

**SIGNIFICANT EDUCATORS d/b/a  
MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOL  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors  
Significant Educators d/b/a  
Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School  
New Orleans, LA

### **Report on the Audits of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinion***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Significant Educators (a nonprofit organization) d/b/a Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School (hereafter Bethune Charter School), which comprise the statements of financial position as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Bethune Charter School as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its 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 Audits of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Bethune Charter School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### ***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 Bethune Charter 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 Audits 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 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 financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audits.
- 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 audits 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 Bethune Charter 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 Bethune Charter 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 audits, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audits.

### ***Emphasis of Matter***

The financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023 reflect certain prior period adjustments as described in Note 9 to the financial statements. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. 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* is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is 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.

The accompanying Performance and Statistical Data Agreed Upon Procedures, the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to the Agency Head, and the Statewide Agreed Upon Procedures are not a required part of the financial statements, but are supplementary information required by Louisiana State Law. 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. We have applied certain limited procedures, which are described in the Independent Accounts' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures. However, we did not audit this information and, accordingly, express no opinion on it.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 28, 2024, on our consideration of Bethune Charter School's 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 Bethune Charter 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 Bethune Charter School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daigrepoint & Brian APAC". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daigrepoint & Brian, APAC  
Baton Rouge, LA  
September 28, 2024

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 18,205,492	\$ 6,017,156
Grants receivable, net	5,423,040	11,392,629
Prepaid expenses	57,684	70,170
Total Current Assets	<u>23,686,216</u>	<u>17,479,955</u>
Property and Equipment		
Equipment	1,018,803	807,547
Furniture and fixtures	166,828	122,982
Leasehold improvements	315,773	171,981
Less: accumulated depreciation	(736,423)	(504,939)
Total Property and Equipment	<u>764,981</u>	<u>597,571</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 24,451,197</u>	<u>\$ 18,077,526</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 297,945	\$ 121,530
Accrued expenses	233,271	408,058
Accrued salaries and benefits	516,208	520,101
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,047,424</u>	<u>1,049,689</u>
Total Liabilities	1,047,424	1,049,689
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	<u>23,403,773</u>	<u>17,027,837</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 24,451,197</u>	<u>\$ 18,077,526</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Minimum Foundation Program	\$ 8,704,404	\$ -	\$ 8,704,404
Federal grants	8,673,442	-	8,673,442
State grants	568,371	-	568,371
Student activities	218,329	-	218,329
Other	43,274	-	43,274
Total Revenues	<u>18,207,820</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,207,820</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program expenses	11,118,078	-	11,118,078
General and administrative	713,806	-	713,806
Total Expenses	<u>11,831,884</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,831,884</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	6,375,936	-	6,375,936
Net assets - beginning of year	<u>17,027,837</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,027,837</u>
Net assets - end of year	<u><u>\$ 23,403,773</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 23,403,773</u></u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Minimum Foundation Program	\$ 7,475,409	\$ -	\$ 7,475,409
Federal grants	11,553,242	-	11,553,242
State grants	386,873	-	386,873
Student activities	203,986	-	203,986
Other	16,112	-	16,112
Total Revenues	<u>19,635,622</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,635,622</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Program expenses	9,145,038	-	9,145,038
General and administrative	609,763	-	609,763
Total Expenses	<u>9,754,801</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,754,801</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	9,880,821	-	9,880,821
Net assets - beginning of year	7,147,016	-	7,147,016
Net assets - end of year	<u>\$ 17,027,837</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 17,027,837</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<u>Program Expenses</u>	<u>General &amp; Administrative</u>	<u>Total</u>
Curriculum materials and software	\$ 229,299	\$ -	\$ 229,299
Bad debt	730,011	-	730,011
Depreciation	185,188	46,297	231,485
Employee benefits	1,683,994	90,288	1,774,282
Food service	24,535	-	24,535
Insurance	247,363	56,776	304,139
Miscellaneous	34,639	8,660	43,299
Payroll taxes	92,878	4,980	97,858
Professional development	60,867	15,217	76,084
Rent	19,207	4,802	24,009
Repairs and maintenance	171,957	42,989	214,946
Salaries	5,462,291	292,863	5,755,154
Student activities	187,149	-	187,149
Supplies	151,311	24,714	176,025
Technical and professional services	1,023,252	91,445	1,114,697
Transportation	675,035	-	675,035
Utilities	139,102	34,775	173,877
	<u>\$ 11,118,078</u>	<u>\$ 713,806</u>	<u>\$ 11,831,884</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

	<u>Program Expenses</u>	<u>General &amp; Administrative</u>	<u>Total</u>
Curriculum materials and software	\$ 94,220	\$ -	\$ 94,220
Bad debt	15,801	-	15,801
Depreciation	152,198	38,050	190,248
Employee benefits	1,532,165	80,640	1,612,805
Equipment and furniture	24,428	6,107	30,535
Food service	17,802	-	17,802
Insurance	176,142	38,600	214,742
Miscellaneous	13,214	3,304	16,518
Payroll taxes	102,237	5,440	107,677
Professional development	168,584	-	168,584
Rent	22,691	5,673	28,364
Repairs and maintenance	182,813	45,703	228,516
Salaries	4,774,729	230,855	5,005,584
Student activities	160,062	-	160,062
Supplies	162,561	64,014	226,575
Technical and professional services	973,595	50,782	1,024,377
Transportation	409,415	-	409,415
Utilities	162,381	40,595	202,976
	<u>\$ 9,145,038</u>	<u>\$ 609,763</u>	<u>\$ 9,754,801</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Changes in net assets	\$ 6,375,936	\$ 9,880,821
<u>Adjustments to reconcile net revenues over expenses to net cash provided by operating activities:</u>		
Depreciation	231,485	190,248
Bad debt	730,011	-
Decrease (Increase) in grants receivable	5,507,304	(7,187,330)
Increase in allowance for doubtful accounts	(267,726)	-
Decrease in prepaid expenses	12,486	1,545
Increase (Decrease) in accounts payable	176,415	(11,085)
(Decrease) Increase in accrued expenses	(174,787)	36,382
Decrease in accrued salaries and benefits	(3,893)	(145,134)
Total adjustments	<u>6,211,295</u>	<u>(7,115,374)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	12,587,231	2,765,447
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of fixed assets	<u>(398,895)</u>	<u>(450,689)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(398,895)</u>	<u>(450,689)</u>
<b>INCREASE IN CASH</b>	12,188,336	2,314,758
<b>CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>6,017,156</u>	<u>3,702,398</u>
<b>CASH, END OF YEAR</b>	<u><u>\$ 18,205,492</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 6,017,156</u></u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

(a) Organization

Bethune Charter School (the School) was incorporated on August 15, 2017 as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Louisiana. The school was approved as a Type 3 charter by the Orleans Parish School Board (OPSB) on July 1, 2018. The School first opened for students beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. The current charter contract is effective July 1, 2023 for five years and will terminate on June 30, 2028 unless extended for a maximum of five years contingent upon the results of a review by the OPSB of the School's operations and compliance.

(b) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the School have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP"), which require the School to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to the following net asset classifications:

*Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions* are net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed restrictions and are available for use at the organization's discretion.

*Net Assets With Donor Restrictions* are net assets subject to donor-imposed restrictions that may or will be met, either by actions of the organization, and/or the passage of time. Once the restrictions are met, they are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions.

Donor restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets are reclassified from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions in the statements of activities.

(c) Accounts Receivable

Grants receivable represent amounts due under federal and state grant programs and, at times, contributions. The grant programs are reimbursable in nature and revenue is recognized as a receivable once the expenditures are incurred.

Contributions are recognized at estimated fair value when the donor makes a pledge to give when it is an unconditional promise. The School does not recognize a conditional promise to give until the conditions upon which the promise depends are substantially met. Unconditional promises to give that are expected to be collected in more than one year are recorded at fair value, which is measured as the present value of their future cash flows. Any discounts on those amounts are computed using risk-adjusted interest rates applicable to the years in which the promises are received. Amortization of the discounts is included in contribution revenue. Promises that remain uncollected more than one year after their due dates are written off unless the donors indicate that payment is merely postponed.

Receivables are written off when deemed uncollectible by management and recoveries, if any, are recorded when received. There was bad debt expense for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 of \$730,011 and \$15,801, respectively. Allowance for doubtful accounts as of June 30, 2024 and 2023 was \$267,726 and \$0, respectively.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

(d) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statements of cash flows, all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased are considered cash equivalents. During the year, cash may consist of both unrestricted and restricted balances. Unrestricted cash balances represent cash available for general operating purposes and a certificate of deposit.

(e) Revenues

The School receives the majority of its revenue from the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP). The amount of the MFP funding is based on an allocation of funds provided by the State of Louisiana and local taxes. The allocation calculation is primarily based on the student enrollment at the School and is recognized monthly when received.

Federal and state funds are passed through both the Louisiana Department of Education and the OPSB. The School's federal grant funding is on a cost reimbursement basis and is recognized as earned once the expenditures have been incurred, at which time all performance obligations have also been satisfied.

The School has determined that all performance obligations pertaining to unconditional promises to give are satisfied at the time of collection. Conditional promises to give, with a measurable performance or other barrier and a right of return are satisfied once the conditions on which they depend have been met. The School does not have any activity that would give rise to variable consideration.

The School also receives revenue in the form of student and athletic activities revenues. These revenues are collected from students who participate in social events and after school clubs. Additional revenue is received from patrons attending school sponsored sporting events. These funds are used to help cover the cost of hosting these events and provide compensation for teachers, chaperons, referees, or other personnel required to officiate or supervise these activities.

(f) Functional Expenses

The School allocates its expenses on a functional basis between program service or general and administrative. Expenses that can be identified with the school curriculum are allocated directly according to their natural expense classification. Other expenses are allocated between program service and general and administrative based on management's estimate of time, percentage, or square footage used, among other factors.

(g) Income Taxes

The School accounts for income taxes in accordance with FASB ASC 740-10, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*. Management believes it has no material uncertain tax positions and, accordingly has not recognized a liability for any unrecognized tax benefits.

The School is a not-for-profit organization that is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The School files information returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction. The School is not subject to U.S. federal income tax examinations by tax authorities beyond three years from the filing of those returns.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

(h) Use of Estimates

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

**2. Concentrations**

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the School to concentration of credit risk, consist of cash accounts held with a bank. Cash accounts are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for up to \$250,000. The School maintains cash in financial institutions which often exceed the FDIC limits. Management does not believe that it is exposed to any significant credit risk on uninsured amounts.

The School receives the majority of its operating revenue from the State of Louisiana and the OPSB in the form of MFP funding. The School also receives grants from federal agencies, state agencies, and private foundations. The percentage of revenue and receivables from these sources in excess of 10% is as follows:

	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Receivables</u>
<b>2024</b>		
MFP	48%	N/A
Federal Grants	48%	94%
<b>2023</b>		
MFP	38%	N/A
Federal Grants	59%	99%

**3. Property and Equipment**

Property and equipment are stated at cost at the date of purchase or, for donated assets, at fair value at the date of donation, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method over the lesser of the estimated useful lives of the assets or the least term. The useful lives range from three to five years. The School's policy is to capitalize renewals and betterments acquired for greater than \$5,000 and fixed assets that in aggregate are greater than \$10,000. The School expenses normal repairs and maintenance as incurred.

All assets acquired with public funds are the property of the School for the duration of the charter. If the charter is revoked or surrendered, or the School otherwise ceases to operate, all assets purchased with public funds will automatically revert to full ownership by the State of LA or the appropriate agency.

Depreciation expense was \$231,485 and \$190,248 for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, respectively.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

**4. Compensated Absences**

Employees earn paid time off based on various factors such as length of service and job title. Any unused paid time off is paid out at the end of the year and does not carry over to the following year. Therefore, there are no compensated absences accrued at June 30, 2024 or 2023.

**5. Retirement Plan**

The School offers a retirement benefit plan with the Teacher's Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) for employees that are eligible to participate and operates as a defined benefit contribution pension plan. TRSL issues a its own separate financial statements and supplementary information which are publicly available and can be obtained by writing or calling the plan.

Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana  
 Post Office Box 94123  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9123  
 (225) 925-6446

Benefits vest after five years of service for participants age sixty or older and after 20 years of service for all other participants. Benefits under the plan are established and amended by state statute. Retirement benefits are based upon the employee's age, last three years of compensation, and the total number of years the participant was contributing to the TRSL. Once participants reach retirement age a total of eight different payout options are available. The plan also provides death and disability benefits for surviving spouses or disabled employees.

The School and all participating employees are required by state statute to contribute fixed percentages of employees' gross earnings to the pension plans. Current contribution rates for the plan are as follows:

	<u>Employee</u>	<u>Employer</u>
Fiscal Year 2024	8.00%	24.10%
Fiscal Year 2023	8.00%	24.80%

The School's contributions for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023 were \$1,265,694 and \$1,114,119, respectively.

**6. Commitments and Contingencies**

The School receives grants for specific purposes that are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Such audits could lead to requests for reimbursement to the grantor agency for expenditures disallowed under terms of the grant. It is the opinion of the School's management that its compliance with the terms of the grant will not result in any disallowed costs.

**7. Subsequent Event**

In preparing these financial statements, the School has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through September 28, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

**8. Liquidity and Availability of Financial Assets**

The following reflects the School's financial assets as of the statement of financial position date, reduced by amounts not available for general use because of a contractual or donor imposed restriction within one year of the statement of financial position date.

Financial Assets at Year End:	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Cash	\$ 18,205,492	\$ 6,017,156
Grants Receivable, net	5,423,040	11,392,629
Financial Assets Available for General Expenditures	<u>\$ 23,628,532</u>	<u>\$ 17,409,785</u>

As part of the School's liquidity management, cash is kept in various checking accounts that can be accessed to meet daily needs of the organization.

**9. Prior Period Adjustment**

Errors resulting in the misstatement of financial statement categories as presented below in the June 30, 2023 financial statements were identified during the current year. The errors related to the overreporting of retirement expenses and payroll liabilities and the underreporting of net assets without donor restrictions. The effect of the restatement on the financial statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023 are summarized below:

	As Previously Stated	Adjustment	June 30, 2023 Restated
Accrued Salaries and Benefits	\$ 645,227	\$ (125,126)	\$ 520,101
Employee Benefits	\$ 1,628,606	\$ (15,801)	\$ 1,612,805
Beginning Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 7,037,691	\$ 109,325	\$ 7,147,016

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Assistance Listing Number	Pass-through Entity Identifying Number	Total Federal Expenditures
<b>U.S. Department of Education</b>			
<b>Passed Through Orleans Parish School Board</b>			
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)			
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	N/A	\$ 2,654
Title 1 Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	N/A	716,743
Subtotal			<u>719,397</u>
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	COVID-19, 84.425U	N/A	<u>7,937,877</u>
<b>Total Passed Through Orleans Parish School Board</b>			<u>8,657,274</u>
<b>Total U.S. Department of Education</b>			8,657,274
<b>Federal Communications Commission</b>			
Universal Service Fund - Schools and Libraries	32.004	N/A	<u>20,735</u>
<b>Total Federal Communcations Commission</b>			<u>20,735</u>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>			<u><u>\$ 8,678,009</u></u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the Schedule) includes the federal activity of Significant Educators d/b/a Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School (the School) under programs of the federal government 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). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the School, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net assets, or cash flows of the School.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in OMB Circular A-122, Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

3. Indirect Cost Rate

The School has elected not to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate allowed by the Uniform Guidance.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND  
OTHER PAYMENTS TO THE SCHOOL LEADER  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

School Leader:	M. Haynes-Smith
Salary	\$ 162,173
Stipends	19,757
Benefits - Insurance	10,436
Other	1,337
	<u>\$ 193,703</u>

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.



**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  
Significant Educators d/b/a  
Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School  
New Orleans, LA

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 financial statements of Significant Educators (a nonprofit Organization) d/b/a Mary McLeod Bethune Charter School (hereafter Bethune Charter School), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2024, and the related statements of activities, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 28, 2024.

**Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Bethune Charter 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 financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Bethune Charter School's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Bethune Charter 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 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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

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

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Bethune Charter School's 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 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 organization'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 organization'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 Legislative Auditor as a public document. This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and others within the organization, the Legislative Auditor, and the federal awarding agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

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Daigrepoint & Brian, APAC  
Baton Rouge, LA  
September 28, 2024



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM  
AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM  
GUIDANCE**

To the Board of Directors  
Significant Educators d/b/a  
Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School  
New Orleans, LA

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

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

We have audited Significant Educators d/b/a Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School’s (hereafter Bethune Charter School) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Bethune Charter School’s major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. Bethune Charter School’s major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor’s results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

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

***Basis for Opinion on Each 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 Bethune Charter School 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 Bethune Charter School’s 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, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Bethune Charter School's 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 Bethune Charter School's 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 Bethune Charter School's 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 Bethune Charter School's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Bethune Charter School's 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 Bethune Charter School's 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**

*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, 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.

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 in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in

internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

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.

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.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, the Legislative Auditor, and federal awarding agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daigrepoint & Brian APAC". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daigrepoint & Brian, APAC  
Baton Rouge, LA  
September 28, 2024

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

We have audited the financial statements of Significant Educators dba Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School as of June 30, 2024, and for the year then ended, and have issued our report thereon dated September 28, 2024. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the provisions of the Uniform Guidance. Our audit of the financial statements as of June 30, 2024 resulted in an unmodified opinion.

**Summary of Auditors' Reports**

**A. Identification of Major Programs**

Assistance Listing Number	Name of Federal Program or Cluster
COVID-19, 84.425U	COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B \$ 750,000

Is the auditee a 'low risk' auditee as defined by the Uniform Guidance Yes   X   No       

**B. Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements**

Internal Control				
Material Weaknesses	Yes	<u>      </u>	No	<u>  X  </u>
Significant Deficiencies	Yes	<u>      </u>	No	<u>  X  </u>
Compliance with Provisions of Laws, Regulation, Contracts or Grant Agreements	Yes	<u>      </u>	No	<u>  X  </u>

**C. Report on Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance**

Internal Control				
Material Weaknesses	Yes	<u>      </u>	No	<u>  X  </u>
Significant Deficiencies	Yes	<u>      </u>	No	<u>  X  </u>

Type of Opinion on Compliance for Each Major Program  
84.425U - COVID-19 Education Stablization Fund Unmodified

Are there findings required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance Yes        No   X  

**Findings - Financial Statement Audit**

There are no findings for the year ended June 30, 2024.

**Questioned Costs**

There are no questioned costs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

**Summary of Prior Audit Findings**

There were no findings for the year ended June 30, 2023.

**Summary of Prior Questioned Costs**

There were no questioned cost for the year ended June 30, 2023.

See accompanying notes and independent auditors' report.



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

Board of Directors  
Significant Educators d/b/a  
Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School

We have performed the procedures included in the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide* and enumerated below, which were agreed to by the management of Significant Educators (a non-profit organization) dba Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School (hereafter Bethune Charter School) and the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of Bethune Charter School for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024; and to determine specified schedules are free of obvious errors and omissions as provided by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in compliance with Louisiana Revised Statute 24:514.1. Management of Bethune Charter School is responsible for its performance and statistical data. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

Our procedures and findings relate to the accompanying schedules of supplemental information and are as follows:

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

Procedure #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 on the Schedule:

- Total General Fund 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 of Procedure #1

In performing the testing on the sample of expenditures/revenues we noted no transactions that were inappropriately classified or were recorded at an inappropriate amount.

Class Size Characteristics (Schedule 2)

Procedure #2

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

Results of Procedure #2

No discrepancies were noted between the classes reported on the Schedule and those in the roll books.

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

Procedure #3

We obtained October 1st 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.

Results of Procedure #3

No differences were noted between the PEP data information provided and the information in the personnel files.

Public School Staff Data: Average Salaries (No Schedule)

Procedure #4

We obtained June 30th PEP data submitted to the Department of Education (or equivalent listing provided by management) of all classroom teachers including their base salary, extra compensation, and ROTC or rehired retiree status as well as full-time equivalents, and obtained management's representation that the data/list was complete. We then selected 25 individuals, traced to each individual's salary, extra compensation, and full-time equivalents were properly included on the PEP data (or equivalent listing prepared by management).

Results of Procedure #4

No differences were noted between the salary information reported on the PEP data report provided by management and the supporting records.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was performed 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, 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.

This 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 Bethune Charter School, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:514.1, 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 Legislative Auditor as a public document.

*Daigrepont & Brian APAC*

Daigrepont & Brian  
Baton Rouge, LA

September 28, 2024

BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
NEW ORLEANS, LA

Schedules Required by 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 Financial and Statistical Report (AFSR).

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
NEW ORLEANS, LA**

**General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	<b>Column A</b>	<b>Column B</b>
<b><u>General Fund Instructional and Equipment Expenditures</u></b>		
General Fund Instructional Expenditures:		
Teacher and Student Interaction Activities:		
Classroom Teacher Salaries	\$ 920,611	
Other Instructional Staff Activities	1,092,470	
Instructional Staff Employee Benefits	869,700	
Purchased Professional and Technical Services	117,680	
Instructional Materials and Supplies	201,526	
Instructional Equipment	-	
Total Teacher and Student Interaction Activities	-	3,201,987
Other Instructional Activities		13,338
Pupil Support Activities	126,073	
Less: Equipment for Pupil Support Activities	-	
Net Pupil Support Activities	-	126,073
Instructional Staff Services	154,542	
Less: Equipment for Instructional Staff Services	-	
Net Instructional Staff Services	-	154,542
School Administration	819,184	
Less: Equipment for School Administration	-	
Net School Administration	-	819,184
Total General Fund Instructional Expenditures		\$ 4,315,124
Total General Fund Equipment Expenditures		\$ -

See accompanying independent accountants' report on applying agreed-upon procedures

**BETHUNE CHARTER SCHOOL  
NEW ORLEANS, LA**

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

School Type	Class Size Range							
	1 - 20		21 - 26		27 - 33		34+	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Elementary	9%	18	60%	114	31%	58	0%	-
Elementary Activity Classes	13%	4	65%	20	23%	7	0%	-
Middle/Jr. High								
Middle/Jr. High Activity Classes								
High								
High Activity Classes								
Combination								
Combination Activity Classes								

**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 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.



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

To the Board of Directors  
Significant Educators d/b/a  
Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School  
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's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Significant Educators d/b/a Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary Charter School's (hereafter Bethune Charter School) management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Bethune Charter 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 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 findings are as follows:

***Written Policies and Procedures***

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1. 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:
  - a) ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
  - b) ***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.
  - c) ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
  - d) ***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).

- e) **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(s) rate of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- f) **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- g) **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, P-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).
- h) **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- i) **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.
- j) **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- k) **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.
- l) **Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

*Exception:* Bethune Charter School does not have any policies and procedures regarding ethics. No other exceptions were noted as a result of applying these procedures.

#### ***Board or Finance Committee***

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- 2. 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:
  - a) 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.
  - b) 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, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. *Alternately, for those entities reporting on the nonprofit 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.*
  - c) 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.

- d) 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: No exceptions noted as a result of applying this procedure.

### ***Bank Reconciliations***

---

3. 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:
  - a) 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);
  - b) Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management/board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and
  - c) 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 noted as a result of applying this procedure.

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

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4. 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).
5. 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 no written policies or procedures, 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:
  - a) Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.
  - b) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.
  - c) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not 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.
  - d) The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.
6. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe the bond or insurance policy for theft was enforced during the fiscal period.

7. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for procedure #3 under “Bank Reconciliations” above (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). *Alternately, 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:
  - a) Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
  - b) Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
  - c) Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
  - d) Observe 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).
  - e) Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

Results: No exceptions noted as a result of applying this procedure.

***Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases/payments, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)***

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8. 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).
9. For each location selected under #8 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, inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:
  - a) At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order/making the purchase.
  - b) At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.
  - c) 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.
  - d) 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.
  - e) Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (ETF), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.
10. For each location selected under #8 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:
  - a) Observe whether the disbursement matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity.
  - b) Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.

11. 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 noted as a result of applying this procedure.

#### ***Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-Cards***

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12. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-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.
13. 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:
  - a) 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.
  - b) Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
14. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #12 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 (i.e., each card should have 10 transactions subject to testing). For each transaction, observe 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 note whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

*Exception:* Finance charges were present on the selected statement. No other exceptions were noted.

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

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15. 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, 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:
  - a) If reimbursed using a per diem, observe 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)).
  - b) If reimbursed using actual costs, observe the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.

- c) Observe 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 policy (procedure #1h).
- d) Observe each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

*Exception:* Employees were reimbursed for mileage using 2022 mileage rates. No other exceptions were noted as a result of applying this procedure.

### ***Contracts***

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16. 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. *Alternately, 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:
  - a) 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.
  - b) Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).
  - c) If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe 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, was approval documented).
  - d) 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 the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

Results: No exceptions noted as a result of applying this procedure.

### ***Payroll and Personnel***

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17. 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.
18. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #16 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
  - a) Observe all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory). Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials.
  - b) Observe any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.
  - c) Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
  - d) Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

19. 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, 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 or officials' cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee or officials' authorized pay rates in the employee or officials' personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.
20. 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 noted as a result of applying this procedure.

### ***Ethics***

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21. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #16 under "Payroll and Personnel" above: obtain ethics documentation from management, and:
  - a. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the fiscal period.
  - b. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
22. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

Results: No exceptions noted as a result of applying this procedure.

### ***Debt Service***

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23. 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 State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued.
24. 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: Bethune Charter School is a nonprofit organization so this procedure does not apply.

### ***Fraud Notice***

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25. 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.
26. Observe 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 noted as a result of applying this procedure.

## ***Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity***

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27. Perform the following procedures, verbally discuss the results with management, and report “We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.”
- a) Obtain and inspect the entity’s most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if no written documentation, 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.
  - b) Obtain and inspect the entity’s most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if no written documentation, inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
  - c) 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.
28. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees previously obtained. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.
29. 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:
- a) Hired before June 9, 2020 - completed the training; and
  - b) Hired on or after June 9, 2020 - completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

Results: We performed the procedures and discussed the results with management.

## ***Sexual Harassment***

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30. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #16 under “Payroll and Personnel” above, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year.
31. Observe 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).
32. 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 it includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
- a) Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;

- b) Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
- c) Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
- d) Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
- e) Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

Results: Bethune Charter School is a nonprofit organization so this procedure does not apply.

We were engaged by Bethune Charter 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 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 Bethune Charter 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 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.



Daigrepoint & Brian, APAC  
Baton Rouge, LA

September 28, 2024