

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY STEM CHARTER SCHOOL  
AUDITORS MANAGEMENT REPORT  
ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS  
FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

**XI. AUDITORS MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATION FINDINGS  
FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE**

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**GERALD D. LONGO**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
62 OLD QUEENS BLVD.  
MANALAPAN, NEW JERSEY 07726-3648

TELEPHONE  
732 446-4768

FAX  
732 792-0868

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

The Honorable Chairman and  
Members of the Board of Trustees  
Middlesex County Stem Charter School  
County of Middlesex  
New Brunswick, New Jersey

I have audited, in accordance with generally accepted audit standards and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Board of Trustees of the Middlesex County Stem Charter School, in the County of Middlesex, for the year ended June 30, 2024 and have issued my report thereon dated December 17, 2024.

As part of my audit, I performed procedures required by the New Jersey Department of Education, and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents.

This report is issued in conjunction with the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report of the Board of Trustees of the Middlesex County Stem Charter School, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and is intended for the information of the Charter School's management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Licensed Public School Accountant No. 20CS00206400



Gerald D. Longo  
Certified Public Accountant

December 17, 2024

## **ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Scope of Audit**

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, the Treasurer of School Monies, the activities of the Board of Trustees, and the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Board of Trustees.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES**

#### **Insurance**

Various fire and liability insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed in the Insurance Schedule contained in the Charter School's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). See Exhibit J-20.

#### **Official Bonds (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 18A:17-32, 18A:13-13)**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, Treasurer	\$200,000

#### **P.L.2020,c.44**

My audit procedures included an inquiry and subsequent review of health benefit data required per N.J.S.A.18A:16-13.3 (Chapter 44) submitted for the year on audit.

The bill includes a provision that permits charter school employers to not implement Chapter 44 unless they have a collective negotiation agreement with any of their employees in place on or after the law's effective date. The Charter School does not have a collective negotiation agreement in place, and therefore, is not required to implement Chapter 44.

### **FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING**

#### **Examination of Claims**

An examination of claims paid during the period under review did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to signatures, certification or supporting documentation.

#### **Payroll Accounts**

The net salaries of all employees of the Charter School were deposited in the Payroll Account. Employees payroll deductions and employees share of fringe benefits were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

Sampled payrolls were approved by the President of the Board and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator.

Sampled Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefit withholding due to the general fund.

Sampled Payrolls were delivered to the Secretary of the Board who then deposited with warrants in separate bank accounts for net payroll and withholdings.

#### Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A sample of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30, 2024 for proper classification of orders as encumbrances and accounts payable. My sample did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to classification of orders.

#### Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with the *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(f)* as part of my test of transactions of randomly sampled expenditure transactions. I also tested the coding of all expenditures included in my compliance and single audit sampling procedures, if applicable. In addition to randomly selecting a test sample, my sample selection specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.3*. My samples did not indicate any reportable noncompliance with respect to classification of expenditures.

#### Board Secretary's Records

My audit of the financial statements and accounting records maintained by the Board Secretary indicated that they were in satisfactory condition.

#### Treasurer's Records

My audit of the financial statements and accounting records maintained by the Treasurer indicated that they were in satisfactory condition.

#### Elementary and Secondary Education Act (E.S.E.A.) as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The E.S.E.A. financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the ACFR. This section of the ACFR documents the financial position pertaining to the projects under the various applicable programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

The audit of compliance for E.S.E.A. did not indicate any reportable noncompliance.

#### Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The charter school's other Special Projects were approved as listed on Schedule A (K-3) and Schedule B (K-4) located in the ACFR.

My audit of the Federal and State funds on a sample basis indicated that obligations and expenditures were incurred during the fiscal year or project period for which the project was approved.

The financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the ACFR. This section of the ACFR documents the financial position pertaining to the aforementioned special projects.

The audit of compliance for the special projects did not indicate any reportable noncompliance.

### T.P.A.F. Reimbursement

My audit procedures included a sample of the biweekly reimbursements filed with the Department of Education for the Middlesex County Stem Charter School employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. No exceptions were noted.

### T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

The amount of the expenditure charged to the current year's Final Report for all federal awards for the charter school to reimburse the State for the TPAF/FICA payments made by the State on-behalf of the charter school for those employees whose salaries are identified as being paid from federal funds was made prior to the end of the 90 day grant liquidation period required by the Office of Grants Management. The expenditure was reviewed subsequent to the reimbursement. No exceptions were noted.

## **SCHOOL PURCHASING PROGRAMS**

### Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq. (Public School Contracts Law), the associated rules and related information on the statute, and the school contracts in general, are available on the following website:

[https://nj.gov/dca/dlgs/programs/NJ\\_LAPL.shtml](https://nj.gov/dca/dlgs/programs/NJ_LAPL.shtml)

Current statute is posted on the New Jersey Legislature website at: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(a) are \$44,000.00 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$32,000.00 (without a Qualified Purchasing Agent), respectively. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3 is \$22,400 for 2023-24.

The Charter School's Members of the Board of Trustees has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the contract year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the solicitor's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

Based on the results of my audit, I did not note any individual payments, contracts, or agreements made for the performance of any work or goods or services, in excess of the statutory thresholds where there had been no advertising for bids in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.

## **SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE**

The Charter School entered into an agreement to consolidate food service operations with Central Jersey College Prep Charter School (CJCP) serving as the administrative agency. The food service operations are operated as a part of the CJCP lunch program, with all revenue, expenses and food inventories being maintained by CJCP.

## **STUDENT BODY ACTIVITIES**

My audit of the financial and accounting records for student activities indicated that they were in satisfactory condition.

## **ENROLLMENT COUNTS AND SUBMISSIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT**

My audit procedures included a sample of enrollment information on October 15, 2023, and the last day of school for on roll, special education, bilingual and low-income. The results of my procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

The charter school maintained written procedures that appear to be adequate for the recording of student enrollment data.

## **FACILITIES AND CAPITAL ASSETS**

My audit of the financial and accounting records for facilities and capital assets indicated that they were in satisfactory condition.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities**

The Charter School adhered to all the requirements of N.J.A.C. 26-1.2 and 12.4 related to the testing for lead of all drinking water in educational facilities.

The Charter School submitted the annual Statement of Assurance to the Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g)

### **Follow-up on Prior Year Findings**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, my procedures included a review of all prior year audit recommendations including findings. There was no prior year findings.

### **Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC) Findings**

There were no Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC) audit reports issued during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the school and I greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to me.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gerald D. Longo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G' and a long, sweeping tail.

Gerald D. Longo  
Certified Public Accountant  
Licensed Public School Accountant No. 20CS00206400



MIDDLESEX COUNTY STEM CHARTER SCHOOL  
APPLICATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOL AID  
ENROLLMENT COUNT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2023

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>2a</u>	<u>2b</u>		<u>2c</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>3a</u>		<u>3b</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>4a</u>	
	Submission to DOE reported On Roll	Reported on workpapers	Errors	50% Verification required 10/15/23	Verified signed registration forms	Errors	Verified # days enrolled	Errors	to DOE Reported Special Ed/ Bilingual	Verified documentation	Errors	Verified # days Service Provided	Errors	Low Income	Verified documentation	Errors
Pre Kindergarten																
Kindergarten	79	40	0	40	40	0	40	0	5	5	0	5	0	30	30	0
One	81	41	0	41	41	0	41	0	4	4	0	4	0	30	30	0
Two	79	40	0	40	40	0	40	0	4	4	0	4	0	28	28	0
Three	84	42	0	42	42	0	42	0	4	4	0	4	0	34	34	0
Four	70	35	0	35	35	0	35	0	4	4	0	4	0	24	24	0
Five	51	26	0	26	26	0	26	0	3	3	0	3	0	18	18	0
Six	62	31	0	31	31	0	31	0	2	2	0	2	0	22	22	0
Seven	62	31	0	31	31	0	31	0	3	3	0	3	0	23	23	0
Eight	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ten	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eleven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Twelve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	568	286	0	286	286	0	286	0	29	29	0	29	0	209	209	0
Percentage			0.0%			0%		0%			0%		0%			0%

MIDDLESEX COUNTY STEM CHARTER SCHOOL  
APPLICATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOL AID  
ENROLLMENT COUNT AS OF THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

<u>1</u>		<u>2</u>		<u>2a</u>		<u>2b</u>		<u>2c</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>3a</u>	<u>3b</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>4a</u>	
Grades	Submission to DOE reported On Roll	Reported on		50% Verification required 6/30/24	Verified signed registration forms	Errors	Verified # days enrolled	Errors	Submission to DOE Reported Special Ed/ Bilingual	Verified documentation	Errors	Verified # days Service Provided	Errors	Low Income	Verified	
		workpapers	Errors												documentation	Errors
Pre Kindergarten	79	39	0	39	39	0	39	0	4	4	0	4	0	30	30	0
Kindergarten	81	40	0	40	40	0	40	0	3	3	0	3	0	29	29	0
One	79	39	0	39	39	0	39	0	4	4	0	4	0	27	27	0
Two	84	42	0	42	42	0	42	0	4	4	0	4	0	33	33	0
Three	70	35	0	35	35	0	35	0	4	4	0	4	0	24	24	0
Four	51	25	0	25	25	0	25	0	2	2	0	2	0	18	18	0
Five	62	31	0	31	31	0	31	0	2	2	0	2	0	21	21	0
Six	62	31	0	31	31	0	31	0	3	3	0	3	0	22	22	0
Seven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eight	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ten	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eleven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Twelve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	568	282	0	282	282	0	282	0	26	26	0	26	0	204	204	0
Percentage			0.0%			0%		0%			0%		0%			0%

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY STEM CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE**  
**Net cash resources did not exceed three months of expenditures**  
**Proprietary Funds - Food Service**  
**FYE June 30, 2024**

**NOT APPLICABLE**

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY STEM CHARTER SCHOOL  
AUDIT SYNOPSIS RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

It is recommended that:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures  
None
2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting  
None
3. School Purchasing Program  
None
4. School Food Service  
None
5. Student Body Activities  
None
6. Application for State School Aid  
N/A to charter schools.
7. Charter School Enrollment System (CHE)  
None
8. Pupil Transportation  
N/A to charter schools.
9. Facilities and Capital Assets  
None
10. Miscellaneous  
None
11. Miscellaneous  
None
12. Status of Prior Year's Findings Recommendations  
There were no prior year findings.