### CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC.

### BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Year Ended June 30, 2025

#### **Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc.**

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. West Palm Beach, Florida

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. ("the Center"), a charter school, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc.'s basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Center, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Center and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### Responsibilities of Management's 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, and for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Center's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### 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 on pages 4–9 and 26-27 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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 GAAS, 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 Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 19, 2025, on our consideration of the Center'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 solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's 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 Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Boca Raton, FL September 19, 2025

Gulley Johnson CAR LLP

Our discussion and analysis of the Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc.'s ("Center") financial program provides an overview of the Center's financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Because the information contained in this discussion is intended to highlight significant transactions, it should be read in conjunction with the Center's financial statements which begin on page 10.

For financial statement purposes for the year ended June 30, 2025, the Center is not considered a component unit of the Palm Beach County District School Board, Florida, which is a primary government entity for financial reporting. The Center has included separate statements for the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds and the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds. The Fund Financial Statements reflect financing activities of the Center by providing information on inflows and outflows of spendable resources, while the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information on the activities of the Center.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Center's financial position. Included in these statements are all assets and liabilities using the accrual method of accounting. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are recorded when received.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on all of the Center'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 Center is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the governmental net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported when the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows.

#### 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.

Governmental Funds - All of the Center's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Center's governmental activities and the basic services it provides.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements

The *Notes to the Financial Statements* provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The Notes to the Financial Statements can be found on pages 16-25 of this report.

#### GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of the Center's financial position. Current and other assets of the Center, primarily consisting of cash, increased as a result of the an increase in a related party receivable in the current fiscal year. Capital assets increased due to major purchases for IT infrastructure, physical entry to the Center and computer and related equipment. Leases are now required to be reported in the statement of net position as an intangible asset titled right-to-use lease asset with a corresponding lease liability. The decrease in noncurrent liabilities stems from the annual lease payments. The Center's assets exceeded liabilities by \$725,926 and \$919,905 at June 30, 2025 and June 30, 2024, respectively. The increase in restricted net position is due to donations made during the current fiscal year that were earmarked for the purchase of the new playground.

#### **NET POSITION**

	=	2025		2024	 Variance
Current assets	\$	797,907	\$	1,060,029	\$ (262,122)
Capital assets	_	2,300,594	. <u>-</u>	2,434,208	 (133,614)
Total assets	_	3,098,501		3,494,237	 (395,736)
Current liabilities	\$	219,828	\$	222,802	\$ (2,974)
Non-current liabilities	_	2,152,747		2,351,530	 (198,783)
Total liabilities		2,372,575		2,574,332	(201,757)

#### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (continued)**

**Net Position** 

Investments in Capital Assets	\$ 147,847 \$	82,678 \$	65,169
Unrestricted	477,687	707,560	(229,873)
Restricted	100,392	129,667	(29,275)
Total Net Position	725,926	919,905	(193,979)
Total Liabilities and Net Position	\$ 3,098,501 \$	3,494,237 \$	(395,736)

Revenue Sources	_	2025	-	2024	-	<b>Variance</b>
State passed through local school	\$	3,405,887	\$	3,159,620	\$	246,267
Federal passed through local schoools		365,551		370,919		(5,368)
Interest income		6,815		11,166		(4,351)
Other revenue	_	1,583,748	-	2,227,267	_	(643,519)
Total	\$	5,362,001	\$	5,768,972	\$	(406,971)

Revenues for governmental activities totaled \$5,362,001 and \$5,768,972 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively. The main sources of revenue were from the Florida Education Finance Program ("FEFP"), private donations and various grants. FEFP revenues represented approximately 62% and 53%, respectively, of total revenue for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024. Other revenue decreased by approximately \$644,000 from 2024 to 2025 primarily from the retroactive referendum funds received in the 2024 school year.

#### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (continued)**

Expenses for major functions of the Center are shown in the following table:

	2025	2024	Variance
Basic instruction	\$ 2,578,775	\$ 2,396,587	\$ 182,188
Student support services	809,505	759,681	49,824
Instructional related technology	133,418	118,845	14,573
Board	26,444	15,274	11,170
General administration	34,705	33,271	1,434
School administration	264,223	287,232	(23,009)
Facilities acq and construction	269,203	285,752	(16,549)
Fiscal services	94,772	78,160	16,612
Pupil transportation services	180,937	169,236	11,701
Operation of plant	588,712	705,956	(117,244)
Maintenance of plant	12,551	11,280	1,271
Community activitie	448,225	467,003	(18,778)
Interest - lease activities	114,509	123,909	(9,400)
Totals	5,555,979	\$ 5,452,186	\$ 103,793

The largest increases occurred in the instruction and student support functions. The increase in instruction and student support services resulted from the increase to teacher salaries and hiring of additional teachers. The decrease in operation of plant is the result of the Center incurring multiple one time IT costs in the prior fiscal year that weren't necessary in the current year.

#### **FUND FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

Key highlights for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024 are as follows:

		2025 2024			variance	
Revenue	\$	5,362,001	\$	5,768,972	\$	(406,971)
Expenditures		(5,669,865)		(5,651,032)		(18,833)
Other financing sources, net of debt costs		48,716	_	<u>-</u>	_	48,716
Total		(259,148)		117,940		(377,088)
Fund Balance				-10.00-		44=040
Fund balance, beginning of year	•	837,227	-	719,287		117,940
Fund balance, end of year	\$	578,079	\$_	837,227	\$_	(259,148)

#### **CURRENT YEAR VS PRIOR YEAR RESULTS**

2024-2025 was the seventh year that the Center enrolled students as a charter school. Total revenue was \$5,362,001 and \$5,768,972 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively. FEFP funds increased from prior year, but the overall decrease in revenue was the result of the Center receiving referendum payment in the prior year. Total expenses were \$5,669,865 and \$5,651,032 for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, respectively. Overall, expenses were flat, but there was an increase in instruction from hiring additional staff and a decrease to pupil transportation as the Center purchased a new bus in the prior fiscal year.

#### **BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS – GENERAL FUND**

Actual revenue was approximately \$229,000 under the budgeted revenue mostly due to the Center anticipating additional funds from fundraising in the current year. Actual expenses were approximately \$233,000 over budgeted due an increase in operation of plant function resulting from a new copier lease being expensed on a fund basis and additional costs incurred that weren't budgeted for.

#### **INVESTMENTS**

In June 2021, the Center contributed \$50,000 to start the Connections Education Center Endowment Fund which is being run through the Community Foundation for the Palm Beaches and Martin Counties. These funds cannot be used for any purpose and have been recorded as restricted in the statement of net position.

#### **NON-CURRENT LIABILITES**

As previously noted, the Center adopted GASB No. 87 - Leases which resulted in non-current lease liability on the statement of net position. Instead of expensing the lease payments, the lease liability is amortized over the life of the lease. In the current fiscal year, the lease liability decreased because of payments on the leases.

#### PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE

The Center continues to search for private donors to generate additional revenues to support operations. The Center is also trying to secure a new vendor to install the playground equipment that they currently have in storage. Lastly, the Center is in the process of purchasing its existing facility with the related high school through a bond issuance and hopes to close on the purchase and bond issuance before the end of 2025.

#### REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc.'s finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc., 1310 Old Congress Ave., Suite 100, West Palm Beach, FL 33409.

## CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC. STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2025

	_	Governmental Activities
ASSETS		
Cash	\$	95,508
Investments		56,609
Accounts receivable, net		75,364
Due from related party		542,469
Deposit		-
Prepaid expenses		27,957
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	-	2,300,594
Total assets	\$	3,098,501
LIABILITES AND NET POSITION		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$	14,215
Accrued salaries and payroll deductions		205,613
Total current liabilities	_	219,828
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Portion due within one year		
Lease obligatons		248,266
Portion due after one year		
Lease obligatons	_	1,904,481
Total non-current liabilities	_	2,152,747
Total liabilities		2,372,575
NET POSITION		
Investment in capital assets, net of related debt		147,847
Unresticted		477,687
Restricted		100,392
Total net position	_	725,926
Total liabilities and net position	\$_	3,098,501

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these basic financial statements.

### CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC. STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Program Revenues									
Functions/Programs	Expenses		Charges for Services	_	Operating Grants and Contributions		Capital Grants and Contributions	_	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
Governmental activities									
Basic instruction \$	2,578,775	\$	-	\$	103,514	\$	-	\$	(2,475,261)
Student support services	809,505		-		243,269		-		(566,236)
Instructional media services	-		-		-		-		-
Instructional staff training	-		-		-		-		-
Instructional related technology	133,418		-		-		-		(133,418)
Board	26,444		-		-		-		(26,444)
General administration	34,705		-		-		-		(34,705)
School administration	264,223		-		_		-		(264,223)
Facilities acquisition and construction	269,203		-		-		111,722		(157,481)
Fiscal services	94,772		-		-		-		(94,772)
Central services	-		-		-		-		-
Pupil transportation services	180,937		-		-		-		(180,937)
Operation of plant	588,712		-		-		-		(588,712)
Maintenance of plant	12,551		-		_		-		(12,551)
Community activities	448,225		-		-		-		(448,225)
Interest - lease liability	114,509		-		_		-		(114,509)
Total governmental activities \$	5,555,979	\$	-	\$	346,783	\$	111,722		(5,097,474)

General Revenues	
Grants and contributions not restricted	
to specific programs	18,768
State revenues	3,294,165
Investment earnings	6,815
Miscellaneous	1,583,748
Total General Revenues	4,903,496
Change in net position	(193,978)
Net position, July 1, 2024	919,904
Net position, June 30, 2025 \$	725,926

### CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC. BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2025

	General Fund			Special Revenue Fund		Capital Projects Fund		Total	
ASSETS									
Cash	\$	95,508	\$	-	\$	-	\$	95,508	
Investments		56,609		-		-		56,609	
Accounts receivable		56,962		13,374		5,028		75,364	
Due from funds		18,402		-		-		18,402	
Due from related party		542,469		-		-		542,469	
Deposit		-		-		-		-	
Prepaid expenses		27,957		-		-		27,957	
Total Assets	\$	797,907	\$	13,374	\$	5,028	\$	816,309	
LIABILITES									
Accounts payable	\$	14,215	\$	-	\$	_	\$	14,215	
Accrued salaries and payroll deductions		205,613		-		_		205,613	
Due to funds		_		13,374		5,028		18,402	
Total Liabilities		219,828	_	13,374	_	5,028		238,230	
FUND BALANCES									
Nonspendable		4,488		-		_		4,488	
Restricted		100,392		-		_		100,392	
Committed		_		-		-		-	
Assigned		-		-		-		-	
Unassigned		473,199		-		-		473,199	
Total Fund Balances		578,079		-		-	_	578,079	
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	797,907	\$_	13,374	\$_	5,028	\$_	816,309	

## CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC. RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2025

Fund Balance - Governmental Funds	9	\$ 578,079
Capital assets and right to use assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the governmental funds		
Governmental capital assets Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	3,695,947 (1,395,353)	2,300,594
Lease liabilities are reported as financing sources in the general fund and thus contribute to the change in fund balance. In the Statement of Net Position, however, issuing debt increases current liabilities and does not affect the		
Statement of Activities.		(2,152,747)
Net Position of Governmental Activites	9	\$ 725,926

## CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC. STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	_	General Fund	_	Special Revenue Fund	_	Capital Projects Fund	_	Total
REVENUES								
Federal passed through local school district State passed through local school district Other revenue Investment earnings	\$	18,768 3,294,165 1,583,748 6,815	\$	346,783 - - -	\$	- 111,722 - -	\$	365,551 3,405,887 1,583,748 6,815
TOTAL REVENUES		4,903,496		346,783		111,722		5,362,001
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES								
Basic instruction Student support services Instructional related technology Board General administration School administration Facilities acquisition and construction Fiscal services Central services Pupil transportation services Operation of plant Maintenance of plant Community activities Debt service Principal payments - lease liability Interest - lease liability Total expenses		2,464,666 566,236 126,993 26,444 34,705 260,535 (111,021) 94,772 - 219,489 705,757 12,551 448,225 247,499 114,509 5,211,360	-	103,514 243,269 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 346,783	- -	- - - - - 111,722 - - - - -	_	2,568,180 809,505 126,993 26,444 34,705 260,535 701 94,772 - 219,489 705,757 12,551 448,225 - 247,499 114,509 5,669,865
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenses		(307,864)		-		-		(307,864)
Other financing sources Copier lease liability Total other financing sources	_	48,716 48,716	-	<u>-</u>	-	<u>-</u>	_	48,716 48,716
Net changes in fund balance		(259,148)		-		-		(259,148)
Fund balances, July 1, 2024	_	837,227	_		_		_	837,227
Fund balances, June 30, 2025	\$	578,079	\$_	_	\$_	-	\$	578,079

# CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC. RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITES JUNE 30, 2025

Net Change in fund balances - governmental funds		\$ (259,148)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:		
Governmental Funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives.		
Expenditures for capital assets Less current year depreciation and amortization	216,519 (350,132)	(133,613)
The issuance of noncurrent debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds. This amount represents the current year additions to noncurrent debt  Less current year lease repayments	(48,716) 247,499	198,783
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		\$ (193,978)

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

#### 1. Reporting Entity

Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. (the "Center") operates as a Charter School pursuant to a Charter School Contract ("the Contract") with the Palm Beach County District School Board, Florida ("the District"). Under the Contract, the Center provides an education to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder grades K-8 who reside in Palm Beach County. The Center was initially formed as a non-profit private school and received a tax-exempt designation effective April 20, 2015. The governing body of the Center is the Board of Directors, which is composed of eleven members.

The Center is a non-profit organization and is tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The general operating authority of the Center is contained in Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes. The current charter is for a term of 10 school years commencing with the 2022 - 2023 school year. The charter may be renewed as provided in Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes, upon mutual consent of the parties and execution of a written renewal. At the end of the term of the charter, the District may choose not to renew the charter under grounds specified in the charter in which case the District is required to notify the Center in writing at least 90 days prior to the charter's expiration. During the term of the charter, the District may also terminate the charter if good cause is shown.

Criteria for determining if other entities are potential component units which should be reported within the Center's basic financial statements are identified and described in the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards, Sections 2100 and 2600. The application of these criteria provide for identification of any entities for which the Center is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Center are such that exclusion would cause the Center's basic financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. Based on these criteria, no component units are included within the reporting entity of the Center.

As a result of implementing GASB 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus*, the District and its auditors are of the opinion that the Center is no longer to be treated as a component unit for financial reporting purposes. There is no change in the relationship with the District or the District's oversight or monitoring responsibilities.

#### 2. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements consist of a statement of net position and a statement of activities. These statements report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the Center. As part of the consolidation process, all interfund activities are eliminated from these statements. Both statements report only governmental activities as the Center does not engage in any business type activities.

#### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### 2. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Net position, the difference between assets and liabilities, as presented in the statement of net position, are subdivided into three categories: amounts invested in capital assets; restricted net position; and unrestricted net position. Net position is reported as restricted when constraints are imposed on the use of the amounts either externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or enabling legislation.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between the direct and indirect expenses of a given function and its program revenues and displays the extent to which each function contributes to the change in net position for the fiscal year. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable to a specific function. Indirect expenses are costs the Center has allocated to various functions. Program revenues consist of charges for services, operating grants and contributions, and capital grants and contributions. Charges for services refer to amounts received from those who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment. Grants and contributions consist of revenues that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Revenues not classified as program revenues are reported as general revenues.

GASB issued Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions. Statement 54 establishes the following classifications depicting the relative strength of the constraints that control how specific amounts can be spent:

- Nonspendable fund balance includes amounts that are not in a spendable form or are required to be maintained intact and that are not expected to be converted to cash.
- Restricted fund balance includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by external resource providers, constitutionally, or through enabling legislation. Effectively, restrictions may be changed or lifted only with the consent of resource providers.
- Committed fund balance includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Center's highest level of decision-making authority. Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the Center taking the same formal action that imposed the constraint originally.
- Assigned fund balance comprises amounts intended to be used by the Center for specific purposes. Intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the amount that is not restricted or committed. This indicates that resources in other governmental funds are, at a minimum, intended to be used for the purpose of that fund.

#### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### 2. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements (continued)

• Unassigned fund balance - the residual classification for the general fund and includes all amounts not contained in the other classifications. Unassigned amounts are technically available for any purpose. If another governmental fund has a fund balance deficit, then it will be reported as a negative amount in the unassigned classification in that fund. Positive unassigned amounts will be reported only in the general fund.

Separate fund financial statements report detailed information about the Center's governmental funds. The focus of the governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Therefore, major funds are reported in separate columns on the fund financial statements. All the Center's funds were deemed major funds. A reconciliation is provided that converts the results of governmental fund accounting to the government - wide presentation.

#### 3. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized in the period earned and expenses are recognized when a liability is incurred.

All governmental fund financial statements are reported using a current financial resources measurement focus on a modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues, except for certain grant revenues, are recognized in the accounting period in which they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period, considered to be sixty days. When grant terms provide that the expenditure of resources is the prime factor for determining eligibility for federal, state, and other grant resources, revenue is recognized at the time the expenditure is made.

Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, expenditures are generally recorded when the related fund liability is incurred. However, principal and interest on general long-term debt is recorded as expenditures only when payment is due.

The Center's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Accordingly, the financial statements are organized on the basis of funds. A fund is an accounting entity having a self-balancing set of accounts for recording assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, expenditures, and other financing sources and uses.

Resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based on the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The Center reports the following major governmental funds:

<u>General Fund</u> — the general operating fund of the Center. It is used to account for all financial resources not required to be accounted for in another fund.

#### **NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

3. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation (continued)

<u>Special Revenue Fund</u> – to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

<u>Capital Projects Fund</u> - to account for the proceeds Capital Outlay and other revenues that are legally restricted to expenditures for capital projects.

The Center has a revenue spending policy that provides for programs with multiple revenue sources. The board of directors will use resources in the following hierarchy: debt proceeds, federal funds, state funds, local non-city funds, city funds and funds passed through the District. For purposes of fund balance classification expenditures are to be spent from restricted fund balance first, followed in-order by committed fund balance, assigned fund balance and lastly unassigned fund balance. The board of directors has the authority to deviate from this policy if it is in the best interest of the Center.

#### 4. <u>Budgetary Basis of Accounting</u>

The Center's annual budgets are adopted for the entire operations of the Center and may be amended by the Board of Directors (the "Board"). Since the budgetary basis differs from generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), budget and actual amounts in the accompanying required supplementary information are presented on the budgetary basis. A reconciliation of revenues over expenditures presented in conformity with GAAP is set forth in the adjustments to the required supplementary information.

#### 5. Cash

Cash is made up of cash on hand at the Center and/or checking and a money market account held at one financial institution. The Center has no cash equivalents.

#### 6. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment and right-to-use lease assets, are reported in the applicable governmental columns on the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the Center as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$1,000 and an estimated useful life of more than two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at their estimated fair market values at the date of donation. For the year ended June 30, 2025, the Center recorded net capital assets of \$2,300,594.

#### **NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

Property, plant, and equipment of the Center are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	Estimated
Asset Type	<u>Useful Lives</u>
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	5 - 10
School bus	5 - 10
Right-to-use lease assets	2 - 12

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

#### 7. Revenue Sources

Revenues for current operations are received primarily from the State of Florida passed through the District to the Center pursuant to the funding provisions included in the Center's charter. In accordance with the funding provisions of the charter and Section 1002.33(18), Florida Statutes, the Center reports the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students and related data to the District. Under the provisions of Section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, the District reports the number of FTE students and related data to the Florida Department of Education (FDE) for funding through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). Funding for the Center is adjusted during the year to reflect revised calculations by the FDE under the FEFP and actual weighted FTE students reported by the Center during designated FTE student survey periods.

The Center receives federal awards for the enhancement of various educational programs. This assistance is generally based on applications submitted to and approved by various granting agencies. These federal awards may have requirements whereby the issuance of grant funds is withheld until qualifying expenditures are incurred. Revenues for these awards are recognized only to the extent that eligible expenditures have been incurred.

Additionally, miscellaneous revenues are derived from various fundraising activities and private donations.

#### 8. 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 regarding certain types of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses. 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.

#### 9. Income taxes

The Center is a not-for-profit organization that is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes is recorded in the accompanying financial statements.

The Center is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Center's federal income tax returns for 2023-2025 remain subject to examination by major tax jurisdictions.

#### **NOTE A – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

#### 10. Recent accounting pronouncement

In June 2017, the GASB issued Statement on the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. 87 – *Leases*. This statement requires the recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. Under this statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use asset and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities. The requirement of this statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2021, and all reporting periods thereafter. The Center adopted this statement for the year ended June 30, 2022. The adoption did not result in any changes to previously reported amounts of net position or fund balances. See Notes C and H for additional information about the Center's leases.

#### **NOTE B – CONCENTRATIONS**

#### 1. Revenue Sources

As stated in Note A-7, the Center receives revenues for current operations primarily from the State of Florida through the District. The following is a schedule of revenue sources and amounts:

Sources	<u>Amounts</u>
Federal grants through local district State funding through local district Aftercare and other revenue	\$ 365,551 3,405,887 1,590,563
	\$5,362,001

#### 2. Cash

Under Chapter 280, Florida Statutes, the Center's deposits must be placed in banks and savings and loans which are qualified as public depositories. The Center maintains cash deposits at a bank in Florida. Deposits at the bank are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") up to \$250,000. Monies deposited in amounts greater than the insurance coverage are secured by the banks pledging securities with the State Treasurer and collateral pool.

#### **NOTE C – CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2025 was as follows:

	Balance at June 30,		Adjustments and	I	Balance at June 30,
	2024	<b>Additions</b>	Deletions	_	2025
Capital assets depreciated and					
amortized:					
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	\$ 354,724	\$ 107,803	\$ -	\$	462,527
Right-to-use leased assets	2,903,941	48,716	-		2,952,657
Buses	220,763	60,000	<del>_</del>		280,763
Total assets depreciated and					
amortized	\$ 3,479,428	\$ 216,519	\$ <u> </u>	\$	3,695,947
Less Accumulated depreciation					
and amortization					
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	\$ 159,210	\$ 51,505	\$ -	\$	210,715
Right-to-use leased assets	798,317	277,180	_		1,075,497
Buses	87,694	21,448	_		109,142
Total assets depreciated					
*	\$1,045,221	\$ 350,132	\$ -	\$	1,395,353
Total governmental activities					
Capital assets, net				\$	2,300,594

Depreciation and amortization expense of \$350,132 was charged to the basic instruction (\$16,487), instructional-related technology (\$6,425), school administration (\$6,188), facilities acquisition (\$268,502), plant operation (\$31,082) and transportation services (\$21,448) functions for the year ended June 30, 2025.

#### NOTE D - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable consists of amounts due related to capital outlay as well as miscellaneous amounts due from the before and aftercare program. Based on historical collections, management is of the opinion that the balance is fully collectible on June 30, 2025 and has not established an allowance for bad debts.

#### NOTE E – COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Center receives most of its funding from the District through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP), which is based on the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students attending the Center. The FTE count is subject to audit and if discrepancies are found, it could result in funds owed to the state or future decreases in funding. If any such errors were found, management has taken the position that any funds to be refunded would not be material to the Center's net financial position.

#### **NOTE E – COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (continued)**

In the normal course of conducting its operations, the Center may become party to legal actions and proceedings. Management has determined that the ultimate resolution of such legal matters, if any, will not have a significant effect on the accompanying financial statements.

#### **NOTE F – DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN**

The Center offers a defined contribution plan named Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches 403(b) Plan. To be eligible to participate in the plan, participants must be at least 18 years old. Participants can elect to contribute up to 100% of their salary, subject to annual IRS limitations. The plan states that the Center will not make any contributions to the plan. Therefore, for the year ended June 30, 2025, the Center made no contribution to the plan.

#### NOTE G – DUE FROM RELATED PARTY

During the year ended June 30, 2025, the Center shared certain employee and rent expenses with a high school located at the same facility. The allocation of shared costs (primarily payroll and related benefits) was based on student count in both schools which resulted in 75% of the shared costs being allocated to the Center. The Center pays the monthly rent, and the high school reimburses them for their portion. The rent allocation is based on square footage per the sublease, and this resulted in the Center paying approximately 67% of total rent for the year ended June 30, 2025. These are considered arms-length transactions and on June 30, 2025, the related party owed the Center \$542,469. Management has determined this amount to be 100% collectible.

#### **NOTE H – NONCURRENT LIABILITIES**

The Center has a lease agreement for its premises. In September 2022, the landlord sold the building and the new landlord entered into an amended lease agreement for the premises which provided the Center with a lease through June 30, 2032. The amended lease also includes two additional five-year terms if the Center so chooses to extend. The average borrowing rate was 5% which was used to discount the annual lease payments to recognize the intangible right to use this asset and the lease liability as of June 30, 2025. In addition, the school leased some equipment with terms that run through June 2029. For the year ended June 30, 2025, interest expense totaled \$114,509, as it relates to its lease agreements. For 2025, there were no variable payments related to the lease agreements.

#### **NOTE H – NONCURRENT LIABILITIES (continued)**

The following table summarizes the Center's future debt service as of June 30, 2025:

Year ending	Lease liability	Lease liability
June 30,	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2026	\$ 248,266	\$ 101,648
2027	264,322	88,944
2028	302,465	75,028
2029	326,308	59,416
2030	326,954	57,899
Thereafter	668,431	34,543
Total	\$2,152,747	\$ 417,479

Changes in long term lease liabilities during the year are as follows:

	Balance			Balance
	07/01/24	<u>Additions</u>	<b>Payments</b>	06/30/25
Lease liability	\$ 2,351,530	\$ 48,716	\$ (247,498)	\$ 2,152,748

#### **NOTE I - RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Center is exposed to various risks of loss related to theft, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. The Center purchases commercial insurance for all material risks of loss to which the Center is exposed, including general liability, property and workers compensation.

The Center did not have any settlements that exceeded insurance coverage for the years ended June 30, 2023 - 2025.

#### **NOTE J – ENDOWMENT**

On June 18, 2021, the Center established the Connections Education Center Endowment Fund through the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties with a \$50,000 contribution. These funds are presented on the statement of net position as an investment and restricted net position. These funds, plus future contributions and subsequent earnings are restricted in nature as the Center does not have control over access to them. At the current time, no funds shall be distributed from the endowment.

#### NOTE K – RESTRICTED NET POSITION

As previously noted, the Center funded an endowment for \$50,000 in June 2021. This amount has been recorded as part of restricted net position. In addition, the Center received donations in prior years that were restricted in their use to purchase a new playground. The Center purchased some additional equipment this fiscal year and incurred some permitting costs. Total restricted net position as of June 30, 2025 was \$100,392.

#### **NOTE L – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Management has evaluated subsequent events through September 19, 2025, which is the date the financial statements became available to be issued.



# CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC. SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 (UNAUDITED)

		Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual	Variance Final Bud Positive (No	lget -
Revenues								
Federal passed through local school district State passed through local school district Other revenue	\$	3,218,972 1,869,072	\$	3,218,972 1,869,072	\$	18,768 \$ 3,294,165 1,583,748		(18,768) 75,193 (285,324)
Total revenues		5,088,044		5,088,044		4,896,681	(2	228,899)
Expenses								
Basic instruction Student support services Instructional related technology Board General administration School administration Facilities acquisition and construction Fiscal services Central services Pupil transportation services Operation of plant Maintenance of plant Community activities Debt service Principal payments - lease liability Interest - lease liability	_	2,489,673 489,124 125,000 40,500 - 306,921 317,020 62,889 - 208,917 551,688 - 386,990		2,489,673 489,124 125,000 40,500 - 306,921 317,020 62,889 - 208,917 551,688 - 386,990	_	2,464,666 566,236 126,993 26,444 34,705 260,535 (111,021) 94,772 	1	(25,007) 77,112 1,993 (14,056) 34,705 (46,386) 128,041) 31,883 - 10,572 54,069 12,551 61,235 247,499 14,509
Total expenses  Excess (deficiency) of revenues over	_	4,978,722		4,978,722	. <u>-</u>	5,211,360		
(under) expenses	_	109,322		109,322	· <u>-</u>	(314,679)	(4	161,537)
Other financing sources Copier lease liability Total other financing sources	_	<u>-</u>	_	- -	· _	48,716 48,716		48,716 48,716
Net change in fund balance		109,322		109,322		(265,963)	(4	112,821)
Fund balance, July 1, 2024	_	837,227	_	837,227	. <u>-</u>	837,227		
Fund balance, June 30, 2025	\$_	946,549	\$	946,549	\$	571,264 \$	(4	12,821)

# CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES, INC. SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 (UNAUDITED)

		Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
Revenues	-		<u> </u>		
Federal passed through local school district State passed through local school district Other revenue	\$	343,117 \$	343,117 \$	346,783 \$	3,666
Total revenues		343,117	343,117	346,783	3,666
Expenses					
Basic instruction Student support services		110,807 232,310	110,807 232,310	103,514 243,269	(7,293) 10,959
Instructional related technology Board		-	<del>-</del> -	-	-
General administration School administration		-	-	-	-
Facilities acquisition and construction Fiscal services		-	-	-	-
Central services Pupil transportation services		-	-	-	-
Operation of plant Maintenance of plant		-	-	-	-
Community activities Debt service		-	-	-	-
Principal payments - lease liability Interest - lease liability	_	- 	- 	- 	<u>-</u> 
Total expenses	_	343,117	343,117	346,783	3,666
Revenues over expenditures	=	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	-	
Net change in fund balance		-	-	-	-
Fund balance, July 1, 2024	_		<u> </u>		
Fund balance, June 30, 2025	\$_	- \$	- \$	- \$	



#### 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

To the Board Members of Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. West Palm Beach, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of governmental activities and each major fund the Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc., (the "Center," a nonprofit organization), a charter school, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc.'s basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 19, 2025.

#### **Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Center'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 Center's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Center'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*.

#### **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 organization's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the organization's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

September 19, 2025 Boca Raton, Florida

Guller Fulish CHs LLP

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#### Management Letter as Required by the Rules of the Florida Auditor General, Chapter 10.850, Florida Statutes, *Charter School Audits*

To the Board of Directors of Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. West Palm Beach, Florida

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of the Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc., Florida, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated September 19, 2025.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.850, Rules of the Auditor General.

#### **Other Reporting Requirements**

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. Disclosures in that report, which is dated September 19, 2025, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

#### **Prior Audit Findings**

Section 10.854(1)(e)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. There were no findings noted in the preceding annual financial audit report.

#### **Official Title**

Section 10.854(1)(e)5, Rules of the Auditor General, requires the name or official title of the entity and the school code assigned by the Florida Department of Education be disclosed in this management letter. The official title and the school code assigned by the Florida Department of Education of the entity are Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. and 504100.

#### **Financial Condition and Management**

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

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

Section 10.854(1)(e)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

#### **Transparency**

Sections 10.854(1)(e)7. and 10.855(13), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether the Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. maintains on its Web site the information specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit, we determined that the Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. maintained on its Web site the information specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes.

#### **Additional Matters**

Section 10.854(1)(e)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or fraud, waste, or abuse, that has occurred, or is likely to have occurred, that has an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

#### **Purpose of this Letter**

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

Boca Raton, FL September 19, 2025

Guller Fabrish CATS LLP



September 19, 2025

To the Board of Directors Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

We have audited the financial statements of Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. for the year ended June 30, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated September 19, 2025. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted 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 June 1, 2023. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

#### 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 Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. are described in Note A to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2025. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit 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 most sensitive estimate(s) affecting the financial statements was:

Management's estimate of depreciation is based on the estimated useful life of fixed assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation expense for the year in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosure affecting the financial statements was:

The disclosure of revenue recognition in Note A to the financial statements discusses how revenue is recorded in the financial statements and for which period it is to be recognized.

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 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. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and not corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management as 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 19, 2025.

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 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 to Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management of Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Galleros Robinson, CPAs, LLP

Guller Fabrish CHS LLP



September 19, 2025

Galleros Robinson, CPAs, LLP 7805 NW Beacon Square Blvd., Suite 203 Boca Raton, FL 33487

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of Connections Education Center of the Palm Beaches, Inc. ("Center"), which comprise the respective net financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund as of June 30, 2025 and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of September 19, 2025, the following representations made to you during your audit:

#### **Financial Statements**

- 1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated June 1, 2023, including our responsibility for the preparation of the financial statements and for preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
- 2. The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP and include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government and all component units required by generally accepted accounting principles to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 3. We acknowledge our responsibility for 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.



- 4. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 5. Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates are reasonable.
- 6. Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP.
- 7. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which U.S. GAAP requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. No events, including instances of noncompliance, have occurred subsequent to the balance sheet date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the aforementioned financial statements.
- 8. The effects of uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole. We have recorded all proposed journal entries.
- 9. The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 10. Material concentrations have been appropriately disclosed in accordance with US GAAP.
- 11. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which we are contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

#### **Information Provided**

- 12. We have provided you with:
  - a. Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, and other matters.
  - b. Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.



- c. Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- d. Minutes of the meetings of entity or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 13. All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 14. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 15. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the entity and involves:
  - o Management,
  - o Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
  - Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 16. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- 17. We have no knowledge of any instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 18. We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- 19. We have disclosed to you the identity of the organization's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
- 20. We participate in a cost sharing agreement since November 2019 with Connections High School & Vocational Center, Inc., a related party, where certain shared employee wages and benefits and rent are allocated between the schools. We recorded a receivable due from Connections High School & Vocational Center, Inc. for \$542,469



at June 30, 2025. We believe this amount to collectible based upon previous experience. It can be repaid in full by June 30, 2026.

#### **Government – specific**

- 21. We have made available to you all financial records and related data.
- 22. There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 23. We have identified any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 24. The entity has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.
- 25. We have provided our views on reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as our planned corrective actions.
- 26. We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and terms of contracts and grant agreements in which we are a named party. These include, but are not limited to, tax or debt limits and debt contracts. We have disclosed to you all laws, regulations and terms of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, including legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 27. There are no known violations of budget ordinances, laws and regulations. Any provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits. Related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements, or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for disclosing noncompliance.
- 28. As part of your audit, you assisted with preparation of the financial statements and related notes. We have designated an individual with suitable skill, knowledge, or experience to oversee your services and have assumed all management responsibilities. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those financial statements and related notes.



- 29. The Center has title to all owned assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- 30. The Center has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 31. We have followed all applicable laws and regulations in adopting, approving, and amending budgets.
- 32. The financial statements include all component entities as well as joint ventures with an equity interest. Other joint ventures and other related organizations are fully disclosed.
- 33. The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities.
- 34. All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASBS, Nos. 34 and 37, are presented as major funds in consideration of the importance to financial statement users.
- 35. Components of net position (net investment in capital assets, net investment in restricted and unrestricted capital assets) and equity amounts are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- 36. Investments, derivative instruments, and land and other real estate held by endowments are properly valued.
- 37. Provisions for uncollectible receivables have been properly identified and recorded.
- 38. Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 39. Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, general revenues, contributions to term or permanent endowments, or contributions to permanent fund principal.
- 40. Inter-fund, internal, and intra-entity activity and balances have been appropriately classified and reported.
- 41. Deposits and investment securities and derivative instruments are properly classified as to risk and are properly disclosed.



- 42. Capital assets, including infrastructure and intangible assets, are properly capitalized, reported, and, if applicable, depreciated.
- 43. We have appropriately disclosed the Center's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.
- 44. All required filings with tax authorities are up-to-date. The Center is an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Any activities of which we are aware that would jeopardize the Center's tax-exempt status, and all activities subject to tax on unrelated business income or excise or other tax, have been disclosed to you.
- 45. We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
- 46. We contributed \$50,000 that was recorded as a restricted asset to start an endowment during the year end June 30, 2021. We did not record the earnings in 2021 2024 as they were immaterial to the financial statements
- 47. Restricted funds of \$100,392 remain available as restricted net assets for the playground project, endowment, and development fund at June 30, 2025.
- 48. We have a lease covenant with our landlord that requires us to set up a separate bank account to have a balance of \$30,000 at June 30, 2024. We have not set up a separate bank account but have been in talks with the landlord and he has given us an exception. In addition, we are in compliance with all of our financial covenants in the lease.
- 49. On August 9, 2024, we were served with a lawsuit in connection with the installation of the playground equipment. We settled this claim and paid \$20,000. The parties an agreement preventing further action.
- 50. With respect to Management's Discussion & Analysis and the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances Budget and Actual Governmental Funds and Special Revenue Funds:



a. We acknowledge our responsibility for presenting Management's Discussion & Analysis and Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – General Fund and Special Revenue Fund in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and we believe Management's Discussion & Analysis and the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – General Fund and Special Revenue Fund, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The methods of measurement and presentation of the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual – General Fund and Special Revenue Fund have not changed from those used in the prior period, and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the supplementary information.

Jason Portman, Executive Director

Michael Kridel

Michael Kridel, President & Board Chair