

November 10, 2023

Board of Directors Atlas Public Schools 400 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street St. louis, MO 63103

Dear Board of Directors:

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Atlas Public Schools and its affiliate, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated November 10, 2023. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

### Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit

As communicated in our engagement letter dated June 27, 2023 and addendum dated November 1, 2023, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the consolidated financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting. Our audit of the consolidated financial statements does not relieve you or management of its respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of consolidated financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing 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 over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of Atlas Public Schools and its affiliate solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

#### **Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit**

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

# **Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence**

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, our firm, and our network firms have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

# **Significant Risks Identified**

We have identified the following significant risks:

- Management override of controls due to the ability of management to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent consolidated financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. (Required to be identified as a significant risk in all audits by AU-C 240.29)
- Improper recognition of contribution revenue due to the significant portion of the School's revenue being tied to attendance.

# **Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices**

# Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by Atlas Public Schools and its affiliate are included in Note B to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during the year ended June 30, 2023. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

### Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the consolidated financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are:

- Management's estimate of the functional allocation of expense to program services, management
  and general, and fundraising is based on estimated time and effort and estimated square footage
  of the facility as described in Note I.
- Management's estimate of depreciation expense based on estimated useful lives of property and equipment as disclosed in Note B.

### **Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

#### **Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards also require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. We did not identify any uncorrected misstatements as a result of of our audit.

In addition, professional standards require us to communicate to you all material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures. The following material misstatement that we identified as a result of our audit procedures were brought to the attention of, and corrected by, management:

To reduce actual loan balance outstanding and cash held in escrow at June 30, 2023 by \$4,821,687 as no funds were held in escrow account per debt confirm received.

#### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to Atlas Public Schools' consolidated financial statements or the auditors' report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

### **Representations Requested from Management**

We have requested certain written representations from management, which are included in the attached letter dated November 10, 2023.

### **Management's Consultations with Other Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

# **Other Significant Matters, Findings or Issues**

In the normal course of our professional association with Atlas Public Schools and its affiliate, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, significant events or transactions that occurred during the year, operating conditions affecting the entities, and operating plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as Atlas Public Schools and its affiliate's auditors.

This report is intended soley for the information and use of the board of directors and management of Atlas Public Schools and its affiliaiate and is not intended to beand should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

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St. Louis, Missouri November 10, 2023