



Ararat Charter School

Charter #1156

Financial Statements
June 30, 2024



Ararat Charter School
Financial Statements
Year Ended June 30, 2024

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors
Ararat Charter School

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Ararat Charter School (the School), a California charter school, which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2024, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the School as of June 30, 2024, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School’s basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, as identified in the Table of Contents and as required by the *2023-24 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting*, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The 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 GAAS. In our opinion, the accompanying supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole, except as noted on the schedules.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the Other Information section of the report but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 12, 2024 on our consideration of the School's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



El Cajon, California

December 12, 2024

Financial Statements

Ararat Charter School
Statement of Financial Position
June 30, 2024

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,928,506
Accounts receivable	845,516
Prepaid expenses	489,002
Right-of-use assets, operating leases	
Facilities and equipment	50,263
Accumulated amortization	<u>(20,620)</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 6,292,667</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities

Accounts payable - vendors	\$ 29,771
Accounts payable - grantor government	275,543
Accrued payroll liabilities	88,784
Operating leases payable	30,438
Unearned revenue	<u>1,020,801</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>1,445,337</u>

Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	
Undesignated	<u>4,847,330</u>
	<u>4,847,330</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>4,847,330</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 6,292,667</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Ararat Charter School
Statement of Activities
Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Revenue, Support, and Gains			
Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) sources			
State aid	\$ 2,974,307	\$ -	\$ 2,974,307
Education protection account state aid	477,182	-	477,182
Transfers in lieu of property taxes	1,211,047	-	1,211,047
Total LCFF sources	4,662,536	-	4,662,536
Federal contracts and grants	-	735,297	735,297
State contracts and grants	920,012	347,426	1,267,438
Local contracts and grants	58,227	-	58,227
Donations and fundraising	15,206	-	15,206
Interest income	101,038	-	101,038
Net assets released from restriction -			
Grant restrictions satisfied	1,082,723	(1,082,723)	-
Total revenue, support, and gains	6,839,742	-	6,839,742
Expenses and Losses			
Program services expense	5,461,961	-	5,461,961
Supporting services expense	1,321,953	-	1,321,953
Total expenses and losses	6,783,914	-	6,783,914
Change in Net Assets	55,828	-	55,828
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	4,791,502	-	4,791,502
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 4,847,330	\$ -	\$ 4,847,330

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Ararat Charter School
Statement of Functional Expenses
Year Ended June 30, 2024

	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>Supporting Services</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Educational Programs</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Fundraising and Development</u>	
Salaries and wages	\$ 2,263,056	\$ 572,026	\$ -	\$ 2,835,082
Pension expense	444,236	112,288	-	556,524
Other employee benefits	512,375	129,512	-	641,887
Payroll taxes	84,096	21,257	-	105,353
Fees for services:				
Business Services	-	95,200	-	95,200
Legal	-	71,474	-	71,474
Accounting	-	12,131	-	12,131
Professional consulting	167,022	12,003	-	179,025
District oversight	-	46,625	-	46,625
Banking and payroll services	-	9,949	-	9,949
Marketing and recruitment	-	515	-	515
Information technology	50,619	-	-	50,619
Communication	48,157	-	-	48,157
Occupancy	302,066	-	-	302,066
Travel and conferences	13,926	-	-	13,926
Debt service interest	-	1,508	-	1,508
Amortization	15,465	-	-	15,465
Insurance	-	54,228	-	54,228
Other expenses:				
Books and supplies	225,597	-	-	225,597
Equipment rental and repair	9,721	-	-	9,721
Noncapitalized equipment	14,487	-	-	14,487
Dues and memberships	-	64,229	-	64,229
Special education contracts and encroachment	1,008,028	-	-	1,008,028
Substitutes	230,754	-	-	230,754
Fundraising	-	-	9,538	9,538
Student events and activities	72,356	-	-	72,356
Miscellaneous	-	109,470	-	109,470
Total expenses by function	<u>\$ 5,461,961</u>	<u>\$ 1,312,415</u>	<u>\$ 9,538</u>	<u>\$ 6,783,914</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Ararat Charter School
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended June 30, 2024

Cash Flows from Operating Activities	
Receipts from federal, state, and local contracts and grants	\$ 5,432,306
Receipts from property taxes	1,211,047
Receipts from donations and fundraising	15,206
Receipts from operating interest	101,038
Payments for operating leases payable	(5,492)
Payments to employees for services provided	(4,132,871)
Payments to vendors	(2,965,089)
Net Cash Used For Operating Activities	<u>(343,855)</u>
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(343,855)
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year	<u>5,272,361</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year	<u>\$ 4,928,506</u>
 Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	
Change in net assets	\$ 55,828
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash:	
Depreciation and amortization	15,465
Realized and unrealized (gain) loss on operating investments	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities	
(Increase) Decrease in assets	
Accounts receivable	149,520
Prepaid expenses	(255,578)
Increase (Decrease) in liabilities	
Accounts payable - vendors	(70,432)
Accounts payable - grantor government	(104,518)
Accrued payroll liabilities	5,975
Unearned revenue	(125,147)
Operating leases payable	(14,968)
Net Cash Used For Operating Activities	<u>\$ (343,855)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year Ended June 30, 2024

A. Principal Activity and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Organization Structure

Ararat Charter School (the School), is a nonprofit organization, organized in the State of California. The School's mission is to provide quality education to students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Ararat Charter School was formed as a charter school pursuant to California Education Code Section 47600 under a charter agreement with the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to not-for-profit corporations. The School uses the accrual basis of accounting, under which revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the liability is incurred.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The School considers all cash and highly liquid financial instruments with original maturities of three months or less, which are neither held for nor restricted by donors for long-term purposes, to be cash and cash equivalents.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consist primarily of non-interest bearing amounts due to the School for federal, state, and local grants and contracts receivable. The amounts in accounts receivable are considered fully collectable and as such there has not been an allowance for uncollectable accounts or discount established for the School.

Prepaid Expenses

Prepaid expenses are recorded to account for expenditures during the benefiting period.

Property and Equipment

The School records property and equipment additions over \$5,000 at cost, or if donated, at fair value on the date of donation. Depreciation and amortization are computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets ranging from 3 to 30 years, or in the case of capitalized leased assets or leasehold improvements, the lesser of the useful life of the asset or the lease term. When assets are sold or otherwise disposed of, the cost and related depreciation or amortization are removed from the accounts, and any resulting gain or loss is included in the statement of activities. Costs of maintenance and repairs that do not improve or extend the useful lives of the respective assets are expensed in the current period.

The School reviews the carrying values of property and equipment for impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable from the estimated future cash flows expected to result from its use and eventual disposition. When considered impaired an impairment loss is recognized to the extent carrying value exceeds the fair value of the asset. There were no indicators of asset impairment during the year ended June 30, 2024.

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

Investments

The School's method of accounting for investments, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, is the fair value method. Fair value is determined by published quotes. Changes in fair value of investments result in increases or decreases in unrealized fair values of equity investments. Adjustments to fair values are reflected as unrealized gain/loss on investments in the accompanying statement of activities. The School's policy is to follow the fair value measurement and reporting requirements contained in FASB ASC 820 *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*.

Leases

The School leases facilities and equipment which are utilized in its charitable purpose. The School determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception. Operating leases are included in the operating lease right-of-use assets, other current liabilities, and operating lease liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position. Financing leases are included in the financing lease right-of-use assets, other current liabilities, and financing lease liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position.

Right-of-use assets represent our right to use an underlying asset for the lease term and lease liabilities represent our obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. Operating lease right-of-use assets and liabilities are recognized at commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. As most of our leases do not provide an implicit rate, we use our incremental borrowing rate based on the information available at commencement date in determining the present value of lease payments. The operating lease right-of-use asset also includes any lease payments made and excludes lease incentives. Our lease term may include options to extend or terminate the lease when it is reasonably certain that we will exercise that option. Lease expense for lease payments is recognized on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

The lease agreements do not contain any material residual value guarantees or material restrictive covenants.

The School has lease agreements with lease and non-lease components, which are generally accounted for separately. The School has elected to apply the short-term lease exemption to any leases with terms of 12 months or less or any leases below the threshold of \$5,000.

In evaluating contracts to determine if they qualify as a lease, the School considers factors such as whether they have obtained substantially all of the rights to the underlying asset through exclusivity, if the School can direct the use of the asset by making decisions about how and for what purpose the asset will be used and if the lessor has substantive substitution rights. This evaluation may require significant judgment.

In allocating consideration in the contract to the separate lease components and the non-lease components, the School uses the stand-alone prices of the lease and non-lease components. Observable stand-alone prices are used, if available. If the stand-alone price for a component has a high level of variability or uncertainty, this allocation may require significant judgment.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of program and supporting services activities have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of activities. The statement of functional expenses presents the natural classification detail of expenses by function. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

Net Assets

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

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions – Net assets available for use in general operations and not subject to donor (or certain grantor) restrictions.

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

Donated Services and In-Kind Contributions

Volunteers contribute significant amounts of time to our program services, administration, and fundraising and developing activities; however, the financial statements do not reflect the value of these contributed services because they do not meet recognition criteria prescribed by generally accepted accounting principles.

Revenue and Revenue Recognition

The School follows the provisions of FASB ASC 958-605 thereby recognizing revenue when applicable performance related barriers have been satisfied and the revenue is earned. A performance-related barrier represents something that must be achieved, performed or delivered in order to receive funds. Performance related barriers are required to be measurable, limit discretion by recipient on the conduct of the activity, and the stipulations are related to the purpose of the agreement or grant. When funds are received and performance-related barriers are not satisfied, the School records the funds as unearned revenue.

After the School has determined that performance related barriers have been satisfied, the revenue is recognized as either restricted or unrestricted based on the nature of the resources and conditions of the grantor. Restrictions on recognized revenue could constitute allowable uses of the resources that are narrower than the School's mission but are not considered performance-related barriers. Restricted resources are released from their restriction once the restricted purpose has been satisfied.

The School primarily receives funds from the California Department of Education (CDE). Local Control Funding Formula revenue and state revenues received from CDE are based on the School's average daily attendance (ADA) of students and recognized in the period the ADA occurs. In addition, the School receives state and local revenues for the enhancement of various educational programs. This assistance is generally received based on applications submitted to and approved by various granting agencies.

Income Taxes

The School is a 509(a)(1) publicly supported non-profit charter school that is exempt from income taxes under Sections 501(a) and 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The School is also exempt from California franchise or income tax under Section 23701d of the California Revenue and Taxation Code. The School may be subject to tax on income which is not related to its exempt purpose. For the year ended June 30, 2024, no such unrelated business income was reported and, therefore, no provision for income taxes has been made.

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

The School follows provisions of uncertain tax positions as addressed in ASC 958. The School recognizes accrued interest and penalties associated with uncertain tax positions as part of the income tax provision, when applicable. There are no amounts accrued in the financial statements related to uncertain tax positions for the year ended June 30, 2024.

The School files informational and income tax returns in the United States and in the state of California. The federal income tax and informational returns are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service for three years after the returns are filed. State and local jurisdictions have statutes of limitation that generally range from three to five years.

Advertising

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred and approximated \$515 during the year ended June 30, 2024.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the School to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates, and those differences could be material.

Financial Instruments and Credit Risk

The School manages deposit concentration risk by placing cash, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit with financial institutions believed by the School to be creditworthy. At times, amounts on deposit may exceed insured limits or include uninsured investments in money market mutual funds. To date, the School has not experienced losses in any of these accounts. Credit risk associated with contributions receivable is considered to be limited due to high historical collection rates and because substantial portions of the outstanding amounts are due from government agencies.

LCFF Revenues and Payments in Lieu of Property Taxes

The School's primary funding source is a combination of local property taxes and state revenues. The California Department of Education computes the local control funding formula (LCFF) on statewide charter school rates multiplied by the School's average daily attendance (ADA) as reported at the second principal apportionment period (P2). The result is then reduced by property tax revenues transferred from the District to the School, which is funding in lieu of property taxes, and education protection account funds paid by the state under Proposition 30. The remaining balance is paid from the state general fund, in the form of LCFF State Aid. LCFF funding sources, inclusive of state and local sources, made up 68.17% of the School's revenue.

The LCFF includes the following components applicable to the School:

1. Provides a base grant for each school based on the school's ADA. The actual base grant varies based on grade span.
2. Provides an adjustment of 2.6 percent on the base grant amount for grades nine through twelve.
3. Provides a supplemental grant equal to 20 percent of the adjusted base grants for targeted disadvantaged students. Targeted students are those classified as English Learners (EL), eligible to receive a free or reduced price meal (FRPM), foster youth, homeless youth, or any combination of these factors (unduplicated count).
4. Provides a concentration grant equal to 65 percent of the adjusted base grant for targeted students exceeding 55 percent of the school's enrollment.

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

The School is not at risk of losing these funding sources, as long as the School maintains a steady level of ADA, as these funding sources are mandated by the California State Constitution to fund schools.

New Accounting Guidance

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issues accounting standards updates and additional guidance for not-for-profit and for-profit agencies to establish consistent accounting across all organizations in the United States. The following table represents items that have been issued by FASB that became effective in the 2023-24 fiscal year:

Description	Date Issued
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2016-13 - <i>Credit Losses (Topic 326)</i>	Jun-16
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2017-04 - <i>Intangibles, Goodwill & Other (Topic 350)</i>	Jan-17
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2018-19 - <i>Codification Improvements for Credit Losses (Topic 326)</i>	Nov-18
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2019-10 - <i>Financial Instruments, Credit Losses</i>	Nov-19
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2022-02 - <i>Financial Instruments-Credit Losses (Topic 326): Troubled Debt Restructurings and Vintage Disclosures</i>	Mar-22
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2022-04 - <i>Liabilities-Supplier Finance Programs (Subtopic 405-50): Disclosure of Supplier Finance Program Obligations</i>	Sep-22
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-06 - <i>Disclosure Improvements Codification Amendments in Response to the SEC's Disclosure Update and Simplification Initiative</i>	Oct-23

These updates were issued to provide clarification and simplification in accounting for certain transactions. In addition, they provide for additional note disclosures to create transparency involving these transactions. The School has adopted provisions of effective Accounting Standards Updates. The issuance of these standards did not result in a presentation or accounting change that impacted these financial statements.

Subsequent Events

In preparing these financial statements, the School has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through December 12, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

B. Liquidity and Availability

The School's financial assets available for general expenditure, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use, within one year of the statement of financial position date, comprise the following:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	4,928,506
Accounts receivable		845,516
Total	\$	5,774,022

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

C. Fair Value Measurements and Disclosure

The School reports certain assets and liabilities at fair value in the financial statements. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction in the principal, or most advantageous, market at the measurement date under current market conditions regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique. Inputs used to determine fair value refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk. Inputs may be observable or unobservable. Observable inputs are inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are inputs that reflect the reporting entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on the best information available. A three-tier hierarchy categorizes the inputs as follows:

- Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that we can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. These include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, and market-corroborated inputs.
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. In these situations, the School develops inputs using the best information available in the circumstances.

In some cases, the inputs used to measure the fair value of an asset or a liability might be categorized within different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In those cases, the fair value measurement is categorized in its entirety in the same level of the fair value hierarchy as the lowest level input that is significant to the measurement. Assessing the significance of a particular input to entire measurement requires judgment, taking into account factors specific to the asset or liability. The categorization of an asset within the hierarchy is based upon the pricing transparency of the asset and does not necessarily correspond to the School's assessment of the quality, risk, or liquidity profile of the asset or liability.

The following table presents assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis at June 30, 2024:

Assets	Total	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Operating investments				
Beneficial interests in assets held				
Money Market	\$ 2,046,239	\$ 2,046,239	\$ -	\$ -

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The School's cash and cash equivalents on June 30, 2024, consisted of the following:

Cash in bank accounts	\$	2,882,267
Cash equivalents		2,046,239
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$	4,928,506

Cash in Bank

The School's cash (\$2,882,267 as of June 30, 2024) is held in financial institutions which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to a limit of \$250,000 per depositor. As of June 30, 2024, the School held \$2,632,267 in excess of the FDIC insured amounts. The School reduces its exposure to risk by maintaining such deposits with high quality financial institutions. The School has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk.

Cash Equivalents and Investments

The School maintains a portion of their funds in money market funds (\$2,046,239 as of June 30, 2024). These cash equivalents consist of United States Government Money Market Funds. These funds are not FDIC insured and are therefore exposed to custodial credit risk. The School does not anticipate any losses as a result of this risk. Cash may be added or withdrawn from the money market accounts without limitation.

E. Accounts Receivable

As of June 30, 2024, the School's accounts receivable consisted of the following:

Federal Government		
Title I	\$	121
Title III		1,122
Title IV		5,000
ESSER III		83,945
State Government		
State Aid		692,171
Lottery Funding		50,853
Special Education		2,316
Local Government		
Property Tax Payments		8,589
Other Local Sources		
Other Local Sources		1,399
Total Accounts Receivable	\$	845,516

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

F. Prepaid Expenses

As of June 30, 2024, the School's prepaid expenses consisted of the following:

Health and welfare benefits	\$ 49,901
Dues, licenses, and subscriptions	122,310
Prepaid vendors	<u>316,791</u>
Total Prepaid Expenses	<u>\$ 489,002</u>

G. Unearned Revenue

At year end the School had performance obligations remaining to expend funds for multiple federal and state grants. As such, unexpended cash received is reflected in unearned revenue.

The following table provides information about significant changes in unearned revenue for the year ended June 30, 2024:

Unearned Revenue, beginning of period	\$ 1,145,948
Increases in unearned revenue due to cash received during the period	312,437
Decreases in unearned revenue due to performance obligations met during the period	<u>(437,584)</u>
Unearned Revenue, end of period	<u>\$ 1,020,801</u>

As of June 30, 2024, unearned revenue consisted of the following:

Federal	
ESSER III	\$ 66,827
State	
Learning Recovery Emergency	510,000
Educator Effectiveness	47,483
Expanded Learning Opportunities Program	145,246
Universal Pre-K Planning	51,043
Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials	<u>200,202</u>
Total Unearned Revenue	<u>\$ 1,020,801</u>

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

H. Leases

The School entered into lease agreements for the use of facilities and equipment. The components of lease expense were as follows:

Operating lease cost		
Amortization of right-of-use assets	\$	15,465
Interest on lease liabilities		<u>1,508</u>
Total operating lease cost		<u>16,973</u>
 Short-term lease cost		 <u>9,721</u>
 Total lease expense	 \$	 <u><u>26,694</u></u>

The following represents additional information related to the School's leases:

Right-of-use assets obtained in exchange for lease obligations:		
Operating leases	\$	50,263
Total		<u>\$ 50,263</u>
 Weighted average remaining lease term:		
Operating leases		24 Months
 Weighted average discount rate:		
Operating leases		4.05%

Future minimum lease payments on the School's leases are as follows:

<u>Year Ended June 30,</u>		<u>Operating Leases</u>
2025	\$	16,476
2026		<u>15,103</u>
Total future minimum lease payments		31,579
Less imputed interest		<u>(1,141)</u>
Net future minimum lease payments	\$	<u><u>30,438</u></u>

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

I. Employee Retirement System

Qualified employees are covered under a multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan by agencies of the State of California. Certificated employees are members of the California State Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS). The risks of participating in this multi-employer plan are different from single-employer plans in the following aspects:

- a. Assets contributed to the multi-employer plan by one employer may be used to provide benefits to employees of the other participating employers.
- b. If a participating employer stops contributing to the plan, the unfunded obligations of the plan may be borne by the remaining participating employers.
- c. If the School chooses to stop participating in some of its multi-employer plans, the School may be required to pay those plans an amount based on the underfunded status of the plan, referred to as a withdrawal liability.

The Schools participation in this plan for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, is outlined in the table below. The “EIN/Pension Plan Number” column provides the Employee Identification Number (EIN) and the three-digit plan number, if applicable. Unless otherwise noted, the most recent Pension Protection Act (PPA) zone status available in 2024, 2023 and 2022 is for the plan’s year-end at June 30, 2024, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The zone status is based on information that the School received from the plan and is certified by the plan's actuary. Among other factors, plans in the red zone are generally less than 65% funded, plans in the yellow zone are less than 80% funded, and plans in the green zone are at least 80% funded. The “FIP/RP Status Pending/Implemented” column indicates plans for which a financial improvement plan (FIP) or a rehabilitation plan (RP) is either pending or has been implemented.

Period to Period Comparability:

Ararat Charter School increased in CalSTRS contributions from 2022 to 2023 by 19.82% followed by an increase in 2024 of 7.13%. Ararat Charter School increased in CalPERS contributions from 2022 to 2023 by 45.22% followed by an increase in 2024 of 7.99%. The increase in STRS is largely due to an increase in participants combined with an increase in salaries and contribution rates.

Pension Fund	EIN/ Pension Plan Number	Pension Protection Act Zone Status Year Ended June 30,			FIP/RP Status Pending/ Implemented
		2024	2023	2022	
CalSTRS	19024	Green	Green	Green	No
CalPERS	1558148176	Yellow	Yellow	Green	No

Pension Fund	Contributions			Number of Employees	Surcharge Imposed
	2024	2023	2022		
CalSTRS	\$ 309,764	\$ 289,150	\$ 241,311	19	No
CalPERS	246,761	228,511	157,357	21	No
Total	\$ 556,525	\$ 517,661	\$ 398,668	40	

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

CalSTRS:

The School contributes to the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system defined benefit pension plan administered by CalSTRS. Required contribution rates are set by the California Legislature and detailed in Teachers' Retirement Law. Contribution rates are expressed as a level of percentage of payroll using the entry age normal actuarial cost method. CalSTRS also uses the level of percentage of payroll method to calculate the amortization of any unfunded liability. Copies of the STRS annual report may be obtained from the STRS, 7667 Folsom Boulevard, Sacramento, California 95826.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, active plan members were required to contribute between 10.205% and 10.25% of their salary, depending on their hire date. The employer contribution rate was 19.10% of annual payroll. CalSTRS issues a separate comprehensive annual financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The School made contributions as noted above. For the year ended June 30, 2024, the State contributed \$175,609 (10.828% of certificated salaries) on behalf of the School.

CalPERS:

The School contributes to the School Employer Pool under the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system defined benefit pension plan administered by CalPERS. The plan provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost of living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by state statutes, as legislatively amended, with the Public Employees' Retirement Law. CalPERS issues a separate comprehensive annual financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. Copies of the CalPERS annual financial report may be obtained from the CalPERS Executive Office, 400 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

Active plan members are required to contribute between 7% and 8% of their salary, depending on their membership date. The employer is required to contribute an actuarially determined rate. The actuarial methods and assumptions used for determining the rate are those adopted by the CalPERS Board of Administration. The required employer contribution rate for fiscal year 2023-24 was 26.68% of classified salaries. The School made contributions as noted above.

Ararat Charter School
Notes to the Financial Statements, Continued
Year Ended June 30, 2024

J. Upcoming Changes in Accounting Pronouncements

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) has issued the following Accounting Standards Updates (ASU) that become effective over the next few fiscal years:

Description	Date Issued	Fiscal Year Effective
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2018-12 - <i>Financial Services Insurance (Topic 944)</i>	Aug-18	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2019-09 - <i>Financial Services, Insurance (Topic 944)</i>	Nov-19	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2020-06 - <i>Debt (Topic 470-20)</i>	Aug-20	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2020-06 - <i>Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815-40)</i>	Aug-20	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2020-10 - <i>Codification Improvements</i>	Nov-20	2025-26
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2021-08 - <i>Business Combinations (Topic 805)</i>	Oct-21	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2022-01 - <i>Derivatives and Hedging (Topic 815): Fair Value Hedging - Portfolio Layer Method</i>	Mar-22	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2022-03 - <i>Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Fair Value Measurement of Equity Securities Subject to Contractual Sale Restrictions</i>	Jun-22	2025-26
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2022-05 - <i>Financial Services - Insurance (Topic 944): Transition for Sold Contracts</i>	Dec-22	2025-26
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-01 - <i>Leases (Topic 842): Common Control Arrangements</i>	Mar-23	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-02 - <i>Investments (Topic 323): Accounting for Investments in Tax Credit Structures</i>	Mar-23	2025-26
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-05 - <i>Business Combinations - Joint Venture Formations (Subtopic 805-60)</i>	Aug-23	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-07 - <i>Segment Reporting (Topic 280)</i>	Nov-23	2024-25
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-08 - <i>Intangibles - Goodwill and Other - Crypto Assets (Subtopic 350-60)</i>	Dec-23	2025-26
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-09 - <i>Income Taxes (Topic 740)</i>	Dec-23	2026-27
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2024-01 - <i>Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718)</i>	Mar-24	2026-27
FASB Accounting Standards Update 2024-02 - <i>Codification Improvements - Amendments to Remove References to the Concepts Statements</i>	Mar-24	2026-27

These updates were issued to provide clarification and simplification in accounting for certain transactions. In addition, they provide for additional note disclosures to create transparency involving these transactions. The updates effective during the future fiscal years are not expected to impact the financial accounting or presentation for the School.

Supplementary Information

Ararat Charter School
Schedule of Average Daily Attendance
Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Second Period Report		Annual Report	
	Original	Revised See Finding 2024-001	Original	Revised See Finding 2024-001
	748210A3		814B4575	
Classroom Based Attendance				
Grades TK/K-3	217.42	217.42	217.96	217.96
Grades 4-5	99.22	99.22	99.28	99.28
Total Classroom Based Attendance	316.64	316.64	317.24	317.24
Non-Classroom Based Attendance				
Grades TK/K-3	0.19	0.08	0.20	0.08
Grades 4-5	0.12	0.05	0.15	0.06
Total Non-Classroom Based Attendance	0.31	0.13	0.35	0.14
Total ADA	316.95	316.77	317.59	317.38

See accompanying notes to supplementary information.

Ararat Charter School
 Schedule of Average Instructional Time
 Year Ended June 30, 2024

Grade Level	Annual Minutes Requirement	Actual Minutes Offered	J-13A Minutes	Total Minutes	Number of Actual Days Offered (Traditional)	J-13A Days	Total Instructional Days	Status
Transitional Kindergarten	36,000	67,170	0	67,170	179	0	179	Complied
Kindergarten	36,000	67,170	0	67,170	179	0	179	Complied
1st Grade	50,400	63,590	0	63,590	179	0	179	Complied
2nd Grade	50,400	63,590	0	63,590	179	0	179	Complied
3rd Grade	50,400	63,590	0	63,590	179	0	179	Complied
4th Grade	54,000	63,590	0	63,590	179	0	179	Complied
5th Grade	54,000	63,590	0	63,590	179	0	179	Complied

See accompanying notes to supplementary information.

Ararat Charter School
Schedule of Financial Trends & Analysis
Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Budget 2025 (See Note 1)	2024	2023 (See Note 1)	2022 (See Note 1)
Revenues	\$ 6,971,100	\$ 6,839,742	\$ 5,980,591	\$ 5,374,315
Expenses	<u>6,890,622</u>	<u>6,783,914</u>	<u>5,864,436</u>	<u>5,009,741</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>80,478</u>	<u>55,828</u>	<u>116,155</u>	<u>364,574</u>
Ending Net Assets	<u>\$ 4,927,808</u>	<u>\$ 4,847,330</u>	<u>\$ 4,791,502</u>	<u>\$ 4,675,347</u>
Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>\$ 4,927,808</u>	<u>\$ 4,847,330</u>	<u>\$ 4,791,502</u>	<u>\$ 4,675,347</u>
Unrestricted net assets as a percentage of total expenses	<u>72%</u>	<u>71%</u>	<u>82%</u>	<u>93%</u>
Total Long Term Debt	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
ADA at P2	<u>320</u>	<u>317</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>300</u>

The School's ending net assets has increased by \$171,983 (3.68%) over the past two fiscal years. The increase is in large due to additional funding received as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and conservative fiscal practices.

Average daily attendance (ADA) has increased by 17 over the past two fiscal years.

Note 1:

AU-C §725.05 requires the following conditions be met to provide an opinion on whether supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole:

- 1) The supplementary information was derived from, and relates directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements.
- 2) The supplementary information relates to the same period as the financial statements.
- 3) The auditor issued an audit report on the financial statements that contained neither an adverse opinion nor a disclaimer of opinion.
- 4) The supplementary information will accompany the audited financial statements or such audited financial statements will be made readily available by the School.

Three of the above columns are not related to the same period as the financial statements and as such we do not provide an opinion on whether the supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole. Additionally, the analysis presented utilizes information from periods outside the period of the financial statements and as such we do not provide an opinion on whether the analysis is fairly stated, in all material respects, to the financial statements as a whole. The information has been presented for analysis only and has not been audited.

Ararat Charter School
Reconciliation of Unaudited Actual Financial Report with Audited Financial Statements
Year Ended June 30, 2024

June 30, 2024 annual financial alternative form net assets:	\$ 4,847,330
Adjustments and reclassifications:	
Rounding	<u>-</u>
Total adjustments and reclassifications	<u>-</u>
June 30, 2024 audited financial statements net assets:	<u>\$ 4,847,330</u>

See accompanying notes to supplementary information.

Ararat Charter School
Notes to Supplementary Information
Year Ended June 30, 2024

A. Purpose of Schedules

Schedule of Average Daily Attendance

Average daily attendance is a measurement of the number of pupils attending classes of the School. The purpose of attendance accounting from a fiscal standpoint is to provide the basis on which apportionments of state funds are made to charter schools. This schedule provides information regarding the attendance of students by grade span and adjustments to the attendance as a result of an audit finding, when applicable.

Schedule of Instructional Time

This schedule provides information regarding compliance with Education Code §47612.

Compliance with Education Code §47612 includes the following:

- 1) Charter schools may operate up to 5 tracks for attendance reporting.
- 2) Each track must be operated for a minimum of 175 days.
- 3) Each track must offer the required number of instructional minutes specified in Education Code §47612.5.
- 4) No track shall have less than 55% of its school days before April 15 each school year.

Compliance with Education Code §47612.5 involves offering a minimum number of annual instructional minutes as defined by grade level. Non-classroom based charters do not have a requirement for auditing/testing offered instructional minutes, as a result the offerings are not reported in the schedule of instructional time.

An LEA that closed due to a qualifying emergency in the 2023-24 fiscal year may submit a Form J-13A to avoid a penalty for not meeting the annual instructional day requirements. The School did not have an emergency closure and as such there are no credited days to account for on the Schedule of Instructional Time.

Schedule of Financial Trends & Analysis

This schedule displays summarized information from the current year and two previous years, along with budget information for the upcoming year. The information from this schedule is used to evaluate whether there are any financial indicators the School will not be able to continue operations in the next fiscal year. Based upon the information presented, the School appears to have sufficient reserves to continue operations for the 2024-25 fiscal year.

Reconciliation of Unaudited Actual Financial Report to Audited Financial Statements

This schedule provides information necessary to reconcile between the audited financial statements and the financial data submitted to the authorizing agency via the unaudited actual financial report.

Other Information

Ararat Charter School
LEA Organization Structure
Year Ended June 30, 2024

Ararat Charter School (Charter #1156) was formed in July 2010 pursuant to Education Code Section 47600 under an agreement with the Los Angeles Unified School District. Ararat Charter School provides services for kindergarten through fifth grade. The Board of Directors for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 was comprised of the following members:

GOVERNING BOARD

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Term and Term Expiration</u>
Shakeh Avakian	Chairperson	Three Year Term Expires January 2027
Rosemarie Shamieh	Secretary	Three Year Term Expires January 2027
Vache Shirvanian	Treasurer	Three Year Term Expires January 2027
Karim Merzian	Co-Treasurer	Three Year Term Expires January 2027
Guiliana Velarde	Member	Three Year Term Expires January 2027
Nayri Horvat	Member	Three Year Term Expires January 2027
Lynn Izakowitz	Member	Three Year Term Expires September 2027
Andranik Asatryan	Member	Three Year Term Expires September 2027

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Aida Tattiosian
Principal

Samantha Parisen
Assistant Principal

Other Independent Auditor's Reports

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 Board of Directors
Ararat Charter School

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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of Ararat Charter School (the School) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 12, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School'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 School'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

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 School'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 School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



El Cajon, California
December 12, 2024

Independent Auditor's Report on State Compliance and on
Internal Controls over State Compliance

To the Board of Directors
Ararat Charter School

Report on Compliance for Applicable State Programs

Opinion on Each Applicable State Program

We have audited Ararat Charter School (the School) compliance with the requirements specified in the *2023-24 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting*, prescribed in Title 5, *California Code of Regulations*, Section 19810 applicable to the School's statutory requirements identified below for the year ended June 30, 2024.

In our opinion, the School complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its applicable state programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Applicable State Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of *2023-24 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting*, prescribed in Title 5, *California Code of Regulations*, Section 19810 (the Audit Guide). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Audit Guide are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each applicable state program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the School's state programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Audit Guide will always detect material noncompliance when it exists.

The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the School’s compliance with the requirements of each applicable state program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Audit Guide, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the School’s compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the School’s internal control over state compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Audit Guide, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School’s internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Select and test transactions and records to determine the School’s compliance with the state laws and regulations applicable to the following items:

		<u>Procedures Performed</u>
<u>School Districts, County Offices of Education, and Charter Schools</u>		
T.	Proposition 28 Arts and Music in Schools	Yes
U.	After/Before School Education and Safety Program.....	N/A
V.	Proper Expenditure of Education Protection Account Funds.....	Yes
W.	Unduplicated Local Control Funding Formula Pupil Counts.....	Yes
X.	Local Control and Accountability Plan.....	Yes
Y.	Independent Study - Course Based.....	N/A
Z.	Immunizations.....	Yes
AZ.	Educator Effectiveness.....	N/A
BZ.	Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant (ELO-G).....	Yes
CZ.	Career Technical Education Incentive Grant.....	N/A
DZ.	Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P)	Yes
EZ.	Transitional Kindergarten.....	Yes
<u>Charter Schools</u>		
AA.	Attendance.....	Yes
BB.	Mode of Instruction.....	Yes
CC.	Nonclassroom-Based Instruction/Independent Study.....	Yes
DD.	Determination of Funding for Nonclassroom-Based Instruction.....	N/A
EE.	Annual Instructional Minutes - Classroom Based.....	Yes
FF.	Charter School Facility Grant Program.....	N/A

N/A – The School did not offer the program during the current fiscal year or the requirement applied to a different type of LEA.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed other instances of noncompliance which are required to be reported in accordance with the *2023-24 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting*, prescribed in Title 5, *California Code of Regulations*, Section 19810 and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2024-001. Our opinion on each applicable state program is not modified with respect to these matters.

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

Report on Internal Control over State Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We did not identify any material weaknesses in internal control over compliance; however, material weaknesses may exist that were not identified.

A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as item 2024-001 to be a significant deficiency.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Audit Guide. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



El Cajon, California
December 12, 2024

Auditor's Results, Findings & Recommendations

Ararat Charter School
Schedule of Auditor's Results
Year Ended June 30, 2024

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Type of auditor's report issued:	<u>Unmodified</u>	
Internal control over financial reporting:		
One or more material weakness(es) identified?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> No
One or more significant deficiencies identified that are not considered material weakness(es)?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> No
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> No

STATE AWARDS

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for state programs:	<u>Unmodified</u>	
Internal control over applicable state programs:		
One or more material weakness(es) identified?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> No
One or more significant deficiencies identified that are not considered material weakness(es)?	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> No
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with <i>2023-24 Guide for Annual Audits of California K-12 Local Education Agencies</i> ?	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> No

Ararat Charter School
 Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
 Year Ended June 30, 2024

Findings represent significant deficiencies, material weaknesses, and/or instances of noncompliance related to the financial statements that are required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, or the *2023-24 Guide for Annual Audits of California K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting* (the Audit Guide). Finding codes as identified in the Audit Guide are as follows:

Five Digit Code	AB 3627 Finding Type
10000	Attendance
20000	Inventory of Equipment
30000	Internal Control
40000	State Compliance
42000	Charter School Facilities
43000	Apprenticeship: Related and Supplemental Instruction
50000	Federal Compliance
60000	Miscellaneous
61000	Classroom Teacher Salaries
62000	Local Control Accountability Plan
70000	Instructional Materials
71000	Teacher Misassignments
72000	School Accountability Report Card

A. Financial Statement Findings

None

B. State Award Findings

Finding 2024-001

Non-Classroom Based Attendance/Independent Study (10000)

Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Independent Study (30000)

Criteria or Specific Requirement

Education Code §51747 establishes a requirement that a current written agreement for each independent study pupil be maintained on file and that it includes specific required elements. The written agreement is a condition of apportionment for non-classroom based/independent study ADA claimed.

Condition

In our review of independent study master agreements we identified 3 out of 5 tested that did not contain all required elements identified in Education Code §51747. The agreements in question were missing the following required element:

Ararat Charter School
 Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
 Year Ended June 30, 2024

Signatures, affixed prior to the commencement of independent study, for a pupil that is scheduled to participate for more than 14 school days, or within 10 school days of the commencement of independent study for a student scheduled for less than 15 school days, by: (A) The pupil; (B) The pupil's parent, legal guardian, or caregiver as that term is used in Family Code Section 6550 and following, if the pupil is less than 18 years old; (C) The certificated employee who has been designated as having responsibility for the general supervision of independent study; and (D) The certificated employee designated as having responsibility for the special education programming of the pupil, as applicable. (Education Code §51747(g)(9)).

Potential Fiscal Impact

The noncompliance was identified in 60% of the sample. ADA questioned below is 60% of the ADA reported for independent study.

<u>Grade Span</u>	<u>Derived Value of ADA</u>	<u>ADA Questioned at P2</u>	<u>ADA Questioned at Annual</u>	<u>Derived Value of ADA Questioned at P2</u>
Grades TK/K - 3	\$ 15,012.56	0.11	0.12	\$ 1,651.38
Grades 4 - 5	\$ 13,803.44	0.07	0.09	\$ 966.24
Total		<u>0.18</u>	<u>0.21</u>	<u>\$ 2,617.62</u>

Cause

In our review of independent study agreements we found that the agreements being used were missing required elements as identified in Education Code §51747 noted above.

Effect

The agreements do not meet the conditions of apportionment resulting in an overstatement of average daily attendance.

Context

The finding was identified through audit of independent study. Of the five students tested, three of the contracts were missing required elements.

Recommendation

The School should implement an internal review process over master agreements to ensure that clerical errors do not result in loss of apportionment for the School.

Views of Responsible Officials

See Corrective Action Plan

[CHARTER SCHOOL LETTERHEAD]

December 12, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

The accompanying Corrective Action Plan has been prepared as required by the *2023-24 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting* published by the Education Audit Appeals Panel. The name of the contact person responsible for corrective action, the planned corrective action, and the anticipated completion date for each finding included in the current year's Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs have been provided.

In addition, we have also prepared the accompanying Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings which includes the status of audit findings reported in the prior year's audit.

Sincerely,

Ararat Charter School
Corrective Action Plan
Year Ended June 30, 2024

State Compliance Finding

Finding Number: 2024-001
Description: Non-classroom Based Attendance/Independent Study
Contact Person:
Anticipated Completion Date:

Planned Corrective Action:

Ararat Charter School
Schedule of Prior Year Audit Findings
Year Ended June 30, 2024

<u>Finding/Recommendation</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Explanation if Not Implemented</u>
There were no findings in the prior year audit.	N/A	N/A



"Climbing Toward College & Career Readiness!"

Dr. Aida Tatiossian – *Founding Principal*
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Ovsanna Keshishyan -*HR/Compliance Manager*
okeshishyan@araratcharterschool.com

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There were no Prior Audit Findings last year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aida Tatiossian", with some scribbles underneath.

Aida Tatiossian

Ararat Charter School
Founding Principal



“Climbing Toward College & Career Readiness!”

Dr. Aida Tattiosian – Founding Principal
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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR INDEPENDENT STUDY

ARARAT CHARTER SCHOOL

Independent Study Program Compliance Framework

Ararat Charter School has developed a comprehensive approach to managing independent study programs, ensuring full compliance with California Education Code requirements. The strategy focuses on several key areas:

Written Agreement Review and Update

The school has created a standardized template for independent study agreements that incorporates all legally mandated elements, including:

- Student data and identification
- Specific beginning and end dates
- Assignment submission methods
- Academic progress reporting
- Parent/guardian communication protocols
- Required signatures from all parties

Ongoing Quality Control Mechanisms

- Review all independent study agreements for completeness
- Implementation Oversight by Operations Manager

Professional Development by Principal and Operations Manager – December 2024

- Comprehensive training sessions for operations staff, teachers, and administrators
- Emphasis on aligning curriculum with grade-level standards
- Ensure instructional equivalence to in-person learning

Ongoing Monitoring and Progress Tracking

- Regular assessment of satisfactory educational progress
- Alignment with district-defined performance indicators

Systematic Verification

- Development of a detailed compliance checklist – By January 2025
 - Checklist will cover all required independent study agreement components
 - Checklist will be used during program reviews and pre-audit preparations

By implementing this comprehensive framework, Ararat Charter School should minimize audit risks and prioritize student educational outcomes as it relates to the Independent Study Program.



Independent Study Compliance Checklist: (Master Agreement)

- Student Name
- Agreement Duration
- Student Number
- Beginning Date
- Date of Birth
- End Date
- Address
- Grade Level
- Phone
- Email

#1 Manner of Reporting

- Manner of Reporting

#3 Method of Evaluation

- Method of Evaluation

#9 Signatures and Dates

- Pupil Name
- Pupil Signature
- Date

- Parent Name
- Parent Signature

- Supervising Teacher Name
- Supervising Teacher Signature
- Date



**Independent Study Compliance Checklist:
(Weekly Educational Activity Record)**

Supervising Teacher:

- Student Name
- Grade
- Teacher
- Independent Study Start Date
- Independent Study End Date

Parent Guardian:

- Date
- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Other

- Parents Name
- Parents Signature
- Date

Supervising Teacher:

- Method of Evaluation

- Teacher Name
- Date
- Teacher Signature
- Date