance	\$1,100
Benefits - Retirement	\$21,536
Benefits - Medicare	\$1,228
Benefits - Parking Permit, NSU	\$50
Stipends	\$2,000
Vehicle Provided by Government	\$0
Per Diem	\$0
Reimbursements	\$0
Travel	\$0
Registration Fees	\$0
Conference Travel	\$0
Continuing Professional Education Fees	\$0
Housing	\$0
Unvouchered Expenses	\$0
Special Meals	\$0

See independent auditor's report.

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Consolidating Statement of Financial Position**  
**June 30, 2024**

	<b>The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc.</b>	<b>Max Charter School Foundation, Inc.</b>	<b>Eliminations</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
<b>Assets</b>				
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 924,976	\$ 52,904	\$ -	\$ 977,880
Investments	-	272,865	-	272,865
Grants Receivable	31,913	-	-	31,913
Other Current Assets	100	-	-	100
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>956,989</b>	<b>325,769</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,282,758</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Building	635,945	-	-	635,945
Machinery and Equipment	314,606	-	-	314,606
Improvements	134,184	-	-	134,184
Accumulated Depreciation	(1,017,183)	-	-	(1,017,183)
<b>Total Fixed Assets, Net</b>	<b>67,552</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,552</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,024,541</b>	<b>\$ 325,769</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,350,310</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>				
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 23,517	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,517
Accrued Liabilities	218,287	-	-	218,287
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>241,804</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>241,804</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>				
Without Donor Restrictions	782,737	325,769	-	1,108,506
With Donor Restrictions	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>782,737</b>	<b>325,769</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,108,506</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,024,541</b>	<b>\$ 325,769</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,350,310</b>

See independent auditor's report.

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Consolidating Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc.			Max Charter School Foundation, Inc.				Consolidated		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Eliminations	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>Revenue, Grants, and Other Support</b>										
State Public School Funding	\$ 1,252,894	\$ -	\$ 1,252,894	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,252,894	\$ -	1,252,894
Other Income and Gains, Net	65,530	-	65,530	43,675	-	43,675	-	109,205	-	109,205
Donations	4,219	-	4,219	10,000	-	10,000	-	14,219	-	14,219
Federal Grant Revenue	252,121	-	252,121	-	-	-	-	252,121	-	252,121
Other Grant Revenue	53,522	-	53,522	-	-	-	-	53,522	-	53,522
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	3,068	(3,068)	-	100	(100)	-	-	3,168	(3,168)	-
<b>Total Revenue, Grants, and Other Support</b>	<b>1,631,354</b>	<b>(3,068)</b>	<b>1,628,286</b>	<b>53,775</b>	<b>(100)</b>	<b>53,675</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,685,129</b>	<b>(3,168)</b>	<b>1,681,961</b>
<b>Expenses</b>										
Program Services										
Education Programs	1,217,558	-	1,217,558	-	-	-	-	1,217,558	-	1,217,558
Supporting Services										
Management and General	395,952	-	395,952	1,267	-	1,267	-	397,219	-	397,219
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,613,510</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,613,510</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,614,777</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,614,777</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>17,844</b>	<b>(3,068)</b>	<b>14,776</b>	<b>52,508</b>	<b>(100)</b>	<b>52,408</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>70,352</b>	<b>(3,168)</b>	<b>67,184</b>
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	<b>764,893</b>	<b>3,068</b>	<b>767,961</b>	<b>273,261</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>273,361</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,038,154</b>	<b>3,168</b>	<b>1,041,322</b>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 782,737</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 782,737</b>	<b>\$ 325,769</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 325,769</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,108,506</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,108,506</b>

See independent auditor's report.

**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**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors  
The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc.  
Thibodaux, Louisiana

We have audited, 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, the consolidated financial statements of The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc. (the School), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as of June 30, 2024, the related consolidated statements of activities and changes in net assets, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 6, 2024.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the consolidated financial statements, we considered the School's 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 consolidated financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's 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 consolidated 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 first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School's consolidated 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 consolidated 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**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 entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "LaForte".

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA  
December 6, 2024



**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Schedule of Findings and Responses**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

---

**Part I. Summary of Auditor's Results**

Consolidated Financial Statements

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1) Type of auditor's report  | Unmodified |
| 2) Internal control over financial reporting and compliance and other matters: |            |
| a) Material weaknesses identified?   | No         |
| b) Significant deficiencies identified?  | No         |
| c) Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted?                   | No         |

Federal Awards

Not applicable.

**Part II. Findings Related to the Consolidated Financial Statements**

None.

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Schedule of Prior Audit Findings**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

---

None.

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA  
CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**

Agreed-Upon Procedures  
R.S. 24:514 - Performance and Statistical Data

June 30, 2024



<b>Contents</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures</b>		1 - 3
Schedules Required by Louisiana State Law (R.S. 24:514 - Performance and Statistical Data)		4
General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources	1	5
Class Size Characteristics	2	6

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

To the Board of Directors  
The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc.  
Thibodaux, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc. (the School) for the 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 its 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 the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

### General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources (Schedule 1)

1. We selected a random sample of 25 transactions and reviewed supporting documentation to determine if the sampled expenditures/revenues are classified correctly and are reported in the proper amounts for each of 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
  - Nonpublic Transportation Revenue

**Results:** No exceptions were noted.

### Class Size Characteristics (Schedule 2)

2. We obtained a list of classes by school, school type, and class size as reported on the schedule. We then traced a sample of 10 classes to the October 1<sup>st</sup> roll books for those classes and determined if the class was properly classified on the schedule.

**Results:** For two of the ten classes tested, the class size characteristics report did not agree to the class size per the October 1<sup>st</sup> roll book.

### Education Levels/Experience of Public School Staff (NO SCHEDULE)

3. We obtained October 1<sup>st</sup> PEP data submitted to the 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 obtained management's representation that the data/listing was complete. We then selected a sample of 25 individuals, traced to each individual's personnel file, and observed that each individual's education level and experience was properly classified on the PEP data or equivalent listing prepared by management.

**Results:** No exceptions were noted.

### Public School Staff Data: Average Salaries (NO SCHEDULE)

4. We obtained June 30<sup>th</sup> PEP data submitted to the 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 obtained management's representation that the data/listing was complete. We then selected a sample of 25 individuals, traced to each individual's personnel file, and observed 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:** No exceptions were noted.

We were engaged by The Maxine Giardina Charter School, 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 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.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of testing performed on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc. as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "LaForte".

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA  
December 6, 2024

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Schedules Required by Louisiana State Law**  
**(R.S. 24:514 - Performance and Statistical Data)**  
**As of and For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

---

**Schedule 1 - General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources**

This schedule includes general fund instructional and equipment expenditures. It also contains local taxation revenue, earnings on investments, revenue in lieu of taxes, and nonpublic textbook and transportation revenue. This data is used either in the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula or is presented annually in the MFP 70% Expenditure Requirement Report.

**Schedule 2 - Class Size Characteristics**

This schedule includes the percent and number of classes with student enrollment in the following ranges: 1 - 20, 21 - 26, 27 - 33, and 34+ students. This data is currently reported to the Legislature in the Annual School Report (ASR).



**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures**  
**and Certain Local Revenue Sources**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**Schedule 1**

<b><u>General Fund Instructional and Equipment Expenditures</u></b>		
General Fund Instructional Expenditures		
Teacher and Student Interaction Activities		
Classroom Teacher Salaries	\$ 441,999	
Instructional Staff Employee Benefits	240,227	
Other Instructional Staff Salaries	76,751	
Purchased Professional and Technical Services	9,585	
Instructional Materials and Supplies	3,187	
Instructional Equipment	-	
<b>Total Teacher and Student Interaction Activities</b>		\$ 771,749
Other Instructional Activities		5,893
Pupil Support Services	76,485	
Less: Equipment for Pupil Support Services	-	
<b>Net Pupil Support Services</b>		76,485
Instructional Staff Services	-	
Less: Equipment for Instructional Staff Services	-	
<b>Net Instructional Staff Services</b>		-
School Administration	315,850	
Less: Equipment for School Administration	-	
<b>Net School Administration</b>		315,850
<b>Total General Fund Instructional Expenditures</b>		<u>\$ 1,169,977</u>
<b>Total General Fund Equipment Expenditures</b>		<u>\$ -</u>
<b><u>Certain Local Revenue Sources</u></b>		
Local Taxation Revenue		
Ad Valorem Taxes		
Constitutional Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ -	
Renewable Ad Valorem Tax	-	
Debt Service Ad Valorem Tax	-	
Up to 1% of Collections by the Sheriff on Taxes Other than School Taxes	-	
Sales and Use Taxes	-	
<b>Total Local Taxation Revenue</b>		<u>\$ -</u>
Local Earnings on Investment in Real Property		
Earnings from 16 <sup>th</sup> Section Property	\$ -	
Earnings from Other Real Property	-	
<b>Total Local Earnings on Investment in Real Property</b>		<u>\$ -</u>
State Revenue in Lieu of Taxes		
Revenue Sharing - Constitutional Tax	\$ -	
Revenue Sharing - Other Taxes	-	
Revenue Sharing - Excess Portion	-	
Other Revenue in Lieu of Taxes	-	
<b>Total State Revenue in Lieu of Taxes</b>		<u>\$ -</u>

See independent accountants report on applying agreed-upon procedures.

**THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL, INC.**  
**Class Size Characteristics**  
**For the Year Ended October 1, 2023**

**Schedule 2**

School Type	Class Size Range							
	1 - 20		21 - 26		27 - 33		34+	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Combination	90%	73	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Combination Activity Classes	10%	8	0%	0	100%	0	0%	0

Note: The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education has set specific limits on the maximum size of classes at various grade levels. The maximum enrollment in grades K - 3 is 26 students and the maximum enrollment in grades 4 - 12 is 33 students. These limits do not apply to activity classes, such as physical education, chorus, band, and other classes without maximum enrollment standards. Therefore, these classes are included only as separate line items.

See independent accountants report on applying agreed-upon procedures.

## **AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT**

The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc.

Independent Accountant's Report  
On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

**For the Period July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024**

To the Board of Directors  
The Maxine Giardina Charter School, Inc.  
and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

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

The Maxine Giardina Charter School, 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 the LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Additionally, the 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 findings 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.
  - ii. **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.
- 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).
- 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.
- 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.
- vii. **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) 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).
- ix. **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- xi. **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.
- xii. **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

**Results:** Management determined that procedures #1Ax., Debt Service, and #1Axi., Sexual Harassment, were not applicable. We noted that the written policies and procedures for procedure #1Axi did not contain (4) and (5).

## 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.
  - ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. *Alternatively, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit accounting model, 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.*
  - iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.
  - iv. 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:** Management determined that procedures #2Aii. and #2Aiii. were not applicable. We noted no exceptions in the performance of these procedures.

## 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. 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);
  - 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, or 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 noted as a result of performing these procedures.

#### **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. 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. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (i.e., 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;
  - 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.
  - 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
  - iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or custodial fund additions, 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.
- 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). *Alternatively, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.* Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
  - i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
  - ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
  - iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
  - 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).
    - i. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

**Results:** We noted no exceptions in the performance of these procedures.

**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. 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;
  - ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
  - 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;
  - 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
  - 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.
- [Note: Findings related to controls that constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality) should not be reported.]*
- 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. 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.
- 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:** We noted no exceptions in the performance of these procedures.

## **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.
- 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. (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and
  - ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #7B above, excluding fuel cards, 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:** We noted no exceptions in the performance of these procedures.

## **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. 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](http://www.gsa.gov));
  - ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.



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

**Results:** We noted no exceptions in the performance of these procedures.

## **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. *Alternatively, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, 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;
  - ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);
  - 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
  - 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 noted as a result of performing these procedures.

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

- iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and
  - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
- 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.
- 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 noted as a result of performing these procedures.

## **10) Ethics**

---

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from "Payroll and Personnel" procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and:
- i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and
  - ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
- B. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

**Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of performing these procedures.

## **11) Debt Service**

---

- A. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.

- B. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

**Results:** Management has determined these procedures were not applicable.

## **12) *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.
- 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:** We noted no exceptions as a result of performing these procedures.

## **13) *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."**
  - i. 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.
- B. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in Payroll and Personnel procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

C. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:

- Hired before June 9, 2020 - completed the training; and
- Hired on or after June 9, 2020 - completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

**Results:** Management determined that procedures #13Ci. was not applicable. We completed the remaining procedures and discussed the results with management.

#### **14) *Prevention of Sexual Harassment***

---

A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from "Payroll and Personnel" procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

B. Observe that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).

C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:

- i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
- ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
- iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
- iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
- v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

**Results:** Management has determined that these procedures were not applicable.

We were engaged by The Maxine Giardina Charter School, 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 The Maxine Giardina Charter School, 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "LaForte".

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA  
December 6, 2024



THE MAXINE GIARDINA CHARTER SCHOOL  
100 AFTON DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 2072  
THIBODAUX, LA 70310  
Phone: (985) 227-9500 Fax: (985) 227-9515

December 9, 2024

Mr. Michael J. Waguespack  
Louisiana Legislative Auditor  
1600 N 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 94397  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397

RE: SAUP Agreed-Upon Procedures

The management of The Maxine Giardina Charter School wishes to provide the following responses relative to the results of the 2024 statewide agreed-upon procedures engagement:

- 1) The School has amended its policies and procedures to include the missing elements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angelic Rodrigue", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Angelic Rodrigue,  
Principal