Annual Financial Report For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Presented by Finance Department Canton, Georgia

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Board of Cherokee Charter Academy Canton, Georgia

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of **Cherokee Charter Academy** (the "Academy"), as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility 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; this includes 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Cherokee Charter Academy, as of June 30, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, the Schedule of Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability, and the Schedule of Contributions, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Cherokee Charter Academy's basic financial statements. The combining statements and schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining statements and schedules (the "supplementary information") is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 11, 2020 on our consideration of the Academy'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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Academy's internal control over financial reporting and compliances.

Mauldin & Jerkins, LLC

Atlanta, Georgia November 11, 2020

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of Cherokee Charter Academy (the "Academy"), we offer readers of the Academy's basic financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Academy for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2020 and 2019.

Management's discussion and analysis is included at the beginning of the Academy's basic financial statements to provide, in layman's terms, the current position of the Academy's financial condition. This summary should not be taken as a replacement for the audit, which consists of the basic financial statements and other supplementary information.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Our basic financial statements provide these insights into the results of this year's operations:

- The net position (deficit) of the Academy as of June 30, 2020 was \$(3,053,635), as compared to net position (deficit) of \$(3,400,355) as of June 30, 2019.
- As of June 30, 2020, the Academy has a fund balance of \$1,841,470, as compared to \$601,171 as of June 30, 2019.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Academy's basic financial statements. The Academy's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide basic financial statements, 2) fund basic financial statements, and 3) notes to the basic financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Academy's finances, in a manner similar to a private sector business.

The statement of net position presents information on all of the Academy's assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Academy is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the Academy's net position changed during the year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g. uncollected revenues and services rendered but unpaid).

The government-wide financial statements include all governmental activities that are principally supported by grants and entitlements from the state for full-time equivalent funding. The Academy does not have any business-type activities. The governmental activities of the Academy primarily include instruction and instructional support services.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Academy, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide basic financial statements, governmental fund basic financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating the Academy's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Academy's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and change in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The Academy maintains several individual governmental funds. Information is presented in the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and change in fund balances. The General Fund is considered to be the Academy's major fund.

The Academy adopts an annual budget for its governmental funds. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the General Fund to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

Agency Fund

In addition, the Academy has one agency fund which is a student activity fund. This fund is formed for educational and Academy purposes. The assets and liabilities of this Fund are not included in the government-wide statement of net position.

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

This is the Academy's ninth year of operations. The Academy's net position (deficit) was \$(3,053,635) at June 30, 2020. This amount represents net investment in capital assets of \$179,075 and unrestricted net position (deficit) of \$(3,232,710). The Academy's net position was \$(3,400,355) at June 30, 2019 and of this amount \$198,251 represents net investment in capital assets and \$(3,598,606) represents unrestricted net position (deficit).

Our analysis in the table below focuses on the net position of the Academy's governmental activities:

	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019
ASSETS		
Current and other assets	\$ 2,221,948	\$ 1,178,432
Capital assets, net of depreciation	179,075	198,251
Total assets	2,401,023	1,376,683
DEFERRED OUTFLOW OF RESOURCES	1,921,570	1,692,455
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities	716,291	577,261
Long-term liabilities	5,785,367	5,293,300
Total liabilities	6,501,658	5,870,561
DEFERRED INFLOW OF RESOURCES	874,570	598,932
NET POSITION		
Investment in capital assets	179,075	198,251
Unrestricted (deficit)	(3,232,710)	(3,598,606)
Total net position (deficit)	\$(3,053,635)	\$(3,400,355)

Cherokee Charter Academy Net Position (Deficit)

Governmental Activities

The results of the current year's operations for the Academy as a whole are reported in the statement of activities. The table below provides a condensed presentation of the Academy's revenues and expenses for fiscal years ended June 30, 2020 and 2019:

Cherokee Charter Academy Change in Net Position (Deficit)

	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019
REVENUES:		
General revenues	\$ 4,461,755	\$ 4,414,194
Charges for services	111,874	146,123
Operating grants and contributions	3,650,630	3,300,073
Total revenues	8,224,259	7,860,390
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAM EXPENSES: Instruction	4,203,040	4,402,827
Support services	3,616,352	3,855,511
Community service operations	57,000	89,028
Interest	1,147	-
Total expenses	7,877,539	8,347,366
Change in net position	\$ 346,720	\$ (486,976)

The Academy had an increase in total revenues compared to the previous year mainly due to an increase in state funding. Total expenses decreased due to lower costs in instructional spending and support services as a result of lower enrollment. The Academy ended the year with a change in net position (deficit) that was approximately \$834,000 higher than the previous year.

GOVERNMENTAL FUND EXPENSES

In the table below, we have presented the cost of the largest functions/programs as a percentage of total governmental expenses:

					2019		
Functions/Programs		Expenses	Percent	Expenses		Percent	
Governmental expenses:							
Instruction	\$	4,203,040	54%	\$	4,402,827	53%	
Support Services							
Pupil services		305,750	4%		266,544	3%	
School and general administration		565,508	7%		747,412	9%	
Business administration		277,964	4%		280,919	3%	
Maintenance and operation of plant		2,221,983	27%		2,217,719	27%	
Central Support Services		83,340	1%		100,964	1%	
Interest		1,147	0%		-	0%	
All other functions/programs		218,807	3%		330,981	4%	
Total governmental expenses	\$	7,877,539	100%	\$	8,347,366	100%	

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital assets

At June 30, 2020, the Academy had capital assets of \$179,075, net of accumulated depreciation, invested in buildings, furniture and equipment and computer equipment compared to \$198,251 at June 30, 2019.

Debt

At June 30, 2020, the Academy had an outstanding loan payable of \$687,031 due to the Academy receiving a loan through the Paycheck Protection Program provision created by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Total revenues were favorable to budget by approximately \$322,000. The Academy ended the year with higher state funding than anticipated which was slightly offset by an unfavorable variance in local funding. Total expenditures were higher than budgeted mainly due to higher personnel costs resulting in an unfavorable variance in instructional expenditures. The school did receive PPP Loan proceeds for \$687,000 which were not budgeted for. Overall, the Academy ended the year with a change in fund balance that was favorable to the budget by approximately \$927,000.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

In FY 2020, total per student revenue increased for Georgia schools. In FY 2021, the total per student revenue is anticipated to decrease due to changes in the Georgia department of education's budget. The state did secure some additional funding for the charter school supplement that will help offset some of the Quality Basic Education (QBE) funding cuts. Schools will also benefit from Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds that will help to address the impact of covid-19 on schools. Grant revenue will remain at fiscal year 2020 levels. A 2% merit increase for all staff is included. All other expenditures are budgeted in alignment with enrollment changes and the school's strategic objectives.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

If you have questions about this report or need additional information, please contact Maria C. Garzon, Controller; Charter Schools USA; 800 Corporate Drive, Suite 700; Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33334.

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2020

	Government Activities	
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,802,812
Accounts receivable		2,290
Due from other governments		387,674
Prepaid items		9,487
Deposits		19,685
Capital assets (depreciable, net of accumulated depreciation)		179,075
Total assets		2,401,023
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension related items		1,921,570
Total deferred outflows of resources		1,921,570
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable		7,395
Accrued liabilities		1,147
Salaries and benefits payable		346,321
Due to management company		26,762
Note payable, due within one year		302,477
Note payable, due in more than one year		384,554
Net pension liability		5,390,083
Compensated absences, due in one year		32,189
Compensated absences, due in more than one year		10,730
Total liabilities		6,501,658
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension related items		874,570
Total deferred inflows of resources		874,570
NET POSITION (DEFICIT)		
Investment in capital assets		179,075
Unrestricted (deficit)		(3,232,710)
Total net position (deficit)	\$	(3,053,635)

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

			Program	Reven	ues		Net (Expenses)
			 	Operating Grants and			nues and Changes in
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS		Expenses	 Charges for Services	Contributions			Net Position
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES							
Instruction	\$	4,203,040	\$ -	\$	3,073,755	\$	(1,129,285)
Support services							
Pupil services		305,750	-		-		(305,750)
Improvement of instructional services		20,066	-		5,398		(14,668)
General administration		18,523	-		75,287		56,764
School administration		546,985	-		241,237		(305,748)
Business administration		277,964	-		22,821		(255,143)
Maintenance and operation of plant		2,221,983	-		148,395		(2,073,588)
Food services		141,741	57,681		83,737		(323)
Central support services		83,340	-		-		(83,340)
Community service operations		57,000	54,193		-		(2,807)
Interest		1,147	 -		-		(1,147)
Total governmental activities	\$	7,877,539	\$ 111,874	\$	3,650,630		(4,115,035)
General revenues:							
State supplement							4,461,523
Unrestricted investmer	it earr	ings					232
Total general revenues							4,461,755
Change in net position							346,720
Net position (deficit) - beg	inning	g of fiscal year					(3,400,355)
Net position (deficit) - end	of fis	cal year				\$	(3,053,635)

BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2020

	 General Fund	Other Government: Funds	al		Total
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable Due from other governments Deposits Prepaid items	\$ 1,802,812 2,290 387,674 19,685 9,487	\$	- - - -	\$	1,802,812 2,290 387,674 19,685 9,487
Total assets	\$ 2,221,948	\$	-	\$	2,221,948
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable Due to management company Salaries and benefits payable	\$ 7,395 26,762 346,321	\$	- - -	\$	7,395 26,762 346,321
Total liabilities	 380,478		-	<u>.</u>	380,478
FUND BALANCES					
Nonspendable: Prepaid items	9,487		-		9,487
Deposits Unassigned	 19,685 1,812,298		-		19,685 1,812,298
Total fund balance	 1,841,470		-		1,841,470
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 2,221,948	\$	-	\$	2,221,948

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2020

Total fund balance - governmental funds		\$	1,841,470
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:			
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. These assets consist of:			
Historical cost of capital assets	\$ 1,403,342		
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,224,267)	_	
Total capital assets		-	179,075
The net pension liability is not due and payable in the current period and is			
therefore not reported in governmental funds, along with related amounts.			
Net pension liability	\$ (5,390,083)		
Deferred outflows of resources - pension items	1,921,570		
Deferred inflows of resources - pension items	(874,570)	•	(4,343,083)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the governmental funds. Long-term liabilities at year-end consist of:			
	\$ (687,031)		
Accrued interest payable	(1,147)		
Compensated absences	(42,919)		(731,097)
Net position (deficit) of governmental activities		\$	(3,053,635)

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Gene Fun		Other (Governmental Funds	 Total
REVENUES					
Local funds	\$	54,193	\$	57,681	\$ 111,874
State funds	7	,845,375		19,863	7,865,238
Federal funds		5,000		241,915	246,915
Miscellaneous		102		-	102
Investment earnings		130		-	 130
Total revenues	7	,904,800		319,459	8,224,259
EXPENDITURES					
Current					
Instruction	3	,829,499		149,822	3,979,321
Support services:					
Pupil services		290,732		-	290,732
Improvement of instructional services		14,668		5,398	20,066
General administration		18,523		-	18,523
School administration		535,099		-	535 <i>,</i> 099
Business administration		277,964		-	277,964
Maintenance and operation of plant	2	,208,275		-	2,208,275
Food services		323		141,418	141,741
Central support services		81,708		-	81,708
Other outlays		34,179		22,821	57,000
Capital outlays - instruction		60,562		-	 60,562
Total expenditures	7	,351,532		319,459	 7,670,991
Excess of revenues over expenditures		553,268		-	553,268
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
Issuance of note payable		687,031		-	 687,031
Net change in fund balance	1	,240,299		-	1,240,299
Fund balance - beginning of fiscal year		601,171			 601,171
Fund balance - end of fiscal year	<u>\$ 1</u>	,841,470	\$		\$ 1,841,470

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Total net change in fund balance - governmental funds			\$	1,240,299			
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activitie different because:	es are						
Capital outlays are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. I statement of activities, the cost of capital assets is allocated over th lives as depreciation expense. In the current period, these amounts	heir estimated usefu	I					
Capital outlay	\$	60,562					
Depreciation expense		(79,738)		(19,176)			
 The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt. In the governmental funds, current year expenditures related to pensions are comprised solely of amounts contributed to the plan for the current year. However, in the statement of activities, expenses related to pensions include amounts that do not require the use of current financial resources. This amount represents the difference in the required 							
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as exp in governmental funds.							
Change in accrued interest	\$	(1,147)					
Compensated absences		(14,956)		(16,103)			
Change in net position of governmental activities		-	\$	346,720			

GENERAL FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL (GAAP) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	 -		ACTUAL AMOUNTS		VARIANCE POSITIVE (NEGATIVE		
REVENUES							
State funds	\$ 7,501,839	\$	7,501,839	\$	7,845,375	\$	343,536
Local funds	80,551		80,551		54,193		(26 <i>,</i> 358)
Federal funds	-		-		5,000		5,000
Miscellaneous	-		-		102		102
Investment earnings	 123		123		130		7
Total revenues	 7,582,513		7,582,513		7,904,800		322,287
EXPENDITURES							
Current							
Instruction	3,648,637		3,648,637		3,829,499		(180,862)
Support services:							
Pupil services	224,307		224,307		290,732		(66 <i>,</i> 425)
Improvement of instructional services	26,959		26,959		14,668		12,291
General administration	32,625		32,625		18,523		14,102
School administration	593,001		593,001		535,099		57,902
Business administration	265,224		265,224		277,964		(12,740)
Food services	184,963		184,963		323		184,640
Maintenance and operation of plant	2,106,331		2,106,331		2,208,275		(101,944)
Central support services	79,955		79,955		81,708		(1,753)
Other outlays	84,266		84,266		34,179		50,087
Capital outlays - instruction	 23,195		23,195		60,562		(37,367)
Total expenditures	 7,269,463		7,269,463		7,351,532		(82,069)
Excess of revenues over expenditures	313,050		313,050		553,268		404,356
OTHER FINANCING USES							
Issuance of note payable	 -		-		687,031		687,031
Net change in fund balance	313,050		313,050		1,240,299		927,249
Fund balances - beginning	 601,171		601,171		601,171		-
Fund balance - ending	\$ 914,221	\$	914,221	\$	1,841,470	\$	927,249

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AGENCY FUND JUNE 30, 2020

	ASSETS	-		ency und
Cash		<u> </u>	5	13,437
Funds held for others	LIABILITIES	<u>-</u>	5	13,437

NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF ACADEMY AND REPORTING ENTITY

REPORTING ENTITY

Cherokee Charter Academy, Inc. (the "Organization"), a not-for-profit organization organized under the laws of the State of Georgia doing business as Cherokee Charter Academy (the "Academy") is approved to provide educational services to students from kindergarten to eighth grade. The governing body of the Academy is comprised of a six-member Board of Directors. The Academy operates under a charter with the State Charter School Commission of Georgia (the "Commission"), which is effective until June 30, 2024.

The Academy is located in Canton, Georgia providing education for over 627 students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the Academy. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. The Board does not consider any of its activities to be business-type activities.

Government-wide Statements:

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the financial activities of the overall Academy. Governmental activities generally are financed through intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Academy's governmental activities.

- Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expenses (expenses of the Academy related to the administration and support of the Academy's programs, such as office and maintenance personnel and accounting) are not allocated to programs.
- Program revenues include: (a) charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

BASIS OF PRESENTATION (Continued)

In the Statement of Net Position, equity is reported as net position and consists of net investment in capital assets, amounts restricted by outside parties for specific purposes (if any), and unrestricted amounts. The net investment in capital assets is calculated by taking the capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, less any related long-term financing arrangements, and adding back in any unspent bond or contract proceeds.

Fund Financial Statements:

The fund financial statements provide information about the Academy's funds. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column.

The Academy reports only one major governmental fund:

• The General Fund is the Academy's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the Academy.

Additionally, the Academy reports the following non-major funds:

• The special revenue funds account for certain revenue sources that are legally restricted or committed to expenditure for specific purposes. Restricted revenues consist of federal and state grants.

The Academy reports the following fiduciary fund type:

• The agency fund accounts for assets held by the Academy as an agent for student activity groups or individuals as it relates to the clubs and organizations of the school.

The effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING/MEASUREMENT FOCUS

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are reported on the financial statements. The government-wide governmental financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. On an accrual basis, revenues are recognized in the fiscal year in which they are earned. Revenue from grants and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

The Academy uses funds to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain governmental functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The Academy considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if they are collected within sixty days after fiscal year-end. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured and other long-term obligations which are recognized when due and payable. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term liabilities and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

The Agency Funds utilize the accrual basis of accounting, similar to the government-wide statements, but do not have a measurement focus as they do not measure operations.

The Academy funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical grants, and general revenues. Thus, when program costs are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net positions available to finance the program. It is the Academy's policy to first apply grant resources to such programs, followed by cost-reimbursement grants, then general revenues.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING/MEASUREMENT FOCUS (Continued)

The State of Georgia reimburses the Academy for teachers' salaries and operating costs through the Quality Basic Education (QBE) Formula Earnings program. State of Georgia law defines the formula driven grant that determines the cost of an academic school year and the State of Georgia's share in this cost. Generally teachers are contracted for the school year (July 1 – June 30) and paid over a twelve month contract period, which for the Academy runs from July 16 through July 15. In accordance with the requirements of the enabling legislation of the QBE program, the State of Georgia reimburses the Academy over the same twelve month period in which teachers are paid, funding the academic school year expenditures. At June 30, the amount of teachers' salaries incurred but not paid until July and August of the subsequent year are accrued as the State of Georgia has only postponed the final payment of their share of the cost until the subsequent appropriations for cash management purposes. By June 30 of each year, the State of Georgia has a signed appropriation that includes this final amount, which represents the State of Georgia's intent to fund this final payment. Based on guidance in Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 33, paragraph 74, the State of Georgia recognizes its QBE liability for the July salaries at June 30, and the Academy recognizes the same QBE as a receivable and revenue, consistent with symmetrical recognition.

Grant revenues, state Quality Basic Education (QBE) revenue and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenue of the current fiscal period if availability criteria is met. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

RECEIVABLES

Receivables, which include amounts due from other governments, consist of amounts due from the various entities disclosed from information available. Receivables are recorded when either the asset or revenue recognition criteria has been met. Receivables recorded on the basic financial statements do not include any amounts which would necessitate the need for an allowance for uncollectible receivables.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

PREPAID ITEMS

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items.

INTERFUND RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES

During the course of its operations, the Academy makes transfers between funds to finance operations, provide services and acquire assets. To the extent that certain transfers between funds had not been received as of year end, balances of interfund amounts receivable or payable have been recorded.

Activity between funds that are representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year are referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (i.e., the current portion of interfund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (i.e., the non-current portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds."

CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets purchased, including capital outlay costs, are recorded as expenditures in the fund financial statements at the time of purchase (including ancillary charges). On the government-wide financial statements, all purchased capital assets are valued at cost. The Academy maintains a capitalization threshold of \$750 and a useful life over one year. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated acquisition cost on the date donated. Disposals are deleted at depreciated recorded cost. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of assets or materially extend the useful lives of the assets is not capitalized. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. The Academy does not capitalize book collections or works of art. Depreciation is used to allocate the actual or estimated historical cost of all capital assets over estimated useful lives.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	Estimated Useful Life
ient	3-5 years
	_

Furniture and equipment Computer equipment Leasehold improvements

3-5 years 3 years 10 years

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net position.

COMPENSATED ABSENCES

It is the Academy's policy to permit employees to accumulate earned but unused paid time off benefits. All paid time off pay is accrued when incurred in the government-wide financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in governmental funds only if they have matured, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements.

DEFERRED INFLOWS/OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. The Governmental Activities report four types of deferred outflows of resources related to the reporting of the net pension liability. The deferred outflows of resources being recognized are: (1) a deferred outflow of resources for changes in the Academy's proportionate share for the net pension liability and the difference between the Academy's actual contributions towards the pension plan and the Academy's proportionate share of contributions; (2) differences between expected and actual experience of the Plan; (3) changes in the Plan's assumptions; and (4) the Academy's actual contributions to the pension plan during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 which is after the measurement date and will be applied to the next future measurement period. The remaining deferred outflows will be amortized over the remaining service period of plan members.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The Academy has four items that qualify for reporting in this category, three of which occur only in the governmental activities. The Governmental Activities report a deferred inflow of resources for: (1) changes in the Academy's proportionate share for the net pension liability and the difference between the Academy's actual contributions towards the pension plan and the Academy's proportionate share of contributions; (2) experience gains or losses resulting from periodic studies by the Academy's actuary which adjust the net pension liability for actual experience for certain trend information that was previously assumed; and (3) the net difference between project and actual investment earnings on the pension assets, which will be amortized over a 5 year period. The remaining deferred inflows are amortized over the remaining service lives of plan members.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

PENSIONS

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS) and additions to/deductions from TRS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by TRS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

FUND EQUITY

Fund equity at the governmental fund financial reporting level is classified as "fund balance." Fund equity for all other reporting is classified as "net position."

Fund Balance - The Academy recognizes that the maintenance of a fund balance is essential to the preservation of the financial integrity of the Academy and is fiscally advantageous for the Academy. The policy adopted establishes guidance concerning the desired level of fiscal year end fund balance to be maintained by the Academy and the management of fund balance levels and is applicable only to the General Fund of the Academy.

Fund balance is a measurement of available financial resources defined as the difference between total assets/deferred outflows and total liabilities/deferred inflows in each fund.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 distinguishes fund balance classified based on the relative strength of the constraints that control the purposes for which specific amounts can be spent. Beginning with the most binding constraints, fund balance amounts will be reported in the classifications on the following page:

Non spendable— Fund balance reported as "non spendable" represents fund balance associated with inventory, prepaid items, long-term amounts of loans and notes receivable, property held for resale (however, if the use of the proceeds from the collection of receivables or sale of the property is restricted, committed, or assigned, then the receivables or property should be reported in those categories), and corpus of a permanent fund (legally/contractually required to be maintained).

Restricted – Fund balance reported as "restricted" represents amounts that can be spent only on the specific purposes stipulated by law or by the external providers of those resources (such as bond resolutions and covenants and grant agreements).

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

FUND EQUITY (Continued)

Committed – Fund balance reported as "committed" includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Board. The Board as the highest level of decision making authority will have the sole authority to commit fund balance. Constraints can be removed or changed only by the Board through a formal resolution voted on by the Board. Actions to constrain resources should occur prior to the end of the Academy's fiscal year, though the exact amount may be determined subsequently.

Assigned – Fund balance reported as "assigned" represents amounts intended to be used for specific purposes, but not meeting the criteria to be reported as committed or restricted fund balance. The intent is expressed by the Board. If these funds should have a deficit fund balance, those deficits are required to be reported as unassigned fund balance. The Board will have the authority under this policy to assign funds for a particular purpose.

Unassigned – Fund balance reported as "unassigned" represents the residual classification of fund balance and includes all spendable amounts not contained within the other classifications.

If expenditures incurred exceed the amounts that have been restricted, committed, and assigned to a specific purpose and results in a negative residual amount for that specific purpose, amounts assigned to other purposes in that governmental fund are reduced to eliminate the deficit.

The Academy applies restricted resources first when an expenditure/expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted equity is available. If restricted resources are not available, the Academy's policy is to use committed first, then assigned funds, and lastly the unassigned.

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, deferred inflows of resources, deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 3: STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Academy adopts an annual budget for its General Fund on the modified accrual basis of accounting. The budget is prepared in accordance with provisions of the Quality Basic Education Act, OCGA Section 20-2-167. After the Academy has tentatively adopted the budget, such budget is advertised at least one time in a local newspaper of general circulation. At the next regular meeting of the Board after advertisement, the budget is revised as necessary and adopted as the final budget.

The following General Fund functions had excesses of actual expenditures over appropriations in the amount shown for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.

Instruction	\$ 180,862
Support services:	
Pupil services	66,425
Business administration	12,740
Maintenance and operation of plant	101,944
Central support services	1,753
Capital outlays - instruction	37,367

These excess expenditures were funded with savings in other functions, and revenues collected in excess of anticipated levels.

NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

COLLATERALIZATION OF DEPOSITS

Official Code of Georgia Annotated (OCGA) Section 45-8-12 provides that there shall not be on deposit at any time in any depository for a time longer than ten days a sum of money which has not been secured by surety bond, by guarantee of insurance, or by collateral. The aggregate of the face value of such surety bond and the market value of securities pledged shall be equal to not less than 110 percent of the public funds being secured after the deduction of the amount of deposit insurance. If a depository elects the pooled method (OCGA 45-8-13.1), the aggregate of the market value of the securities pledged to secure a pool of public funds shall be not less than 110 percent of the daily pool balance.

NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

COLLATERALIZATION OF DEPOSITS (Continued)

Custodial credit risk. Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the Academy will not be able to recover deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. State statutes require all deposits and investments (other than federal or state government instruments) to be covered by depository insurance or pledged securities. Amounts that exceed standard depository insurance limits are required to be collateralized either (1) individually by the financial institutions through pledged obligations of the U.S. Government, obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, obligations of the State of Georgia or other states, or obligations of counties, municipalities, or public authorities of the State of Georgia, or (2) participation in the State of Georgia Secure Deposit Program. As of June 30, 2020, the financial institution holding all of the Academy's deposits is a participant in the State of Georgia Secure Deposit Program, which is administered by the Office of the State Treasurer, requires participating banks holding deposits of public funds to pledge collateral at varying rates depending on the tier assigned by the State. As of June 30, 2020, all of the Academy's bank balances were insured and/or collateralized as defined by GASB and required by State Statutes.

Acceptable security for deposits consists of any one of or any combination of the following:

- (1) Surety bond signed by a surety company duly qualified and authorized to transact business within the State of Georgia,
- (2) Insurance on accounts provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
- (3) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other direct obligations of the United States or of the State of Georgia,
- (4) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness or other obligations of the counties or municipalities of the State of Georgia,
- (5) Bonds of any public authority created by the laws of the State of Georgia, providing that the statute that created the authority authorized the use of the bonds for this purpose,
- (6) Industrial revenue bonds and bonds of development authorities created by the laws of the State of Georgia, and
- (7) Bonds, bills, notes, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations of a subsidiary corporation of the United States Government, which are fully guaranteed by the United States Government both as to principal and interest or debt obligations issued by the Federal Land Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, the Central Bank for Cooperatives, the Farm Credit Banks, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Association, and the Federal National Mortgage Association.

NOTE 5: RECEIVABLES

Intergovernmental receivables consist of grant reimbursements due from federal, state or other grantors for expenditures made but not yet reimbursed. The Georgia Department of Education is the main government agency from which these grants are receivable as of June 30, 2020.

NOTE 6: CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in the capital assets during the fiscal year:

	J	Balances une 30, 2019	Increases	Decreases	Balances June 30, 2020
Governmental Activities					
Capital assets, being depreciated:					
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	\$	446,336	\$ - \$	-	\$ 446,336
Computer equipment		777,460	-	-	777,460
Leasehold improvements		118,984	60,562	-	179,546
Total		1,342,780	60,562	-	1,403,342
Less accumulated depreciation for: Furniture, fixtures, and equipment Computer equipment		369,933 707,435	14,871 51,159	-	384,804 758,594
Leasehold improvements Total		67,161	 13,708 79,738		80,869
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$	198,251	\$ (19,176)\$		\$ 179,075

Current fiscal year depreciation expense by function is as follows:

Instruction \$	66,030
Maintenance of Operations and Plant	13,708
\$	79,738

NOTE 7: RISK MANAGEMENT

The Academy is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors or omissions; job related illness or injuries to employees; and acts of God.

The Academy has obtained commercial insurance for risk of loss associated with torts, assets, errors or omissions, job related illness or injuries to employees and acts of God. The Academy has neither significantly reduced coverage for these risks nor incurred losses (settlements) which exceeded the Academy's insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

NOTE 8: LONG-TERM DEBT AND OBLIGATIONS

The changes in long-term debt and obligations during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, were as follows:

	Beginning Balance	 Additions Reductions		Ending Reductions Balance		Due Within One Year		
Governmental activities: Note payable from								
direct borrowing	\$ -	\$ 687,031	\$	-	\$	687,031	\$	302,477
Compensated absences	27,963	81,772		(66,816)		42,919		32,189
Net pension liability	 5,265,337	 1,284,326		(1,159,580)		5,390,083		-
Governmental activities Long-term liabilities	\$ 5,293,300	\$ 2,053,129	\$	(1,226,396)	\$	6,120,033	\$	334,666

The compensated absences, note payable and the net pension liability are liquidated through the General Fund.

Note Payable – Direct Borrowing

In May 2020, the Academy entered into a loan payable agreement of \$687,031 with the Small Business Administration (SBA) through the Paycheck Protection Program provision created by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). The note bears interest at one percent and matures in April 2022. Per the terms of the note payable, the first six months of principal and interest payments are deferred, with interest accruing, then converting to monthly principal and interest payments, amortized over eighteen months, with all remaining unpaid principal and accrued interest due and payable twenty four months from the date of the note. At June 30, 2020, the outstanding balance was \$687,031. The Academy expects to meet any provisions for loan forgiveness within the next fiscal year.

The debt service requirements to maturity are as follows:

Fiscal year ending June 30:

	Principal		lr	nterest	 Total
2021	\$	\$ 302,477		6,577	\$ 309,054
2022		384,554		1,765	 386,319
	\$	\$ 687,031		8,342	\$ 695,373

NOTE 9: SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCY

Amounts received or receivable principally from the Federal government are subject to audit and review by grantor agencies. This could result in requests for reimbursement to the grantor agency for any costs which are disallowed under grant terms. The Academy believes that such disallowances, if any, will be immaterial to its overall financial position.

MANAGEMENT SERVICE COMMITMENT

The Academy entered into a formal agreement with Charter Schools USA at Cherokee, LLC to manage, staff, and operate the Academy. The agreement expires in June 2023 or the termination date of the charter, if not renewed. The contract may be cancelled by either party. Under this agreement the management company is entitled to compensation for its services in an amount not to exceed 15% of revenues which shall be approved by the Board in the budget. During the year ended June 30, 2020, the Academy had expenditures of \$249,996 for fees to the management Company, and reports liabilities of \$26,762 to the management company.

OPERATING LEASE AGREEMENT

The Academy has entered to a non-cancellable lease agreement for the building which the school utilizes. The lease period extends through June 30, 2034 with a company affiliated with the management company. The lease payments made during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 were \$1,308,777. The terms of the lease are adjusted each year, effective July 1, to adjust the lease rental payments by the changes in the Wall Street Journal published Consumer Price Index. The adjusted annual rental payment for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 will reflect an increase of 1.01%. Based on the current adjustment the future minimum lease payments would be as follows:

Year Ending June 30,	Annual Lease Payments
2021	\$ 1,295,866
2022	1,304,234
2023	1,312,656
2024	1,321,132
2025	1,329,663
2026-2030	6,778,221
2031-2034	5,581,849
Total	\$ 18,923,621

NOTE 10: RETIREMENT PLANS

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA (TRS)

Plan description: All teachers of the Academy as defined in §47-3-60 of the *Official Code of Georgia Annotated* (O.C.G.A.) are provided a pension through the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia (TRS). TRS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan, is administered by the TRS Board of Trustees (TRS Board). Title 47 of the *O.C.G.A.* assigns the authority to establish and amend the benefit provisions to the State Legislature. TRS issues a publicly available financial report that can be obtained at www.trsga.com/publications.

Benefits provided: TRS provides service retirement, disability retirement, and death benefits. Normal retirement benefits are determined as 2% of the average of the employee's two highest paid consecutive years of service, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service up to 40 years. An employee is eligible for normal service retirement after 30 years of creditable service, regardless of age, or after 10 years of service and attainment of age 60. Ten years of service is required for disability and death benefits eligibility. Disability benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and compensation up to the time of disability. Death benefits equal the amount that would be payable to the employee's beneficiary had the employee retired on the date of death. Death benefits are based on the employee's creditable service and compensation up to the date of death.

Contributions: Per Title 47 of the *O.C.G.A.*, contribution requirements of active employees and participating employers, as actuarially determined, are established and may be amended by the TRS Board. Contributions are expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. Employees were required to contribute 6.00 % of their annual pay during fiscal year 2020. The Academy's contractually required contributions to TRS were \$659,649 for the year ended June 30, 2020.

PENSION LIABILITIES, PENSION EXPENSE, AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES RELATED TO PENSIONS

At June 30, 2020, the Academy reported a liability for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2019. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2018. An expected total pension liability as of June 30, 2019 was determined using standard roll-forward techniques. The Academy's proportion of the net pension liability was based on contributions to TRS during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. At June 30, 2019, the Academy's proportion was 0.025067%, which was a decrease of 0.003299% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2018.

NOTE 10: RETIREMENT PLANS (Continued)

PENSION LIABILITIES, PENSION EXPENSE, AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES RELATED TO PENSIONS (Continued)

For the year ended June 30, 2020, the Academy recognized pension expense of \$830,918. At June 30, 2020, the Academy reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources		In	eferred flows of esources
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	\$	-	\$	128,354
Differences between expected and actual experience		303,813		1,598
Changes in proportion and differences between Academy contributions and proportionate share of contributions		441,275		744,618
Changes of assumption		517,249		-
Academy contributions subsequent to the measurement date		659,649		
Total	\$	1,921,986	\$	874,570

Academy contributions subsequent to the measurement date of \$659,649 are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2020. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year ending June 30:	
2021	\$ 172,970
2022	(45,970)
2023	185,451
2024	 75,316
Total	\$ 387,767

NOTE 10: RETIREMENT PLANS (Continued)

PENSION LIABILITIES, PENSION EXPENSE, AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES RELATED TO PENSIONS (Continued)

Actuarial assumptions: The total pension liability as of June 30, 2019 was determined by an actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2018 using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	3.00 – 8.75%, average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.25%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Postretirement benefit	
increases	1.50% semi-annually

Postretirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 White Collar Mortality Table with future mortality improvement projected to 2025 with the Society of Actuaries' projection scale BB (set forward one year for males) for service retirements and dependent beneficiaries. The RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table with future mortality improvement projected to 2025 with Society of Actuaries' projection scale BB (set forward two years for males and four years for females) was used for death after disability retirement. Rates of mortality in active service were based on the RP-2000 Employee Mortality Table projected to 2025 with projection scale BB.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2018 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2014, with the exception of the long-term assumed rate of return on assets (discount rate), which was changed from 7.50% to 7.25%, and the assumed annual rate of inflation, which was changed from 2.75% to 2.50%, effective with the June 30, 2018 valuation.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected nominal returns, net of pension plan investment expense and the assumed rate of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the table on the following page.

NOTE 10: RETIREMENT PLANS (Continued)

PENSION LIABILITIES, PENSION EXPENSE, AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES RELATED TO PENSIONS (Continued)

Asset class	Target allocation	Long-term expected real rate of return*
Fixed income	30.00%	(0.10)%
U.S. large equities	51.00%	8.90%
U.S. small equities	1.50%	13.20%
International developed market equities	12.40%	8.90%
International emerging market equities	5.10%	10.90%
Total	100.00%	

* Rates shown are net of the 2.50% assumed rate of inflation

Discount rate: The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25%, which was a decrease from the discount rate of 7.50% utilized in the previous valuation. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate:

This paragraph requires disclosure of the sensitivity of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the net pension liability of the System, calculated using the discount rate of 7.25 percent, as well as what the System's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.25 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.25 percent) than the current rate (\$ thousands):

	1% Decrease (6.25%)	(Current discount rate (7.25%)	1% Increase (8.25%)
Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 8,749,682	\$	5,390,083	\$ 2,627,299

Pension plan fiduciary net position: Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued TRS financial report which is publically available at www.trsga.com/publications.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

CHEROKEE CHARTER ACADEMY REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABLITY TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Academy's proportion of the net pension liability	 2020 0.025067%	 2019 0.028366%		2018 0.024260%	 2017 0.027671%
Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,390,083	\$ 5,265,337	\$	4,508,789	\$ 5,708,829
Academy's covered payroll	\$ 3,057,239	\$ 3,481,374	\$	2,451,682	\$ 3,293,772
Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	176.31%	151.24%		183.91%	173.32%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	78.56%	80.27%		79.33%	76.06%
Academy's proportion of the net pension liability	 2016 0.028538%	 2015 0.029168%		2014 0.025926%	
Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 4,344,627	\$ 3,684,992	\$	4,517,574	
Academy's covered payroll	\$ 3,092,777	\$ 3,202,647	\$	2,859,241	
Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	140.48%	115.06%		158.00%	
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	81.44%	84.03%	I	Not available	

Note: Schedule is intended to show information for the last 10 fiscal years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

CHEROKEE CHARTER ACADEMY REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

		2020	 2019	 2018	 2017	 2016
Contractually required contributions	\$	659,649	\$ 638,963	\$ 585,219	\$ 349,855	\$ 433,131
Contributions in relation to the contractua required contributions	lly	659,649	638,963	585,219	349,855	433,131
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$	-	\$ 	\$ 	\$ 	\$
Academy's covered payroll	\$	3,120,383	\$ 3,057,239	\$ 3,481,374	\$ 2,451,682	\$ 3,293,772
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll		21.140%	20.900%	16.810%	14.270%	13.150%
		2015	2014	2013	2012	
Contractually required contributions	\$	379,793	\$ 365,422	\$ 293,930	\$ 215,544	
Contributions in relation to the contractua	lly					
required contributions		379,793	 365,422	 293,930	 215,544	
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Academy's covered payroll	\$	3,092,777	\$ 3,202,647	\$ 2,859,241	\$ 2,096,732	
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll		12.280%	11.410%	10.280%	10.280%	

Note: The Academy's first year of operations was the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

CHEROKEE CHARTER ACADEMY NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Changes of assumptions: In 2010 and later, the expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP 2000 Mortality Tables rather than the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table, which was used prior to 2010. In 2010, rates of withdrawal, retirement, disability and mortality were adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience. In 2010, assumed rates of salary increase were adjusted to more closely reflect actual and anticipated experience.

On November 18, 2015, the Board adopted recommended changes to the economic and demographic assumptions utilized by the System. Primary among the changes were the updates to rates of mortality, retirement, disability, withdrawal and salary increases. The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to RP-2000 White Collar Mortality Table with future mortality improvement projected to 2025 with the Society of Actuaries' projection scale BB (set forward one year for males).

On May 15, 2019, the Board adopted recommended changes from the smoothed valuation interest rate methodology that has been in effect since June 30, 2009, to a constant interest rate method. In conjunction with the methodology, the long-term assumed rate of return in assets (discount rate) has been changed from 7.50% to 7.25%, and the assumed annual rate of inflation has been reduced from 2.75% to 2.50%.

NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Special Revenue Funds

- <u>Title I Fund</u> This fund is used to account for the Academy's federally funded Title I grant revenues and the related expenditures.
- <u>Title II Fund</u> This fund is used to account for the Academy's federally funded Title II grant revenues and the related expenditures.
- <u>Title IV Fund</u> This fund is used to account for the Academy's federally funded Title IV grant revenues and the related expenditures.
- <u>School Lunch Program Fund</u> This fund is used to account for the Academy's federally funded grants and charges to students for the operation and service of the school lunch program.
- <u>Special Education Fund</u> This fund is used to account for the Academy's federally funded Title VI-B Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA) grant revenues and the related expenditures.

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2020

		le I nd	Titl Fu		e IV nd	School Lunch Program Fund	Educ	ecial ation Ind	То	tal
ASSETS										
Due from other governments	\$		\$	-	\$ -	\$-	\$	-	\$	
Total assets	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$-	\$	-	\$	-
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES										
LIABILITIES										
Salaries and benefits payable	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	<u>\$</u> -	\$	-	\$	-
Total liabilities		-		-	 -			-		-
FUND BALANCES Fund balance				-	 _		<u> </u>	-		
Total fund balance	. <u> </u>	-		-	 -		<u> </u>	-		-
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2020

	Title I Fund	Title II Fund	Title IV Fund	School Lunch Program Fund	Special Education Fund	Total	
<u>REVENUES</u> Local funds	\$-	\$-	\$ -	\$ 57,681	\$-	\$ 57,681	
	ې -	Ş -	Ş -		Ş -		
State funds	-	-	-	19,863	-	19,863	
Federal funds	48,805	1,468	8,168	63,874	119,600	241,915	
Total revenues	48,805	1,468	8,168	141,418	119,600	319,459	
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>							
Current							
Instruction	48,805	1,189	3,950	-	95,878	149,822	
Support services:							
Improvement of instructional services	-	279	4,218	-	901	5,398	
Food services	-	-	-	141,418	-	141,418	
Other outlays	-	-	-	-	22,821	22,821	
Total expenditures	48,805	1,468	8,168	141,418	119,600	319,459	
Net change in fund balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Fund balance - beginning of fiscal year							
Fund balance - end of fiscal year	\$ -	<u>\$ -</u>	\$ -	<u>\$ -</u>	\$-	\$ -	

COMPLIANCE SECTION



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 Members of the Board of Cherokee Charter Academy Canton, Georgia

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 the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Cherokee Charter Academy (the "Academy"), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Cherokee Charter Academy's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 11, 2020.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Academy'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 opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion of the effectiveness of the Academy'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2020-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Academy'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*.

The Academy's Response to the Finding

The Academy's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The Academy's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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.

Mauldin & Jurkins, LLC

Atlanta, Georgia November 11, 2020

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Section I – Summary of Auditor's Results						
<u>Financial Statements</u> Type of report the auditor issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in						
accordance with GAAP:	Unmodified					
Internal control over financial reporting: Material weaknesses identified?	<u>X</u> yesno					
Significant deficiencies identified?	yes <u>X</u> none reported					
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	yes <u>X</u> no					

Federal Awards

There was not an audit of major federal award programs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 due to the total amount expended being less than \$750,000.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Section II – Financial Statement Findings and Responses

2020-001 Accounting for Long-term Debt

Criteria: Internal controls should be in place to ensure that amounts recorded as long-term debt and related transactions are recorded in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Condition: Internal controls were not sufficient to detect misstatements in the reporting of the Academy's long-term debt and related balances.

Context/Cause: During our testing of long-term debt and related balances, we noted the Academy did not record an other financing source for the proceeds from a note payable in the General Fund, a note payable in the Governmental Activities and cash which were understated at year-end.

Effects: Audit adjustments of approximately \$687,000 were required to properly record the yearend balance of long-term debt and related balances.

Recommendation: We recommend the Academy review the trial balance at year-end to ensure long-term debt and related balances are recorded based on long-term debt agreements the Academy entered into.

Auditee's Response: We concur with the finding. We will take necessary steps in the future to ensure that all long-term debt and related balances are properly recorded.