

2020

Academy of Environmental Science

Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report

June 30, 2020

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT**

**ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

JUNE 30, 2020

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Academy of Environmental Science (the School), a component unit of the Citrus County School Board District, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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

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

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To the Board of Directors
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Opinions

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

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

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

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements. The supplementary information, listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 3, 2021, 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

To the Board of Directors
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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 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.



March 3, 2021
Ocala, Florida

**MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

This discussion and analysis of the Academy of Environmental Science's (the School) financial performance provides an overview of the School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. Please read it in conjunction with the School's financial statements, which follow this section.

The following are various financial highlights for fiscal year 2020:

- The School's total net position is \$571,102.
- Total ending unrestricted net position is \$123,166.
- The School had total expenses for the year of \$811,308 compared to revenues of \$804,272.

OVERVIEW OF THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report contains government-wide financial statements that report on the School's activities as a whole and fund financial statements that report on the School's individual funds.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The first financial statement is the Statement of Net Position. This statement includes all of the School's assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting. Accrual accounting is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year revenues and expenses are recorded, regardless of when cash is received or paid. Net position – the difference between assets and liabilities – can be used to measure the School's financial position.

The second financial statement is the Statement of Activities. This statement is also shown using the accrual basis of accounting. It shows the increases and decreases in net position during the fiscal year. Over time, the increases or decreases in net position are useful indicators of whether the School's financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, other non-financial factors, such as enrollment levels or changes in state funding, must also be considered when assessing the overall health of the School.

In these statements, all of the School's activities are considered governmental activities. The School has no business-type activities, which are generally financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services.

Fund Financial Statements

Following the government-wide financial statements are the fund financial statements. They provide more detailed information about the School's funds:

- **Governmental Funds**—These funds are accounted for using modified accrual accounting. Modified accrual accounting focuses on available cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. This provides a shorter-term view of the governmental fund's financial position. A reconciliation is provided with these statements, which helps to explain the difference between the fund financial statements and the government-wide financial statements.

The School maintains two individual governmental funds. The General Fund and Capital Projects Fund are considered to be major funds and, accordingly, are separately displayed.

**MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

- **Fiduciary Fund**—This fund is used to report assets held in a Trustee or fiduciary capacity for the benefit of external parties, such as student activity funds. The School uses agency funds to account for the resources held for student activities and groups.

STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION

	2020 Governmental Activities	2019 Governmental Activities
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 168,325	\$ 135,177
Accounts Receivable	300	3,474
Prepaid Items	-	15,293
Capital Assets, Net	428,354	455,297
Total Assets	<u>596,979</u>	<u>609,241</u>
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	<u>25,877</u>	<u>31,103</u>
Net Position		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	428,354	455,297
Restricted	19,582	16,869
Unrestricted	123,166	105,972
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 571,102</u>	<u>\$ 578,138</u>

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

Revenues		
Program Revenues:		
Capital Grants and Contributions	\$ 60,466	\$ 86,177
General Revenues:		
Florida Education Finance Program	739,597	806,327
Other Revenues	4,209	6,291
Total Revenues	<u>804,272</u>	<u>898,795</u>
Program Expenses		
Instruction	498,418	487,293
Student Personnel Services	60,571	49,415
Instruction and Curriculum	11,109	14,016
Instructional Staff Training	5,757	2,580
Instruction Related Technology	-	-
Board Related	1,057	-
School Administration	38,370	35,853
Facilities Acquisition/Construction	5,420	21,032
Fiscal Services	51,938	52,359
Central Services	3,621	3,408
Per Pupil Transportation	-	602
Operation of Plant	62,616	66,570
Maintenance of Plant	10,071	3,725
Technology Services	9,020	6,480
Unallocated Depreciation	53,340	44,314
Total Expenses	<u>811,308</u>	<u>787,647</u>
Changes in Net Position	(7,036)	111,148
Net Position - Beginning of Year	578,138	466,990
Net Position - End of Year	<u>\$ 571,102</u>	<u>\$ 578,138</u>

**MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

OVERALL FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Governmental Activities

The governmental activities generated \$60,466 in program revenues and \$743,806 of general revenues, and incurred \$811,312 of program expenses. This resulted in \$7,040 decrease in net position.

THE SCHOOL'S INDIVIDUAL FUNDS

General Fund

The General Fund's fund balance is \$137,425. Revenues exceeded Expenditures by \$17,194.

Capital Projects Fund

The Capital Projects Fund's fund balance is \$5,323. Revenues exceeded Expenditures by \$2,713.

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

General Fund

A revised, supplemental budget was adopted during the year. There were no significant budget variances. Actual expenditures were less than budgeted expenditures by a total of \$120,231.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

The School spent about \$28,937 for capital assets during the year. Please refer to Note 3 to the accompanying financial statements entitled Capital Assets and Depreciation for more detailed information about the School's capital asset activity.

Debt Administration

The School has no long-term debt. However, the School does have a long-term operating lease with the City of Crystal River, Florida for the use of their facilities.

ECONOMIC FACTORS

We are not currently aware of any conditions that are expected to have a significant effect on the School's financial position or results of operations.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the School's finances and to show the School's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Vice-Chair, 12695 West Fort Island Trail, Crystal River, Florida 33429.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA
JUNE 30, 2020**

	<u>2020</u>
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 168,325
Accounts Receivable	300
Capital Assets, Net	<u>428,354</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>596,979</u></u>
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	<u>25,877</u>
Net Position	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	428,354
Restricted	19,582
Unrestricted	<u>123,166</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 571,102</u></u>

See accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Revenue and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	
Governmental Activities					
Instruction	\$ 498,418	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (498,418)
Student Personnel Services	60,571	-	-	-	(60,571)
Instruction and Curriculum	11,109	-	-	-	(11,109)
Instructional Staff Training	5,757	-	-	-	(5,757)
Board Related Expenses	1,057	-	-	-	(1,057)
School Administration	38,370	-	-	-	(38,370)
Facilities Acquisition/Construction	5,420	-	-	60,466	55,046
Fiscal Services	51,938	-	-	-	(51,938)
Central Services	3,621	-	-	-	(3,621)
Operation of Plant	62,616	-	-	-	(62,616)
Maintenance of Plant	10,071	-	-	-	(10,071)
Technology Services	9,020	-	-	-	(9,020)
Unallocated Depreciation	53,340	-	-	-	(53,340)
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 811,308</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 60,466</u>	<u>(750,842)</u>
General Revenues					
Florida Education Finance Program					739,597
Other Revenues					4,209
Total General Revenues					<u>743,806</u>
Change in Net Position					(7,036)
Net Position - Beginning of Year					<u>578,138</u>
Net Position - End of Year					<u>\$ 571,102</u>

See accompanying notes.

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA
JUNE 30, 2020

	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 156,697	\$ 11,628	\$ 168,325
Accounts Receivable	300	-	300
Total Assets	<u>156,997</u>	<u>11,628</u>	<u>168,625</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balances			
Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	<u>19,572</u>	<u>6,305</u>	<u>25,877</u>
Fund Balances:			
Restricted	14,259	5,323	19,582
Unassigned	<u>123,166</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>123,166</u>
Total Fund Balances	<u>137,425</u>	<u>5,323</u>	<u>142,748</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 156,997</u>	<u>\$ 11,628</u>	<u>\$ 168,625</u>

See accompanying notes.

RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$	142,748
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**Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net
Position are Different Because:**

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not reported in the
governmental funds:

Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation		428,354
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Total Net Position - Governmental Activities	\$	571,102
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See accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues			
Florida Education Finance Program	\$ 739,597	\$ -	\$ 739,597
Public Education Capital Outlay	-	60,466	60,466
Other Revenue	3,858	351	4,209
Total Revenues	<u>743,455</u>	<u>60,817</u>	<u>804,272</u>
Expenditures			
Current:			
Instruction	498,418	-	498,418
Student Personnel Services	60,571	-	60,571
Instruction and Curriculum	11,109	-	11,109
Instructional Staff Training	5,757	-	5,757
Board Related Expenses	1,057	-	1,057
School Administration	38,370	-	38,370
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	-	5,420	5,420
Fiscal Services	51,938	-	51,938
Central Services	3,621	-	3,621
Operation of Plant	62,616	-	62,616
Maintenance of Plant	10,071	-	10,071
Technology Services	6,480	-	6,480
Capital Outlay	-	28,937	28,937
(Total Expenditures)	<u>750,008</u>	<u>34,357</u>	<u>784,365</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>(6,553)</u>	<u>26,460</u>	<u>19,907</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)			
Transfers In	23,747	-	23,747
Transfers (Out)	-	(23,747)	(23,747)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>23,747</u>	<u>(23,747)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	17,194	2,713	19,907
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year	<u>120,231</u>	<u>2,610</u>	<u>122,841</u>
Fund Balances, End of Year	<u><u>\$ 137,425</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 5,323</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 142,748</u></u>

See accompanying notes.

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures - Total Governmental Funds	\$	19,907
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Amounts Reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities
are Different Because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However,
in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is depreciated
over the estimated useful lives:

Expenditures for Capital Assets		28,937
Loss on Disposal of Capital Assets		(2,540)
Current Year Depreciation Expense		(53,340)
		(53,340)

Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities	\$	(7,036)
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See accompanying notes.

**STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUND
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA
JUNE 30, 2020**

	Agency Fund
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 27,284
Total Assets	<u>27,284</u>
Liabilities	
Assets Held for Others	<u>27,284</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>27,284</u>
Net Postion	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

See accompanying notes.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Academy of Environmental Science (the School) conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant policies:

Reporting Entity

The School is a not-for-profit corporation organized pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, the *Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act*, and Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes. The not-for-profit corporation conducts business as the School. The governing body of the School is the not-for-profit corporation's Board of Directors, which is composed of eight members. The School is currently exempt from state and federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is not a private foundation. Accordingly, no provision has been made for income tax liabilities or expenses.

The general operating authority of the School is contained in Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes. The School operates under a charter of the sponsoring school district, the Citrus County School Board District (the District). The current charter is effective until June 30, 2022, and may be renewed provided that a program review demonstrates that certain criteria addressed in Section 1002.33(7), Florida Statutes, have been successfully accomplished. At the end of the term of the charter, the District may choose not to renew the charter under grounds specified in the charter, in which case the District is required to notify the School in writing at least 90 days prior to the charter's expiration. Pursuant to Section 1002.33(8)(e), Florida Statutes, the charter school contract provides that in the event the School is dissolved or terminated, any unencumbered funds and all School property purchased with public funds automatically revert to the District. During the term of the charter, the District may also terminate the charter if good cause is shown. The School is considered a component unit of the District.

Criteria for determining if other entities are potential component units of the School which should be reported with the School's basic financial statements are identified and described in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The application of these criteria provide for identification of any entities for which the School is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the School are such that exclusion would cause the School's basic financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. Based on these criteria, no component units are included within the reporting entity of the School.

Certain services are provided by the District to the School.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the School. Governmental activities are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely on fees charged to external parties as their primary revenues. The School has no business-type activities. Any internal interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

The Statement of Net Position reports the School's financial position as of the end of the fiscal year. In this statement, the School's net position is reported in three categories:

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

- Net Investment in Capital Assets
- Restricted Net Position
- Unrestricted Net Position

The Statement of Activities is displayed using a net-cost format and reports the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include: 1) charges for services that are directly related to a given function; and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements

The financial transactions of the School are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. The governmental fund statements include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for the governmental funds.

The following governmental funds are used by the School:

General Fund—The General Fund is the general operating fund of the School. It is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund.

Capital Projects Fund—The Capital Projects Fund is primarily used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted to capital uses.

In the accompanying fund financial statements, the General Fund and Capital Projects Fund are considered to be major funds and, therefore, are separately displayed. Additionally, the School reports the following fiduciary fund:

Agency Fund—The Agency Fund is used to account for financial resources held in a purely custodial capacity, which are the School's Internal Account for students' activities.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the School considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

The School's revenue sources are considered to be susceptible to accrual and are recognized in the current fiscal period. Certain other revenue items may be considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Agency fund assets and liabilities are accounted for on the accrual basis of accounting.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

All deposits that are placed in banks qualify as public depositories, as required by law (*Florida Security for Public Deposits Act*). Accordingly, all deposits are insured by Federal depository insurance and/or collateralized pursuant to Chapter 280, Florida Statutes. Additionally, the School's resources are pooled with the District, which utilizes Florida Fixed Income Trust (FLFIT's) Enhanced Cash Pool during the year.

Capital Assets and Depreciation

Capital assets are defined by the School as assets with an initial, individual cost of \$1,000 or more and an estimated useful life of more than one year. These assets are recorded at historical cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair value at the date of donation.

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

<u>Assets</u>	<u>Years</u>
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	3 – 10
Leasehold Improvements	7 – 40

Revenue Sources

Revenues for current operations are received primarily from the District pursuant to the funding provisions included in the School's charter. In accordance with the funding provisions of the charter and Florida Statutes, the School reports the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students and related data to the District. Under the provisions of Florida Statutes, the District reports the number of FTE students and related data to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) for funding through the Florida Education Finance Program. Funding for the School is adjusted during the year to reflect the revised calculations by the FDOE under the Florida Education Finance Program and the actual weighted FTE students reported by the School during the designated FTE student survey periods. The School also receives other financial assistance. This assistance is generally based on applications submitted to and approved by the granting agency.

Charter School Capital Outlay Funds—Public Education Outlay Funds (PECO) Funds are appropriated per Section 1013.62(1), Florida Statutes for capital outlay purposes. The Commissioner of Education allocates the funds among eligible Charter Schools.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities and is reported in three categories as hereafter described. Net investment in capital assets represents capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and any outstanding debt related to those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are legal limitations imposed on its use by legislation, or external restrictions imposed by other governments, creditors, or grantors. Unrestricted net position does not meet the definitions of the classifications previously described.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the School's policy to use restricted resources first, and then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Fund Balance

The School follows the provisions of GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, to classify fund balances for governmental funds into specifically defined classifications. The classifications comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the School is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the funds can be spent. Fund balance is described below:

- *Non-Spendable Fund Balance*—Non-spendable fund balances are amounts that cannot be spent because they are either: (a) not in spendable form; or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- *Restricted Fund Balance*—Restricted fund balances are restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either: (a) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- *Committed Fund Balance*—Committed fund balances are amounts that can only be used for specific purposes as a result of constraints imposed by formal action of the School's highest level of decision-making authority, which is a resolution of the Board of Directors. Committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the School removes those constraints by taking the same type of action.
- *Assigned Fund Balance*—Assigned fund balances are amounts that are constrained by the School's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. Intent is expressed by: (a) the Board of Directors; or (b) a body or official to which the Board of Directors has delegated the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.
- *Unassigned Fund Balance*—Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund.

The School's policy is to expend resources in the following order: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

Compensated Absences

The School contracts with the District for employees; therefore, the liability for compensated absences of the School's personnel is reported by the District.

Income Taxes

The School is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, the financial statements do not reflect a provision for income taxes. The School is no longer subject to U.S. federal or state income tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 2017.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make various estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Budgetary Information

An annual budget is adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting, consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. Amendments to the budget can only be made with the approval of the Board of Directors. The fund is the legal level of control.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Subsequent Events

The School has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements through March 3, 2021, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. No subsequent events have been recognized or disclosed.

Note 2 - Operating Lease

The School's facilities are owned by the City of Crystal River (the City). The School's current lease agreement with the City has been renewed until June 30, 2023, for \$1 per year. The lease was renewed after the City received a letter from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection stating that the required construction and maintenance of a boardwalk and trail and other public access requirements had been met. Therefore, the lease payment was reduced to \$1 annually through 2023. This letter was dated May 13, 2014. Rent paid in 2020 totaled \$1. The future lease payment requirement is as follows:

<u>Year Ending September 1,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2021	\$ 1
2022	1
2023	<u>1</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 3</u></u>

Note 3 - Capital Assets and Depreciation

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2020, was as follows:

	<u>Balance July 1, 2019</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Transfers/ Deletions</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2020</u>
Capital Assets				
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:				
Construction in Process	\$ 3,949	\$ 10,121	\$ (14,070)	\$ -
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Leasehold Improvements	710,080	17,717	14,070	741,867
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	<u>72,244</u>	<u>1,099</u>	<u>(8,610)</u>	<u>64,733</u>
Total Capital Assets	<u>786,273</u>	<u>28,937</u>	<u>(8,610)</u>	<u>806,600</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Leasehold Improvements	\$ (289,722)	\$ (45,776)	\$ -	\$ (335,498)
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	<u>(41,254)</u>	<u>(7,564)</u>	<u>6,070</u>	<u>(42,748)</u>
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(330,976)</u>	<u>(53,340)</u>	<u>6,070</u>	<u>(378,246)</u>
Total Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 455,297</u>	<u>\$ (24,403)</u>	<u>\$ (2,540)</u>	<u>\$ 428,354</u>

Depreciation expense for the fiscal year was \$53,340.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Note 4 - Pension Plan/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

The School contracts with the District for employees; therefore, personnel of the School participate in the District's pension plan and will receive OPEB from the District. This information is described below:

Pension Plan

- *Plan Description*—The District contributes to the Florida Retirement System (the System), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of Florida, Department of Administration, Division of Retirement. The System provides retirement, disability, or death benefits to retirees or their designated beneficiaries. Chapter 121, Florida Statutes, establishes the authority for benefit provisions. Changes to the law can only occur through an act of the Florida Legislature. The System issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Florida Retirement System, PO Box 9000, Tallahassee, Florida 32315-9000, or by calling (850) 488-6491.
- *Funding Policy*—For the period June 30, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the employee contribution rate was 3%. The District is required to contribute for the School's employees at an actuarially determined rate. The employer contribution rate at June 30, 2020, was 8.26%.
- *GASB Pronouncement Statement No. 68*—As of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, the unfunded pension liability for the leased employees is recorded in the District financial statements due to the leased relationship. Therefore, the School will not have a GASB Pronouncement Statement No. 68 liability recorded in the Statement of Net Position.

OPEB

- *Plan Description*—The OPEB Plan is a single-employer defined benefit plan administered by the District. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 112.0801, Florida Statutes, employees who retire from the District or its component unit, the School, are eligible to participate in the District's health and prescription drug coverage. The District subsidizes the premium rates paid by retirees by allowing them to participate in the OPEB Plan at reduced or blended group (implicitly subsidized) premium rates for both active and retired employees. These rates provide an implicit subsidy for retirees because, on an actuarial basis, their current and future claims are expected to result in higher costs to the OPEB Plan on average than those of active employees. The District does not offer any explicit subsidies for retiree coverage. Retirees are assumed to enroll in the Federal Medicare program for their primary coverage as soon as they are eligible. The OPEB Plan does not issue a stand-alone report, and is not included in the report of a public employee retirement system or other entity. GASB Statement No. 75 is not applicable at the School level.
- *Funding Policy*—OPEB Plan contribution requirements of the District and OPEB Plan members are established and may be amended through recommendations of the administration and action from the Board of Directors. The District has not advance-funded or established a funding methodology for the annual OPEB costs or the net OPEB obligation, and the OPEB Plan is financed on a pay-as-you-go basis.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

- *Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB Obligation*—For the period June 30, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the OPEB liability for the leased employees is recorded at the District level due to the leased relationship. Therefore, the School will not have an OPEB liability in the Statement of Net Position.

Note 5 - Schedule of State Revenue Sources

<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Florida Education Finance Program	\$ 571,314
Academic Instruction	54,308
Class Size Reduction	102,512
Discretionary Lottery	106
Classroom Supply Assistance	2,400
Other	8,957
Total	<u><u>\$ 739,597</u></u>

Accounting policies relating to certain state revenue sources are described in Note 1.

Note 6 - Interfund Transfers

Transfers are recognized in the accounting period in which the interfund receivable and payable arise. Transfers are made from Capital Fund to General Fund, reimbursing property insurance and smaller maintenance projects.

Note 7 - Risk Management

The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to general liability, workers' compensation, health benefits, property damage, and errors and omissions. In accordance with the charter, the School is operating as a District-initiated school. As such, all the District's risk management programs cover the School. However, the District does not have insurance to cover actions of the Board Members of the School. As a result, the School purchased commercial insurance with minimal deductibles to cover Board Member liability. There have been no claims filed since the inception of the School.

Note 8 - COVID-19

In December 2019, COVID-19 emerged and has subsequently spread worldwide. The World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a pandemic resulting in federal, state, and local governments and private entities mandating various restriction, including travel restrictions, restrictions on public gatherings, stay-at-home orders and advisories, and quarantining of people who may have been exposed to the virus. At this point, we cannot reasonably estimate the duration and severity of the pandemic, which could have an adverse impact on the School.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

	General Fund			
	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final	Amounts	Final Budget
Revenues				
Florida Education Finance Program	\$ 742,505	\$ 739,597	\$ 739,597	\$ -
Other Revenue	2,500	3,858	3,858	-
Total Revenues	<u>745,005</u>	<u>743,455</u>	<u>743,455</u>	<u>-</u>
Expenditures				
Current:				
Instruction	455,716	507,515	498,418	9,097
Student Personnel Services	62,596	60,571	60,571	-
Instruction and Curriculum	14,796	11,109	11,109	-
Instructional Staff Training	3,000	5,757	5,757	-
Board Related	-	1,057	1,057	-
School Administration	49,020	38,370	38,370	-
Fiscal Services	54,936	51,938	51,938	-
Central Services	6,000	3,621	3,621	-
Per Pupil Transportation	-	-	-	-
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	71,651	72,687	72,687	-
Technology Services	8,000	6,480	6,480	-
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-
(Total Expenditures)	<u>725,715</u>	<u>759,105</u>	<u>750,008</u>	<u>9,097</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues				
Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>19,290</u>	<u>(15,650)</u>	<u>(6,553)</u>	<u>9,097</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Transfers In	-	23,747	23,747	-
Transfers (Out)	-	-	-	-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>23,747</u>	<u>23,747</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>19,290</u>	<u>8,097</u>	<u>17,194</u>	<u>9,097</u>
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year	<u>120,231</u>	<u>120,231</u>	<u>120,231</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund Balances, End of Year	<u>\$ 139,521</u>	<u>\$ 128,328</u>	<u>\$ 137,425</u>	<u>\$ 9,097</u>

Note to Budgetary Comparison Schedule

An annual budget is adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. Amendments to the budget can only be made with the approval of the Board of Directors. The fund is the legal level of control.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Functions/Programs	Balance June 30, 2019	Additions	Deletions	Balance June 30, 2020
Classes	\$ 1,510	\$ 2,475	\$ (1,083)	\$ 2,902
Clubs	5,235	2,235	(2,267)	5,203
Departments	57	6,853	(6,719)	191
Trusts	4,449	7,108	(9,280)	2,277
General	14,149	31,634	(29,072)	16,711
Total Cash	<u>25,400</u>	<u>50,305</u>	<u>(48,421)</u>	<u>27,284</u>
Assets Held for Others	<u>\$ 25,400</u>	<u>\$ 50,305</u>	<u>\$ (48,421)</u>	<u>\$ 27,284</u>

**ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS REQUIRED BY
THE *RULES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL***

**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
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Academy of Environmental Science (the School), a component unit of the Citrus County School Board District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 3, 2021.

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 the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the Schedule of Findings as item 2013-1, which we consider to be a significant deficiency.

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To the Board of Directors
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

**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**

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, non-compliance 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 non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

School's Response to Findings

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

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.



March 3, 2021
Ocala, Florida

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA**

2013-1 Lack of Segregation of Incompatible Duties for Financial Transactions (Significant Deficiency)

<u>Criteria:</u>	Significant deficiency in internal control over the account transactions for the Academy of Environmental Science's (the School) Internal Accounts.
<u>Condition:</u>	For internal account activity accounted for in the fiduciary fund, there is only one employee who has the sole responsibility to maintain the accounting records. Said employee also handles cash collections, cosigns checks, and reconciles bank statement balances to the accounting records. Internal control over cash transactions would be strengthened if these duties are separated among employees. While we acknowledge that personnel may not always be available to permit such a separation of employee duties and responsibilities, we think it is important that you are made aware of this condition.
<u>Cause:</u>	The School's financial resources and size of operations only allows for one employee to perform all of the duties related to recording the deposits and disbursements related to the Internal Accounts.
<u>Effect:</u>	The potential effect would be a deficiency in internal control wherein one individual could conceal an inappropriate transaction.
<u>Recommendations:</u>	The School should develop mitigating controls to ensure that secondary reviews are performed by someone other than the one individual performing the transactions. This may include secondary reviews of the bank reconciliation process and detail review of all accounting transactions by someone in administration. Currently the School does mitigate some of the risk by requiring secondary signatures on all checks and preapproval of invoices to be paid by an individual other than the current bookkeeper.

MANAGEMENT LETTER

To the Board of Directors
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Academy of Environmental Science (the School) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated March 3, 2021.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit 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 Chapter 10.850, *Rules of the Auditor General*.

Other Reports and Schedules

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. Disclosures in that report, which is dated March 3, 2021, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.854(1)(e)1., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. Corrective action has been taken to address the 2018-1 finding/recommendation made in the preceding annual financial audit report. The following is a tabulation of Uncorrected Audit Findings:

Current Year Finding No.	2018-2019 FY Finding No.	2017-2018 FY Finding No.
2013-1	2013-1	2013-1
2017-2	2017-2	2017-2
2020-1		

Official Title

Section 10.854(1)(e)5., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that the name or official title of the School be disclosed. The official title of the School is included in Note 1.

Financial Condition

Sections 10.854(1)(e)2 and 10.855(11), *Rules of the Auditor General*, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate whether or not the School has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the School did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

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To the Board of Directors
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER

Pursuant to Sections 10.854(1)(e)6.a. and 10.855(12), *Rules of the Auditor General*, we applied financial condition assessment procedures for the School. It is management's responsibility to monitor the School's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and review of financial information provided by same.

Section 10.854(1)(e)3., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management.

Transparency

Sections 10.854(1)(e)7. and 10.855(13), *Rules of the Auditor General*, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether the School maintains on its website the information specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit, we determined that the School did not maintain all required items on its website the information specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes. See Finding 2017-2.

Additional Matters

Section 10.854(1)(e)4., *Rules of the Auditor General*, requires us to communicate non-compliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance. See Finding 2020-1.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the Board of Directors, applicable management, and Citrus County School Board District and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.



March 3, 2021
Ocala, Florida

MANAGEMENT LETTER COMMENTS

Board of Directors
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Academy of Environmental Science (the School) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated March 3, 2021. As a part of our audit, we offer the following recommendations to improve financial management, accounting procedures, and internal controls:

Prior Year Findings and Comments:

2017-2 Transparency of Information Required on School's Website

<u>Criteria:</u>	In accordance with Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes, the School shall maintain a website that enables the public to obtain information regarding the School. Certain information required by the Statute was not maintained or updated on the School's website.
<u>Condition:</u>	The School's website was not up to date and did not include all required information including: The School's current budget and current representative contact information.
<u>Cause:</u>	Responsible personnel did not maintain all of the current or required information on the website.
<u>Effect:</u>	Information required by the Statute to provide information concerning the School for the use of the public was not always available.
<u>Recommendations:</u>	We recommend that management appoint an individual to gain an understanding of the required filing requirements to a website and maintain the information and continue to keep the information updated timely and completely.

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Board of Directors
Academy of Environmental Science
Citrus County, Florida

Current Year Findings and Comments:

2020-1 Misuse of School's Assets

Criteria: Section 10.854(1)(e)4., *Rules of the Auditor General* requires auditors to communicate, among other items, any abuse that has occurred or is likely to have occurred that has an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but warrants the attention of those charged with governance.

Condition: The School was made aware of the personal misuse of the School's assets by a key employee, including the use of school credit cards for personal benefit by that employee.

Cause: The key employee abused the use of the School's assets and credit card for their personal benefit usually outside of normal School hours and without seeking approval from a secondary authority.

Effect: Although determined to be less than material, the Schools assets were misused by an employee for personal gain.

Recommendations: The abuse was discovered through the School's internal control system, noting unallowable use of assets and credit card purchases during non-School hours and was brought to the attention of the Citrus County School Board District's (the District) management. Management of the District interviewed the key employee who subsequently resigned and management conducted an internal investigation into the abuse.

We recommend that the Board of Directors and the District management continue their oversight and review of internal controls to ensure all employees are knowledgeable of the requirements to not allow for use of the School's assets for their personal gain.



March 3, 2021
Ocala, Florida



Academy of Environmental Science

12695 West Fort Island Trail, Crystal River, FL 34429, (352) 795-8793, Fax (352) 249-2100

Michelle Leeper
Christopher Monrad

Chairperson of Board of Directors
Vice-Chairperson of Board of Directors

March 3, 2021

Purvis, Gray & Company, L.L.P.
Attn: Helen Y. Painter
2347 SE 17th Street
Ocala, FL 34471
Re: The Academy of Environmental Science's Audit

Dear Ms. Painter:

Regarding the above-referenced Audit, the District's Response is as follows:

2013-1 Lack of Segregation of Incompatible Duties for Financial Transactions

School's Response – The School acknowledges that due to staffing levels, duties cannot always be adequately separated. The Sponsor provides a compensating control of review to help mitigate any control issues.

The School has added the Board Chair as second endorser on the bank account instead of the staff responsible for writing the checks. An administrator takes the deposits to the bank, as he is separate from the counting and recording of the daily deposits. The School has hired an additional support position that counts and receipts all funds and turns in appropriate paperwork to the bookkeeper.

2017-2 Transparency of Information Required on School's Website

School's Response – The School acknowledges the website has been neglected. The School has recently trained, additional personnel and will work to maintain the website and to fulfill all requirements of Section 1002.33(9)(p).

2020-1 Misuse of School Assets

School's Response – The Board acknowledges that there was a personal misuse of the School's assets by a key employee. The employee resigned pending an ongoing investigation. The Board has created a Principal position for the School, this position will provide leadership with experience in staff supervision, budgeting, staffing and facility oversight. Through the loss of the key employee and the guidance counselor, the School will combine positions to save money while hiring an administrator with experience in school operations as well as educating of students. The Sponsor and the Board are working together to develop a process for the Board to review all purchases made with School funds.

Sincerely,

Pierre Santos
Treasurer, Academy of Environmental Science Board of Directors