

**DETROIT MERIT CHARTER ACADEMY**

**AUDIT COMMUNICATION LETTER**

**JUNE 30, 2024**



# *Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C.*

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS

7310 Woodward Ave, Suite 740  
Detroit, MI 48202

(313) 873-7500 (Tel.)  
(313) 873-7502 (Fax)  
[www.alancyoung.com](http://www.alancyoung.com)

October 30, 2024

To the Board of Directors  
Detroit Merit Charter Academy  
Detroit, Michigan

We have recently completed our audit of the financial statements Detroit Merit Charter Academy (the Academy) for the year ended June 30, 2024. In addition to our audit report, we are providing the following required communication and recommendations, which impact the Academy.

	<u>Page</u>
Communication Required Under AU-C 260	1
Other Comments and Recommendations	5

We are grateful for the opportunity to be of service to the Academy. Should you have any questions regarding the comments in this report, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C.  
Detroit, Michigan



# *Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C.*

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS

---

7310 Woodward Ave, Suite 740  
Detroit, MI 48202

(313) 873-7500 (Tel.)  
(313) 873-7502 (Fax)  
[www.alancyoung.com](http://www.alancyoung.com)

## RESULTS OF AUDIT

October 30, 2024

Board of Directors  
Detroit Merit Charter Academy  
Detroit, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of Detroit Merit Charter Academy (the Academy) for the year ended June 30, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance as well as certain information related to the scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated February 6, 2024. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

### Our Responsibilities under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, Government Auditing Standards and the Uniform Guidance

As stated in our engagement letter dated February 6, 2024, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities.

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 assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. We also considered internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance.

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 grants. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions is not an objective of our audit. Also, in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, we examined, on a test basis, evidence about the Academy's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Compliance Supplement applicable to each of its major federal programs for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the Academy's compliance with those requirements. While our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion, it does not provide a legal determination on the Academy's compliance with those requirements.

Results of Audit  
(Continued)

Our Responsibilities under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, Government Auditing Standards and the Uniform Guidance (Continued)

Generally accepted accounting principles provide for certain required supplementary information (RSI) to supplement the basic financial statements. Our responsibility with respect to the Management Discussion & Analysis, and the Budgetary Comparison Schedules, which supplement the basic financial statements, is to apply certain limited procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. However, the RSI was not audited and, because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We have been engaged to report on the other supplemental information, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. Our responsibility for this supplementary information, as described by professional standards, was to evaluate the presentation of the supplementary information in relation to the financial statements as a whole and to report on whether the supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

We are responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures specifically to identify such matters.

Scope of the Audit, Significant Risks and Other

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; therefore, our audit involved judgment about the number of transactions examined and the areas tested.

Our audit included obtaining an understanding of the Academy and its environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and to design the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures. Material misstatements may result from (1) errors, (2) fraudulent financial reporting, (3) misappropriation of assets, or (4) violations of laws or governmental regulations that are attributable to the Academy or to acts by management or employees acting on behalf of the Academy.

We have identified the following significant risks of material misstatement as part of our audit planning which was communicated in our engagement letter dated February 6, 2024.

- Recording of revenues and unearned revenue for restricted grants.
- Year-end cut-off of payables.
- Override of controls.

During our audit procedures we did not note any findings or exceptions related to the above items.

We did note a certain other matter that is included in Exhibit A of this letter.

Results of Audit  
(Continued)

Significant Audit Matters

*Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Academy are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. The application of existing policies was not changed during the year. We noted no transactions entered into by the Academy during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear. Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users.

*Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

We received complete cooperation from management throughout the process. We would like to commend management and staff on the assistance provided to us during the audit.

*Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. No such misstatements were noted as a result of our audit.

*Disagreements with Management*

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

*Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated October 30, 2024.

*Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants*

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Academy's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Results of Audit  
(Continued)

*Other Audit Findings or Issues*

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Academy's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

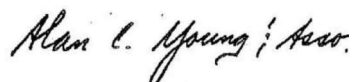
*Other Matters*

We applied certain limited procedures to the Academy's management discussion & analysis, and the budgetary comparison schedule, which are the required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the supplementary schedules, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

*Restriction on Use*

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and management of the Academy and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Detroit, Michigan  
October 30, 2024

**OTHER COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
EXHIBIT A**

# **DETROIT MERIT CHARTER ACADEMY**

---

**Other Comments and Recommendations (Exhibit A)  
June 30, 2024**

## **1) INDIRECT COST RATE**

During our procedures, we noted that the Academy used an incorrect indirect cost rate for the ESSER III Program. This was subsequently identified and corrected internally, and the excess receipts are shown as unearned revenue as of June 30, 2024

We recommend that the Academy review all indirect cost rates prior to submitting draw down requests. Although this was identified internally, it is preferable that the correct rates be used initially rather than being subsequently corrected.





## **Corrective Action Plan For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

### **Finding 2024-001**

**Nate of Contact Person:** Corey Balkon, Director of School Finance

**Finding:** The Academy's expenses exceeded the final budget in several budget categories. This is in violation of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act in accordance with Michigan Law.

**Corrective Action:** The Academy agrees with this finding. Although the Academy's expenses exceeded the final budget, actual revenues also exceeded the budget. The Academy will closely monitor expenses in the future.