

# **Lorain Alternative Academy**

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*Basic Financial Statements*

***Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007***





Mary Taylor, CPA  
Auditor of State

Board of Directors  
Lorain Alternative Academy  
2350 Pole Avenue  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Lorain Alternative Academy, Lorain County, prepared by Rea & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Lorain Alternative Academy is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

*Mary Taylor*

Mary Taylor, CPA  
Auditor of State

January 28, 2009

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**LORAIN ALTERNATIVE ACADEMY**

For the Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007  
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# Rea & Associates, Inc.

ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

*Focused on Your Future.*

December 19, 2008

The Board of Directors  
Lorain Alternative Academy  
Lorain County  
2350 Pole Ave  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Lorain Alternative Academy, Lorain County, Ohio (the Academy), a component unit of the Lorain City School District, as of and for the year ending June 30, 2008 as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Academy's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. The financial statements of Lorain Alternative Academy for the year ended June 30, 2007 were audited by other auditors whose report dated December 7, 2007 expressed an unqualified opinion on those statements.

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 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 that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of Lorain Alternative Academy, Lorain County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2008 and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 19, 2008 on our consideration of the School'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. The purpose of that report is 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* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 3 through 6 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

*Hea & Associates, Inc.*

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007*

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The discussion and analysis of the Lorain Alternative Academy's (the "Academy") financial performance provides an overall review of the Academy's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Academy's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Academy's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (the "MD&A") is an element of the new reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 "Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments" issued in June of 1999.

Certain comparative information between the current fiscal year and the prior fiscal year is required to be presented in the MD&A. Due to the comparative presentation within the basic financial statements, a comparison analysis between fiscal year 2007 and fiscal year 2006 is also required.

**Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008 are as follows:

- Net assets totaled \$76,538, which is a decrease of \$32,189 from fiscal year 2007.
- Total current assets decreased \$21,641 from fiscal year 2007.
- Total capital assets were \$55,808 in fiscal year 2008 and \$74,717 in fiscal year 2007.
- Operating revenues decreased \$20,616 over fiscal year 2007.
- Operating expenses decreased \$29,678 from fiscal year 2007.

**Using this Annual Report**

This annual report consists of the MD&A, the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include statements of net assets, statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets, and statements of cash flows.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007

The statement of net assets and the statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets answer the question, "How did we do financially during fiscal year 2008?" The statement of net assets includes all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting and the economic resources measurement focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most companies in the private sector. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current fiscal year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Table 1 provides a summary of the Academy's net assets for fiscal year 2008, 2007 and 2006 as follows:

**Table 1**  
**Net Assets at June 30**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
<b>Assets</b>			
Current and Other Assets	\$ 20,730	\$ 42,371	\$ 54,192
Capital Assets	<u>55,808</u>	<u>74,717</u>	<u>95,912</u>
Total Assets	<u>76,538</u>	<u>117,088</u>	<u>150,104</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current Liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>8,361</u>	<u>7,621</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Invested in Capital Assets	55,808	74,717	95,912
Restricted for Other Purposes	3,060	0	95
Unrestricted	<u>17,670</u>	<u>34,010</u>	<u>46,476</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 76,538</u>	<u>\$ 108,727</u>	<u>\$ 142,483</u>

Total assets in fiscal year 2008 decreased \$40,550 from fiscal year 2007. This includes a decrease in cash of \$21,385, a decrease in intergovernmental receivables of \$256, and a decrease in capital assets of \$18,909. Total liabilities, which consisted of accounts payable, decreased \$8,361 and net assets decreased \$32,189. Total assets in fiscal year 2007 decreased \$33,016 from fiscal year 2006. The startup grant program was completed in fiscal year 2005 and the Academy has had to depend on other grants and foundation money to maintain operations since that time.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007

Table 2 shows the changes in net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, 2007 and 2006, as well as a listing of revenues and expenses.

**Table 2**  
**Changes in Net Assets**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
<b>Revenues</b>			
Operating Revenues	\$ 148,764	\$ 169,380	\$ 152,261
Non-Operating Revenues	7,704	15,199	22,992
<b>Total Revenues</b>	156,468	184,579	175,253
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<u>188,657</u>	<u>218,335</u>	<u>268,168</u>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ (32,189)</u>	<u>\$ (33,756)</u>	<u>\$ (92,915)</u>

The Academy's activities consist of enterprise activity. Community schools receive no support from taxes. The State Foundation Program is the primary support for the Academy's students.

The revenues and expenses in fiscal year 2008 decreased from fiscal year 2007 15.2% and 13.6%, respectively, primarily due to the Academy slowing down to cease operations. Expenses decreased approximately 18.6% from fiscal year 2006 to fiscal year 2007. The revenues in fiscal year 2007 increased from fiscal year 2006 primarily due to foundation money.

**Capital Assets**

At the end of fiscal year 2008, the Academy had invested \$55,808 in equipment, net of depreciation. The following table shows the net capital assets for fiscal years 2008, 2007 and 2006.

**Table 3**  
**Capital Assets**

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Equipment	<u>\$ 55,808</u>	<u>\$ 74,717</u>	<u>\$ 95,912</u>

See Note 5 to the basic financial statements for more information.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007*

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**Current Issues**

The Academy has entered into a service contract for fiscal year 2009 with its Sponsor. In agreement with this contract, the Academy will purchase the following services from its Sponsor: personnel to administer and oversee the instruction and governance of the Academy, personnel to provide instructional services to the Academy, staff to provide support services to the Academy, marketing support, EMIS data transmission, insurance, and consulting. The Academy's fiscal year 2009 contract was amended; see Note 13.

**Contacting the Academy's Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Academy's finances and to show the Academy's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Treasurer, at Lorain Alternative Academy, 2350 Pole Avenue, Lorain, OH 44052.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Statements of Net Assets*  
*June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2007*

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
<i>Current assets:</i>		
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 20,730	\$ 42,115
Intergovernmental receivables	0	256
<i>Total current assets</i>	<u>20,730</u>	<u>42,371</u>
<i>Noncurrent assets:</i>		
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	55,808	74,717
<i>Total assets</i>	<u>76,538</u>	<u>117,088</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<i>Current liabilities:</i>		
Accounts payable	0	8,361
<i>Total current liabilities</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>8,361</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		
Invested in Capital Assets	55,808	74,717
Restricted for other purposes	3,060	0
Unrestricted	17,670	34,010
<i>Total net assets</i>	<u>\$ 76,538</u>	<u>\$ 108,727</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets*  
*For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007*

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Operating revenues</b>		
Foundation payments	\$ 148,585	\$ 169,233
Other	179	147
<i>Total operating revenues</i>	148,764	169,380
<b>Operating expenses</b>		
Purchased services	166,886	196,909
Materials and supplies	62	231
Depreciation	21,709	21,195
<i>Total operating expenses</i>	188,657	218,335
<i>Operating income (loss)</i>	(39,893)	(48,955)
<b>Non operating revenues (expenses)</b>		
Grants	6,991	14,826
Interest Income	713	373
<i>Total non-operating revenues (expenses)</i>	7,704	15,199
<i>Change in net assets</i>	(32,189)	(33,756)
<i>Net assets at beginning of year</i>	108,727	142,483
<i>Net assets at the end of the year</i>	\$ 76,538	\$ 108,727

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Statements of Cash Flows*  
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash</b>		
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Cash received from foundation payments	\$ 148,841	\$ 173,394
Cash payments for goods and services	(175,309)	(196,400)
Other operating revenues	179	147
<i>Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities</i>	(26,289)	(22,859)
<b>Cash flows from non-capital financing activities:</b>		
Grants received	6,991	14,826
<i>Net cash provided by (used for) non-capital activities</i>	6,991	14,826
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Interest on Investments	713	373
<i>Net cash provided by (used for) investing activities</i>	713	373
<b>Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:</b>		
Purchase of property	(2,800)	0
<i>Net cash provided by (used for) capital and related financing activities</i>	(2,800)	0
<i>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</i>	(21,385)	(7,660)
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</i>	42,115	49,775
<i>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</i>	\$ 20,730	\$ 42,115
<b>Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash Provided By (Used For) Operating Activities:</b>		
Operating income (loss)	\$ (39,893)	\$ (48,955)
Depreciation	21,709	21,195
Adjustments:		
(Increase) decrease in assets:		
Intergovernmental receivable	256	4,161
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:		
Accounts payable	(8,361)	740
<i>Total adjustments</i>	13,604	26,096
<i>Net cash provided by (used for) operating activities</i>	\$ (26,289)	\$ (22,859)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

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**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007*

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**Note 1 – Description of the Academy and Reporting Entity**

The Lorain Alternative Academy (the "Academy") is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Chapters 1702 and 3314 to address the needs of students in ninth through the twelfth grade. The student base is made up of behaviorally challenged, expelled, and low-performing students. The Academy is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The Academy may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the Academy. The Academy is considered a component unit of the Lorain City School District (the "Sponsor") for reporting purposes, in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14.

The Academy is an innovative initiative that is a cooperative effort with Lorain City Schools. It is a conversion community school sponsored by the Lorain City School District. Furthermore, the Academy uses the services of the Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association (TRECA) and the TRECA Digital Academy to assist with overall programming and operations. The Academy uses the latest technology to reach a diverse student population. This population includes, but is not limited to home schoolers, children with special physical and mental needs, students removed from the classroom for discipline concerns, students who need an alternative to the traditional classroom including religious reasons, and students within the district that desire a specific course not currently offered. Enrollment is limited to students within the attendance area of the Lorain City School District.

The Academy was approved for sponsorship under resolution on May 13, 2002 with the Sponsor for a period of five years commencing on the first day of the 2002-2003 academic year. The Sponsor has designated three of its administrative officers to represent the Sponsor in the occupants' official capacities as members of the Academy's Board of Directors. The individuals who hold such office with the Sponsor shall be formally instructed by the Sponsor that, as directors of the Academy, they are to represent the Sponsor and its interests. From time to time in its discretion, the Sponsor may substitute other administrative positions for those previously designated for this purpose.

Pursuant to the Sponsor's authority under section 3314.08(G) of the Ohio Revised Code to provide the School with services, the Sponsor shall be the fiscal agent of the School and shall direct the Sponsor's treasurer to serve as the School's fiscal officer. The Sponsor shall evaluate the performance of the Academy according to the standards set forth in the Assessment and Accountability Plan. The Sponsor is not legally responsible for the final outcomes of the community school.

A service contract for the fiscal year 2007-2008 between the Academy and the Sponsor was also approved. In agreement with the contract, the Sponsor agrees to provide to the Academy professional, technical support and other services upon the Academy's request, but is subject to the availability of such services. The price for services rendered by the Sponsor to the Academy is established as the Sponsor's "cost of providing such services including, without limitation, employee salaries and fringe benefits, equipment costs if any, and administrative overhead". All personnel providing services to the Academy on behalf of the Sponsor under the service contract are considered employees of the Sponsor, and the Sponsor shall be solely responsible for all payroll functions.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007*

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**Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The basic financial statements of the Academy have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental nonprofit organizations. GASB is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Academy also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statements and Interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its proprietary activities, provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The Academy has the option to also apply FASB Statements and Interpretations issued after November 30, 1989, to its proprietary activities, subject to the same limitation. The Academy has elected not to apply these FASB Statements and Interpretations.

The more significant of the Academy's accounting policies are described below.

***A. Basis of Presentation***

The Academy's basic financial statements consist of a statement of net assets, a statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets, and a statement of cash flows.

Enterprise reporting focuses on the determination of the change in net assets, financial position and cash flows.

***B. Measurement Focus***

Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and liabilities are included on the statement of net assets. The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net total assets. The statement of cash flows provides information about how the Academy finances and meets the cash flow needs of its enterprise activities.

***C. Basis of Accounting***

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the basic financial statements. The Academy's basic financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting.

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the Academy receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the fiscal year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the Academy must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Academy on a reimbursement basis.

Grants and entitlements received before the eligibility requirements are met are recorded as deferred revenue.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007*

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Expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

***D. Budgetary Process***

The Academy shall operate in compliance with a bi-annual budget which must be reviewed and approved by the Academy's Board of Directors. The Academy must maintain financial records in a similar manner to those records of the Sponsor. The Academy complies with the policies and procedures regarding internal financial controls which are apparent under GASB and FASB. Also, the Auditor of State provides financial policy and procedure guidance to the Academy.

***E. Cash***

Cash held by the Academy is reflected as "Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the statement of net assets. Investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments. During fiscal years 2008 and 2007, the Academy had no investments.

***F. Capital Assets***

All capital assets are capitalized at cost and updated for additions and reductions during the fiscal year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market value on the date donated. The Academy maintains a capitalization threshold of five hundred dollars. The Academy does not have any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

All capital assets are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. Furniture is depreciated over 20 years and computers are depreciated over 5 years.

***G. Net Assets***

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation. Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation through the Academy or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. The Academy first applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available. Net assets restricted for other purposes are primarily for student instruction.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007*

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***H. Operating Revenues and Expenses***

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities. For the Academy, these revenues are payments from the State Foundation Program. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the goods or services that are the primary activities of the Academy. All revenues and expenses not meeting these definitions are reported as non-operating.

***I. Intergovernmental Revenues***

The Academy currently participates in the State Foundation Program. Revenues received from this program are recognized as operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

The Academy also participates in the Federal Charter School Grant Program through the Ohio Department of Education.

In addition, the Academy participates in the State Education Management Information System (“EMIS”) through the Ohio Department of Education.

***J. Estimates***

The preparation of the basic financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the basic financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

**Note 3 – Deposits**

At fiscal year end June 30, 2008, the carrying amount and bank balance of the Academy’s deposits was \$20,730. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, “Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosure”, as of June 30, 2008, none of the Academy’s bank balance of \$20,730 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below, while all of the bank balance was covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

At fiscal year end June 30, 2007, the carrying amount of the Academy’s deposits was \$42,115. All of the Academy’s bank balance of \$42,115 was covered by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Academy will not be able to recover the deposits. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105% of the carrying value of the deposits. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at the Federal Reserve Banks or at member banks of the federal reserve system, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the Academy.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007

**Note 4 – Receivables**

Receivables at June 30, 2007, consisted of intergovernmental grants and entitlements. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the stable condition of state programs. All receivables are expected to be collected within one fiscal year. There were no receivables at June 30, 2008.

**Note 5 – Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, was as follows:

	Balance 6/30/07	Additions	Reductions	Balance 6/30/08
<i>Capital Assets Being Depreciated</i>				
Improvements	\$ 0	\$ 2,800	\$ 0	\$ 2,800
Equipment	119,299	0	0	119,299
	<u>119,299</u>	<u>2,800</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>122,099</u>
<i>Accumulated Depreciation</i>				
Improvements	0	(280)	0	(280)
Equipment	(44,582)	(21,429)	0	(66,011)
	<u>(44,582)</u>	<u>(21,709)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(66,291)</u>
Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 74,717</u>	<u>\$ (18,909)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 55,808</u>

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, was as follows:

	Balance 6/30/06	Additions	Reductions	Balance 6/30/07
<i>Capital Assets Being Depreciated</i>				
Equipment	\$ 119,299	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 119,299
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(23,387)	(21,195)	0	(44,582)
Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 95,912</u>	<u>\$ (21,195)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 74,717</u>

**Note 6 – Purchased Services**

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008, purchased services were as follows:

Instructional Services	\$ 36,076
Other Professional and Technical Services	56,490
Other Travel and Meeting Expenses	290
Other Communications Service	74,030
	<u>\$ 166,886</u>

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
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For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, purchased services were as follows:

Instructional Services	\$ 33,829
Other Professional and Technical Services	82,183
Other Communications Service	80,897
	<u>\$ 196,909</u>

**Note 7 – Risk Management**

The Academy is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2008 and 2007, the Academy was covered under its own insurance for property and liability coverage.

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years and there have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from last year.

**Note 8 – Agreements with the Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association**

The Academy entered into agreements with the Tri-Rivers Educational Computer Association (“TRECA”), which is a data acquisition site and member of the Ohio Education Computer Network established in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 3301.075.

On January 7, 2003, the Academy entered into another agreement with TRECA. TRECA provided the Academy with instructional, supervisory/administrative, and technical services sufficient to effectively implement the Academy’s educational plan, and the Academy’s assessment and accountability plan. All personnel providing services in fulfillment of TRECA’s responsibilities hereunder shall be employees or contractors of TRECA and TRECA is solely responsible for all payroll functions including retirement system contributions and all other legal withholding and/or payroll taxes, with respect to its employees. All personnel providing such services possess any certification or licensure which may be required by law. The technical services provided by TRECA to the Academy include access to, and the use of, computer software, computer hardware, networking hardware, network services and the services of technical support personnel necessary to implementation.

Beginning August 2005, the Academy entered into a four year agreement with TRECA where they are charged on a per student basis.

**Note 9 – Contingencies**

The Academy received financial assistance from Federal and State agencies in the form of grants. The disbursements of funds received under these programs generally require compliance with 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 Academy. However, in the opinion of management, any disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the Academy at June 30, 2008 and 2007.

**Lorain Alternative Academy**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2008 and 2007*

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**Note 10 – State Foundation Funding**

The Ohio Department of Education conducts reviews of enrollment data and full-time equivalency (FTE) calculations made by the schools. These reviews are conducted to ensure the schools are reporting accurate student enrollment data to the State, upon which state foundation funding is calculated. The Academy was reviewed two times during the initial year of operations and zero errors were found in enrollment, withdrawals, and attendance.

**Note 11 - Fiscal Agent**

The Academy utilizes the services of the Lorain City School District Treasurer as their fiscal officer. The Academy does not directly pay the Treasurer; however, it does reimburse Lorain City School District for the services.

**Note 12 – Charter School Funding**

On October 25, 2006, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that publicly funded, privately operated Community (i.e. Charter) Schools is constitutional.

**Note 13 – Subsequent Event**

The Lorain Alternative Academy operations were suspended by a resolution of Lorain City School District (the “Sponsor”) on July 8, 2008. The contract with the Sponsor was amended to include all students grades Kindergarten through Twelve into the newly created “Lorain K-12 Digital Academy”.



# Rea & Associates, Inc.

ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

*Focused on Your Future.*

December 19, 2008

To the Board of Directors  
Lorain Alternative Academy  
Lorain County, Ohio  
2350 Pole Avenue  
Lorain, Ohio 44052

**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**

We have audited the financial statements of Lorain Alternative Academy, Lorain County, Ohio, (the Academy), a component unit of the Lorain City School District, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2008 which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 19, 2008. 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.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Academy's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy'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 the normal course of 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 Academy'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 a misstatement of the Academy's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Academy's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Academy's internal control.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, we noted a certain internal control matter that we reported to the management of Lorain Alternative Academy in a separate letter dated December 19, 2008.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Academy's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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 such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted an immaterial noncompliance issue that we reported to the management of Lorain Alternative Academy in a separate letter dated December 19, 2008.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, Management and the Academy's Sponsor, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

*Rea & Associates, Inc.*



**Mary Taylor, CPA**  
Auditor of State

**LORAIN ALTERNATIVE ACADEMY**

**LORAIN 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.**

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
FEBRUARY 10, 2009**