

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023



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ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
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YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors
Jefferson RISE Charter School
New Orleans, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. (Advocates), a nonprofit public benefit corporation, which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2023, and the related statements of activities, cash flows, and functional expenses for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Advocates as of June 30, 2023, 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 Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. 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 these 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 Advocate's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditors' Responsibility 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 auditors' 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 Advocate'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 Advocate'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.

Other Matters

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on Advocate's financial statements as a whole. The accompanying supplementary schedules, as identified in the table of contents, and the accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of 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 schedules required by Louisiana State Law, included as Schedules 1 and 2, are not a required part of the basic 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 combining financial statements. We have applied certain limited procedures, which are described in the Independent Accountants' 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 a report dated January 10, 2026 on our consideration of Advocate'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 Advocate'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 Advocate's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "CliftonLarsonAllen LLP".

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Ontario, California
January 10, 2026

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
JUNE 30, 2023

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,157,145
Accounts Receivable	1,660,719
Total Current Assets	<u>2,817,864</u>
 Total Assets	 <u><u>\$ 2,817,864</u></u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$ 215,150
Total Current Liabilities	<u>215,150</u>

NET ASSETS

Without Donor Restriction	2,402,714
With Donor Restriction	200,000
Total Net Assets	<u>2,602,714</u>
 Total Liabilities and Net Assets	 <u><u>\$ 2,817,864</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Without Donor Restriction	With Donor Restriction	Total
REVENUES			
State and Local Public School Funding	\$ 7,745,528	\$ -	\$ 7,745,528
Other State Grants	43,071	-	43,071
Federal Grants	1,434,411	-	1,434,411
Donations	-	200,000	200,000
Interest Income	9,230	-	9,230
Other Income	266,305	-	266,305
Amounts Released from Donor-Imposed Restriction	154,166	(154,166)	-
Total Revenues	<u>9,652,711</u>	<u>45,834</u>	<u>9,698,545</u>
EXPENSES			
Program Services	6,825,163	-	6,825,163
Management and General	2,008,936	-	2,008,936
Total Expenses	<u>8,834,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,834,099</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	818,612	45,834	864,446
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	<u>1,584,102</u>	<u>154,166</u>	<u>1,738,268</u>
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 2,402,714</u>	<u>\$ 200,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,602,714</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Program Services	Management and General	Total Expenses
Salaries and Wages	\$ 3,181,735	\$ 1,326,518	\$ 4,508,253
Pension Expense	130,040	55,689	185,729
Other Employee Benefits	379,689	61,096	440,785
Payroll Taxes	249,835	98,168	348,003
Instructional Materials	325,232	-	325,232
Other Fees for Services	1,352,717	152,065	1,504,782
Food Service	347,980	-	347,980
Advertising and Promotion Expenses	-	296	296
Office Expenses	135,327	17,722	153,049
Information Technology Expenses	90,028	5,520	95,548
Occupancy Expenses	388,363	-	388,363
Travel Expenses	20,982	18,355	39,337
Insurance Expense	-	57,496	57,496
Other Expenses	223,235	216,011	439,246
Total Functional Expenses	<u>\$ 6,825,163</u>	<u>\$ 2,008,936</u>	<u>\$ 8,834,099</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Change in Net Assets	\$ 864,446
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net	
Cash Flows Used by Operating Activities:	
Change in Operating Assets:	
Accounts Receivable	(1,071,849)
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	16,477
Change in Operating Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	152,660
Deferred Revenue	(250)
Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	<u>(38,516)</u>

NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

(38,516)

Cash and Cash Equivalents and Restricted Cash - Beginning of Year

1,195,661

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND RESTRICTED CASH - END OF YEAR

\$ 1,157,145

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Activities

The Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. (Advocates) was incorporated in 2006 for the purpose of operating a charter school in New Orleans, Louisiana. Advocates operate New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics High School (d/b/a Sci High) (the School). The School is an open-admission public charter school that prepares all students for college admissions and successful careers. The School provides a rigorous high school curriculum with an emphasis in science and mathematics in a supporting environment of learning and respect that prepares students to make informed choices about post-secondary pursuits. NOLA Public School System (NOLA-PS) granted Advocates a Type 3 charter to operate the School. Advocates has the full responsibility for the finances and operations of the School.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual method of accounting and accordingly reflect all significant assets and liabilities.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as prescribed by the Financial Accounting Standards Board.

Use of Estimates

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

Functional Allocation of Expenses

Costs of providing the School's programs and other activities have been presented in the statement of functional expenses. During the year, such costs are accumulated into separate groupings as either direct or indirect. Indirect or shared costs are allocated among program and support services by a method that best measures the relative degree of benefit. The expenses that are allocated include salaries and wages, pension expense, other employee benefits, payroll taxes, other fees for services, office expenses, printing and postage, information technology, and other expenses, which are allocated on the basis of estimates of time and effort.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Advocates defines its cash and cash equivalents to include only cash on hand, demand deposits, and liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable primarily represent amounts due from federal and state governments as of June 30, 2023. Management believes that all receivables are fully collectible, therefore no provisions for uncollectible accounts were recorded.

Net Asset Classes

Net assets, revenues, gains, and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor or grantor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions – Net assets available for use in general operations and not subject to donor (or certain grantor) restrictions. The governing board has designated, from net assets without donor restrictions, net assets for an operating reserve and board-designated endowment.

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions – Net assets subject to donor- (or certain grantor-) imposed restrictions. Some donor-imposed restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that will be met by the passage of time or other events specified by the donor. Other donor-imposed restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor stipulates that resources be maintained in perpetuity. Donor-imposed restrictions are released when a restriction expires, that is, when the stipulated time has elapsed, when the stipulated purpose for which the resource was restricted has been fulfilled, or both.

Compensated Absences

Advocates does not allow employees to carryover unused vacation. Accordingly, there were no accumulated compensated absence benefits at June 30, 2023.

Revenue Recognition

Advocates' primary sources of funding are through the State Public School Fund and federal grants, as well as private donations. Amounts received from the State Public School Fund are conditional and recognized as revenue by the School based on enrollment of students. Federal grants are recorded on a cost reimbursement basis. An accrual is made when eligible expenses are incurred.

Advocates is recognizing revenue over time for student service fees. At June 30, 2023, there are no amounts of performance obligations to be satisfied. Advocate's method of recognizing revenue for student service fees is the input method for performance obligations to be utilized over time as the services are performed. Student service fees include monetary payment for supplies and curricular or co-curricular activity. Student service fees totaled \$95,703 for the year ended June 30, 2023.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Income Taxes

Advocates is a nonprofit entity exempt from the payment of income taxes under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Accordingly, no provision has been made for income taxes. Advocates is subject to income tax on net income that is derived from business activities that are unrelated to the exempt purposes. Advocates files an exempt return and applicable unrelated business income tax return in the U.S. federal jurisdiction.

Contributions

All contributions are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Amounts received that are restricted to specific use or future periods are reported as contributions with donor restrictions. Restricted contributions that are received and released in the same period are reported as promises to give without donor restrictions. Unconditional promises to give expected to be received in one year or less are recorded at net realizable value. Unconditional promises to give expected to be received in more than one year are recorded at fair market value at the date of the promise. Conditional promises to give are not recognized until they become unconditional, that is, when the conditions on which they depend are substantially met.

Conditional Grants

Grants and contracts that are conditioned upon the performance of certain requirements or the incurrence of allowable qualifying expenses are recognized as revenues in the period in which the conditions are met. Amounts received are recognized as revenue when Advocates has incurred expenditures in compliance with specific contract or grant provisions. Amounts received prior to incurring qualifying expenditures are reported as deferred revenues in the statement of financial position. As of June 30, 2023, Advocates had no conditional grants that have not been recognized as revenue in the statement of activities because conditions have not been met.

Evaluation of Subsequent Events

Advocates has evaluated subsequent events through January 10, 2026, the date these financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 2 LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY

Financial assets available for general expenditure are those without donor or other restrictions limiting their use within one year of the statement of financial position date. Financial assets available for general expenditures comprise cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable for the total amount of \$2,817,864.

As part of its liquidity management plan, Advocates monitors liquidity required and cash flows to meet operating needs on a monthly basis. Advocates structures its financial assets to be available as general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations come due.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 3 CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

Advocates maintains cash balances held in banks and revolving funds which are insured up to \$250,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). At times, cash in these accounts exceeds the insured amounts. Advocates has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on its cash and cash equivalents.

NOTE 4 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

Defined Contribution Plan

All contracted employees that are of age 21 or older are eligible to participate in the defined contribution plan. The plan is a 401(k) defined contribution plan. Employees are automatically enrolled into the plan with an initial deferral amount of 3% unless adjusted by the participant. Employees are allowed to make contributions during the year subject to limitations imposed by the IRS. Advocates provides an employer matching of 3% the employee's salary. The amount of employer contributions for the year ended June 30, 2023 was \$185,729.

NOTE 5 FACILITY USE AGREEMENT

Advocates has a facility use agreement with the NOLA Public School System (NOLA-PS) for the use of buildings and grounds as school facilities. This agreement is currently set to mature on June 30, 2024. The amount of the facility use fee was \$104,725 for the year ended June 30, 2023.

NOTE 6 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Foundation for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. (the Foundation) was formed for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, and to carry out the purposes of Advocates. Advocates recorded approximately \$200,000 in revenue from the Foundation for general school needs and activities during the year ended June 30, 2023, of which, \$200,000 were outstanding at June 30, 2023 and recorded under related party receivables in the accompanying financial statements.

NOTE 7 DONOR RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Net assets with donor restrictions as of June 30, 2023 consisted of purpose restricted contributions from donors in the amount of \$200,000 due to an implied time restriction.

Amounts released from donor restrictions consists of the various expenses related to educational expenses.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 8 CONTINGENCIES COMMITMENTS

Advocates has received state and federal funds for specific purposes that are subject to review and audit by the grantor agencies. Although such audits could generate disallowances under terms of the grants, it is believed that any required reimbursement would not be material.

In the normal course of business, the Advocates is subject to legal claims. After consultation with Advocate's legal counsel, management of Advocates is of the opinion that liabilities, if any, arising from such claims would not have a material effect on Advocate's financial position.



**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**

Board of Directors
Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.
New Orleans, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. (Advocates), a nonprofit public benefit corporation, which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2023, and the related statements of activities, cash flows, and functional expenses for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 10, 2026.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Advocate'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 Advocate's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Advocate'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 the 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2023-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Advocate'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*.

Response to Findings

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

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "CliftonLarsonAllen LLP".

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Ontario, California
January 10, 2026



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR
FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE
REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

Board of Directors
Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.
New Orleans, Louisiana

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'s 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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'s major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'s major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. complied, in all material respects, with the 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, 2023.

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 (GAAS); 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 Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. 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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'s federal programs.

Auditors' 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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'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 GAAS, *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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'s compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'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.

Board of Directors
Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "CliftonLarsonAllen LLP".

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Ontario, California
January 10, 2026

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Section I – Summary of Auditors' Results

Financial Statements

1. Type of auditors' report issued: Unmodified
2. Internal control over financial reporting:
- Material weakness(es) identified? x yes no
 - Significant deficiency(ies) identified? yes x none reported
3. Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? yes x no

Federal Awards

1. Internal control over major federal programs:
- Material weakness(es) identified? yes x no
 - Significant deficiency(ies) identified? yes x none reported
2. Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major federal programs: Unmodified
3. Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? yes x no

Identification of Major Federal Programs

Federal Assistance Listing Number

84.425

Name of Federal Program or Cluster

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs:

\$ 750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

 yes X no

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

2023-001	<u>Material Weakness – Internal Controls over Financial Reporting – FINANCIAL CLOSE/ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION/JOURNAL ENTRIES</u>
Type of finding:	Material weakness in internal controls.
Criteria:	The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) requires that not-for-profit entities maintain their accounting records and prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).
Condition:	<p>As a result of audit procedures, we noted that material adjustments were necessary to correct/update the books and records of the School as of June 30, 2023. Prior to the adjustments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Cash was understated by \$76,4432. Receivables were overstated by \$384,4643. Prepaids were overstated by \$64,2054. Account payable and accrued liabilities were overstated by \$159,2945. Net assets were overstated by \$96,9426. Revenue were overstated by \$320,7407. Expenses were overstated by \$171,532
Cause:	The books and records of the School were not completely and appropriately reconciled and closed prior to audit procedures. In addition, non-payroll journal entries made were not properly reviewed or supported by adequate documentation.
Questioned Costs:	None.
Effect:	Various accounts were misstated prior to the adjustments made during the audit.
Repeat Finding:	Yes. Prior Year Finding 2022-001
Recommendation:	We recommend that the School implement and monitor controls to ensure all accounts are reconciled and closed timely after the end of each fiscal period and journal entries supported by adequate documentation and approved.
Management Response:	See corrective action plan on page 36.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

2023-002

Noncompliance - LATE FILING FINDING

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

Condition: The School did not complete and submit the audit to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor or the Federal Audit Clearinghouse within the required time periods.

Cause: The School did not implement appropriate controls and processes to ensure that the audit was submitted within the required time periods.

Questioned Costs: None.

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

Repeat Finding: Yes. Prior Year Finding 2022-002

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

Management Response: See corrective action plan on page 36.

**ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs – Major Federal Programs

Our audit did not disclose any matters required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a).

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

**2022-001 Material Weakness – Internal Controls over Financial Reporting –
FINANCIAL CLOSE/ACCOUNT RECONCILIATION**

Type of finding: Material weakness in internal controls.

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

Condition: As a result of audit procedures, we noted that material adjustments were necessary to correct/update the books and records of the School as of June 30, 2022. Prior to the adjustments, cash was understated by \$494,668, receivables were overstated by \$1,200,375, and revenue was overstated by \$624,650 as well as other smaller misstatements in various financial statement areas.

Cause: **The** books and records of the School were not completely and appropriately reconciled and closed prior to audit procedures.

Questioned Costs: None.

Effect: Cash, receivables, and revenue were materially misstated prior to the adjustments.

Repeat Finding: This is not a repeat finding.

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

Current Status: Not implemented. See Finding 2023-001.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

2022-002

Noncompliance - LATE FILING FINDING

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

Condition: The School did not complete and submit the audit to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor or the Federal Audit Clearinghouse within the required time periods.

Cause: The School did not implement appropriate controls and processes to ensure that the audit was submitted within the required time periods.

Questioned Costs: None.

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

Repeat Finding: This is not a repeat finding.

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

Current Status: Not implemented. See Finding 2023-002.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

2022-003

Noncompliance - STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Criteria: The School should review and maintain student file documentation prior to acceptance each year to determine that the student exists and is a resident of Orleans Parish and, thus, eligible to receive local MFP funding.

Condition: The School did not maintain documentation that it reviewed student eligibility prior to acceptance for the 2021-2022 school year. 6 of 60 files tested did not contain documentation that the student resided within Orleans Parish and no documented follow-up from the School.

Cause: The School did not implement appropriate controls to ensure documentation of existence and eligibility was maintained.

Questioned Costs: None.

Effect: Local Minimum Foundation Program revenue could be collected for students that do not reside within the prescribed location(s).

Repeat Finding: This is not a repeat finding.

Recommendation: We recommend that the School revise and implement controls to maintain documentation of student eligibility.

Current Status: Implemented in 2023.

**ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

2022-004 **Material Weakness – Internal Control over Compliance – ACTIVITIES
ALLOWED OR UNALLOWED AND ALLOWABLE COSTS/COST PRINCIPLES**

**ALN 84.425 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Fund Program
United States Department of Education
Passed through State of Louisiana Department of Education**

Type of finding: Material weakness in internal controls over Compliance.

Criteria: In accordance with 2 CFR Part 200.303(a), the School must establish, document, and maintain effective internal control over Federal awards that provide reasonable assurance that the recipient of subrecipient is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. In addition, 2 CFR 200.508(d) requires that the auditee 'provide the auditor access to personnel, accounts, books, records, supporting documentation, and any other information needed for the auditor to perform the audit required by this part.'

Condition: The School did not maintain documentation for amounts submitted for reimbursement through the program. As a result, we were unable to obtain sufficient, appropriate audit evidence to support \$111,006, or approximately 25%, of the total expenditures reimbursed under the Education Stabilization Fund during the year ended June 30, 2022. Thus, we were unable to form a conclusion on the School's compliance with direct and material requirements for a material portion of Federal award expenditures.

Cause: The change in key finance department personnel caused misplacement of some of the documentation supporting the program expenditures.

Questioned Costs: None.

Effect: Amounts could be reimbursed that are not properly supported and the federal agency could request repayment of the unsupported reimbursement amounts.

Repeat Finding: This is not a repeat finding.

Recommendation: We recommend that the School revise and implement controls to ensure consistent maintenance of all supporting documentation even if there are changes in personnel.

Current Status: Implemented in 2023.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND OTHER PAYMENTS TO THE AGENCY HEAD
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Agency Head: Dr. Monique Cola

Purpose	Amount
Salary	\$ 148,683
Benefits - Employer Portion of Retirement	4,442
Benefits - Employer Portion of Medical/Dental/Vision	4,931
Travel	-
Cell Phone Reimbursement	-
Reimbursements	-
Conferences	-
Other Compensation-Security	-
Community Relations	-
Professional Development	-
Total	<u>\$ 158,056</u>

See Independent Auditors' Report.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program or Cluster Title	Federal CFDA Number	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Additional Award Identification	Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:				
Pass Through Program From				
Louisiana Department of Education:				
Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act):				
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ESSER III) Fund	84.425U	N/A	COVID-19	\$ 943,683
Total Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act):				<u>943,683</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education				<u>943,683</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE:				
Pass Through Program From				
Louisiana Department of Education:				
Child Nutrition Cluster				
National School Lunch Program	10.555	5F9270		<u>490,728</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster				<u>490,728</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture				<u>490,728</u>
TOTAL FEDERAL EXPENDITURES				<u><u>\$ 1,434,411</u></u>

N/A - Pass-through entity number not readily available or not applicable.

See Independent Auditors' Report and Notes to the Supplementary Information.

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Advocates under programs of the federal governmental for the year ended June 30, 2023. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of the 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 operations of the School, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net assets, or cash flows of Advocates.

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

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

SCHEDULES REQUIRED BY LOUISIANA STATE LAW
(R.S. 24:514 – PERFORMANCE AND STATISTICAL DATA)



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Board of Directors
Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.
New Orleans, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023; and to assist management in determining whether the specified schedules are free of obvious errors and omissions, in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 24:514 I. Management of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. is responsible for its performance and statistical data.

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

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)

1. We selected a random sample of 25 transactions and traced to supporting documentation to determine if the sampled expenditures/revenues are classified correctly, based on description and nature of the revenue/expense, 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, and
 - Nonpublic Transportation Revenue.

Findings:

None.

Class Size Characteristics (Schedule 2)

1. 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 roll books for those classes and observed that the class was properly classified on the schedule.

Findings:

None.

Education Levels of Public School Staff (NO SCHEDULE)

2. 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 prepared by management.

Findings:

None.

Public School Staff Data: Average Salaries (NO SCHEDULE)

3. We obtained June 30th 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 obtain management's representation that the data/listing is 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.

Findings:

None.

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.

Board of Directors
Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.

We are required to be independent of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, 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 procedures and findings related to the performance and statistical data accompanying the annual financial statements of Pathways in Education - Louisiana, Inc., as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:514.I. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

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

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Ontario, California
January 10, 2026

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
GENERAL FUND INSTRUCTIONAL AND SUPPORT EXPENDITURES AND
CERTAIN LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES
SCHEDULE 1
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

General Fund Instructional and Equipment Expenditures	Column A	Column B
General Fund Instructional Expenditures:		
Teacher and Student Interaction Activities:		
Classroom Teacher Salaries	4,272,689	
Other Instructional Staff Services	82,057	
Instructional Staff Employee Benefits	949,964	
Purchased Professional and Technical Services	372,234	
Instructional Materials and Supplies	263,441	
Instructional Equipment	-	
Total Teacher and Student Interaction Activities		\$ 5,940,385
Other Instructional Activities	35,857	35,857
Pupil Support Services	180,497	
Less: Equipment for Pupil Support Services		
Net Pupil Support Services		180,497
Instructional Staff Services	301,608	
Less: Equipment for Instructional Staff Services		
Net Instructional Staff Services		301,608
School Administration	371,815	
Less: Equipment for School Administration		
Net School Administration		371,815
Total General Fund Instructional Expenditures (Total of Column B)		<u>\$ 6,830,162</u>
Total General Fund Equipment Expenditures (Object 730; Functional Series 1000-4000)		<u>\$ -</u>
Donations		\$ 200,000
Interest Income		\$ 9,230
Other Income		\$ 266,305

ADVOCATES FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, INC.
CLASS SIZE CHARACTERISTICS
SCHEDULE 2
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Class Size Characteristics
As of October 1, 2022

School Type	Class Size Range							
	1-20		21-26		27-33		34+	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Elementary		0%		0%		0%		0%
Elementary Activity Class		0%		0%		0%		0%
Middle High		0%		0%		0%		0%
Middle High Activity Class		0%		0%		0%		0%
High	76	56%	23	17%	26	19%	2	1%
High Activity Class	5	4%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%
Combination		0%		0%		0%		0%
Combination Activity Class		0%		0%		0%		0%

**Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.**

2011 Bienville Street

New Orleans, LA 70112

Date: December 31, 2025**To:** Clifton Larson Allen LLP Independent Auditors**Re:** Management Response to Audit Findings Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Dear Auditors:

Management of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. appreciates the opportunity to respond to the findings noted during the audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Management is committed to maintaining strong internal controls and ensuring compliance with all applicable laws and reporting requirements. Our responses and planned corrective actions are outlined below.

Finding 2023-001: Monthly Financial Reporting Deficiencies

Management acknowledges that monthly financial statements were not consistently prepared and reviewed in a timely manner during the fiscal year.

Corrective**Action:**

Management will implement a standardized monthly financial close process, including the use of a monthly close checklist and documented supervisory review. Reconciliations and supporting documentation will be completed and retained each month to ensure accuracy and timeliness of financial reporting. These procedures will be monitored on an ongoing.

Finding 2023-002: Late Filing of Audit Report

Management acknowledges that the audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, was not submitted by the statutory deadline.

Corrective**Action:**

Management has established a formal audit preparation and submission timeline with clearly defined interim deadlines. Responsibility for monitoring audit progress and statutory filing requirements is assigned to designated management and Accounting Department Personnel to ensure timely submission of future audit reports. This corrective action was implemented with the hiring of the new Director of Finance, Odile Johnson, in July 2025.



Management believes these corrective actions will address the noted findings and strengthen the organization's financial reporting and compliance processes. We appreciate your assistance and guidance throughout the audit process.

Sincerely,

Odile Johnson

Director of Finance and Human Resources

Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.



INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Board of Directors of Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below related to Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'s internal control over compliance with 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, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'s management is responsible for its internal control over compliance for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of applying procedures and reporting associated findings related to internal control over compliance with the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. 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:

1. Written Policies and Procedures

A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:

- i. **Budgeting**, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.

Results: No exceptions were observed.

- 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.

Results: No exceptions were observed.

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

Results: No exceptions were observed.

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

Results: No exceptions were observed.

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

Results: No exceptions were observed.

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

Results: No exceptions were observed.

- vii. **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).

Results: No exceptions were observed.

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

Results: No exceptions were observed.

- 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.

Results: No exceptions were observed.

- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.

Results: No exceptions were observed.

- 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.

Results: No exceptions were observed.

- xii. **Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

Not applicable to entity.

2. Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:

- i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

- 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, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds⁷. 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.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

- 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.

Results: Not applicable to entity.

- 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: Not applicable to the entity.

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 four 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 two months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);

Results: Viewed reconciliation of June 2023 statement for Hancock Whitney Bank account 719472490, which is the school's only operating account. Observed that the reconciliation was done on January 13, 2025.

- ii. 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

Results: Bank reconciliations do not include evidence of review.

- 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: We observed that 3 transactions totaling approximately \$20,000 were over 12 months.

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., five collection locations for five 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:
- 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.

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

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

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

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

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

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

5. Nonpayroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases/payments, 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/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.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

- 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 observed under procedure #5B above, as applicable.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

6. Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-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.

Results: The amount of \$159.91 appears to be a duplicate transaction that was not reversed out of general ledger in travel account.

- 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: The amount of \$159.91 appears to be a duplicate transaction that was not reversed out of general ledger in travel account.

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 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).
 - ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe 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 each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

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 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).
- iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the five 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 observed in the procedures performed.

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.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

- 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 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 any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.
 - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

- 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.

Exception: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

- 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 observed in the procedures performed.

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.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

- B. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

Results: Not applicable to entity.

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.

Results: No exceptions observed in the procedures performed.

- 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: Not applicable to the entity.

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 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 observed in the procedures performed.

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

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

14. Prevention of Sexual Harassment

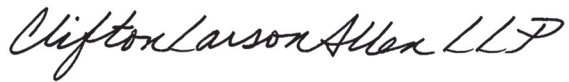
- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the 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: Not applicable to entity.

We were engaged by Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, 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 Comptroller General of the United States. 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 internal control over compliance 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 Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc. 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 procedures and findings related to Advocates for Science and Mathematics Education, Inc.'s internal control over compliance with those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs specified requirements. 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 black ink that reads "CliftonLarsonAllen LLP". The script is cursive and fluid, with the letters connected.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Ontario California
January 10, 2026

