



## CENTER FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT JACKSON COUNTY

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# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

#### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Center for Student Achievement Jackson County 450 Vaughn Street Jackson, Ohio 45640

#### To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the Center for Student Achievement, Jackson County, Ohio (the Center), a component unit of the Jackson City School District, Jackson County, Ohio, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Center's management. 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the Center to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. However, as discussed in Note 2, the accompanying financial statements and notes follow the cash accounting basis. This is a comprehensive accounting basis other than generally accepted accounting principles. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit assets, liabilities, fund equities, and disclosures that, while material, we cannot determine at this time.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash financial position of the business-type activities of the Center for Student Achievement, Jackson County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2007, and the changes in its cash financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting Note 2 describes.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 26, 2008, on our consideration of the Center's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Center for Student Achievement Jackson County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

Mary Taylor

Management's discussion and analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information the Governmental Accounting Standards Board requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measuring and presenting the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

March 26, 2008

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007 Unaudited

The discussion and analysis of the Center for Student Achievement's (the Center) financial performance provides an overall review of the Center's financial activity for the period ended June 30, 2007. Readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Center's financial performance.

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Key financial highlights for the fiscal year 2007 are as follows:

- Net assets increased \$96,556, which represents a 134 percent increase from fiscal year 2006.
   This increase was due to an increase in students and a related increase in State foundation monies.
- Operating revenues accounted for \$337,753 in revenue or 88.4 percent of all revenues. Nonoperating revenues, consisting of federal and state subsidies accounted for \$44,498 or 11.6 percent of total revenues of \$382,251.

#### **USING THIS ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Center's cash financial statements. The Center's financial statements are comprised of two components: 1) entity-wide financial statements, and 2) notes to the financial statements.

The Statement of Net Assets – Cash Basis presents information on all of the Center's cash assets, presented as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the cash position of the Center is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Net Assets – Cash Basis presents information showing how the Center's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as cash is received or disbursed not when the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs.

The Statement of Cash Flows – Cash Basis provides information about how the Center finances and meets the cash flow needs of its proprietary activities.

The Center uses enterprise presentation for all of its activities.

As noted earlier, net assets – cash basis may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The Center has chosen to report on an *Other Comprehensive Basis of Accounting* in a format similar to that required by Governmental Accounting Standard No. 34.

This statement requires a comparative analysis of government-wide data in the Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007 Unaudited

Table 1 provides a summary of the Center's net assets – cash basis for 2007 compared to 2006:

### Table 1 Net Assets - Cash Basis

	Governmental Activities	
	2007	2006
<b>Assets</b> Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$168,648	\$72,092
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	\$168,648	\$72,092

Net assets increased \$96,556, which is due to an increase in student enrollment which resulted in a corresponding increase in State foundation payments received by the Center.

Table 2 reflects the changes in net assets - cash basis for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, and comparisons to fiscal year 2006.

Table 2
Changes in Net Assets - Cash Basis

	2007	2006	Increase (Decrease)
Operating Revenues:			
Foundation	\$337,753	\$224,393	\$113,360
Total Operating Revenues	337,753	224,393	\$113,360
Operating Expenses:			
Salaries and Wages Fringe Benefits Contractual Services Materials and Supplies Capital Outlay	108,040 30,682 53,496 58,048 35,429	73,960 3,388 36,330 38,623 0	34,080 27,294 17,166 19,425 35,429
Total Operating Expenses	285,695	152,301	133,394
Operating Income	52,058	72,092	(20,034)
Non-Operating Revenues: Federal and State Subsidies	44,498	0	44,498
Change in Net Assets	96,556	72,092	24,464
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	72,092	0	72,092
Net Assets at End of Year	\$168,648	\$72,092	\$96,556

Net assets increased by \$96,556 from fiscal year 2006 to fiscal year 2007, and the amount of the change in net assets increased \$24,464 compared to fiscal year 2006. While there was an increase in expenses of \$133,394, there was also an increase in operating and non-operating revenues of \$113,360 and \$44,498, respectively. The increase in revenues was primarily due to increases in State foundation payments resulting from a larger student enrollment and the receipt of a federal grant.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007 Unaudited

The expense for salaries increased \$34,080 and fringe benefits increases \$27,294 from fiscal year 2006 due to the Center adding some part-time teaching positions, as well as salary rate increases during fiscal year 2007. Contractual services and material and supplies expense increased \$17,166 and \$19,425, respectively, also due to the increase in student enrollment. Capital Outlay increased \$35,439 due to the purchase of textbooks and computers.

#### **DEBT**

The Center did not incur any debt during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007.

#### **CURRENT ISSUES**

The cutting edge nature of this type of instructional delivery makes for constant change during the early years of operation. The upgrade and maintenance of equipment and technical support are some of the challenges facing the Center.

#### CONTACTING THE CENTER'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Center's finances and to show the Center's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Brenda Hill, Treasurer, at Jackson City School District, 450 Vaughn Street, Jackson, Ohio 45640.

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Statement of Net Assets - Cash Basis June 30, 2007

Assets Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$168,648
Net Assets Unrestricted	\$168,648

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Net Assets - Cash Basis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Operating Revenues	
Foundation	\$337,753
Total Operating Revenues	337,753
Operating Expenses	
Salaries and Wages	108,040
Fringe Benefits	30,682
Contractual Services	53,496
Materials and Supplies	58,048
Capital Outlay	35,429
Total Operating Expenses	285,695
Operating Income	52,058
Non-Operating Revenues	
Federal and State Subsidies	44,498
Change in Net Assets	96,556
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	72,092
Net Assets at End of Year	\$168,648

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows - Cash Basis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash Flows from Operating Activities: Cash Received from Foundation Cash Payments for Employee Services and Benefits Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	\$337,753 (138,722) (146,973)	
Net Cash from Operating Activities	52,058	
Cash Flows from Non-Capital Financing Activities: Operating Grants Received	44,498	
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	96,556	
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	72,092	
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$168,648	
Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities: Operating Income	\$52,058	
See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements		

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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### Note 1 - Description of the School

The Center for Student Achievement (the Center) is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702. The Center is an approved tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Management is not aware of any course of action or series of events that have occurred that might adversely affect the Center's tax exempt status. The Center's mission is to serve K through 12 students who may be underperforming or are not optimally integrated in their present educational setting, or who seek a more challenging experience than is available in their present educational setting, and who for these or other reasons are interested in pursuing an alternative schooling option. The students will include, but will not be limited to, home schoolers, children with special physical and mental needs, students removed from the regular classroom for discipline concerns, students who need an alternative to the traditional classroom for various reasons, including religious reasons, transient students, and students with the Jackson City School District, the sponsor school district, that desire a specific course not currently offered but is available through long distance learning.

The Center was created on April 28, 2005, by entering a three year contract with the Jackson City School District (the Sponsor). The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of the Center and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration. The Sponsor is also the fiscal agent of the Center with the Treasurer of the Sponsor fulfilling the role of Treasurer for the Center.

The Center operates under the direction of a five-member Board of Directors made up of elected or appointed public officials or public sector employees who have a professional interest in furthering the establishment and operation of the Center and one or more parents and community civic leaders. The Sponsor appoints a majority of the Board and is able to impose its will on the Center. The Sponsor can suspend the Center's operations for any of the following reasons: 1.) The Center's failure to meet student performance requirements stated in its contract with the Sponsor, 2.) The Center's failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management, 3.) The Center's violation of any provisions of the contract with the Sponsor or applicable State or Federal law, or 4.) Other good cause. The Board of Directors are responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract which include, but are not limited to, helping create, approve, and monitor the annual budget, develop policies to guide operations, secure funding, and maintain a commitment to vision, mission, and belief statements of the Center and the children it serves. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, the Center paid the Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association (TRECA) to provide planning, design, implementation, instructional, administrative, and technical services. The Center had part-time employees that provided intervention instruction to the students of the Center. This intervention was used in conjunction with the TRECA instructional program to assure that students were effectively completing their instructional assignments.

#### Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the Center are presented on a cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). General accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. In the government-wide financial statements, Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) pronouncements and Accounting Principles Board (APB) opinions issued on or before November 30, 1989, have been applied, to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting, unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements, in which case GASB prevails. Following are the more significant of the Center's accounting policies.

#### A. Basis of Presentation

The Center's basic financial statements consist of a statement of net assets; a statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in net assets; and a statement of cash flows.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

The Center uses a single enterprise presentation for its financial records. Enterprise reporting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net assets, financial position, and cash flows.

#### B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The enterprise activity is accounted for using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the Center's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded in cash when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the Center are described in the appropriate section in this note.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for good and services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

#### C. Budgetary Process

Unlike other public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705, unless specifically provided by the Center's contract with the Sponsor. The contract between the Center and its Sponsor prescribes the Center follow all budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.

#### D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash received by the Center is reflected as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the statement of net assets. The Center had no investments during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007.

#### E. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the Center's financial statements.

#### F. Net Assets

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation adopted by the Center or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. The Center's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

The government-wide statement of net assets reports no restricted net assets.

#### G. Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the Center. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of the Center. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### Note 3 - Deposits

Monies held by the Center are classified by State statute into three categories.

Active monies are public monies determined to be necessary to meet current demands upon the Center treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the Center treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Board has identified as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Interim monies held by the Center can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

- 1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
- 2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
- 3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above:
- Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
- Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
- 6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in Division (1) or (2) of Ohio Rev. Code Section 135.18;
- 7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAROhio); and
- 8. Commercial paper and bankers acceptances if training requirements have been met.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

**Deposits** Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Center will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At fiscal year end, \$68,648 of the Center's bank balance of \$168,648 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, non-compliance with federal requirements could potentially subject the Center to a successful claim by the FDIC.

The Center has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the School District or a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured.

#### Note 4 - Contract with TRECA

The Center entered into a one year contract on August 20, 2007, with Tri-Rivers Education Computer Association (TRECA) for management consulting services. Under the contract, the following terms were agreed upon:

- TRECA shall provide the Center with instructional, supervisory/administrative, and technical services sufficient to effectively implement the Center's educational plan and the Center's assessment and accountability plan.
- All personnel providing services to the Center on behalf of TRECA under the agreement shall be employees of TRECA and TRECA shall be solely responsible for all payroll functions, including retirement system contributions and all other legal withholding and/or payroll taxes, with respect to such personnel. All shall possess any certification or licensure which may be required by law.
- The technical services provided to the Center by TRECA shall include access to, and the use of computer software, computer hardware, networking hardware, network services, and the services of technical support personnel necessary to implement the plan of operation.
- The Center shall secure the services of an Executive Director, who shall be the chief operating
  officer of the school, with primary responsibility for day-to-day operations of the Center.
- Curricular services provided by TRECA shall be limited to the standardized curriculum developed by TRECA.
- In exchange for the services and support (including hardware) provided by the TRECA, the Center shall pay to TRECA \$3,900 per full-time student enrolled in the Center per school year. Part-time students may be enrolled on such terms as are agreed to by the parties.

The Center paid TRECA \$37,375 for services rendered in fiscal year 2007. To obtain TRECA's audited June 30, 2007 financial statements, please contact Scott Armstrong, Treasurer, at <a href="mailto:scott@treca.org">scott@treca.org</a>.

#### Note 5 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan

#### **State Teachers Retirement System**

The Center participates in the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer public employee retirement system. STRS Ohio provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS Ohio issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to STRS Ohio, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3371, by calling (614) 227-4090, or by visiting the STRS Ohio Web site at www.strs.org.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

New members have a choice of three retirement plans, a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary times a percentage that varies based on years of service, or an allowance based on member contributions and earned interest matched by STRS Ohio funds times an actuarially determined annuity factor. The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5 percent of earned compensation into an investment account. Investment decisions are made by the member. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The Combined Plan offers features of both the DC Plan and the DB Plan. In the Combined Plan, member contributions are invested by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan.

DC and Combined Plan members will transfer to the Defined Benefit Plan during their fifth year of membership unless they permanently select the DC or Combined Plan. Existing members with less than five years of service credit as of June 30, 2001, were given the option of making a one time irrevocable decision to transfer their account balances from the existing DB Plan into the DC Plan or the Combined Plan. This option expired on December 31, 2001. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years credited service who becomes disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible spouses and dependents of these active members who die before retirement may qualify for survivor benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, plan members were required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salaries. The Center was required to contribute 14 percent; 13 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For fiscal year 2006, the portion used to fund pension obligations was also 13 percent. Contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board, upon recommendations of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10 percent for members and 14 percent for employers. Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

The Center's required contributions for pension obligations to STRS Ohio for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2007, and 2006 were \$14,330, and \$9,211 respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2007 and 2006.

#### Note 6 - Postemployment Benefits

The Center provides comprehensive health care benefits to retired teachers and their dependents through the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS Ohio). Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare premiums. Benefit provisions and the obligations to contribute are established by the System based on authority granted by State statute. The system is funded on a pay-as-you-go basis.

All STRS Ohio retirees who participated in the DB or Combined Plans and their dependents are eligible for health care coverage. The STRS Ohio Board has statutory authority over how much, if any, of the health care cost will be absorbed by STRS Ohio. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. By law, the cost of coverage paid from STRS Ohio funds is included in the employer contribution rate, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, the STRS Board allocated employer contributions equal to one percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Stabilization Fund. For the Center, this amount equaled \$1,102 for fiscal year 2007.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

STRS Ohio pays health care benefits from the Health Care Stabilization Fund. At June 30, 2006, (the latest information available) the balance in the Fund was \$3.5 billion. For the year ended June 30, 2006, net health care costs paid by STRS were \$282,743,000 and STRS had 119,184 eligible benefit recipients.

#### Note 7 - Risk Management

The Center is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. During the Fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, the Center had liability insurance through the Jackson City School District's insurance policy.

#### Note 8 - Purchased Services

For the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, the Center had expenses of \$53,496 for professional and technical services.

#### Note 9 - Related Party Transactions

The five members of the Center's Board of Directors are appointed by the Superintendent of Jackson City School District, the Sponsor. The Center is reported as a component unit of the Sponsor.

#### Note 10 - Contingencies

#### A. Grants

The Center received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with the terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the Center. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the Center at June 30, 2007.

#### B. Ohio Department of Education Enrollment Review

The Ohio Department of Education conducts reviews of enrollment data and full-time equivalency (FTE) calculations made by the Center. These reviews are conducted to ensure the Center is reporting accurate student enrollment data to the State, upon which state foundation funding is calculated. The fiscal year 2007 review was not completed prior to the compilation of the Center's financial statements.

#### C. Litigation

A lawsuit entitled **Beverly Blount-Hill, et al. v. State of Ohio, et al., Case #: 3:04CV197** was filed in the U. S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio, Western Division in October 2004. The suit alleges that the funding provisions of the Ohio Community Schools Act, O.R.C. Section 3314, violate both the Ohio and Federal constitutions. If the funding scheme is determined to be unconstitutional, it could have financial ramifications for all community/charter schools. The case is still currently pending, and the effect of this suit, if any, on the Center cannot presently be determined.



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Center for Student Achievement Jackson County 450 Vaughn Street Jackson, Ohio 45640

#### To the Board of Directors:

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities of the Center for Student Achievement, Jackson County, Ohio (the Center), a component unit of the Jackson City School District, Jackson County, Ohio, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 26, 2008, wherein we noted the Center uses a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. 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 the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Center's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Center's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Center's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Center's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

743 E. State St. / Athens Mall Suite B / Athens, OH 45701-2157 Telephone: (740) 594-3300 (800) 441-1389 Fax: (740) 594-2110 www.auditor.state.oh.us Center for Student Achievement Jackson County Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Center's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*, which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2007-001.

The Center's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. We did not audit the Center's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Directors. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

March 26, 2008

### CENTER FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT JACKSON COUNTY

#### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS JUNE 30, 2007

### 2. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

#### **FINDING NUMBER 2007-001**

#### **Noncompliance Citation**

Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 provides, in part, that each public office shall file a financial report for each fiscal year. The Auditor of State may prescribe forms by rule or may issue guidelines, or both, for such reports. If the Auditor of State has not prescribed a rule regarding the form for the report, the public office shall submit its report on the form utilized by the public office. Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-03 further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38.

Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the Center to file its annual financial report pursuant to generally accepted accounting principles. However, the Center prepared its financial statements in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for governmental entities not required to prepare annual reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit assets, liabilities, fund equities, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 the Center may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report.

We recommend the Center take the necessary steps to ensure that the annual financial report is prepared on a generally accepted accounting principles basis.

#### Officials' Response:

The Center has chosen to use the most cost-effective financial reporting system available. The additional cost associated with the GAAP financial statements would be a direct burden upon instructional resources.

### CENTER FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT JACKSON COUNTY

#### SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS JUNE 30, 2007

		Fully	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No
Finding Number	Finding Summary	Corrected?	Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i> :
2006-001	A material noncompliance citation was issued under Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-03(B) for not reporting on a GAAP basis.	No	Not Corrected:  This item is repeated in the current audit as Finding 2007-001.



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

#### **CENTER FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

#### **JACKSON COUNTY**

#### **CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED MAY 13, 2008