

Stephenson, Gracik & Co., P.C.
Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

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ALTERNATIVE EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY OF IOSCO COUNTY TAWAS CITY, MICHIGAN

AUDITORS' REPORT YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

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#### AUDITORS' REPORT

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September 11, 2013

Independent Auditors' Report

Board of Education Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County Tawas City, Michigan

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County, Tawas City, Michigan, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements as listed in the index.

#### 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.

#### Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County, Tawas City, Michigan, as of June 30, 2013, 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.

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As described in Note 2, the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County has implemented GASB Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position, and No. 65, Items previously reported as Assets and Liabilities, as of June 30, 2013. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Board of Education Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County September 11, 2013 Page 2

#### 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 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 Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's basic financial statements. The individual fund schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The individual fund schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate 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 individual fund schedules are 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 September 11, 2013, on our consideration of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 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 Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Stephenson, Grain & Co., P.C.

#### Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County

27 N. Rempert Road Tawas City, MI 48763 Telephone (989) 362-3006 Fax: (989) 362-9076

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013

As management of the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County, (the Academy), we offer readers of the Academy's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Academy for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013.

The management's discussion and analysis is provided at the beginning of the audit to provide in layman's terms the past and current position of the Academy's financial condition. This summary should not be taken as a replacement for the audit which consists of the financial statements and other supplemental information that presents all of the Academy's revenues and expenditures by program for the Instruction and Support Services.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Our financial statements provide these insights into the results of this year's operations. The 2012-2013 school year was the first full year for the Academy's operations. The overall condition of the funds and governmental activities during the 2012-2013 school year, resulted in an ending Fund Balance of \$85,134.

The assets of the Academy exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$85,134 (net position). Of this amount, \$85,134 (unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the Academy's ongoing obligations to students and creditors.

The Academy's total net position increased by \$85,134. This represents the degree to which ongoing revenues have surpassed ongoing expenses.

As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Academy's governmental fund reported ending fund balance of \$85,134. Of this amount \$73,134 is available for spending at the Academy's discretion (unassigned fund balance). This represents 40.1% of the total expenditures of these funds.

#### USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County basic financial statements. The Academy's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

#### Government - Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Academy's finances, in a manner similar to a private sector business.

The statement of net position presents information on all of the Academy's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Academy is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the Academy's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of Alternative Educational Academy of losco County that are principally supported by intergovernmental revenues (*governmental activities*) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (*business-type activities*). The governmental activities of the Academy include instruction and support services. The Academy does not currently have any business-type activities.

The government-wide financial statements can be found in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities.

#### Fund Financial Statements

A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Academy, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of these funds can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds. The Academy does not currently have any proprietary funds or fiduciary funds.

#### Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating an Academy's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Academy's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenue, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The Academy maintains one individual governmental fund. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenue, expenditures and changes in fund balance for the General Fund, which is considered to be a major fund. Currently, the General Fund is the only fund of the Academy.

The Academy adopts annual appropriated budgets for its governmental fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the General Fund to demonstrate compliance with budgets.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found in the Balance Sheet – Governmental Fund and the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Governmental Fund.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

#### Other Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain *required* supplementary information concerning budgetary information for the Academy's major fund. Required supplementary information can be found in the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – General Fund.

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013

Our auditors have provided assurance in their independent auditors' report, located immediately preceding this Management's Discussion and Analysis, that the Basic Financial Statements are fairly stated. Varying degrees of assurance are being provided by the auditor regarding the Required Supplementary Information and the Other Information identified above. A user of this report should read the independent auditors' report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided for each of the parts in the Financial Section.

Because this is the first full year of activity and the first year audited, the following tables present only current year data. In future years, when prior-year information is available, comparative analysis of government-wide data will be presented.

#### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

The Academy's net position was \$85,134 at June 30, 2013. Of this amount, \$85,134 is unrestricted. Our analysis below focuses on the net position (Table 1) and the change in net position (Table 2) of the Academy's governmental activities.

	TABLE I <u>NET POSITION</u>
	Governmental <u>Activities</u>
	Year Ended June 30, 2013
Current Assets Noncurrent Assets Total Assets	\$ 176,335 0 176,335
Current Liabilities Noncurrent Liabilities Total Liabilities	91,201 0 91,201
Net Position Unrestricted	<u>\$ 85,134</u>

The \$85,134 in unrestricted net position of governmental activities represents the accumulated results of this year's operations. It means that if we had to pay off all of our bills *today*, we would have \$85,134 left.

The Academy's net position was \$85,134 at June 30, 2013, all of which is unrestricted. Day-to-day operations will be paid for by state aid and local revenues that will be received throughout the year.

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### TABLE 2 CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities
Revenue:	Year Ended June 30, 2013
Program Revenue:	
Charges for Services	\$ 7,710
Operating Grants and Contributions	37,900
Capital Grants and Contributions	0
General Revenue:	004.050
State School Aid – Unrestricted Total Revenue	<u>221,950</u>
Total Revenue	<u>267,560</u>
Functions/Program Expenses:	
Instruction	38,930
Support Services	<u> 143,496</u>
Total Functions/Program Expenses	<u>182,426</u>
Change in Net Position	85,134
Beginning Net Position	0
Ending Net Position	<u>\$ 85,134</u>

Governmental activities increased the Academy's net position by \$85,134.

As reported in our Statement of Activities, the cost of all of our governmental activities this year was \$182,426. Certain programs were financed by those who benefited from the programs (\$7,710), by other governments and organizations who subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions (\$37,900), and unrestricted state aid (\$221,950).

#### MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUND BUDGETING AND OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

The Academy's budgets are prepared according to Michigan law. The only governmental fund for the Academy is the General Fund.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, the Academy amended the budgets of this major governmental fund a couple of times.

#### General Fund

The General Fund actual revenue was \$267,560. That amount is below the original budget estimates of \$309,591 and above the final amended budget of \$191,152. The variance between the actual revenues and the final budget was mostly the result of not budgeting for the charges for services received in the current year and based on the Academy not receiving the seat time waiver for the first semester, initially budgeted for as State funding, and then using a conservative count for the final budget.

#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013

The actual expenditures of the General Fund were \$182,426 which is below the original budget estimate of \$270,691 and the final amended budget of \$189,209. The variance between the actual expenditures and the original and final amended budget was due to various minimal decreases in actual expenditures, compared to what was budgeted.

#### GOVERNMENTAL FUND EXPENDITURES

Total governmental fund expenditures amounted to \$182,426. The governmental funds had an increase in fund balance of \$85,134. The ending fund balance for all governmental funds was \$85,134 which represents 46.7% of current year expenditures. This fund balance will be used to cover unforeseen expenditures and hedge for future state aid foundation reductions.

#### CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

#### Capital Assets

The Academy does not currently have any capital assets.

#### Long-Term Debt

The Academy does not currently have any debt.

#### **ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS**

In 2012-2013, Alternative Educational Academy of losco County completed its first full-year of operations. The blended enrollment for the year was 31.75 students. The budget was created and amended to adjust the pupil count throughout the year. The Academy did not have an approved seat time waiver which resulted in almost a 50% reduction in FTE's for the year.

Moving forward, the Academy anticipates a significant increase in countable FTEs based on two factors. One, the Academy has an approved seat time waiver for the year which will allow them to count more full FTEs and two, the Academy's coming into the school year with about 80 students currently actively enrolled from the summer. This initial budget was built assuming 75 FTEs. This has allowed the Academy to increase staffing and services to the students.

#### **REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County's finances for all those with an interest in the Academy's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to:

Dana McGrew, Mentor Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County 27 N. Rempert Road Tawas City, MI 48763 Office Telephone (989) 362-3006

## STATEMENT OF NET POSITION <u>June 30, 2013</u>

Access	Governmental Activities
Assets Receivables: Due from Related Parties (Note 6) Prepaid Expenses	\$ 164,335 12,000
Total Assets	<u>176,335</u>
<u>Liabilities</u> Due to Other Governmental Units	91,201
Net Position Unrestricted	\$ <u>85.134</u>

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

								(	Net Expenses)
									evenue and
				F	rogran	n Revenu	<b>e</b> s		Change in let Position
						perating	Capital		overnment
			Cha	arges for	Gra	ants and	Grants and		Type
Functions/Programs	E	xpenses	Se	ervices	Con	tributions	Contributions	_	Activities
Instruction Support Services	\$	38,930 143,496	\$	7,710 0	\$	37,900 0	\$ 0 0	\$	6,680 (143,496)
Total	\$	182,426	\$	7,710	\$	37,900	\$0		(136,816)
General Revenue: State School Aid - Unrestricted								_	221,950
Change in net position									85,134
Net position - beginning								_	0
Net position - ending								\$_	85,134

#### BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUND June 30, 2013

	Ge	eneral Fund
Assets Receivables: Due from Related Parties (Note 6) Prepaid Expenses	\$	164,335 12,000
Total Assets	\$	176,335
<u>Liabilities</u> Due to Other Governmental Units	\$	91,201
Fund Equity Fund Balance: Nonspendable: Prepaid Expenses Unassigned Total Fund Equity		12,000 73,134 85,134
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$	176,335

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUND For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

	Ge	neral Fund
Revenue Local Sources State Sources Total revenue	\$	45,610 221,950 267,560
Expenditures Current: Instruction Support Services Total expenditures		38,930 143,496 182,426
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditures		85,134
Fund balance - beginning of year		0
Fund balance - end of year	\$	85,134

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County (Academy) conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) applicable to governments. The Academy is considered to be a local government unit. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies:

#### A. Reporting Entity

Alternative Educational Academy of losco County was granted a contract to organize and operate a public school academy under the authority of losco Regional Educational Service Agency, as granted by the State of Michigan. The Academy operates under a Board of Education (five members) represented by members selected by the Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for adopting and amending budgets and for administering the school programs in accordance with governing laws.

The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted (GAAP) in the United States of America as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Academy's reporting entity applies all relevant GASB pronouncements for determining the various governmental organizations to be included in the reporting entity. Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County's Board of Education (Board) is the primary government which has oversight responsibility and control over all activities related to public school education in the area served by the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County. The Board receives funding from local and state government sources and must comply with the requirements of these funding source entities. However, the Board is not included in any other governmental "reporting entity" as defined in GASB pronouncements. The Board has separate legal standing and is fiscally independent of other governmental entities. As such, the Board has decision-making authority, the right to determine its budget, the power to designate management, the ability to significantly influence operations and primary accountability for fiscal matters. The Board does not include any other component within its financial statements.

#### B. Fund Accounting

The Academy uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain Academy functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The various funds of the Academy are grouped into the governmental category.

#### Governmental Funds

Governmental funds focus on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. The following is the Academy's major governmental fund:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Academy. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### C. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements:

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the Academy as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. The statements distinguish between those activities of the Academy that are governmental and those that are considered business-type activities. The Academy does not currently have any business-type activities.

The government-wide statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. This differs from the manner in which governmental fund financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the Academy's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the Academy, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the Academy.

Net position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on net position use are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Restricted assets are used first to fund appropriations before unrestricted assets are used.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

#### Fund Financial Statements:

Fund financial statements report detailed information about the Academy. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column.

The accounting and reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental fund types are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting and the current financial resources measurement focus. The financial statements for governmental funds are a balance sheet, which generally includes only current assets and current liabilities, and a statement of revenue, expenditures and changes in fund balance, which reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources.

#### D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### D. Basis of Accounting (Continued)

Revenues - Exchange and Non-exchange Transactions:

Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenues are recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the Academy, available means expected to be received within 60 days of the fiscal year-end.

Nonexchange transactions, in which the Academy receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, 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 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. On a modified accrual basis, revenues from nonexchange transactions must also be available before they can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: grants, student fees and rentals.

#### Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources:

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The Academy does not currently have any items that qualify for reporting in this category.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The Academy does not currently have any items that qualify for reporting in this category.

#### Expenses/Expenditures:

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation, are not recognized in governmental funds.

#### E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For presentation on the financial statements, investments in cash management pools and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Academy are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### F. Due From Other Governmental Units

This represents amounts receivable from the State of Michigan and other governmental units for federal, state and local reimbursable programs.

#### G. Prepaid Items

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future fiscal years and are recorded as prepaid items in both the government-wide and fund financial statements.

#### H. Capital Assets

General capital assets are those assets not specifically related to activities reported in proprietary funds. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) using a \$5,000 capitalization threshold and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated fixed assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The Academy does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not.

All reported 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 over the following useful lives:

Covernmental Activities

<u>Descriptions</u>	Estimated Lives
Buildings and Improvements Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment Vehicles and Buses	20 - 50 years 5 - 20 years 8 years

The Academy did not have any capital assets as of June 30, 2013.

#### I. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements. In general, payables and accrued liabilities that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements at the time they are incurred, to the extent that they will be paid from current, expendable, financial resources. In general, payments made within 60 days after year end are considered to have been made with current available financial resources. However, bonds and other long-term obligations, compensated absences, claims and judgments, contractually required pension contributions and special termination benefits that will be paid from governmental funds are recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements when they become due for payment.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### J. Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources less liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. The Academy reports three categories of net position as follows:

Net investment in capital assets - consists of net capital assets reduced by outstanding balances of any related debt obligations and deferred inflows of resources attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets and increase by balances of deferred outflows of resources related to those assets.

Restricted net position - net position is considered restricted if their use is constrained to a particular purpose. Restrictions are imposed by external organizations such as federal or state laws or buyers of the Academy's bonds. Restricted net position is reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to the restricted assets.

Unrestricted net position - consists of all other net position that does not meet the definition of the above two components and is available for general use by the Academy.

When an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available, management applies restricted net position first, unless a determination is made to use unrestricted net position. The Academy's policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use and legal requirements. Management typically makes this decision on a transactional basis at the incurrence of the expenditure.

#### K. Fund Balances

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report aggregate amounts for five classifications of fund balances based on the constraints imposed on the use of these resources. The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form—prepaid items or inventories; or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

The spendable portion of the fund balance comprises the remaining four classifications: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

Restricted fund balance. This classification reflects the constraints imposed on resources either (a) externally 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. These amounts can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal school board action—the Academy's highest level of decision making authority. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the school board removes the specified use by taking the same type of action imposing the commitment. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned fund balance. This classification reflects the amounts constrained by the Academy's "intent" to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The school board or personnel authorized by the school board have the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes. Assigned fund balances include all remaining amounts (except negative balances) that are reported in governmental funds, other than the General Fund, that are not classified as nonspendable and are neither restricted nor committed.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### K. Fund Balances (Continued)

Unassigned fund balance. This fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. It is also used to report negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, the Academy uses externally restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources—committed, assigned, and unassigned—in order as needed.

#### L. Foundation Revenue

The State of Michigan has adopted a foundation grant approach which provides for a specific annual amount of revenue per student based on a state-wide formula. The foundation allowance is funded from state and local sources. Revenues from state sources are primarily governed by the School Aid Act and the School Code of Michigan. The Michigan Department of Education administers the allocation of state funds to school districts based on information supplied by the Academy. For the year ended June 30, 2013, the foundation allowance was based on the average of pupil membership counts taken in February 2013 and September of 2012.

#### M. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013.

#### N. Economic Dependency

The Academy received approximately 83% of their revenue from the Michigan Department of Education. Due to the significance of this revenue source to the Academy, the Academy is considered to be economically dependent.

#### O. Use of Estimates

The process of preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Such estimates primarily relate to unsettled transactions and events as of the date of the financial statements. Accordingly, upon settlement, actual results may differ from estimated amounts.

#### P. Budgetary Policies and Data

The State of Michigan adopted a Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act (Act) applicable to all local governmental entities in the state. The law requires appropriation acts to be adopted for General and Special Revenue Funds and an informational study for Capital Project Funds of school districts prior to the expenditure of monies in a fiscal year in accordance with GAAP.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### P. Budgetary Policies and Data (Continued)

Alternative Educational Academy of losco County follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements.

- 1. The Academy's Chief Administrative Officer submits to the Board a proposed budget prior to July 1 of each year. The budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
- 2. A public hearing is conducted to obtain taxpayer comments.
- 3. Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted, or as amended by the Board throughout the year. Individual amendments were not material in relation to the original appropriations.
- 4. Appropriations lapse at year-end and therefore cancel all encumbrances. These appropriations are reestablished at the beginning of the following year.

#### NOTE 2 - NEW ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

For 2013, the Academy has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 63, "Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position" and GASB Statement No. 65, "Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities".

GASB Statement No. 63 provides financial reporting guidance for deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. The Statement amends the net asset reporting requirements in GASB Statement No. 34 and other pronouncements by incorporating deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources into the definitions of the required components of the residual measure and by renaming that measure as net position, rather than net assets.

GASB Statement No. 65 establishes standards that reclassify and recognize certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities, as deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources. GASB No. 65 also provides guidance related to the impact of the financial statement elements deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources, such as changes in major fund determination and limited use of the term deferred in financial statement presentations.

#### NOTE 3 - SHORT-TERM DEBT

The Academy has various options for short-term financing including state aid anticipation notes and lines of credit.

The Academy did not enter into any short-term financing arrangements during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

#### NOTE 4 - 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 and natural disasters. The Academy participates in a pool of educational institutions within the State of Michigan for self-insuring property. The pool is considered a public entity risk pool. The Academy pays annual premiums to the pool for the insurance coverage. In the event a pool's total claims and expenses for a policy year exceed the total normal annual premiums for said years, all members of the specific pool's policy year may be subject to special assessment to make up the deficiency. The pool maintains reinsurance claims in excess of \$500,000 for each occurrence with the overall maximum coverage being unlimited. The Academy has not been informed of any special assessments being required.

The Academy continues to carry commercial insurance, through its Authorizor, for other risks of loss. Settled claims for the commercial insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage.

#### NOTE 5 - GOVERNMENTAL REGULATION

Substantially all of the Academy's facilities are subject to federal, state and local provisions regulating the discharge of materials into the environment. Compliance with these provisions has not had, nor does the Academy expect such compliance to have, any material effect upon the capital expenditures, net revenue in excess of expenditures or financial condition of the Academy. Management believes that its current practices and procedures for the control and disposition of such wastes comply with applicable federal and state requirements.

#### NOTE 6 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Academy entered into a contract with Iosco Regional Educational Service Agency on August 8, 2012 to operate a public school academy. The contract will terminate on June 30, 2013 and may be renewed at the end of the term for an additional two year period by sole discretion of the Iosco Regional Educational Services Agency's Board if it determines that the Academy satisfies the following criteria:

- 1. The Academy demonstrates improved pupil academic achievement for all groups of pupils and meets the educational goals set forth in the Contract.
- 2. The Academy complies with the Contract and all applicable law.
- 3. The Academy meets generally accepted public sector accounting principles and demonstrates sound fiscal stewardship.
- 4. The Academy maintains adequate student enrollment sufficient to justify continued operation.

The Academy paid losco Regional Educational Service Agency a total of \$50,000 for Business Management and Clerical Services and Program Support Services in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013. The amount due to losco Regional Educational Service Agency at June 30, 2013 for services rendered and reimbursement of operating expenses was \$0. There was also an amount due from losco Regional Educational Service Agency at June 30, 2013 of \$164,355 for the money that losco Regional Educational Service Agency is holding for the Academy at year end.



# STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

	Original <u>Budget</u>	Final Amended Budget	Actual	Variance - Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenue Local Sources State Sources Total revenue	\$ 37,900 271,691 309,591	\$ 37,900 153,252 191,152	\$ 45,610 221,950 267,560	\$ 7,710 68,698 76,408
Expenditures Current: Instruction Support Services Total expenditures	74,874 195,817 270,691	39,358 149,851 189,209	38,930 143,496 182,426	428 6,355 6,783
Excess of revenue over expenditures	38,900	1,943	85,134	83,191
Fund balances - beginning of year	0	0	0	0
Fund balances - end of year	\$ 38,900	\$ 1,943	\$ <u>85,134</u>	\$ <u>83,191</u>



## GENERAL FUND DETAILS OF REVENUE COMPARED TO BUDGET For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

	_	2013 Amended Budget		
Local Sources GED Testing Other Local Sources	\$ 	0 37,900 37,900	\$	7,710 37,900 45,610
State Sources State Aid Foundation Allowance	_	153,252		221,950
Total Revenue	\$_	191,152	\$	267,560

## GENERAL FUND DETAILS OF EXPENDITURES COMPARED TO BUDGET For the Year Ended June 30, 2013

	2013 Amended Budget	2013 Actual
Instruction Basic Programs: High School Purchased Services Supplies, Materials and Other Repairs and Maintenance Other Expenses	\$ 33,258 3,600 1,500 1,000	\$ 33,069 4,412 1,299 150
Total Instruction	39,358	38,930
Support Services Pupil Services:		
Instructional Staff: Instruction Related Technology Purchased Services	18,000	6,000
Office of the Principal Purchased Services	79,851	85,543
Other Administration Purchased Services	50,000	50,000
Total School Administration	147,851	141,543
Business: Transportation:		
Purchased Services	2,000	1,953
Total Support Services	167,851	149,496
Total Expenditures	\$ <u>207,209</u>	\$ 188,426



## Stephenson, Gracik & Co., P.C.

Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

Alan J. Stephenson, CPA Gerald D. Gracik Jr., CPA James J. Gracik, CPA Donald W. Brannan, CPA Kyle E. Troyer, CPA

September 11, 2013

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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

Board of Education Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County Tawas City, Michigan

We have audited in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepting 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 and the major fund of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County as of and for the year ended June 30, 2013, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated September 11, 2013.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine 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 Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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. However, we identified one deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a material weakness.

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. We consider the deficiency described below to be a material weakness.

Board of Education Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County September 11, 2013 Page Two

#### Financial Statement Preparation Controls

In conjuntion with our audit, we have been contracted to prepare the financial statements and related disclosures based on the information proveded to us by Management. We would like to stress that this service is allowable under AICPA ethics guidelines and may be the most efficient and effective method for preparation of the Academy's financial statements. However, if at any point in the audit we as auditors are part of the Academy's control system for producing reliable financial statements, auditing standards indicate that the Academy has a control deficiency. If Management is not able to prepare financial statements, including disclosures, and the auditors are contracted to prepare these statemeths, this is considered a control defiency. We recommend that Management and those charged with governce evaluate and document their decision on the costs and benefits of whether to contract for this service with our firm.

#### View of Responsible Officials

The Academy understands the risk of having the auditors prepare the financial statements and has determined to accept this risk as they feel the benefits outweigh the risk. However, the Academy mitigates this risk by striving to not have any adjusting entries proposed by the auditor at year end.

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

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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*.

#### The Alternative Educational Academy of losco County Response to Findings

The Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's response to the finding identified in our audit is described above. The Alternative Educational Academy of losco County'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 entity's internal control or compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Stephenson, Grain & Co., P.C.



## Stephenson, Gracik & Co., P.C.

Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

Alan J. Stephenson, CPA Gerald D. Gracik Jr., CPA James J. Gracik, CPA Donald W. Brannan, CPA Kyle E. Troyer, CPA

September 11, 2013

Management and the Board of Education Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County Tawas City, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County for the year ended June 30, 2013 and have issued our report dated September 11, 2013. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated July 25, 2013. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit. The appendices to this letter set forth those communications as follows:

I Communication with Those Charged with Governance

#### II Management Comments

We discussed these matters with various personnel of the Academy during the audit and met with management on September 5, 2013. We would also be pleased to meet with you to discuss these matters at your convenience.

These communications are intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Education, others within the District and the Michigan Department of Education and are not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Stephenson, Graith & Co., P.C.

### APPENDIX I COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

#### Our Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated July 25, 2013, 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.

As part of our audit, we will consider the internal control of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County. Such considerations are solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will also perform tests of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, the objective of our tests is not to provide an opinion on compliance with such provisions.

#### Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We performed the audit as outlined in our engagement letter related to planning matters dated July 25, 2013.

#### **Significant Audit Findings**

#### **Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices**

- Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 2 to the financial statements, the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County adopted new accounting policies related to the Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources, and Net Position by adopting Statement of Governmental Accounting Standards (GASB Statement) No. 63, "Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position" and Statement of Governmental Accounting Standards (GASB Statement) No. 65, "Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities", in 2013. We noted no transactions entered into by the government all unit during the year where 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 financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

#### Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our 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 clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. A summary of the adjusted audit differences was provided to management on September 5, 2013.

### APPENDIX I COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

#### 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 September 11, 2013.

#### 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 governmental unit'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.

#### 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 governmental unit'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

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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, 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.

### APPENDIX II MANAGEMENT COMMENTS

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County as of and for the year ended June 30, 2013, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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. However, as discussed below, we identified one deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a material weakness.

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. We consider the following deficiency in the Alternative Educational Academy of losco County's internal control to be a material weakness:

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT PREPARATION CONTROLS

In conjunction with our audit, we have been contracted to prepare the financial statements and related disclosures based on the information provided to us by Management. We would like to stress that this service is allowable under AICPA ethics guidelines and may be the most efficient and effective method for preparation of Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County's financial statements. However, if at any point in the audit we as auditors are part of the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County's control system for producing reliable financial statements, auditing standards indicate that the Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County has a control deficiency. If Management is not able to prepare financial statements, including disclosures, and the auditors are contracted to prepare these statements, this is considered a control deficiency. We recommend that Management and those charged with governance evaluate and document their decision on the costs and benefits of whether to contract for this service with our firm.

We have also noted two other items we feel could improve your internal controls or operating efficiencies. These items are not considered significant deficiencies or material weaknesses but are presented for your consideration.

#### **ACADEMY WEBSITE**

Guidelines for Budget and Salary/Compensation Transparency Reporting addressed in MCL 388.1618(2) of the State School Aid Act, requires that an Academy maintain certain required elements on their public website. Through review of the Academy's website, we noted that some of the required elements were not included. We recommend that management work with the Technology Director on including those missing elements on the website as soon as possible.

#### WRITTEN PROCEDURES

The Michigan Department of Education issued a statement in their 2010-2011 Accounting and Auditing Alert noting a requirement for all districts to have written procedures on hand to coincide with their existing policies for a number of accounting and grant management areas. Currently the Academy has many of the required written procedures in place but is still in the process of developing some of them. We recommend that management continue to work on developing these written procedures for all required areas as soon as possible.