

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A  
ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER  
HIGH SCHOOL**

A Charter School and Component Unit of the District  
School Board of Broward County, Florida

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

*for the fiscal year ended JUNE 30, 2020*

***King & Walker, CPAs, PL***

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*Certified Public Accountants*

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**DENOVO, INC.**  
**D/B/A ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**

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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

To the Board of Directors of Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School,  
a Charter School and Component Unit of the  
District School Board of Broward County, Florida

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

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School ("School") a charter school and component unit of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### ***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 *Governmental 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 School'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 School'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 opinion.

## ***Opinions***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School, as of June 30, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## ***Other Matters***

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Budgetary Comparison Schedule, and Note to Required Supplementary Information, as shown in the table of contents, 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 historic 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 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 24, 2020 on our consideration of Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School'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 Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Respectfully submitted,



September 24, 2020  
Tampa, Florida

# **DENOVO, INC. D/B/A ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**

*A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida*

## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)**

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The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section of the annual financial report of Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School ("School") provides an overview of the School's activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.

Because the information contained in the MD&A is intended to highlight significant transactions, events, and conditions, it should be considered in conjunction with the School's financial statements and notes to financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the School's net change in the combined fund balances as shown on the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances – governmental funds was \$80,093.
- As shown on the balance sheet – governmental funds the School's combined fund balance amounted to \$215,176.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The basic financial statements consist of three components:

- ✓ Government-wide financial statements
- ✓ Fund financial statements
- ✓ Notes to financial statements

#### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements provide both short-term and long-term information about the School's overall financial condition in a manner similar to those of a private-sector business. The statements include a statement of net position and a statement of activities that are designed to provide consolidated financial information about the governmental activities of the School presented on the accrual basis of accounting. The statement of net position provides information about the government's financial position, its assets and liabilities, using an economic resources measurement focus. The difference between the assets and liabilities, the net position, is a measure of the financial health of the School. The statement of activities presents information about the change in the School's net position and the results of operations, during the fiscal year. An increase or decrease in net position is an indication of whether the School's financial health is improving or deteriorating. To assess the overall financial position of the School, one needs to consider additional non-financial factors such as changes in the School student base funding level.

# **DENOVO, INC. D/B/A ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**

*A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida*

## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)**

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### **Fund Financial Statements**

Fund financial statements are one of the components of the basic 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. Fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the School's financial activities, focusing on its most significant funds rather than fund types. This is in contrast to the entity-wide perspective contained in the government-wide financial statements.

Governmental Funds - Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, the governmental funds utilize a spendable financial resources measurement focus rather than the economic resources measurement focus found in the government-wide financial statements. The financial resources measurement focus allows the governmental fund financial statements to provide information on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources as well as balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

The governmental financial fund statements provide a detailed short-term view that may be used to evaluate the School's near-term financing requirements. This short-term view is useful when compared to the long-term view presented as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. To facilitate this comparison, both the governmental funds balance sheet and the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation of governmental funds to governmental activities.

The governmental funds balance sheet and statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide detailed information about the School's most significant funds. The School operates three funds; a General Fund, a Capital Projects Fund, and a Special Revenue Fund. The School has elected to show each fund as a major fund.

The School adopts an annual budget for its governmental funds. A budgetary comparison schedule, as required, has been provided for the General Fund and the Major Special Revenue Fund to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

### **Notes to Financial Statements**

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

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**

*A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida*

**MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)**

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**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

The following is a summary of the School’s current year and prior year net position:

	<b>Net Position, End of Year</b>		
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		
	<u>6-30-19</u>	<u>6-30-20</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current and Other Assets	\$ 189,740	\$ 268,683	\$ 78,943
Capital Assets, net	14,741	15,327	586
Total Assets	<u>204,481</u>	<u>284,010</u>	<u>79,529</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current Liabilities	54,657	53,507	(1,150)
Long-term Liabilities	<u>857,468</u>	<u>1,042,411</u>	<u>184,943</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>912,125</u>	<u>1,095,918</u>	<u>183,793</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(42,394)	(41,808)	586
Unrestricted	<u>(665,250)</u>	<u>(770,100)</u>	<u>(104,850)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ (707,644)</u>	<u>\$ (811,908)</u>	<u>\$ (104,264)</u>

The assets of the School consist of cash & cash equivalents, amounts due from other agency, and capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation. Liabilities primarily consist of accrued salaries and benefits payable and long-term notes payable.



# DENOVO, INC. D/B/A ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)

The following is a summary of the School's change in net position for the current year and prior year:

	Governmental Activities		
	6-30-19	6-30-20	Increase (Decrease)
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Federal Through State and Local	\$ 119,670	\$ 122,962	\$ 3,292
State Sources	1,757,976	1,884,653	126,677
Local and Other	59,243	33,370	(25,873)
Total Revenues	<u>1,936,889</u>	<u>2,040,985</u>	<u>104,096</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Instruction	562,994	604,519	41,525
Student Support Services	142,234	173,932	31,698
Instructional Media	38	1,605	1,567
Instruction & Curriculum Development	175	2,909	2,734
Instructional Staff Training	39	1,215	1,176
Instructional Related Technology	1,250	1,311	61
Board of Education	2,883	1,964	(919)
General Administration	79,203	86,267	7,064
School Administration	382,382	470,451	88,069
Fiscal Services	24,503	21,936	(2,567)
Food Services	124,973	123,362	(1,611)
Central Services	12,663	29,443	16,780
Student Transportation	50,653	35,400	(15,253)
Operation of Plant	494,404	572,062	77,658
Debt Service - Interest	-	10,285	10,285
Unallocated Depreciation	27,115	8,588	(18,527)
Total Expenses	<u>1,905,509</u>	<u>2,145,249</u>	<u>239,740</u>
<b>Increase/(Decrease) in Net Position</b>	<u>\$ 31,380</u>	<u>\$ (104,264)</u>	<u>\$ (135,644)</u>

The largest revenue source for the School is the State of Florida (92%). Revenues from State sources for current operations are primarily received through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) funding formula and Charter School Capital Outlay funds. Both sources utilize student enrollment data to determine the funds available for the School.

The largest concentration of expenses was for instructional related functions (37%), School Administration (22%) and Operation of Plant (27%). Operation of Plant increased this fiscal year due to the increase in rent.

# **DENOVO, INC. D/B/A ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**

*A Charter School and Component Unit of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida*

## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS - (Unaudited)**

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### **FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE SCHOOL'S FUNDS**

#### **Governmental Funds**

As the School completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$215,176.

### **BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The General Fund budget for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, was developed based on the School's anticipated revenues and expenditures and the expected student population for the school year. Over the course of the year, the school revised its General Fund budget several times. Refer to the Budgetary Comparison Schedule for additional information.

### **CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Capital Assets**

The School's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2020, amounts to \$15,327 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes furniture, fixtures, and equipment. Additional information about the School's capital assets is presented in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Long-Term Debt**

In the 2019-20 fiscal year, the School received a Paycheck Protection Loan under the CARES Act of \$196,946 to be used for payroll costs and health care benefits. As of June 30, 2020 the School had \$1,042,411 in long-term debt outstanding. Additional information regarding the School's long-term debt is located in the notes to the financial statements.

### **REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Director, Denovo, Inc. D/B/A Ascend Academy Charter High School, 5251 Coconut Creek Parkway, Margate, FL 33063.

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A  
ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL  
A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD, FLORIDA**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
June 30, 2020**

	Governmental Activities
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 259,751
Due From Other Agency	8,932
Capital Assets:	
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment, Net	15,327
Total Capital Assets, Net	15,327
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>284,010</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Salaries and Benefits Payable	49,294
Accounts Payable	4,213
Long-term Liabilities:	
Notes Payable, Due in One Year	86,709
Notes Payable, Due After One Year	955,702
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,095,918</b>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(41,808)
Unrestricted	(770,100)
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<b>\$ (811,908)</b>

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A**  
**ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD, FLORIDA**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020*

	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expenses) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:					
Instruction	\$ 604,519	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (604,519)
Student Support Services	173,932				(173,932)
Instructional Media	1,605				(1,605)
Instruction & Curriculum Development	2,909				(2,909)
Instructional Staff Training	1,215				(1,215)
Instructional Related Technology	1,311				(1,311)
Board of Education	1,964				(1,964)
General Administration	86,267				(86,267)
School Administration	470,451				(470,451)
Fiscal Services	21,936				(21,936)
Food Services	123,362		122,962		(400)
Central Services	29,443				(29,443)
Student Transportation	35,400				(35,400)
Operation of Plant	572,062			126,616	(445,446)
Debt Service - Interest	10,285				(10,285)
Unallocated Depreciation	8,588				(8,588)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 2,145,249	\$ -	\$ 122,962	\$ 126,616	(1,895,671)
General Revenues:					
State Sources					1,758,037
Local and Other					33,370
Total General Revenues					1,791,407
Change in Net Position					(104,264)
Net Position - July 1, 2019					(707,644)
Net Position - June 30, 2020					\$ (811,908)

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A**  
**ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD, FLORIDA**

**BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
*June 30, 2020*

	General Fund	Special Revenue Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 259,751	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 259,751
Due From Other Funds	8,932			8,932
Due From Other Agency			8,932	8,932
Total Assets	\$ 268,683	\$ -	\$ 8,932	\$ 277,615
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Salaries and Benefits Payable	\$ 49,294	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 49,294
Accounts Payable	4,213			4,213
Due To Other Funds			8,932	8,932
Total Liabilities	53,507	-	8,932	62,439
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>				
Unassigned	215,176	-	-	215,176
Total Fund Balances	215,176	-	-	215,176
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 268,683	\$ -	\$ 8,932	\$ 277,615

The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A  
ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL  
A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD, FLORIDA**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET  
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

*June 30, 2020*

<b>Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds</b>	\$ 215,176
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:	
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported as assets in governmental funds.	15,327
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the governmental funds. Long-term liabilities at year-end consist of notes payable.	<u>(1,042,411)</u>
<b>Total Net Position - Governmental Activities</b>	<u><u>\$ (811,908)</u></u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A**  
**ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE**  
**DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD, FLORIDA**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES**  
**IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020*

	<u>General</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Special</u> <u>Revenue</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Capital</u> <u>Projects</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Governmental</u> <u>Funds</u>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Intergovernmental:				
Federal Through State and Local	\$ -	\$ 122,962	\$ -	\$ 122,962
State Sources	1,758,037		126,616	1,884,653
Local and Other	33,370			33,370
Total Revenues	<u>1,791,407</u>	<u>122,962</u>	<u>126,616</u>	<u>2,040,985</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Current - Education:				
Instruction	604,519			604,519
Student Support Services	173,932			173,932
Instructional Media	1,605			1,605
Instruction & Curriculum Development	2,909			2,909
Instructional Staff Training	1,215			1,215
Instructional Related Technology	1,311			1,311
Board of Education	1,964			1,964
General Administration	86,267			86,267
School Administration	470,451			470,451
Fiscal Services	21,936			21,936
Food Services		123,362		123,362
Central Services	29,443			29,443
Student Transportation	35,400			35,400
Operation of Plant	445,446		126,616	572,062
Fixed Capital Outlay:				
Other Capital Outlay	9,174			9,174
Debt Service:				
Principal	12,003			12,003
Interest	10,285			10,285
Total Expenditures	<u>1,907,860</u>	<u>123,362</u>	<u>126,616</u>	<u>2,157,838</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>(116,453)</u>	<u>(400)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(116,853)</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Proceeds from Long Term Debt	196,946	-	-	196,946
Transfers In/(Out)	(400)	400		-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>196,546</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>196,946</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	80,093	-	-	80,093
Fund Balances, July 1, 2019	135,083	-	-	135,083
Fund Balances, June 30, 2020	<u>\$ 215,176</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 215,176</u>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A  
ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL  
A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD, FLORIDA**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF  
REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**

<b>Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds</b>	\$	80,093
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount of capital outlays (\$9,174) in excess of depreciation expense (\$8,588) in the current period.		586
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Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the payment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.		12,003
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Long-term debt proceeds are reported as other financing sources in Governmental Funds and as long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.		<u>(196,946)</u>
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<b>Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u><u>(104,264)</u></u></b>
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The accompanying notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.



**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**June 30, 2020**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

➤ **Reporting Entity**

Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High (“School”), is a component of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida (“District”). The School’s charter is held by Denovo, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation organized pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, the Florida Not-For-Profit Corporation Act. The governing body of the School is the not-for-profit corporation Board of Directors, which is comprised of not less than three members.

The general operating authority of the School is contained in Section 1002.33, Florida Statutes. The School operates under a charter of the sponsoring school district, the Broward County School Board, Florida, (“District”). The current charter is effective until June 30, 2020, and is subject to annual review and may be renewed by mutual agreement between the School and the District. In June 2020, the District renewed the charter agreement for an additional 5 years through June 30, 2025. At the end of the term of the charter, the District may choose not to renew the charter under grounds specified in the charter. During the term of the charter, the District may also terminate the charter if good cause is shown. The School is considered a component unit of the District; therefore, for financial reporting purposes, the School is required to follow generally accepted accounting principles applicable to state and local governmental units.

Criteria for determining if other entities are potential component units which should be reported within the School'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 provides for identification of any entities for which the School is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the School are such that exclusion would cause the School's basic financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. Based on these criteria, no component units are included within the reporting entity of the School.

➤ **Basis of Presentation**

Government-wide Financial Statements - Government-wide financial statements, including the statement of Net Position and the statement of activities, present information about the School as a whole.

Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the School’s governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and are thereby 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

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**June 30, 2020**

the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues. 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 School.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the School in the governmental funds. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is reported in a separate column. Because the focus of governmental fund financial statements differs from the focus of government-wide financial statements, reconciliation is presented with each of the governmental fund financial statements.

The School's considers all of its funds as major governmental funds:

- General Fund – to account for all financial resources not required to be accounted for in another fund, and for certain revenues from the State that are legally restricted to be expended for specific current operating purposes.
- Special Revenue Fund – to account for certain Federal grant program resources and the School's food service operations.
- Capital Projects Fund – to account for all resources for the acquisition of capital and related items purchased by the School with capital outlay funds.

➤ **Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures, or expenses, are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Revenues from grants, entitlements, and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been satisfied.

Governmental fund financial statements are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, except for certain grant revenues, are recognized when they become measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The School considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 30 days of the end of the current fiscal year. 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 recognized when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**June 30, 2020**

debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized when due. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation, are not recognized in governmental funds.

➤ **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of demand deposits with one financial institution. Deposits on hand at this financial institution are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Company up to \$250,000.

➤ **Capital Assets**

Expenditures for capital assets acquired or constructed for general School purposes are reported in the governmental fund that financed the acquisition or construction. The capital assets so acquired are reported at cost in the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the governmental fund financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the School as those costing more than \$1,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated assets are recorded at fair value at the date of donation.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	3 - 5 years

➤ **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 School does not 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 then. The School does not have any items that qualify for reporting in this category.

➤ **Net Position and Fund Balance Classification**

*Government-wide Financial Statements*

Net Position are classified and reported in three components:

- Net Investment in Capital Assets – consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings that are attributed to the acquisition or improvement of those assets.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**June 30, 2020**

- Restricted Net Position – consists of net position with constraints placed on their use either by external groups such as creditors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments.
- Unrestricted Net Position – all other net position that does not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets.”

*Fund Financial Statements*

GASB Codification Section 1800.142, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, defines the different types of fund balances that a governmental entity must use for financial reporting purposes. GASB requires the fund balance amounts to be reported within one of the following fund balance categories:

- Nonspendable – fund balance associated with inventories, prepaid expenses, long-term loans and notes receivable, and property held for resale (unless the proceeds are restricted, committed or assigned). All nonspendable fund balances at year end relate to assets that are in nonspendable form.
- Restricted – fund balance that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by the constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.
- Committed – fund balance that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the School’s Board of Governance.
- Assigned – fund balance that is intended to be used by the School’s management for specific purposes but does not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.
- Unassigned – fund balance that is the residual amount for the School’s general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

➤ **Order of Fund Balance Spending Policy**

The School’s policy is to apply expenditures against nonspendable fund balance, restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and unassigned fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. First, nonspendable fund balances are determined. Then restricted fund balances for specific purposes are determined (not including nonspendable amounts). Any remaining fund balance amounts for the non-general funds are to be classified as restricted fund balance. It is possible for the non-general funds to be classified as restricted fund balance. It is possible for the non-general funds to have negative unassigned fund balance when nonspendable amounts plus the amount of restricted fund balances for specific purposes exceed the positive fund balance for non-general fund.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**June 30, 2020**

➤ **Revenue Sources**

Revenues for current operations are received primarily from the District pursuant to the funding provisions included in the School's charter. In accordance with the funding provisions of the charter and Section 1002.33(17), Florida Statutes, the School reports the number of full-time equivalent students and related data to the District.

Under provisions of Section 1011.62, Florida Statutes, the District reports the number of full-time equivalent students and related data to the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) for funding through the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP). Funding for the School is adjusted during the year to reflect the revised calculations by the FDOE under the FEFP and the actual weighted full-time equivalent (FTE) students reported by the School during designated full-time equivalent student survey periods. The Department may also adjust subsequent fiscal period allocations based upon an audit of the School's compliance in determining and reporting FTE and related data. Normally, such adjustments are treated as reductions or additions of revenue in the year when the adjustments are made.

The basic amount of funding through the FEFP under Section 1011.62 is the product of the (1) unweighted FTE, multiplied by (2) the cost factor for each program, multiplied by (3) the base student allocation established by the legislature. Additional funds for exceptional students who do not have a matrix of services are provided through the guaranteed allocation designated in Section 1011.62(1)(e)2., Florida Statutes. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the School reported 251.03 unweighted and 256.1873 weighted FTE.

FEFP funding may also be adjusted as a result of subsequent FTE audits conducted by the Florida Auditor General pursuant to Section 1010.305, Florida Statutes, and Rule 6A-1.0453, Florida Administrative Code (FAC). Schools are required to maintain the following documentation for three years or until the completion of an FTE audit:

- ✓ Attendance and membership documentation (Rule 6A-1.044, FAC).
- ✓ Teacher certification documentation (Rule 6A-1.0503, FAC).
- ✓ Documentation for instructors teaching out-of-field (Rule 6A-1.0503, FAC).
- ✓ Procedural safeguards for weighted programs (Rule 6A-6.03411, FAC).
- ✓ Evaluation and planning documents for weighted programs (Section 1010.305, Florida Statutes, and Rule 6A-6.03411, FAC).

The School receives federal or state awards for the enhancement of various Education programs. This assistance is generally received based on applications submitted to and approved by various granting agencies. For federal or state awards in which a claim to these grant proceeds is based on incurring eligible expenditures, revenue is recognized to the extent that eligible expenditures have been incurred.

The School receives state funds through the District under charter school capital outlay funding pursuant to Section 1013.62, Florida Statutes. Funds are based

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**June 30, 2020**

upon a capital outlay plan submitted to the District and are to be used for lease, rent or construction of school facilities. The School also receives funding through donations and fundraising efforts, school lunch sales and local property tax collections.

The School follows the policy of applying restricted resources prior to applying unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted assets are available.

➤ **Income Taxes**

The School is exempt from Federal tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes has been included in the accompanying financial statements. Additionally, no uncertain tax positions have been made requiring disclosure in the related note to financial statements. The School's income tax returns for the past three years are subject to examination by tax authorities and may change upon examination.

➤ **Use of Estimates**

In preparing the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the statement of net position and affect revenues and expenditures for the period presented. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

➤ **Subsequent Events**

Management has evaluated all events subsequent to the balance sheet date and through the report date, which is the date these financial statements were available to be issued. Management is currently evaluating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the industry and has concluded that while it is reasonably possible that the virus could have a negative effect on the School's financial position, results of its operations and/or cash flows, the specific impact is not readily determinable as of the date of these financial statements. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

**2. CASH DEPOSITS**

*Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits.* In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School's deposits may not be returned to the School. The School does not have a custodial credit risk policy. Deposits on hand at financial institutions are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Company (FDIC) up to \$250,000. As of June 30, 2020, the School was exposed to custodial credit risk. The School's bank accounts exceeded the FDIC insurance limit by \$8,981.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**June 30, 2020**

**3. DUE FROM OTHER AGENCY**

Amounts Due from Other Agency included in the accompanying statement of net position and balance sheet – governmental funds consists of amounts due from the Broward County District School Board for Capital Outlay funds recorded in the Capital Projects Fund and. This receivable is considered to be fully collectible and as such, no allowance for uncollectible is accrued.

**4. CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS**

Changes in capital assets are presented in the table below:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>				
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	\$ 125,951	\$ 9,174	\$ -	\$ 135,125
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	<u>125,951</u>	<u>9,174</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,125</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	(111,210)	(8,588)		(119,798)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(111,210)</u>	<u>(8,588)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(119,798)</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, net	<u>\$ 14,741</u>	<u>\$ 586</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 15,327</u>

All depreciation expense was shown as unallocated on the Statement of Activities.

**5. INTERFUND RECEIVABLES/PAYABLES & TRANSFERS**

At June 30, 2020, the School’s Capital Projects Fund owed the General Fund \$8,932 for expenditures paid out of the General Fund awaiting reimbursement from other agencies. These amounts are netted together and not reported in the statement of net position.

During the fiscal year, the General Fund transferred \$400 to the Special Revenue Fund to assist with the School’s food service program. These amounts are netted together and not reported in the statement of activities.

**6. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

The School participates in state grant programs, which are governed by various rules and regulations of the grantor agencies. Costs charged to the respective grant programs are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor agencies, therefore, to the extent that the School has not complied with the rules and regulations governing the grants, refunds of any money received may be required and the collectability of any related receivables at June 30, 2020, may be impaired. In the opinion of the School, there are no significant liabilities relating to compliance with the rules and regulations governing the respective grants; therefore, no provision has been recorded in the accompanying financial statements for such contingencies.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**June 30, 2020**

**7. NOTES PAYABLE**

Notes payable consisted of the following:

	Balance at 6-30-20
<p><u>Alliance MCMLIX, LLC</u></p> <p>Promissory Note used for general operations, secured by certain furniture and fixtures not purchased with federal or state funds, bearing an interest rate of 1% per annum. All interest accrued through July 2019 is waived. Annual interest payments of 1% will begin August 2019. The Note will be amortized over 120 months at a future date as mutually agreed between the Lender and the School. In the event of School's failure to cure, the lender has the right to take immediate possession of the collateral and all obligations may be accelerated.</p>	\$ 788,330
<p><u>Beanstalk Innovation, Inc. f/k/a Generation Z Education, Inc.</u></p> <p>Promissory Note used for capital expenditures, secured by certain furniture and fixtures not purchased with federal or state funds, bearing an interest rate of 4% per annum. All interest accrued through July 2019 is waived. Annual interest payments will begin August 2019. The Note will be amortized over 120 months at a future date. In event of default, the School has 30 days to cure default. In the event of School's failure to cure, the lender has the right to take immediate possession of the collateral and all obligations may be accelerated.</p>	57,135
<p><u>Bank of America - Paycheck Protection Program</u></p> <p><del>The School obtained a loan from Bank of America in May 2020 in the amount of \$196,946, pursuant to the Paycheck Protection Program (the "PPP") under Division A, Title I of the CARES Act, which was enacted March 27, 2020.</del></p> <p>The Loan, which was in the form of a Note dated May 2020, matures on May 2022 and bears interest at a rate of 1% per annum, payable monthly commencing in November 2020. The Note may be prepaid by the School at any time prior to maturity with no prepayment penalties. Funds from the Loan may only be used for payroll costs, costs used to continue group health care benefits, mortgage payments, rent, utilities, and interest on other debt obligations incurred before February 15, 2020. Under the terms of the PPP, certain amounts of the Loan may be forgiven if they are used for qualifying purposes as described in the CARES Act.</p>	196,946
<p>Total Notes Payable</p>	\$ 1,042,411



**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**June 30, 2020**

**8. CHANGES IN LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deductions	Ending Balance	Due in One Year
GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES:					
Notes Payable	\$ 857,468	\$ 196,946	\$ (12,003)	\$ 1,042,411	\$ 86,709
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 857,468</u>	<u>\$ 196,946</u>	<u>\$ (12,003)</u>	<u>\$ 1,042,411</u>	<u>\$ 86,709</u>

**9. SCHEDULE OF STATE REVENUE SOURCES**

The following is a schedule of the School's State revenue:

Source	Amount
Florida Education Finance Program	\$ 1,116,097
Class Size Reduction	231,143
Discretionary Local Effort	135,495
Capital Outlay	126,616
ESE Guaranteed Allocation	92,822
Supplementary Academic Instruction	55,561
Transportation	50,052
Best and Brightest Teacher Scholarship Progr	22,949
Instructional Materials	18,707
Safe School	15,047
Reading Allocation	10,200
Mental Health Allocation	6,116
Teachers Classroom Assistance Program	3,205
Digital Classroom Allocation	401
Discretionary Lottery	242
Total State Revenue	<u>\$ 1,884,653</u>

As provided in the charter school contract, the District has charged the School an administrative fee totaling \$86,267.

Accounting policies relating to certain State revenue sources are described in Note 1.

**10. FACILITY LEASE**

Denovo, Inc., the School's charter-holder, entered into a lease agreement with Alliance XVI, LLC for its educational facility on April 23, 2015, for the period August 1, 2015, to July 31, 2035 (20 years), with options to extend the lease for 2 additional 10 year periods. The lease was subsequently amended to waive the rent for the period from August 1, 2015, to August 31, 2017, other than for amounts previously paid by the School. Rent expense charged to operations for the year ended June 30, 2020, totaled \$349,272.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**June 30, 2020**

The total future minimum payments for the years ended June 30, are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30:</u>	<u>Facilities</u>
2021	\$ 350,000
2022	359,625
2023	369,515
2024	379,676
2025	390,117
2026-2030	2,117,534
2031-2035	2,425,156
Total	<u>\$ 6,391,623</u>

**11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

A company owned by the School's landlord (Alliance MCMLIX, LLC) provided the School with a loan totaling \$800,333 at a 3% interest rate to fund the School's start-up and operating expenses. Additional information is in Note 7 of the financial statements.

**12. FUNDING AND CREDIT CONCENTRATIONS**

The School receives substantially all of its support and revenue from federal, state and local funding sources, passed through the District, in the form of performance and budget based contracts. Continuing operation of the School is greatly dependent upon the continued support of these governmental agencies.

**13. RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the School carries commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage and settlement amounts have not exceeded insurance coverage for the current year or the three prior years.

**14. LEGAL MATTERS**

In the normal course of conducting its operations, the School occasionally becomes party to various legal actions and proceedings. In the opinion of management, the ultimate resolution of such legal matters will not have a significant adverse effect on the accompanying financial statements.

**DENOVO, INC. D/B/A  
ASCEND ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL  
A CHARTER SCHOOL AND COMPONENT UNIT OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD, FLORIDA**

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND & MAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUND - (UNAUDITED)  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**

	General Fund				Major Special Revenue Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)
<b>Revenues:</b>								
Intergovernmental:								
Federal Through State and Local	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 146,000	\$ 122,962	\$ 122,962	\$ -
State Sources	1,736,659	1,758,037	1,758,037	-	-	-	-	-
Local and Other	87,625	33,370	33,370	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues	<u>1,824,284</u>	<u>1,791,407</u>	<u>1,791,407</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,000</u>	<u>122,962</u>	<u>122,962</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>								
Current - Education:								
Instruction	710,625	604,519	604,519	-	-	-	-	-
Student Support Services	296,400	173,932	173,932	-	-	-	-	-
Instructional Media	3,900	1,605	1,605	-	-	-	-	-
Instruction & Curriculum Development	-	2,909	2,909	-	-	-	-	-
Instructional Staff Training	-	1,215	1,215	-	-	-	-	-
Instructional Related Technology	-	1,311	1,311	-	-	-	-	-
Board of Education	8,750	1,964	1,964	-	-	-	-	-
General Administration	74,828	86,267	86,267	-	-	-	-	-
School Administration	281,900	470,451	470,451	-	-	-	-	-
Fiscal Services	-	21,936	21,936	-	-	-	-	-
Food Services	2,700	-	-	-	147,912	123,362	123,362	-
Central Services	1,300	29,443	29,443	-	-	-	-	-
Student Transportation	58,476	35,400	35,400	-	-	-	-	-
Operation of Plant	365,000	445,446	445,446	-	-	-	-	-
Maintenance of Plant	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fixed Capital Outlay:								
Other Capital Outlay	-	9,174	9,174	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service:								
Principal	10,292	12,003	12,003	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	10,285	10,285	10,285	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	<u>1,834,456</u>	<u>1,907,860</u>	<u>1,907,860</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>147,912</u>	<u>123,362</u>	<u>123,362</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>(10,172)</u>	<u>(116,453)</u>	<u>(116,453)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,912)</u>	<u>(400)</u>	<u>(400)</u>	<u>-</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Proceeds from Long Term Debt	-	196,946	196,946	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers In/(Out)	3,088	(400)	(400)	-	1,912	400	400	-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>3,088</u>	<u>196,546</u>	<u>196,546</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,912</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(7,084)	80,093	80,093	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balances, July 1, 2019	30,500	135,083	135,083	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balances, June 30, 2020	<u>\$ 23,416</u>	<u>\$ 215,176</u>	<u>\$ 215,176</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

See Independent Auditor's Report.

**NOTE TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**June 30, 2020**

**1. BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

Budgets are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. During the fiscal year, expenditures were controlled at the object level (e.g., salaries and benefits, purchased services, materials and supplies and capital outlay) within each activity (e.g., instruction, pupil personnel services and school administration). Budgets may be amended by resolution at any Board meeting prior to the date for the annual report.

**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards***

To the Board of Directors of the Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School,  
a Charter School and Component Unit of the  
District School Board of Broward County, 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 the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School ("School"), a charter school and component unit of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 24, 2020.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School'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 School's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School'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 School's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or 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 may exist that have not been identified.

## **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of 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 School'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 School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "King & Walker, CPAs". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

September 24, 2020  
Tampa, Florida

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

To the Board of Directors of Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School,  
a Charter School and Component Unit of the  
District School Board of Broward County, Florida

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of Denovo, Inc. d/b/a Ascend Academy Charter High School (“School”), a charter school and component unit of the District School Board of Broward County, Florida, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated September 24, 2020.

**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 those reports and schedule, which are dated September 24, 2020, 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 prior audit findings or recommendations.

**Official Title**

Section 10.854(1)(e)5., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that 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 Ascend Career Academy, 065209.

## **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 the School 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 School 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 School. It is management's responsibility to monitor the School'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 School 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 School maintained on its Web site the information specified in Section 1002.33(9)(p), Florida Statutes.

## **Additional Matters**

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

Section 10.854(1)(e)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we address noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have 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 District School Board of Broward County, Florida and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,



September 24, 2020  
Tampa, Florida