



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO Box 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

KIMBERLEY HARRINGTON
Acting Commissioner

March 17, 2017

Dr. Brian Falkowski, School Lead
Great Futures Charter School
225 Morris Boulevard
Jersey City, NJ 07302-7398

Dear Dr. Falkowski:

The New Jersey Department of Education has completed a review of funds received and disbursed from one or more federal programs by the **Great Futures Charter School**. The funding source reviewed was the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The review covered the period July 1, 2015 through November 30, 2016. The resulting report is enclosed. Please provide a copy of the report to each board member. All issued Consolidated Monitoring Reports will be posted on the department's website at www.state.nj.us/education/compliance/monitor/. Also, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.6(c), you must post the report on the school's website.

If you have any questions, please contact Steven Hoffmann at (973) 621-2750.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Cicchino, Director
Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance

RJC/SH/dk:Great Futures Charter School CM Cover Letter
Enclosure

c: Kimberley Harrington
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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO BOX 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500**

**GREAT FUTURES CHARTER SCHOOL
225 MORRIS BLVD
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302
PHONE: (201) 716-1520**



New Jersey K-12 Education

**CONSOLIDATED MONITORING REPORT
MARCH 2017**

District: Great Futures Charter School
County: Hudson
Dates On-Site: January 12, 2017
Case #: CM-027-16

FUNDING SOURCES

| | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------------|
| IDEA Basic | | \$50,485 |
| | Total Funds | <u>\$50,485</u> |

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BACKGROUND

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and other federal laws require that districts provide programs and services based on the requirements specified in each of the authorizing statutes (i.e., ESEA, IDEA, and Carl D. Perkins). The laws further require that state education agencies such as the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) monitor the implementation of federal programs by sub recipients and determine whether the funds are being used by the district for their intended purpose and achieving the overall objectives of the funding initiatives. Due to the impending implementation of new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) regulations, only IDEA and Special Education will be reviewed during consolidated monitoring.

INTRODUCTION

The NJDOE visited the Great Futures Charter School to monitor the school's use of federal funds and the related program plans, where applicable, to determine whether the school's programs are meeting the intended purposes and objectives, as specified in the current year applications and authorizing statutes and to determine whether the funds were spent in accordance with the program requirements, federal and state laws, and applicable regulations. The on-site visit included staff interviews and documentation reviews related to the requirements of the following program: IDEA Basic for the period July 1, 2015, through November 30, 2016.

The scope of work performed included the review of documentation including grant applications, program plans and needs assessments, grant awards, annual audits, board minutes, payroll records, accounting records, purchase orders, and an interview of the program administrator regarding the IDEA grant, as well as, current school policies and procedures. The monitoring team members also conducted interviews with school personnel, reviewed documentation for a sample of expenditures and conducted internal control reviews.

EXPENDITURES REVIEWED

The IDEA Basic grant was reviewed from July 1, 2015, through November 30, 2016. A sampling of purchase orders and/or salaries were reviewed.

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GENERAL OVERVIEW OF USES OF IDEA FUNDS

IDEA Projects

The FY 2015-2016 and FY 2016-2017 IDEA Basic funds are being used for professional services.

DETAILED FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

IDEA Grant

A review of the expenditures charged to the IDEA grant did not yield any findings.

The NJDOE thanks you for your time and cooperation during the monitoring visit and looks forward to a successful resolution of all findings and implementation of all recommendations contained in this report.

If you have any questions, please contact Steven Hoffmann via phone at (973) 621-2750 or via email at steven.hoffmann@doe.state.nj.us.