Application: Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls

Jen Pasek - jen@pasekconsulting.com
2020-2021 Annual Report

Entry 1 School Info and Cover Page

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions

Required of ALL Charter Schools

Each Annual Report begins with a completed School Information and Cover Page. The information is collected in a survey format within Annual Report portal. When entering information in the portal, some of the following items may not appear, depending on your authorizer and/or your responses to related items.

Entry 1 School Information and Cover Page

(New schools that were not open for instruction for the 2020-2021 school year are not required to complete or submit an annual report this year).

Please be advised that you will need to complete this cover page (including signatures) before all of the other tasks assigned to you by your school's authorizer are visible on your task page. While completing this cover page task, please ensure that you select the correct authorizer **(as of June 30, 2021)** or you may not be assigned the correct tasks.

BASIC INFORMATION

a. SCHOOL NAME

(Select name from the drop down menu)

BRIGHTER CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS 010100860830

a1. Popular School Name

BCCSG

b. CHARTER AUTHORIZER (As of June 30th, 2021)

Please select the correct authorizer as of June 30, 2021 or you may not be assigned the correct tasks.

BOARD OF REGENTS

c. DISTRICT / CSD OF LOCATION

ALBANY CITY SD

d. DATE OF INITIAL CHARTER

1/2001

e. DATE FIRST OPENED FOR INSTRUCTION

8/2002

f. APPROVED SCHOOL MISSION (Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE authorized schools only)

MISSION STATEMENT

The following Mission and KDEs were approved in March 2021:

The mission of Brighter Choice Charter Schools is to empower our scholars to be become responsible learners competent in reading, writing and mathematics and to develop their social-emotional skills. Brighter Choice Charter Schools is committed to providing a well-rounded academic program to all scholars that will enable them to realize their highest potential.

g. KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS (Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE authorized schools only)

KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS (Briefly describe each Key Design Elements (KDE) as presented in the schools approved charter. KDEs are those general aspects of the school that are innovative or unique to the school's mission and goals, are core to the school's overall design, and are critical to its success.

KDE 1	An Engaging, Standards-Based Academic Program including Integrated Studies
KDE 2	Character Development Aligned to the BCC Core Values
KDE 3	High Impact Professional Development for Educators
KDE 4	A Focus on Data to Drive Instruction
KDE 5	Parent and Community Partnerships
KDE 6	More Time for Learning through an Extended Day and Year
KDE 7	Single Gender Program
KDE 8	(No response)
KDE 9	(No response)
KDE 10	(No response)

Need additional space for variables

No

h. SCHOOL WEB ADDRESS (URL)

http://www.brighterchoice.org/

i. TOTAL MAX APPROVED ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR (exclude Pre-K program enrollment)

325

j. TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT ON JUNE 30, 2021 (exclude Pre-K program enrollment)

278

k. GRADES SERVED IN SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021 (exclude Pre-K program students)

Check all that apply

Grades Served	K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

l1. DOES THE SCHOOL CONTRACT WITH A CHARTER OR EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION?

No

FACILITIES INFORMATION

m. FACILITIES

Will the school maintain or operate multiple sites in 2021-2022?

	No, just one site.

School Site 1 (Primary)

m1. SCHOOL SITES

Please provide information on Site 1 for the upcoming school year.

	Physical Address	Phone Number	District/CSD	Grades to be Served at Site for coming year (K-5, 6-9, etc.)	Receives Rental Assistance for Which Grades (If yes, enter the appropriate grades. If no, enter No).
Site 1	250 Central Ave Albany NY 12206	518-694-4100	Albany	K-5	No

m1a. Please provide the contact information for Site 1.

	Name	Work Phone	Alternate Phone	Email Address
School Leader	Kristina Ford	518-694-4100		kford@brighterchoice.org
Operational Leader	Luke Licygiewicz	518-694-4100		LLicygiewicz@brighterchoice.org
Compliance Contact	Kristina Ford	518-694-4100		kford@brighterchoice.org
Complaint Contact	Kristina Ford	518-694-4100		kford@brighterchoice.org
DASA Coordinator	Caitlin Appleby	518-694-4100		cappleby@brighterchoice.org
Phone Contact for After Hours Emergencies	Luke Licygiewicz	518-603-2032		LLicygiewicz@brighterchoice.org

m1b. Is site 1 in public (co-located) space or in private space?

Private Space

IF LOCATED IN PRIVATE SPACE IN NYC OR IN DISTRICTS OUTSIDE NYC

m1d. Upload a current Certificate of Occupancy (COO) and the annual Fire Inspection Report for school site 1 if located in private space in NYC or located outside of NYC .

Certificate of Occupancy and Fire Inspection. Provide a copy of a current and non-expired certificate of occupancy (if outside NYC or in private space in NYC). For schools that are not in district space (NYC co-locations), provide a copy of a current and non-expired certificate of occupancy, and a copy of the current annual fire inspection results, which should be dated on or after July 1, 2021.

Site 1 Certificate of Occupancy (COO)

BCCSG CO.pdf

Filename: BCCSG CO.pdf **Size:** 29.9 kB

Site 1 Fire Inspection Report

BCCS_Girls_Fire_Safety_Report_2020.pdf

Filename: BCCS_Girls_Fire_Safety_Report_2020.pdf **Size:** 3.4 MB

CHARTER REVISIONS DURING THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

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n1. Were there any revisions to the school's charter during the 2020-2021 school year? (Please include approved or pending material and non-material charter revisions).

Yes

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n2. Summary of Charter Revisions

	Category (Select Best Description)	Specific Revision (150 word limit)	Date Approved by BOT (if applicable)	Date Approved by Authorizer (if applicable)
1	Change in mission, vision or philosophy	BCCS-G and BCCS-B adopted the same mission and key design elements	August 13, 2020	March 15, 2021
2	Change in discipline or code of conduct policy	Nonmaterial updates	July 16, 2020	March 15, 2021
3	Change in complaint policy	Nonmaterial updates	August 13, 2020	March 15, 2021
4	Change in complaint policy	Nonmaterial updates	August 13, 2020	March 15, 2021
5				

More revisions to add?

No

o. Has your school's Board of Trustee's approved a budget for the 2020-2021 FY?

Yes

ATTESTATIONS

p. Individual Primarily Responsible for Submitting the Annual Report.

Name	Jen Pasek
Position	Consultant
Phone/Extension	518-542-9810
Email	jen@pasekconsulting.com

p. Our signatures (Executive Director/School Leader/Head of School and Board President) below attest that our school has reviewed, understands and will comply with the employee clearance and fingerprint requirements as outlined in Entry 10 and found in the NYSED CSO Fingerprint Clearance Oct 2019 Memo. Click YES to agree.

Responses Selected:

Yes

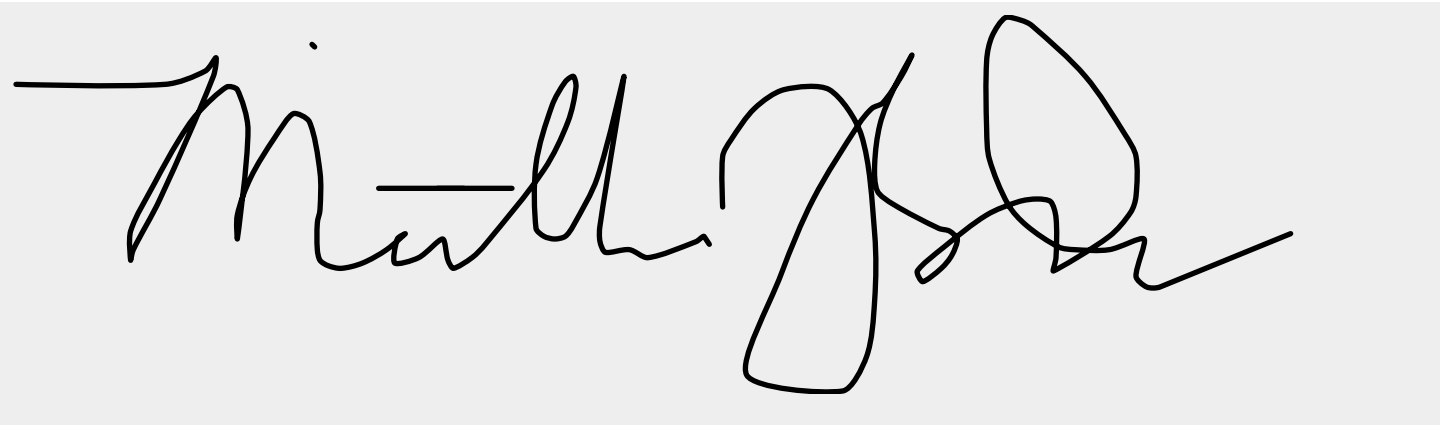
q. Our signatures (Executive Director/School Leader/Head of School and Board President) below attest that all of the information contained herein is truthful and accurate and that this charter school is in compliance with all aspects of its charter, and with all pertinent Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, and rules. We understand that if any information in any part of this report is found to have been deliberately misrepresented, that will constitute grounds for the revocation of our charter. Click YES to agree and then use the mouse on your PC or the stylus on your mobile device to sign your name).

Responses Selected:

Yes

Signature, Head of Charter School

Signature, President of the Board of Trustees



Date

Aug 2 2021

Thank you.

Entry 3 Progress Toward Goals

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions

Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE-authorized charter schools

For the 2020-2021 school year, any academic or organization goals that cannot be evaluated due to school closure resulting in a lack of data and changes in testing, surveying, and other usual practices should be reported as "N/A". **Deadline is November 1, 2021.**

PLEASE NOTE: This is a required task, and it is marked optional for administrative purposes only.

Entry 3 Progress Toward Goals

PROGRESS TOWARD CHARTER GOALS

Board of Regents-authorized and NYCDOE-authorized charter schools only.

Complete the tables provided. List each goal and measure as contained in the school's currently approved charter, and indicate whether the school has met or not met the goal. Please provide information for all goals no later than November 2, 2021.

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1. ACADEMIC STUDENT PERFORMANCE GOALS

For the 2020-2021 school year, any academic goals that cannot be evaluated due to school closure resulting in a lack of data and changes in testing, surveying, and other usual practices should be reported as "N/A".

2020-2021 Progress Toward Attainment of Academic Goals

	Academic Student Performance Goal	Measure Used to Evaluate Progress Toward Attainment of Goal	Goal - Met, Not Met or Unable to Assess	If not met, describe efforts the school will take to meet goal. If unable to assess goal, type N/A for Not Applicable
Academic Goal 1	NYS ELA 3-8 Scores Compared to District and NYS		Unable to Assess	NWEA MAP growth data for grades 3-5 was submitted to the authorizer.
Academic Goal 2	NYS Math 3-8 Scores Compared to District and NYS		Unable to Assess	NWEA MAP growth data for grades 3-5 was submitted to the authorizer.
Academic Goal 3				
Academic Goal 4				
Academic Goal 5				
Academic Goal 6				
Academic Goal 7				
Academic Goal 8				
Academic Goal 9				
Academic Goal 10				

2. Do have more academic goals to add?

No

4. ORGANIZATION GOALS

For the 2020-2021 school year, any organization goals that cannot be evaluated due to school closure resulting in a lack of data and changes in testing, surveying, and other usual practices should be reported as “N/A”.

2020-2021 Progress Toward Attainment of Organization Goals

	Organizational Goal	Measure Used to Evaluate Progress	Goal - Met, Not Met, or Unable to Assess	If not met, describe efforts the school will take to meet goal. If unable to assess goal, type N/A for Not Applicable
Org Goal 1	NA			
Org Goal 2				
Org Goal 3				
Org Goal 4				
Org Goal 5				
Org Goal 6				
Org Goal 7				
Org Goal 8				
Org Goal 9				
Org Goal 10				
Org Goal 11				
Org Goal 12				
Org Goal 13				

Org Goal 14				
Org Goal 15				
Org Goal 16				
Org Goal 17				
Org Goal 18				
Org Goal 19				
Org Goal 20				

5. Do have more organizational goals to add?

No

6. FINANCIAL GOALS

2020-2021 Progress Toward Attainment of Financial Goals

	Financial Goals	Measure Used to Evaluate Progress	Goal - Met, Not Met, or Partially Met	If not met, describe efforts the school will take to meet goal.
Financial Goal 1	NA			
Financial Goal 2				
Financial Goal 3				
Financial Goal 4				
Financial Goal 5				

7. Do have more financial goals to add?

No

Thank you.

Entry 4 - Audited Financial Statements

Completed Nov 1 2021

Required of ALL Charter Schools

ALL SUNY-authorized charter schools must upload the financial statements in .pdf format into the SUNY Epicenter system no later than **November 1, 2021.** SUNY CSI will forward to NYSED CSO.

ALL Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE authorized charter schools must upload final, audited financial statements to the Annual Report Portal no later than **November 1, 2021**. Upload the independent auditor's report, any advisory and/or management letter, and the internal controls report as one submission, combined into a .PDF file, ensuring that security features such as password protection are turned off.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a required task, and it is marked optional for administrative purposes only.

BCCS Girls and Boys - FS 2021 FINAL

Filename: BCCS_Girls_and_Boys__FS_2021_FINAL_Aycimkc.pdf **Size:** 310.7 kB

Entry 4b – Audited Financial Report Template (BOR/NYC/BOE)

Completed Dec 20 2021

Instructions - Regents-Authorized Charter Schools ONLY

Regents-authorized schools must download and complete the Excel spreadsheet entitled "Audited Financial Report Template" from the online portal or the website at 2020-2021 Charter School Annual Report webpage. Upload the completed file in Excel format. **Due November 1, 2021.**

Education Corporations with more than one school should complete the Excel spreadsheet for the Education Corporation as a whole, not for the individual schools. Please submit the same Excel spreadsheet for each of the schools.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a required task, and it is marked optional for administrative purposes only.

Brighter Choice CS for Girls_BEDS-010100860830_2020-21

Filename: Brighter_Choice_CS_for_Girls_BEDS_h00xrgE.xlsx **Size:** 76.3 kB

Entry 4c – Additional Financial Documents

Completed Nov 1 2021

Instructions - Regents, NYCDOE and Buffalo BOE authorized schools must upload financial documents in this section **by November 1, 2021**. The items listed below should be uploaded, with an explanation if not applicable or available. For example, a "federal Single Audit was not required because the school did not expend federal funds of more than the $750,000 Threshold."

1. Advisory and/or Management letter

2. Federal Single Audit
3. CSP Agreed-Upon Procedure Report
4. Evidence of Required Escrow Account for each school[1]
5. Corrective Action Plan for Audit Findings and Management Letter Recommendations

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[1] Note: For BOR schools chartered or renewed after the 2017-2018 school year, the escrow account per school is $100,000.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a required task, and it is marked optional for administrative purposes only.

7392-BCCS Girls Reserve Acct _7392-20210930_Redacted

Filename: 7392 BCCS Girls Reserve Acct 7392 JeD85MU.pdf **Size:** 1.3 MB

Entry 4d - Financial Services Contact Information

Completed Nov 1 2021

Instructions: Please enter the contact information for school staff, firms or other entities providing financial services to the education corporation **by November 1, 2021**.

Form for "Financial Services Contact Information"

1. School Based Fiscal Contact Information

	School Based Fiscal Contact Name	School Based Fiscal Contact Email	School Based Fiscal Contact Phone
	Lukasz Licygiewicz	[redacted]	[redacted]

2. Audit Firm Contact Information

	School Audit Contact Name	School Audit Contact Email	School Audit Contact Phone	Years Working With This Audit Firm
	Cusack & Company	[redacted]	[redacted]	13

3. If applicable, please provide contact information for the school's outsourced financial services firm.

	Firm Name	Contact Person	Mailing Address	Email	Phone	Years With Firm
	BoostEd	Paul Augello	135 W. 41st Street, 5th Floor New York, NY 10036	[redacted]	[redacted]	6

Entry 5 – Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions - Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE authorized charter schools should upload a copy of the school's FY21 Budget using the 2021-2022 Projected Annual Budget template in the portal or from the Annual Report website **by November 1, 2021**.

The assumptions column should be completed for all revenue and expense items unless the item is self-explanatory. Where applicable, reference the page number or section in the application narrative that indicates the assumption being made. For instance, student enrollment would reference the applicable page number in Section I, C of the application narrative.

Instructions - SUNY authorized charter schools should download the 2021-2022 Budget and Quarterly Report Template on the SUNY website or Epicenter and upload the completed template into the portal **by November 1, 2021**.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a required task, and it is marked optional for administrative purposes only.

BCCS Girls 2021-2022 BudgetTemplate MZ

Filename: BCCS_Girls_2021_2022_BudgetTemplate_MZ.xlsx **Size:** 40.8 kB

Entry 6 – Board of Trustees Disclosure of Financial Interest Form

Completed Sep 14 2021

Required of ALL Charter Schools by August 2

Each member of the charter school's Board of Trustees who served on a charter school education corporation governing one or more charter schools for any period during the 2020-2021 school year must complete a signed:

- Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE Authorized Schools: Disclosure of Financial Interest Form
- SUNY- Authorized Charter Schools: SUNY Trustee Financial Disclosure Form

All completed forms must be collected and uploaded in .PDF format for each individual member. **If a trustee is not able or available to complete the form by the deadline, the education corporation**

is responsible for doing so on behalf of the trustee. (Forms completed from past years will not be accepted).

Trustees serving on an education corporation that governs more than one school are not required to complete a separate disclosure for each school governed by the **education** corporation. In the Disclosure of Financial Interest Form, trustees must disclose information relevant to any of the schools served by the governing education corporation. Note: Docusign is accepted.

BCCS BOT Complete for Upload

Filename: BCCS_BOT_Complete_for_Upload_ajwaWiU.pdf **Size:** 1.8 MB

Entry 7 BOT Membership Table

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions

Required of All charter schools

ALL charter schools or education corporations governing multiple schools must complete the Board of Trustees Membership Table within the online portal. Please be sure to include and identify parents who are members of the Board of Trustees and indicate whether parents are voting or non-voting members.

Entry 7 BOT Table

1. SUNY-AUTHORIZED charter schools are required to provide information for VOTING Trustees only.
2. REGENTS, NYCDOE, and BUFFALO BOE-AUTHORIZED charter schools are required to provide information for all --VOTING and NON-VOTING-- trustees.

1. 2020-2021 Board Member Information (Enter info for each BOT member)

	Trustee Name	Trustee Email Address	Position on the Board	Committee Affiliations	Voting Member Per By-Laws (Y/N)	Number of Terms Served	Start Date of Current Term (MM/DD/YYYY)	End Date of Current Term (MM/DD/YYYY)	Board Meetings Attended During 2020-2021
		[redacted]							

1	Martha Snyder	[redacted]	Chair	Finance	Yes	4	06/01/2021	06/01/2024	12
2	Trudy Hanmer	[redacted]	Vice Chair	Academic, Governance	Yes	3	06/01/2021	06/01/2024	12
3	Zoe Nelson	[redacted]	Secretary	Finance, Academic	Yes	4	06/01/2021	06/01/2024	12
4	Robert McLaughlin	[redacted]	Trustee/ Member	-	Yes	1	11/01/2018	10/31/2021	8
5	Nilsa Velilla	[redacted]	Trustee/ Member	Academic, Governance	Yes	5	06/01/2021	06/01/2024	6
6	Nicole Maresca	[redacted]	Treasurer		Yes	1	04/01/2019	3/31/2022	9
7	Paul Romain	[redacted]	Trustee/ Member	Academic, Fiscal	Yes	1	04/15/2021	04/15/2021	5 or less
8					Yes				
9					Yes				

1a. Are there more than 9 members of the Board of Trustees?

No

2. INFORMATION ABOUT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1. SUNY-AUTHORIZED charter schools provide response relative to VOTING Trustees only.
2. REGENTS, NYCDOE, and BUFFALO BOE-AUTHORIZED charter schools provide a response relative to all trustees.

a. Total Number of BOT Members on June 30, 2021	7
b.Total Number of Members Added During 2020-2021	1
c. Total Number of Members who Departed during 2020-2021	0
d.Total Number of members, as set in Bylaws, Resolution or Minutes	7

3. Number of Board meetings held during 2020-2021

13

4. Number of Board meetings scheduled for 2021-2022

12

Thank you.

Entry 8 Board Meeting Minutes

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions - Required of Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE Authorized Schools ONLY

Schools must upload a complete set of monthly board meeting minutes (July 2020-June 2021), which should match the number of meetings held during the 2020-2021 school year, as indicated in the above table. The minutes provided must be the final version approved by the school's Board of Trustees and may be uploaded individually or as one single combined file. Board meeting minutes must be submitted by August 2, 2021.

BCCS 2020-21 meeting minutes

Filename: BCCS 2020 21 meeting minutes VIoJ4BY.pdf **Size:** 4.3 MB

Entry 9 Enrollment & Retention

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions for submitting Enrollment and Retention Efforts

ALL charter schools must complete this section. Describe the good faith efforts the charter school has made in 2020-2021 toward meeting targets to attract and retain the enrollment of Students with Disabilities (SWDs), English Language Learners (ELLs), and students who are economically disadvantaged. In addition, describe the school's plans for meeting or making progress toward meeting its enrollment and retention targets in 2021-2022.

Entry 9 Enrollment and Retention of Special Populations

Instructions for Reporting Enrollment and Retention Strategies

Describe the efforts the charter school has made in 2020-2021 toward meeting targets to attract and retain enrollment of students with disabilities, English language learners, and students who are economically disadvantaged. In addition, describe the school's plans for meeting or making progress toward meeting its enrollment and retention targets in 2021-2022.

Recruitment/Attraction Efforts Toward Meeting Targets

	Describe Recruitment Efforts in 2020-2021	Describe Recruitment Plans in 2021-2022
	School will continue to use targeted language in marketing and enrollment events to ensure that families understand how BCCSG strives to fulfill needs of economically disadvantaged students including: free uniform,	

Economically Disadvantaged	community eligibility status for breakfast and lunch, a supper program, backpack program, additional transportation within mile and a half radius of school and Schenectady and Troy bussing. -Employed parent coordinator will continue to focus on serving parents and any special family needs. Parent coordinator will also oversee school identified recruitment strategies to ensure high enrollment of economically disadvantaged students. These include: -Duplicating our top performing strategies -Holding open house recruitment events -Building and establishing a presence in community events -Advertising in low income areas -Mail campaigns -Commercial Continuing with the partnership with APD’s -Handle with Care program with a direct relationship with the school counselor to provide group and individual counseling. -Continued implementation of targeted Social-Emotional programs by classroom teachers and a Character Education Teacher -Form relationships with community stakeholders and develop a marketing presence. -We offer an incentivized attendance program for scholars with low attendance. Integrating more technology in relationship with the school counselor to provide group and	In 2020-2021, our percentage of ED students was 85% and the district was 68%. Going forward, we will continue to use the strategies described to the left. In addition, we have added a new position to our staffing model to support executing and tracking recruitment strategy success rates for all subgroups. Our Director of Recruitmentwill be responsible for: -leading and directing recruitment initiatives for all students including special populations - meeting expected enrollment goals -forming and maintaining community partnerships

	individual counseling. -Continued implementation of targeted Social-Emotional programs by classroom teachers and Counselor -Form relationships with community stakeholders and develop a marketing presence. -We offer an incentivized attendance program for scholars with low attendance. Integrating more technology in the classroom to increase engagement and address different learning styles. -Initiating a parent referral program -Create virtual open house presentation and tour options. -Advertise in local community publications. -Attend community events on behalf of BCCS -Send out advertising information to our local government representatives. -During the closure we focus on recruiting through our social media outlets.	
	Continued efforts with the following; -Targeted language in marketing and enrollment events to ensure that families understand how school strives to fulfill needs of ELL students -Marketing images continue to be diversified to represent scholars from many cultures. -Partnerships will be cultivated with a variety of local businesses and marketing materials posted. -Ensure enrollment activities	

English Language Learners	target preschools in communities with high numbers of ELL students. -Employed a 1.0 FTE ELL teacher. -Cultivate a relationship with refugee liaisons to support current families and inform others about school choice. -Employing marketing strategies that differentiates BCCS from other charter and district schools. -Ensuring our programs have appropriately dedicated and trained/certified staff. -Ensuring Spanish translators are available during family events and dismissal. -Continuing our relationships with various translators for family events including Open House. -Continue to translate our application into Spanish, Arabic and Bengali -Join a consortium with area schools to service our ELLs -Highlight services offered for ELL at school in school advertising	In 2020-2021, our percentage of ELLs was two percentage points above of our local district in comparable grades. Our newly hire Director of Recruitment will be heading up initiatives and continuing to use the strategies listed to the left to recruit these students going forward.
	-BCCS marketing plans continue to include targeted language and videos on our social media platforms to represent our efforts to meet the needs of SWD. -Marketing materials will include the related services and various BCCS-G programming for SWDs. -Twice a year revised marketing materials will be sent to all district CSE and CPSE chairs in Albany, Troy and Schenectady highlighting our programs for SWDs. -Include social media videos	

Students with Disabilities	highlighting stories from families with SWDs. -Financial Assistance offered to SWDs -Budgeted line for reasonable accommodations for SWDs. School continues to be intentional about seeking out prospective staff members who are dual certified to serve SWD. School will continue to employ parent coordinator position focused on serving parents and any special family needs. -School will build on the relationship with the organization Spotted Zebra and begin to cultivate a relationship with Capital District Beginnings. -School will continue to employ a certified Special Education Coordinator responsible for overseeing programs that provide educational assistance to IEP scholars as well and providing special education services to IEP scholars. -School will keep revised open house that includes a time for prospective parents to connect with teachers and school leaders to discuss student needs, and begin to build relationships; school will ensure that the SPED Coordinator is present to help and field questions. -Continue school admission policy which has established a system for a weighted lottery for students with disabilities. -Use of grass root marketing and commercial emphasizing our special education programming. -Brighter Choice continues to cultivate a relationship with Saint	Our population of SWD was below the district in 2020-21. Going forward we will continue our efforts to attract and enroll SWD with the goal of meeting the district. See above for description of our new position created to oversee the process of targeted recruitment.

	Rose in order to host student teachers who are enrolled in Special Education courses. -SPED coordinator will continue the Student Support Team process which entails meeting regularly concerning at-risk students for initial and follow-up meetings. This allows our staff to be responsive to the needs of our students and identify students who may need further evaluation or identification. -Brighter Choice continues to be flexible to meet the needs of all students. This year BCCS will include two to three co-teaching classrooms to serve the needs of students with disabilities. BCCS will continue to make internal schedule changes to specific homeroom schedules as needed in order to meet student needs. We continue to explore additional programming options in order to attract and retain Students with Disabilities.	

Retention Efforts Toward Meeting Targets

	Describe Retention Efforts in 2020-2021	Describe Retention Plans in 2021-2022
	This year we: - Continue to focus and support families who are experiencing economic hardship. - Utilize a counselor to support families with counseling appointments or any follow up appointments. · Continue to extend supper program to serve scholars participating in backpack	

Economically Disadvantaged	program and afterschool programs. Include afterschool tutoring during the school year. · Continue to provide transportation for students less than 1.5 mile radius and Schenectady transportation. · Continue to implement an incentivized attendance program for scholars with low attendance. Social media is the main tool we are using to maintain consistent family engagement. Students are continuing with instruction through our Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls Youtube channel where their teachers are posting daily videos. Teachers are also maintaining weekly contact with scholar families. The school held a reverse parade for scholars and families. We also send blast communication regarding all important updates.	Given our high population of ED students relative to our local district, BCCSG has a well-developed program for supporting these students. Our retention rate for 2020-21 was 69%. We will use the strategies listed to the left, as well as tools such as Class Dojo, to provide students and families with increased support as scholars return to in-person learning in the 2021-22 school year.
	BCCSG offers the following supports for ELLs: We employ a full time ESL teacher. In addition, our support staff includes two School Counselors, two Student Success Coordinators, three RtI teachers, a SPED Coordinator, and two SPED-certified teachers. In addition, our Parent Coordinator focuses on serving parents and any special family needs. We established an ELL community liaison position to support a connection between BCCSG and prospective families. We recruit prospective staff members who are bilingual and can support families of ELL	As with ED students, we are focused on identifying and addressing academic and social-emotional needs for ELLs as they

English Language Learners	students. We provided translation support in Spanish and Arabic at orientations, enrollment events, and at other occasions as needed. We have a relationship with US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI http://refugees.org/field-office/albany/) to support current families by connecting networks of support. We continue to build capacity with current staff to service needs of ELL students through professional development opportunities with CASDA and University of Albany and opportunities for collaboration with the ELL teacher at BCCS-B.	return to in-person learning. We retained 90% of eligible ELLs in 2020-21 and will continue to implement the strategies stated to the left in 2021-22.
	BCCSG offers the following supports for students with disabilities: We employ a certified Special Education Coordinator who responsible for overseeing programs that provide educational assistance to IEP scholars as well and providing special education services to IEP scholars.Our SPED coordinator re-initiated the Student Support Team which meets regularly concerning at-risk students for initial and follow-up meetings. This allows our staff to be responsive to the needs of our students and identify students who may need further evaluation or identification. In addition, our student support staff includes two School Counselors, two Student Success Coordinators,	The 2020-21 retention rate of eligible students with disabilities was 78%. Similar to ELLs and ED students, we are committed to providing our SWD with the

Students with Disabilities	three RtI teachers, and two SPED-certified teachers. In addition, our Parent Coordinator focuses on serving parents and any special family needs. We are intentional about recruiting prospective staff members who are certified to serve SWD. Brighter Choice Girls has also cultivated a relationship with Saint Rose in order to host student teachers who are enrolled in Special Education courses. Brighter Choice Girls continues to be flexible to meet the needs of all students. We make internal schedule changes to specific homeroom schedules as needed in order to meet student needs. We continue to explore additional programming options in order to attract and retain Students with Disabilities.	supports necessary to adjust back to the classroom in 2021-22. We will continue using the services stated to the left to facilitate this transition.

Entry 10 – Teacher and Administrator Attrition

Completed Sep 14 2021

Form for "Entry 10 – Teacher and Administrator Attrition" Revised to Employee Fingerprint Requirements Attestation

A. TEACH System – Employee Clearance

Charter schools must ensure that all prospective employees[1] receive clearance through the NYSED Office of School Personnel Review and Accountability (OSPRA) prior to employment. **This includes paraprofessionals and other school personnel that are provided or assigned by the district of location, or related/contracted service providers**. After an employee has been cleared, schools are required to maintain proof of such clearance in the file of each employee. For the safety of all students, charter schools must take immediate steps to terminate the employment of individuals who have been denied clearance. Once the employees have been terminated, the school must terminate the request for clearance in the TEACH system.

In the Annual Report, charter schools are asked to confirm that all employees have been cleared through the NYSED TEACH system; and, if denied clearance, confirm that the individual or employee has been removed from the TEACH system, and is not employed by the school.

[1] Employees that must be cleared include, but are not limited to, teachers, administrative staff, janitors, security personnel and cafeteria workers, and other staff who are present when children are in the school building. **This includes paraprofessionals and other school personnel that are provided or assigned by the district of location, as well as related/contracted service providers**. See NYSED memorandum dated October 1, 2019 at http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/aboutcharterschools/lawsandregs/EmployeeFingerprintOct19.pdf or visit the NYSED website at: http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tsei/ospra/fingerprintingcharts.html for more information regarding who must be fingerprinted. Also see, 8 NYCRR §87.2.

B. Emergency Conditional Clearances

Charter schools are **strongly discouraged** from using the emergency conditional clearance provisions for prospective employees. This is because the school must simultaneously request clearance through NYSED TEACH, and the school's emergency conditional clearance of the employee terminates automatically once the school receives notification from NYSED regarding the clearance request. Status notification is provided for all prospective employees through the NYSED TEACH portal within 48 hours after the clearance request is submitted. Therefore, at most, a school's emergency conditional clearance will be valid for only 48 hours after approval by the board.

Schools are not permitted to renew or in any way re-establish a prospective employee's emergency conditional clearance after status notification is sent by NYSED through the TEACH portal.

Schools are asked to attest that they have reviewed and understand these requirements. More information can be found in the memo at http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/aboutcharterschools/lawsandregs/EmployeeFingerprintOct19.pdf.

Attestation

Responses Selected:

I hereby attest that the school has reviewed, understands, and will comply with these requirements.

Entry 11 Percent of Uncertified Teachers

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions

Required of Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE Authorized Charter Schools ONLY

The table below reflects the information collected through the online portal for compliance with New York State Education Law 2854(3)(a-1) for teaching staff qualifications. Uncertified teachers are those not certified pursuant to the State Certification Requirements established by the NYSED Commissioner of Education.

Enter the relevant full-time equivalent (FTE) count of teachers in each column. For example, a school with 20 full-time teachers and 5 half-time teachers would have an FTE count of 22.5.

Entry 11 Uncertified Teachers

School Name:

Instructions for Reporting Percent of Uncertified Teachers

Required of Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE Authorized Charter Schools

The table below reflects the information collected through the online portal for compliance with New York State Education Law 2854(3)(a-1) for teaching staff qualifications. Uncertified teachers are those not certified pursuant to the State Certification Requirements established by the NYSED Commissioner of Education. Enter the relevant full-time equivalent (FTE) count of teachers in each column. For example, a school with 20 full-time teachers and 5 half-time teachers would have an FTE count of 22.5.

If more than one line applies to a teacher, please include in only one FTE uncertified category. Please do not include paraprofessionals, such as teacher aides.

CATEGORY A. 30% OR 5 UNCERTIFIED TEACHERS WHICHEVER IS LESS

	FTE Count
i. FTE count of uncertified teacher with at least three years of elementary, middle or secondary classroom teaching experience (as of June 30, 2021)	2
ii. FTE count of uncertified teachers who are tenured or tenure track college faculty (as of June 30, 2021)	
iii. FTE count of uncertified teachers with two years of Teach for America experience (as of June 30, 2021)	
iv. FTE count of uncertified teachers with exceptional business, professional, artistic, athletic, or military experience (as June 30, 2021)	
Total Category A: 5 or 30% whichever is less	2.0

CATEGORY B. PLUS FIVE UNCERTIFIED TEACHERS IN MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, COMPUTER SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY OR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

	FTE Count
i. FTE count of uncertified teacher with at least three years of elementary, middle or secondary classroom teaching experience (as of June 30, 2021)	
ii. FTE count of uncertified teachers who are tenured or tenure track college faculty (as of June 30, 2021)	
iii. FTE count of uncertified teachers with two years of Teach for America experience (as of June 30, 2021)	
iv. FTE count of uncertified teachers with exceptional business, professional, artistic, athletic, or military experience (as June 30, 2021)	
Total Category B: not to exceed 5	0

CATEGORY C: PLUS 5 ADDITIONAL UNCERTIFIED TEACHERS

	FTE Count
i. FTE count of uncertified teacher with at least three years of elementary, middle or secondary classroom teaching experience (as of June 30, 2021)	
ii. FTE count of uncertified teachers who are tenured or tenure track college faculty (as of June 30, 2021)	
iii. FTE count of uncertified teachers with two years of Teach for America experience (as of June 30, 2021)	
iv. FTE count of uncertified teachers with exceptional business, professional, artistic, athletic, or military experience (as June 30, 2021)	
Total Category C: not to exceed 5	0

CATEGORY D: TOTAL FTE COUNT OF UNCATEGORIZED, UNCERTIFIED TEACHERS

(Include teachers who do not fit in one of these categories or if did fit would exceed the numerical limits for that category)

	FTE Count
Total Category D	0

CATEGORY E: TOTAL FTE COUNT OF CERTIFIED TEACHERS

	FTE Count
Total Category E	23

CATEGORY F: TOTAL FTE COUNT OF ALL TEACHERS

Please do not include paraprofessionals, such as teacher aides.

	FTE Count
Total Category F	25

Thank you.

Entry 12 Organization Chart

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions

Required of Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE Authorized Charter Schools ONLY

Upload the 2020-2021 **Organization Chart.** The organization chart should include position titles and reporting relationships. Employee names should not appear on the chart

BCCSG 2020-2021 Org Chart Updated 7

Filename: BCCSG_2020_2021_Org_Chart_Updated_7.21.20.pdf **Size:** 218.1 kB

Entry 13 School Calendar

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions for submitting School Calendar

Required of ALL Charter Schools

Given these uncertain and changing times, charter schools may or may not have a school calendar ready to upload by the submission deadline this year of August 2, 2021. If the charter school has a tentative calendar based on available information and guidance at the time, please submit with the August 2nd submission. Charter schools will be able to upload an updated school calendar into the portal at any time but no later than **September 15, 2021**.

School calendars must meet the minimum instructional requirements as required of other public schools *"… unless the school's charter requires more instructional time than is required under the regulations."*

Board of Regents-authorized charter schools are required to submit school calendars that clearly indicate the start and end date of the instructional year AND the number of instructional hours and/or instructional days for each month.

PLEASE NOTE: This is a required task, and it is marked optional for administrative purposes only.

BCCS Calendar 21-22 9

Filename: BCCS Calendar 21 22 9.14.21.pdf **Size:** 148.2 kB

Entry 14 Links to Critical Documents on School Website

Completed Sep 14 2021

Instructions

Required of Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE Authorized Charter Schools ONLY

By law, each charter school is required to maintain certain notices and policies listed on its website. Please insert the link from the school's website for each of the items:

1. Most recently filed Annual Report (i.e., 2019-2020 Annual Report);
2. Most recent board meeting notice, documents to be discussed at the meeting (if any), and webcast of Board meetings (if held virtually per Governor's Executive Order);
3. Link to New York State School Report Card;
4. Lottery Notice announcing date of lottery;
5. Authorizer-approved DASA Policy;
6. District-wide safety plan and Authorizer-approved Discipline Policy (as per August 29, 2019 Emergency Response Plan Memo);
7. Authorizer-approved FOIL Policy; and
8. Subject matter list of FOIL records.
9. Link to School Reopening Plan

Form for Entry 14 Links to Critical Documents on School Website

School Name: Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls

Required of ALL Charter Schools noting that SUNY-authorized charter schools are not required to submit item 5: Authorizer-approved DASA policy

By law, each charter school is required to maintain certain notices and policies listed on its website. Please insert the link from the school's website for each of the items:

	Link to Documents
1. Most Recent Annual Report (i.e., 2019-20)	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=3845
2. Most recent board meeting notice, documents to be discussed at the meeting (if any)	https://app2.boardontrack.com/public/ZMGdjp/meetingsList
2a. Webcast of Board Meetings (per Governor's Executive Order)	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=3845
3. Link to NYS School Report Card	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=3845
4. Lottery Notice announcing date of lottery	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=4870
5. Authorizer-approved DASA Policy (For Regents, NYCDOE, and Buffalo BOE Authorized Charter Schools ONLY);	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=3892
6. District-wide Safety Plan	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=3845
6a. Authorizer-Approved Discipline Policy (as per August 29, 2019 Emergency Response Plan Memo)	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=3845
7. Authorizer-Approved FOIL Policy	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=3845
8. Subject matter list of FOIL records	http://www.brighterchoice.org/?page_id=3845

Thank you.

BRIGHTER CHOICE ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOLS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

JUNE 30, 2021

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CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

MEMBERS OF:
NEW YORK STATE SOCIETY OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees
Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools
Albany, New York

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2021, and the related statements of activities, cash flows and functional expenses for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools as of June 30, 2021, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools 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 opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 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 Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

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 opinion. 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 generally accepted 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, including omissions, 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 generally accepted 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 Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' 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 Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' 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.

Other Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools's basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards,* and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The schedule of expenditures of federal awards is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, based on our audit and the procedures described above, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards,* we have also issued our reports dated October 26, 2021 on our consideration of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' 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 those reports is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. Those reports are an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance in considering Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Cusack & Company, CPA's LLC

CUSACK & COMPANY, CPA'S LLC

Latham, New York
October 26, 2021

BRIGHTER CHOICE ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOLS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

JUNE 30, 2021

ASSETS

	Girls School	Boys School	Eliminations	Total
Current Assets				
Cash	$ 2,467,771	$ 2,743,731	$ -	$ 5,211,502
Contracts and Grants Receivable, Net	192,062	283,009	-	475,071
Due from Related School	960,256	-	(960,256)	-
Total Current Assets	3,620,089	3,026,740	(960,256)	5,686,573
Property and Equipment, Net	5,077,132	5,203,420	-	10,280,552
Other Assets				
Cash, Restricted	100,000	100,000	-	200,000
Bond Trust Accounts, Restricted	1,499,261	1,620,376	-	3,119,637
Total Other Assets	1,599,261	1,720,376	-	3,319,637
Total Assets	$ 10,296,482	$ 9,950,536	$ (960,256)	$ 19,286,762

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities				
Current Portion of Bonded Mortgage Payable	$ 287,500	$ 287,500	$ -	$ 575,000
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	352,828	200,233	-	553,061
Accrued Payroll and Benefits	369,703	397,033	-	766,736
Unearned Revenue	43,154	11,406	-	54,560
Due to Related School	-	960,256	(960,256)	-
Total Current Liabilities	1,053,185	1,856,428	(960,256)	1,949,357
Long-Term Liabilities				
Bonded Mortgage Payable	6,376,332	6,376,332	-	12,752,664
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	2,866,965	1,717,776	-	4,584,741
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	$ 10,296,482	$ 9,950,536	$ (960,256)	$ 19,286,762

BRIGHTER CHOICE ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOLS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	Girls School	Boys School	Total
Revenue, Grants and Support			
Public School District			
Resident Student Enrollment	$ 4,101,390	$ 3,870,523	$ 7,971,913
Special Education Services	67,049	136,781	203,830
Grants and Contracts			
Federal - Child Nutrition Program	108,792	117,335	226,127
Federal - Title I, II, IV and IDEA	257,440	267,241	524,681
Other	34,056	51,032	85,088
Total Revenue, Grants and Support	4,568,727	4,442,912	9,011,639
Expenses			
Program Services			
Regular Education	2,693,640	2,782,756	5,476,396
Special Education	257,466	269,491	526,957
Other Programs	614,529	358,929	973,458
Total Program Services	3,565,635	3,411,176	6,976,811
Management and General	726,064	1,059,545	1,785,609
Total Expenses	4,291,699	4,470,721	8,762,420
Surplus (Deficit) from School Operations	277,028	(27,809)	249,219
Other Revenue			
Fundraising and Contributions	11,155	5,261	16,416
Interest Income	4,096	4,042	8,138
PPP Loan Forgiveness	429,300	452,000	881,300
Total Other Revenue	444,551	461,303	905,854
Increase in Net Assets	721,579	433,494	1,155,073
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions, Beginning of Year	2,145,386	1,284,282	3,429,668
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions, End of Year	$ 2,866,965	$ 1,717,776	$ 4,584,741

BRIGHTER CHOICE ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOLS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	Girls School	Boys School	Total
Cash Flows Provided by Operating Activities:			
Change in Net Assets	$ 721,579	$ 433,494	$ 1,155,073
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:			
Depreciation	275,064	263,591	538,655
Amortization of Deferred Financing Costs	12,456	12,456	24,912
Amortization of Bonded Mortgage Premium	(7,382)	(7,384)	(14,766)
PPP Loan Forgiveness	(429,300)	(452,000)	(881,300)
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities			
Decrease in Assets			
Contracts and Grants Receivable	141,855	209,426	351,281
Increase (Decrease) in Liabilities			
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	(11,941)	(13,186)	(25,127)
Accrued Payroll and Benefits	29,942	23,971	53,913
Unearned Revenue	25,045	(5,704)	19,341
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	757,318	464,664	1,221,982
Cash Flows Used in Investing Activities			
Due from Related Schools	(658,017)	-	(658,017)
Purchase of Property and Equipment	(106,570)	(203,731)	(310,301)
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities	(764,587)	(203,731)	(968,318)
Cash Flows Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities			
Payments on Bonded Mortgage Payable	(272,500)	(272,500)	(545,000)
Net Deposits to Bonded Trust Accounts	(87,336)	(87,336)	(174,672)
Due to Related Schools	-	658,017	658,017
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities	(359,836)	298,181	(61,655)
Increase (Decrease) in Cash	(367,105)	559,114	192,009
Cash, Beginning of Year	2,934,876	2,284,617	5,219,493
Cash, End of Year	$ 2,567,771	$ 2,843,731	$ 5,411,502
Cash, End of Year Consist of:			
Cash	$ 2,467,771	$ 2,184,617	$ 5,219,493
Cash, Restricted	100,000	100,000	200,000
	$ 2,567,771	$ 2,284,617	$ 5,411,502
Supplementary Cash Flow Information			
Cash Paid During the Year for Interest	$ 353,500	$ 353,500	$ 707,000

BRIGHTER CHOICE ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOLS

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES GIRLS SCHOOL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 (WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2020)

	Program Services			Supporting Services		
	Regular Education	**Special Education**	**Other Programs**	**Management and General**	**Total 2021**	**Total 2020**
Administrative Staff Personnel	$ 129,919	$ -	$ -	$ 376,292	$ 506,211	$ 508,962
Instructional Personnel	1,210,261	137,638	-	-	1,347,899	1,416,677
Non-Instructional Personnel	-	-	271,977	-	271,977	306,376
Total Salaries and Staff	1,340,180	137,638	271,977	376,292	2,126,087	2,232,015
Fringe Benefits and Payroll Taxes	296,852	30,487	60,243	83,350	470,932	479,601
Retirement	56,022	5,754	11,369	15,730	88,875	82,095
Legal Services	-	-	-	531	531	1,702
Accounting and Audit Services	39,397	4,046	7,995	11,062	62,500	83,375
Other Purchased, Professional and Consulting Services	39,595	4,066	8,036	11,118	62,815	66,266
Facility Interest Expense	221,984	22,798	45,050	62,328	352,160	370,999
Repairs and Maintenance	121,225	12,450	24,601	34,037	192,313	185,926
Insurance	29,804	3,061	6,048	8,368	47,281	41,595
Utilities	52,415	5,383	10,637	14,717	83,152	76,207
Supplies and Materials	25,834	2,653	5,243	7,254	40,984	19,367
Staff Development	7,400	760	1,502	2,078	11,740	21,621
Marketing and Recruitment	-	-	-	21,637	21,637	43,572
Technology	53,707	5,516	10,899	15,080	85,202	60,221
Food Service	-	-	105,768	-	105,768	216,265
Student Services	186,692	-	-	-	186,692	199,440
Office Expenses	44,740	4,595	9,080	12,562	70,977	74,720
Depreciation	173,387	17,807	35,187	48,683	275,064	251,581
Other	4,406	452	894	1,237	6,989	5,639
Total Expenses	$ 2,693,640	$ 257,466	$ 614,529	$ 726,064	$ 4,291,699	$ 4,512,207

BRIGHTER CHOICE ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOLS

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES BOYS SCHOOL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 (WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2020)

	Program Services			Supporting Services		
	Regular Education	**Special Education**	**Other Programs**	**Management and General**	**Total 2021**	**Total 2020**
Administrative Staff Personnel	$ 64,428	$ -	$ -	$ 568,773	$ 633,201	$ 621,126
Instructional Personnel	1,375,110	149,195	-	-	1,524,305	1,567,056
Non-Instructional Personnel	-	-	134,246	-	134,246	164,187
Total Salaries and Staff	1,439,538	149,195	134,246	568,773	2,291,752	2,352,369
Fringe Benefits and Payroll Taxes	275,644	28,568	25,706	108,909	438,827	471,276
Retirement	55,465	5,748	5,172	21,915	88,300	87,446
Legal Services	-	-	-	461	461	1,702
Accounting and Audit Services	44,913	4,655	4,188	17,746	71,502	92,979
Other Purchased, Professional and Consulting Services	73,678	7,636	6,871	29,111	117,296	103,700
Facility Interest Expense	221,205	22,926	20,629	87,400	352,160	371,395
Repairs and Maintenance	133,077	13,792	12,410	52,581	211,860	197,977
Insurance	29,700	3,078	2,770	11,734	47,282	42,463
Utilities	52,656	5,457	4,910	20,805	83,828	81,565
Supplies and Materials	48,896	5,068	4,560	19,319	77,843	55,060
Staff Development	5,683	589	530	2,245	9,047	20,663
Marketing and Recruitment	-	-	-	31,703	31,703	45,497
Technology	18,085	1,874	1,687	7,146	28,792	27,948
Food Service	-	-	116,438	-	116,438	211,302
Student Services	182,504	-	-	-	182,504	183,539
Office Expenses	35,394	3,668	3,301	13,985	56,348	57,422
Depreciation	165,572	17,160	15,441	65,418	263,591	235,012
Other	746	77	70	294	1,187	5,446
Total Expenses	$ 2,782,756	$ 269,491	$ 358,929	$ 1,059,545	$ 4,470,721	$ 4,644,761

1. ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSE

Organization

Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls (the "Girls School") and Boys (the "Boys School") are not-for-profit corporations formed in 2001 in order to build and operate charter schools in the City of Albany, New York (the "City"). The Brighter Choice Charter Schools for Girls and Boys (the "Schools") were established to provide a quality educational alternative for at-risk elementary students in the City. Effective July 1, 2016, Brighter Choice Charter School for Boys was merged with and into Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls, with Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls being renamed Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools.

Each charter school, authorized by Article 56 of the New York State Charter Schools Act of 1998, is an independent public school and, in accordance with their charter and bylaws, each school has a Board of Trustees and is an independent, discreet operating entity.

The Schools provide a broad and rigorous liberal arts education, including instruction on phonics-based reading, traditional mathematics, science, visual and performing arts, American and world history, and physical education. Students benefit from a longer school day and school year, which will provide them with an equivalent of two years of academic instruction over each of their elementary years.

The New York State Education Department has issued the Schools a five year charter valid until June 30, 2026. During the year ended June 30, 2021, the Girls School had enrollment of approximately 276 students (321 students, June 30, 2020) and the Boys School had enrollment of approximately 257 students (305 students, June 30, 2020) serving kindergarten through 5th grade.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Policies and Financial Statement Presentation

The following summarizes the significant accounting policies consistently applied in the preparation of the Schools' financial statements, with reference to the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) where applicable.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenue is recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred. This basis of accounting is in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Allowance of Doubtful Accounts

Contacts and grants receivable are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful receivables based on a review of all outstanding amounts on a monthly basis. Management determines the allowance for doubtful accounts by identifying troubled accounts and by using historical experience applied to an aging of accounts. Contracts and grants receivable are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of accounts previously written off are recorded when received. A receivable is considered past due if any portion of the receivable balance is outstanding for more than 90 days. Interest is not charged on outstanding accounts receivable. The allowance for doubtful accounts was $91,925 for the Girls School and $126,154 for the Boys School at June 30, 2021.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation. Donations of property and equipment are recorded as support at their estimated fair values on the date of donation. Expenditures for acquisitions, renewals, and betterments are capitalized, whereas maintenance and repair costs are expensed as incurred. When equipment is retired or otherwise disposed of, the appropriate accounts are relieved of costs and accumulated depreciation, and any resultant gain or loss is credited or charged to the change in net assets.

Long-lived assets to be held and used are tested for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the related carrying amount may not be recoverable.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives of 40 years for buildings and improvements and 3-10 years for furniture and equipment.

Net Assets

The financial statements report net assets and changes in net assets in two classes that are based upon the existence or absence of restrictions on use that are placed by its donors, as follows:

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions

Net assets without donor restrictions are resources available to support operations. The only limits on the use of net assets without donor restrictions are the broad limits resulting from the nature of the Schools.

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions

Purpose restricted net assets are resources that are restricted by a donor for use for a particular purpose or in a particular future period.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Net Assets (Continued)

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions (Continued)

When a donor's restriction is satisfied, either by using the resources in the manner specified by the donor or by the passage of time, the expiration of the restriction is reported in the financial statements by reclassifying the net assets from net assets with donor restrictions to net assets without donor restrictions. The Schools have no purpose restricted net assets at June 30, 2021.

Perpetually restricted net assets are resources whose use by the School are limited by donor imposed restrictions that neither expire by being used in accordance with a donor's restriction nor by the passage of time. The Schools have no perpetually restricted net assets at June 30, 2021.

Recognition of Income

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognized in accordance with a five-step model as follows:

- Identify the contract with the customer
- Identify the performance obligations in the contract
- Determine the transaction price
- Allocate the transaction price to the performance obligation(s) in the contract
- Recognize revenue when or as performance obligations are satisfied

Contract Assets

Amounts related to services provided to customers which have not been billed and that do not meet the conditions of an unconditional right to payment at the end of the reporting period are contract assets. Contract asset balances consist primarily of services provided to customers who are still receiving services at the end of the year. There were no contract assets at June 30, 2021 and 2020.

Contract Liabilities

Contract liabilities represent revenue that has been deferred for the funds advanced by third party payors for the Schools' contracts received related to services that have not yet been provided to customers. Contract liabilities consist of payments made by funding and other sources for the Schools' contracts for services not yet performed that are expected to be performed within the next fiscal year. There were no contract liabilities were $54,560 for the years ended June 30, 2021.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Public School District Fees

A substantial portion of the Schools' revenue and related receivables are derived from its arrangement with the local School Districts, which reimburse the Schools based on per capital enrollment. These revenues are recognized ratably over the related school year during which they are earned.

Grants and Contracts

Revenue from other governmental sources generally represents various entitlements and is recognized as earned when allowable expenditures are incurred.

Contributions

Contributions received are recorded as with or without donor restrictions depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor imposed restrictions.

Allocation of Expenses

Directly identifiable expenses are charged to program and supporting services. Expenses related to more than one function are charged to program and supporting services using specific allocation methods. Management and general expenses include those expenses that are not directly identifiable with any other specific function but provide for the overall support and direction of the Schools.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes

The Accounting Standards Codification requires entities to disclose in their financial statements the nature of any uncertainty in their tax position. The Schools have not recognized any benefits or liabilities from uncertain tax positions in 2021 and believes they have no uncertain tax positions for which it is reasonably possible that will significantly increase or decrease net assets. Generally, federal and state authorities may examine the Schools' tax returns for three years from the date of filing; consequently, income returns for years prior to 2018 are no longer subject to examination by tax authorities.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Income Taxes

The Schools are exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and the Schools are exempt from state income tax. The Schools have been classified as a publicly-supported organization that is not a private foundation under Section 509(a) of the Code.

Fair Value

The Accounting Standards Codification requires expanded disclosures about fair value measurements and establishes a three-level hierarchy for fair value measurements based on the observable inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability at the measurement date. Fair value is defined as the price that the Schools would receive upon selling an asset or pay to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. It prioritizes the inputs to the valuation techniques used to measure fair value by giving the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to measurements involving significant unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements).

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instrument for which it is practicable to estimate that value:

Cash, contracts and grants receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses and unearned revenue - The carrying amounts approximate fair value because of the short maturity of these instruments.

Property and equipment - No attempt has been made to determine the fair value of property and equipment.

Mortgage payable - The fair value of the mortgage payable is estimated based on current rates offered to the Schools for debt of the same remaining maturity. At June 30, 2021, the fair value of the mortgage payable approximates the amount recorded in the financial statements.

Subsequent Events

The Schools have evaluated subsequent events or transactions as to any potential material impact on operations or financial position that existed at the date of the financial statements through October 26, 2021, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. The Schools intend to defease their existing bonds payable with new bonds in 2022.

3. CASH, RESTRICTED

As part of the charter agreement, charter schools agree to establish an escrow account of no less than a set dollar amount as determined by the New York State Education Department ("NYSED"). This amount is established to pay for legal and audit expenses that would be associated with a dissolution should it occur. Each school has established an escrow account for $100,000 as required by the NYSED.

4. BOND TRUST ACCOUNTS - RESTRICTED

The Schools have entered into a custody agreement with Wilmington Trust Company as Custodian and as Trustee. Debt service reserve represents funds held by Wilmington Trust Company in the name of the Schools. The Schools will direct educational aid payments to be deposited with the Custodian. The Custodian will pay the Trustee, for deposit in the Debt Service Fund, an amount equal to a proportionate share of the next interest and principal payment on the Bonds for which funds have not already been provided. Additionally, the Custodian will pay the Trustee, for deposit in the Repair and Replacement Fund, amounts necessary to equal the Repair and Replacement Fund requirement ($174,672 for the year ended June 30, 2021) with required increases of 3% annually. Any funds remaining with the Custodian following such transfers will be transferred to the Schools.

In connection with the bonded mortgage with the City of Albany Industrial Development Agency (IDA), the Schools are required to maintain bond trust accounts which are administered by Wilmington Trust Company. The underlying investments in the bond trust accounts at June 30, 2021 consist of money market funds.

Bond trust accounts consist of the following:

	Girls School	Boys School	Total
Debt Service Fund	$ 629,075	$ 629,075	$ 1,258,150
Bond Fund	124,345	113,564	237,909
Educational Aid Fund	108,335	108,335	216,670
Repair and Replacement Fund	637,506	769,402	1,406,908
	$ 1,499,261	$ 1,620,376	$ 3,119,637

The Schools have entered into a collateral agreement for bond trust accounts not covered under federal deposit insurance. Cash is fully insured and collateralized under the bond trust accounts as of June 30, 2021.

5. CONTRACTS AND GRANTS RECEIVABLE, NET

Contracts and grants receivable, net consists of the following:

	Girls School	Boys School	Total
Accrued Revenue	$ 2,000	$ -	$ 2,000
Due from Other Districts	220,610	276,378	496,988
Grant Receivable	61,377	132,785	194,162
Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	(91,925)	(126,154)	(218,079)
Contracts and Grants Receivable, Net	$ 192,062	$ 283,009	$ 475,071

6. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET

Property and equipment consists of the following:

	Girls School	Boys School	Total
Land	$ 110,000	$ 110,000	$ 220,000
Building and Improvements	7,807,435	7,924,216	15,731,651
Furniture and Equipment	869,782	933,607	1,803,389
Total at Cost	8,787,217	8,967,823	17,755,040
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(3,710,085)	(3,764,403)	(7,474,488)
Property and Equipment, Net	$ 5,077,132	$ 5,203,420	$ 10,280,552

Depreciation expense was $275,064 and $263,591 for the Girls and Boys School, respectively, for the year ended June 30, 2021.

7. BONDED MORTGAGE PAYABLE

The Schools' facilities are jointly owned by the two Schools. The facilities were acquired through financing provided by the IDA in March 2008. The IDA issued taxable and tax-exempt Civic Facility Revenue Bonds totaling $18,490,000 to acquire and renovate the facilities of the two Schools. The Schools acquired the facilities from the IDA through an installment sale agreement which provides for the Schools to make installment purchase payments in amounts sufficient to pay the principal and interest on the bonds when due. Under the installment sale agreement, each School is jointly and severally obligated to make the installment purchase payments. The installment sale agreement is collateralized by a first mortgage lien and security interest in the land, buildings and equipment of the Schools' facilities.

7. BONDED MORTGAGE PAYABLE (CONTINUED)

Each of the Schools initially recorded 50% of the total cost of the facilities' acquisition and renovation as well as 50% of the installment purchase agreement liability.

Maturities, remaining principal amounts, and interest rates of the bonds (and underlying installment purchase agreement), as allocated to each School, are as follows:

	Girls Total	Boys Total	Total
5.00% Term Bond, Series 2007A due April 1, 2027	$ 1,957,500	$ 1,957,500	$ 3,915,000
5.00% Term Bond, Series 2007A due April 1, 2032	2,127,500	2,127,500	4,255,000
5.00% Term Bond, Series 2007B due April 1, 2037	2,712,500	2,712,500	5,425,000
Total Bonded Mortgage Payable	6,797,500	6,797,500	13,595,000
Current Portion of Bonded Mortgage Payable	(287,500)	(287,500)	(575,000)
Bonded Mortgage Premium - Net	62,536	62,536	125,072
Deferred Financing Costs - Net	(196,204)	(196,204)	(392,408)
Bonded Mortgage Payable - Long Term	$ 6,376,332	$ 6,376,332	$12,752,664

The following is a summary of maturing debt service requirements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021:

	Girls School	Boys School	Total
2022	$ 287,500	$ 287,500	$ 575,000
2023	302,500	302,500	605,000
2024	317,500	317,500	635,000
2025	332,500	332,500	665,000
2026	350,000	350,000	700,000
Thereafter	5,207,500	5,207,500	10,415,000
	$ 6,797,500	$ 6,797,500	$ 13,595,000

Total interest was $352,160 and $352,160 for the Girls and Boys School, respectively, for the year ended June 30, 2021.

7. BONDED MORTGAGE PAYABLE (CONTINUED)

Net deferred financing costs consist of bond closing costs incurred in connection with tax-exempt and taxable Civic Facility Revenue Bonds issued by the IDA. Bond closing costs are being amortized using the straight-line method over the term of the obligation. Net deferred financing costs consist of the following:

	Girls School	Boys School	Total
Bond Closing Costs	$ 373,702	$ 373,702	$ 747,404
Less: Accumulated Amortization	(177,498)	(177,498)	(354,996)
Net Deferred Financing Costs	$ 196,204	$ 196,204	$ 392,408
Amortization Expense	$ 12,456	$ 12,456	$ 24,912

Bond premiums received in connection with tax-exempt and taxable Civic Facility Revenue Bonds issued by the IDA are amortized using the effective interest method over the term of the obligation.

Premium amortization charged to operations as a reduction of interest expense was $14,766 for the year ended June 30, 2021.

The Schools are subject to debt covenants which are calculated using information aggregated from both Schools. The covenants are as follows:

	Minimum Requirement	Actual
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.10	
Days Cash on Hand	20	

The debt service coverage ratio is calculated as follows:

Increase in Net Assets	$ 1,155,073	
Add Back: Interest Expense	704,320	
Depreciation	538,655	
Net Revenues Available for Debt Service	$ 2,398,048	
Debt Service Payments		
Interest Expense	$ 704,320	
Principal	545,000	
Total Current Debt Service	$ 1,249,320	
Net Revenues Available for Debt Service	$ 2,398,048	1.92
Total Current Debt Service	$ 1,249,320	

7. BONDED MORTGAGE PAYABLE (CONTINUED)

The days cash on hand is calculated as follows:

Total Expenses	$ 8,762,420	
Less: Depreciation	(538,655)	
Net Amortization	(10,146)	
Net Expenses	8,213,619	
Days	365	
Cash Used Per Day	$ 22,503	
Cash at Year End	$ 5,211,502	232
Cash Used Per Day	$ 22,503	

8. PPP LOAN FORGIVENESS

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) provides 100% federally guaranteed loans to small businesses, designed to help small businesses keep workers employed amid the pandemic and economic shutdown. The loan may be forgiven if the borrower maintains their payroll during the crisis or restores their payroll afterwards and uses the funds to cover payroll, certain payroll related costs, rent, and utilities during a twenty-four week period after receiving the loan, as outlined in the PPP. The Schools applied for PPP loans and received $429,300 for the Girls School and $452,000 for the Boys School. The loans were fully forgiven and consequently they are reported as other income for the year ended June 30, 2021.

9. EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLAN

The Schools have a 403(b) tax-deferred annuity retirement plans, which are funded by contributions from both the Schools and its employees. The Schools' contribution ranges from 2% to 6% of eligible employees' salaries based on years of service. Retirement plan expense was $88,875 and $88,300 for the Girls and Boys School, respectively, for the year ended June 30, 2021.

10. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Schools maintain cash balances in a financial institution located in the northeast. Accounts at this institution are insured, up to certain limits, by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). At June 30, 2021, the Schools have bank deposits of approximately $4.7 million in excess of amounts insured by the FDIC.

In the normal course of business, the Schools are, from time to time, subject to allegations that may or do result in litigation. The Schools have general liability insurance to cover potential claims. Based upon the advice of counsel, it is the opinion of management that any liability that may arise from such actions would not result in losses that would materially affect the financial position of the Schools or their change in net assets.

10. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (CONTINUED)

The Schools are subject to audits and reviews of reimbursable costs by various governmental agencies. The outcome of the audits and reviews may have the effect of retroactively increasing or decreasing revenue from various sources. These changes, if any, will be recognized in accordance with the rules and guidelines established by the various funding sources.

11. CONCENTRATION OF RISK

The Schools receive a substantial portion of their funding from school districts where the Schools' students reside as well as federal funding sources. One school district constituted approximately 65% of total revenue and support for the year ended June 30, 2021 (71% at June 30, 2020).

12. LIQUIDITY

The Schools' liquidity management policy is to structure its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations come due.

The Schools have financial assets available within one year of the statement of financial position date to meet cash needs for general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations of:

Cash	$ 5,211,502
Contracts and Grants Receivable	475,071
Financial Assets Available to Meet Cash Needs within One Year	$ 5,686,573

None of the financial assets are subject to donor or other contractual restrictions that make them unavailable for general expenditure within one year of the statement of financial position date.

13. UNCERTAINTY

The United States is presently in the midst of a national health emergency related to a virus commonly known as Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The overall consequences of COVID-19 on a national, regional, and local level are unknown, but it has the potential to result in a significant economic impact. The impact of this situation on the School and its future financial position and results of operations is not presently determinable.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS* AND THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

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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 Trustees of
Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools
Albany, New York

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 Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2021, and the related statements of activities, cash flows and functional expenses for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 26, 2021.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' 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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Schools' internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Schools' 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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less 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 Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' 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 financial statements. 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 Schools' internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Schools' internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Cusack & Company, CPA's LLC

CUSACK & COMPANY, CPA'S LLC

Latham, New York
October 26, 2021

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

To the Board of Trustees
Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools
Albany, New York

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2021. Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance 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 the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2021.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' internal control over compliance.

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Cusack & Company, CPA's LLC

CUSACK & COMPANY, CPA'S LLC

Latham, New York
October 26, 2021

Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program or Cluster Title	Federal CFDA Number	Pass Through Identifying Number Girls School	Pass Through Identifying Number Boys School	Passed Through to Subrecipients	Girls School	Boys School	Total Federal Expenditures
US Department of Agriculture							
Passed Through NYS Education Department							
Child Nutrition Cluster							
School Breakfast Program	10.553	N/A	N/A	$ -	$ 30,137	$ 35,824	$ 65,961
National School Lunch Program	10.555	N/A	N/A	-	78,655	81,511	160,166
Total US Department of Agriculture				-	108,792	117,335	226,127
US Department of Education							
Passed Through NYS Education Department							
ESEA Title I, Basic Grant	84.010A	0021-21-4015	0021-21-4010	-	119,073	122,830	241,903
Title II A, Improving Teacher Quality	84.367A	0147-21-4015	0147-21-4010	-	19,244	19,762	39,006
Title IV, Student Support and Enrichment	84.424A	0204-21-4015	0204-21-4010	-	10,000	10,000	20,000
Education Stabilization Fund Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) (COVID-19)	84.425D	5890-21-4015	5890-21-4010	-	109,123	114,649	223,772
Total US Department of Education				-	257,440	267,241	524,681
Total Federal Assistance				$ -	$ 366,232	$ 384,576	$ 750,808

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents all activity of all federal award programs of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools. All federal awards received directly from federal agencies, as well as federal awards passed through from other governmental agencies, are included in the schedule. The information is presented in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance.

Basis of Accounting

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented using the accrual basis of accounting, which is described in the notes to Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools' financial statements.

2. SCOPE OF THE AUDIT PURSUANT TO THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools is a tax-exempt organization. All federal grant operations of Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools are included in the scope of the Single Audit.

3. INDIRECT COST RATE

Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools did not elect to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate.

4. SUBRECIPIENTS

Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools did not have any subrecipients.

5. LOANS AND LOAN GUARANTEES

Brighter Choice Elementary Charter Schools did not receive any federal assistance in the form of loans or loan guarantees.

SECTION I — SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? ____Yes __✗__ No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? ____Yes __✗__ None reported
- Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? ____Yes __✗__ No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? ____Yes __✗__ No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? ____Yes __✗__ None reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with section 2 CFR §200.516(a)? ____Yes __✗__ No

Identification of major programs:

CFDA Number(s)	*Name of Federal Program or Clusters*
84.010A	ESEA Title I, Basic Grant
84.425D	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) (COVID-19)

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs: $ 750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? _____ Yes __✗__ No

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

There were no current year recommendations.

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

No findings or matters were reported.

Section IV - Resolution of Prior Year Audit Findings

N/A

BerkshireBank
PO Box 1308, Pittsfield, MA 01202

Statement of Account

Last statement: August 31, 2021
This statement: September 30, 2021
Total days in statement period: 30

Direct inquiries to:
800-773-5601 OR
BERKSHIREBANK.COM

Berkshire Bank
PO Box 1308
Pittsfield, MA 01202-1308

BRIGHTER CHOICE CHARTER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
250 CENTRAL AVE
ALBANY NY 12206-2610

0

Summary of Account Balance

Account	Number	Ending Balance
Corporate Checking		$100,000.00

FOR MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS, IF YOU ARE UNDER 19 YEARS OF AGE OR 65 YEARS OR OLDER, YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER FOR CERTAIN SERVICE CHARGE WAIVERS ON A CHECKING AND A SAVINGS ACCOUNT. CONTACT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH FOR DETAILS.

Corporate Checking

Account number

Date	Description	Additions	Subtractions	Balance
08-31	Beginning balance			$100,000.00
09-30	**Ending totals**	**.00**	**.00**	**$100,000.00**

**** No activity this statement period ****

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS STATEMENT

PLEASE EXAMINE THIS STATEMENT AND ANY ENCLOSURES AT ONCE. This statement will be considered correct unless we are notified otherwise within 30 days from receipt of this statement.

NOTIFICATION OF CONSUMER CREDIT REPORT INACCURACY. The following is the address to which a consumer may write to notify the Bank of a dispute in completeness or accuracy of information reported by the Bank to a consumer credit reporting agency. Please include all details regarding the specific inaccuracy.

Berkshire Bank
Servicing Dept.
PO Box 1308
Pittsfield, MA 01202-1308

BILLING RIGHTS SUMMARY

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK YOU FIND A MISTAKE ON YOUR STATEMENT OR NEED INFORMATION.

If you think there is an error on your statement or if you would like to request information regarding your account, write to us at:

Berkshire Bank
Loan Servicing Department
PO Box 1308
Pittsfield, MA 01202

In your letter, give us the following information:

- Account information: Your name and account number.
- Dollar amount: The dollar amount of the suspected error.
- Description of Problem: If you think there is an error on your bill, describe what you believe is wrong and why you believe it is a mistake.

You must contact us within 60 days after the error appeared on your statement. You must notify us of any potential errors in writing. You may call us, but if you do we are not required to investigate any potential errors and you may have to pay the amount in question.

While we investigate whether or not there has been an error, the following are true:

- We cannot try to collect the amount in question, or report you as delinquent on that amount.
- The charge in question may remain on your statement, and we may continue to charge you interest on that amount. But, if we determine that we made a mistake, you will not have to pay the amount in question or any interest or other fees related to that amount.
- While you do not have to pay the amount in question, you are responsible for the remainder of your balance.
- We can apply any unpaid amount against your credit limit.

COMPUTATION OF AVERAGE DAILY BALANCE AND INTEREST CHARGE. We figure the interest charge on your account by applying the periodic rate to the "average daily balance" of your account. To get the "average daily balance" we take the beginning balance of your account each day, add any new advances, and subtract any payments or credits. This gives us the daily balance. Then, we add up all the daily balances for the billing cycle and divide the total number of days in the billing cycle. This gives us the "average daily balance".

ERROR RESOLUTION NOTICE – CONSUMER ACCOUNTS ONLY

IN CASE OF ERRORS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR ELECTRONIC TRANSFERS. Telephone us toll-free in MA at 1-800-773-5601 or write us at BERKSHIRE BANK ATTN: ELECTRONIC BANKING, P.O. BOX 1308, PITTSFIELD MA 01202-1308, as soon as you can, if you think your statement or receipt is wrong or if you need more information about a transfer on the statement or receipt. We must hear from you no later than 60 days after we sent you this FIRST statement on which the error or problem appeared.

- Tell us your name and account number (if any).
- Describe the error or the transfer you are unsure about, and explain as clearly as you can why you believe it is an error or why you need more information.
- Tell us the dollar amount of the suspected error.

We will investigate your complaint and will correct any error promptly. If we take more than 10 business days to do this, we will credit your account for the amount you think is in error, so that you will have the use of the money during the time it takes us to complete our investigation.

TO BALANCE YOUR ACCOUNT

OUTSTANDING DRAFTS	
NO.	AMOUNT
Total Enter in Step 9	

1. Deduct from your checkbook balance any service charge or other charge originated by us.
2. If this is an interest bearing account, add interest posted on this statement to your checkbook balance.
3. Place a mark in your checkbook next to each paid check.
4. List in the "outstanding drafts" section at left any drafts issued by you and not yet paid by us.
5. Add to your checkbook Reddi-Cash deposits identified as "LOC LOAN" in the checking account portion of the statement.
6. Enter here the current balance as shown by bank statement.....
7. Enter here all deposits made not shown on bank statement.....
8. Add amount in "step 6" to amount in "step 7" and enter total here.....
9. Enter total amount of outstanding drafts.....
10. Subtract amount in "step 9" from amount in "step 8" and enter result (balance in "step 10" should agree with your check book balance).....

Member FDIC

Disclosure of Financial Interest
by a Current or Proposed Board of Trustees Member

Name:

Martha Snyder

Name of Charter School Education Corporation (the Charter School Name, if the charter school is the only school operated by the education corporation):

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

1. List all positions held on the education corporation Board of Trustees ("Board") (e.g. president, treasurer, parent representative).

Board President

2. Are you an employee of any school operated by the education corporation?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, for each school, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

3. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person employed by the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

4. Are you related, by blood, marriage, or legal adoption/guardianship, to any student currently enrolled in the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

5. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person that could otherwise benefit from your participation as a board member of this school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If Yes, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

6. Are you a past, current, or prospective employee of the charter school, education corporation, and/or an entity that provides comprehensive management services ("CMO"), whether for-profit or not-for-profit, which contracts, or may contract, with the charter school or education corporation; or do you serve as an employee, officer, or director of, or own a controlling interest in, a business or entity that contracts, or does business with, or plans to contract or do business with, the charter school, education corporation, and/or a CMO, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, including, but not limited to, the lease of real or personal property to the said entities?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

7. Identify each interest/transaction (and provide the requested information) that you or any of your immediate family members or any persons who live with you in your house have held or engaged in with the charter school(s) operated by the education corporation during the time you have served on the Board, and in the six-month period prior to such service. If there has been no such interest or transaction, write **None**. Please note that if you answered **Yes** to Questions 2-3 above, you need not disclose again your employment status, salary, etc.

Date(s)	Nature of financial interest/transaction	Steps taken to avoid a conflict of interest, (e.g., did not vote, did not participate in discussion)	Name of person holding interest or engaging in transaction and relationship to you
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.			
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

8. Identify each individual, business, corporation, union association, firm, partnership, franchise holding company, joint-stock company, business or real estate trust, non-profit organization, or other organization or group of people doing business with the school(s) operated by the education corporation **and** in which such entity, during the time of your tenure as a trustee, you and/or your immediate family member(s) or person(s) living in your house had a financial interest or other relationship. If you are a member, director, officer or employee of an organization formally partnered with the school(s) that is/are doing business with the school(s) through a management or services agreement, please identify only the name of the organization, your position in the organization, and the relationship between such organization and the school(s). If there was no financial interest, write "**None**."

Organization conducting business with the school(s)	Nature of business conducted	Approximate value of the business conducted	Name of Trustee and/or immediate family member of household holding an interest in the organization conducting business with the school(s) and the nature of the interest	Steps taken to avoid conflict of interest
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.				
None				

[redacted]

Please note that this document is considered a public record and, as such, may be made available to members of the public upon request under the Freedom of Information Law. Personal contact information provided below will be redacted.

-last revised 04/2021

Signature: Martha J. Snyder (Aug 2, 2021 14:22 EDT)

Email: [redacted]

NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form

Final Audit Report 2021-08-02

Created:	2021-08-02
By:	Jen Pasek [redacted]
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	[redacted]

"NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form" History

[redacted]

Adobe Sign

Disclosure of Financial Interest
by a Current or Proposed Board of Trustees Member

Name:

Trudy J. Hanmer

Name of Charter School Education Corporation (the Charter School Name, if the charter school is the only school operated by the education corporation):

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

1. List all positions held on the education corporation Board of Trustees ("Board") (e.g. president, treasurer, parent representative).

Vice-Chair

2. Are you an employee of any school operated by the education corporation?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, for each school, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

3. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person employed by the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

4. Are you related, by blood, marriage, or legal adoption/guardianship, to any student currently enrolled in the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

5. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person that could otherwise benefit from your participation as a board member of this school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If Yes, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

6. Are you a past, current, or prospective employee of the charter school, education corporation, and/or an entity that provides comprehensive management services ("CMO"), whether for-profit or not-for-profit, which contracts, or may contract, with the charter school or education corporation; or do you serve as an employee, officer, or director of, or own a controlling interest in, a business or entity that contracts, or does business with, or plans to contract or do business with, the charter school, education corporation, and/or a CMO, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, including, but not limited to, the lease of real or personal property to the said entities?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

7. Identify each interest/transaction (and provide the requested information) that you or any of your immediate family members or any persons who live with you in your house have held or engaged in with the charter school(s) operated by the education corporation during the time you have served on the Board, and in the six-month period prior to such service. If there has been no such interest or transaction, write **None**. Please note that if you answered **Yes** to Questions 2-3 above, you need not disclose again your employment status, salary, etc.

Date(s)	Nature of financial interest/transaction	Steps taken to avoid a conflict of interest, (e.g., did not vote, did not participate in discussion)	Name of person holding interest or engaging in transaction and relationship to you
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.			
None			

8. Identify each individual, business, corporation, union association, firm, partnership, franchise holding company, joint-stock company, business or real estate trust, non-profit organization, or other organization or group of people doing business with the school(s) operated by the education corporation **and** in which such entity, during the time of your tenure as a trustee, you and/or your immediate family member(s) or person(s) living in your house had a financial interest or other relationship. If you are a member, director, officer or employee of an organization formally partnered with the school(s) that is/are doing business with the school(s) through a management or services agreement, please identify only the name of the organization, your position in the organization, and the relationship between such organization and the school(s). If there was no financial interest, write "**None**."

Organization conducting business with the school(s)	Nature of business conducted	Approximate value of the business conducted	Name of Trustee and/or immediate family member of household holding an interest in the organization conducting business with the school(s) and the nature of the interest	Steps taken to avoid conflict of interest
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.				
None				

[redacted]

Please note that this document is considered a public record and, as such, may be made available to members of the public upon request under the Freedom of Information Law. Personal contact information provided below will be redacted.

-last revised 04/2021

Signature: Trudy J. Hanmer
Trudy J. Hanmer (Jun 22, 2021 15:04 EDT)

Email: [redacted]

Disclosure of Financial Interest
by a Current or Proposed Board of Trustees Member

Name:

Zoe Nelson

Name of Charter School Education Corporation (the Charter School Name, if the charter school is the only school operated by the education corporation):

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

1. List all positions held on the education corporation Board of Trustees ("Board") (e.g. president, treasurer, parent representative).

Secretary

2. Are you an employee of any school operated by the education corporation?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, for each school, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

3. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person employed by the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

4. Are you related, by blood, marriage, or legal adoption/guardianship, to any student currently enrolled in the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

5. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person that could otherwise benefit from your participation as a board member of this school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If Yes, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

6. Are you a past, current, or prospective employee of the charter school, education corporation, and/or an entity that provides comprehensive management services ("CMO"), whether for-profit or not-for-profit, which contracts, or may contract, with the charter school or education corporation; or do you serve as an employee, officer, or director of, or own a controlling interest in, a business or entity that contracts, or does business with, or plans to contract or do business with, the charter school, education corporation, and/or a CMO, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, including, but not limited to, the lease of real or personal property to the said entities?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

7. Identify each interest/transaction (and provide the requested information) that you or any of your immediate family members or any persons who live with you in your house have held or engaged in with the charter school(s) operated by the education corporation during the time you have served on the Board, and in the six-month period prior to such service. If there has been no such interest or transaction, write **None**. Please note that if you answered **Yes** to Questions 2-3 above, you need not disclose again your employment status, salary, etc.

Date(s)	Nature of financial interest/transaction	Steps taken to avoid a conflict of interest, (e.g., did not vote, did not participate in discussion)	Name of person holding interest or engaging in transaction and relationship to you
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.			
None			

8. Identify each individual, business, corporation, union association, firm, partnership, franchise holding company, joint-stock company, business or real estate trust, non-profit organization, or other organization or group of people doing business with the school(s) operated by the education corporation **and** in which such entity, during the time of your tenure as a trustee, you and/or your immediate family member(s) or person(s) living in your house had a financial interest or other relationship. If you are a member, director, officer or employee of an organization formally partnered with the school(s) that is/are doing business with the school(s) through a management or services agreement, please identify only the name of the organization, your position in the organization, and the relationship between such organization and the school(s). If there was no financial interest, write "**None**."

Organization conducting business with the school(s)	Nature of business conducted	Approximate value of the business conducted	Name of Trustee and/or immediate family member of household holding an interest in the organization conducting business with the school(s) and the nature of the interest	Steps taken to avoid conflict of interest
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.				
None				

[redacted]

Please note that this document is considered a public record and, as such, may be made available to members of the public upon request under the Freedom of Information Law. Personal contact information provided below will be redacted.

-last revised 04/2021

Signature: Zoe Nelson
Zoe Nelson (Aug 2, 2021 09:30 EDT)

Email: [redacted]

NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form

Final Audit Report 2021-08-02

Created:	2021-08-02
By:	Jen Pasek [redacted]
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	[redacted]

"NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form" History

[redacted]

Adobe Sign

Disclosure of Financial Interest
by a Current or Proposed Board of Trustees Member

Name:

Nilsa Velilla

Name of Charter School Education Corporation (the Charter School Name, if the charter school is the only school operated by the education corporation):

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

1. List all positions held on the education corporation Board of Trustees ("Board") (e.g. president, treasurer, parent representative).

Parent Representative, Trustee

2. Are you an employee of any school operated by the education corporation?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, for each school, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

3. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person employed by the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

4. Are you related, by blood, marriage, or legal adoption/guardianship, to any student currently enrolled in the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

5. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person that could otherwise benefit from your participation as a board member of this school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If Yes, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

6. Are you a past, current, or prospective employee of the charter school, education corporation, and/or an entity that provides comprehensive management services ("CMO"), whether for-profit or not-for-profit, which contracts, or may contract, with the charter school or education corporation; or do you serve as an employee, officer, or director of, or own a controlling interest in, a business or entity that contracts, or does business with, or plans to contract or do business with, the charter school, education corporation, and/or a CMO, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, including, but not limited to, the lease of real or personal property to the said entities?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

7. Identify each interest/transaction (and provide the requested information) that you or any of your immediate family members or any persons who live with you in your house have held or engaged in with the charter school(s) operated by the education corporation during the time you have served on the Board, and in the six-month period prior to such service. If there has been no such interest or transaction, write **None**. Please note that if you answered **Yes** to Questions 2-3 above, you need not disclose again your employment status, salary, etc.

Date(s)	Nature of financial interest/transaction	Steps taken to avoid a conflict of interest, (e.g., did not vote, did not participate in discussion)	Name of person holding interest or engaging in transaction and relationship to you
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.			
None			

8. Identify each individual, business, corporation, union association, firm, partnership, franchise holding company, joint-stock company, business or real estate trust, non-profit organization, or other organization or group of people doing business with the school(s) operated by the education corporation **and** in which such entity, during the time of your tenure as a trustee, you and/or your immediate family member(s) or person(s) living in your house had a financial interest or other relationship. If you are a member, director, officer or employee of an organization formally partnered with the school(s) that is/are doing business with the school(s) through a management or services agreement, please identify only the name of the organization, your position in the organization, and the relationship between such organization and the school(s). If there was no financial interest, write "**None**."

Organization conducting business with the school(s)	Nature of business conducted	Approximate value of the business conducted	Name of Trustee and/or immediate family member of household holding an interest in the organization conducting business with the school(s) and the nature of the interest	Steps taken to avoid conflict of interest
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.				
None				

[redacted]

Please note that this document is considered a public record and, as such, may be made available to members of the public upon request under the Freedom of Information Law. Personal contact information provided below will be redacted.

-last revised 04/2021

Signature: Nilsa Velilla
Nilsa Velilla (Jul 22, 2021 12:41 EDT)

Email: [redacted]

NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form

Final Audit Report 2021-07-22

Created:	2021-07-22
By:	Jen Pasek [redacted]
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	[redacted]

"NYSED 202021 BOT Financial_Disclosure Form" History

[redacted]

Adobe Sign

Disclosure of Financial Interest
by a Current or Proposed Board of Trustees Member

Name:

Nicole Katz

Name of Charter School Education Corporation (the Charter School Name, if the charter school is the only school operated by the education corporation):

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

1. List all positions held on the education corporation Board of Trustees ("Board") (e.g. president, treasurer, parent representative).

Treasurer

2. Are you an employee of any school operated by the education corporation?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, for each school, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

3. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person employed by the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

4. Are you related, by blood, marriage, or legal adoption/guardianship, to any student currently enrolled in the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

5. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person that could otherwise benefit from your participation as a board member of this school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If Yes, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

6. Are you a past, current, or prospective employee of the charter school, education corporation, and/or an entity that provides comprehensive management services ("CMO"), whether for-profit or not-for-profit, which contracts, or may contract, with the charter school or education corporation; or do you serve as an employee, officer, or director of, or own a controlling interest in, a business or entity that contracts, or does business with, or plans to contract or do business with, the charter school, education corporation, and/or a CMO, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, including, but not limited to, the lease of real or personal property to the said entities?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

7. Identify each interest/transaction (and provide the requested information) that you or any of your immediate family members or any persons who live with you in your house have held or engaged in with the charter school(s) operated by the education corporation during the time you have served on the Board, and in the six-month period prior to such service. If there has been no such interest or transaction, write **None**. Please note that if you answered **Yes** to Questions 2-3 above, you need not disclose again your employment status, salary, etc.

Date(s)	Nature of financial interest/transaction	Steps taken to avoid a conflict of interest, (e.g., did not vote, did not participate in discussion)	Name of person holding interest or engaging in transaction and relationship to you
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.			
None			

8. Identify each individual, business, corporation, union association, firm, partnership, franchise holding company, joint-stock company, business or real estate trust, non-profit organization, or other organization or group of people doing business with the school(s) operated by the education corporation **and** in which such entity, during the time of your tenure as a trustee, you and/or your immediate family member(s) or person(s) living in your house had a financial interest or other relationship. If you are a member, director, officer or employee of an organization formally partnered with the school(s) that is/are doing business with the school(s) through a management or services agreement, please identify only the name of the organization, your position in the organization, and the relationship between such organization and the school(s). If there was no financial interest, write "**None**."

Organization conducting business with the school(s)	Nature of business conducted	Approximate value of the business conducted	Name of Trustee and/or immediate family member of household holding an interest in the organization conducting business with the school(s) and the nature of the interest	Steps taken to avoid conflict of interest
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.				
None				

[redacted]

Please note that this document is considered a public record and, as such, may be made available to members of the public upon request under the Freedom of Information Law. Personal contact information provided below will be redacted.

-last revised 04/2021

Signature: Nicole Katz
Nicole Katz (Jul 15, 2021 10:21 EDT)

Email: [redacted]

NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form

Final Audit Report 2021-07-15

Created:	2021-07-15
By:	Jen Pasek [redacted]
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	[redacted]

"NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form" History

[redacted]

Adobe Sign

Disclosure of Financial Interest
by a Current or Proposed Board of Trustees Member

Name:

Robert J. McLaughlin

Name of Charter School Education Corporation (the Charter School Name, if the charter school is the only school operated by the education corporation):

Brighter Choice Charter School

1. List all positions held on the education corporation Board of Trustees ("Board") (e.g. president, treasurer, parent representative).

Board

2. Are you an employee of any school operated by the education corporation?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, for each school, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

3. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person employed by the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

4. Are you related, by blood, marriage, or legal adoption/guardianship, to any student currently enrolled in the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

5. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person that could otherwise benefit from your participation as a board member of this school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If Yes, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

6. Are you a past, current, or prospective employee of the charter school, education corporation, and/or an entity that provides comprehensive management services ("CMO"), whether for-profit or not-for-profit, which contracts, or may contract, with the charter school or education corporation; or do you serve as an employee, officer, or director of, or own a controlling interest in, a business or entity that contracts, or does business with, or plans to contract or do business with, the charter school, education corporation, and/or a CMO, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, including, but not limited to, the lease of real or personal property to the said entities?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

7. Identify each interest/transaction (and provide the requested information) that you or any of your immediate family members or any persons who live with you in your house have held or engaged in with the charter school(s) operated by the education corporation during the time you have served on the Board, and in the six-month period prior to such service. If there has been no such interest or transaction, write **None**. Please note that if you answered **Yes** to Questions 2-3 above, you need not disclose again your employment status, salary, etc.

Date(s)	Nature of financial interest/transaction	Steps taken to avoid a conflict of interest, (e.g., did not vote, did not participate in discussion)	Name of person holding interest or engaging in transaction and relationship to you
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.			
None			

8. Identify each individual, business, corporation, union association, firm, partnership, franchise holding company, joint-stock company, business or real estate trust, non-profit organization, or other organization or group of people doing business with the school(s) operated by the education corporation **and** in which such entity, during the time of your tenure as a trustee, you and/or your immediate family member(s) or person(s) living in your house had a financial interest or other relationship. If you are a member, director, officer or employee of an organization formally partnered with the school(s) that is/are doing business with the school(s) through a management or services agreement, please identify only the name of the organization, your position in the organization, and the relationship between such organization and the school(s). If there was no financial interest, write "**None**."

Organization conducting business with the school(s)	Nature of business conducted	Approximate value of the business conducted	Name of Trustee and/or immediate family member of household holding an interest in the organization conducting business with the school(s) and the nature of the interest	Steps taken to avoid conflict of interest
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.				
Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LP	Institution Counsel in connection with a refunding of bonds previously issued	$50,000	Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company as Trustee	Recusal from Board actions
[redacted]				

Please note that this document is considered a public record and, as such, may be made available to members of the public upon request under the Freedom of Information Law. Personal contact information provided below will be redacted.

-last revised 04/2021

Signature: Robert J. McLaughlin
Robert J. McLaughlin (Jul 15, 2021 13:59 EDT)

Email: [redacted]

NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form

Final Audit Report 2021-07-15

Created:	2021-07-15
By:	Jen Pasek [redacted]
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	[redacted]

"NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form" History

[redacted]

Adobe Sign

Disclosure of Financial Interest
by a Current or Proposed Board of Trustees Member

Name:

Patrick Romain

Name of Charter School Education Corporation (the Charter School Name, if the charter school is the only school operated by the education corporation):

BCCS

1. List all positions held on the education corporation Board of Trustees ("Board") (e.g. president, treasurer, parent representative).

Academic/Fiscal

2. Are you an employee of any school operated by the education corporation?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, for each school, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

3. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person employed by the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

4. Are you related, by blood, marriage, or legal adoption/guardianship, to any student currently enrolled in the school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

5. Are you related, by blood or marriage, to any person that could otherwise benefit from your participation as a board member of this school?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If Yes, please describe the nature of your relationship and how this person could benefit from your participation.

6. Are you a past, current, or prospective employee of the charter school, education corporation, and/or an entity that provides comprehensive management services ("CMO"), whether for-profit or not-for-profit, which contracts, or may contract, with the charter school or education corporation; or do you serve as an employee, officer, or director of, or own a controlling interest in, a business or entity that contracts, or does business with, or plans to contract or do business with, the charter school, education corporation, and/or a CMO, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, including, but not limited to, the lease of real or personal property to the said entities?

Yes ◯ **No** ◉

If **Yes**, please provide a description of the position(s) you hold, your responsibilities, your salary and your start date.

7. Identify each interest/transaction (and provide the requested information) that you or any of your immediate family members or any persons who live with you in your house have held or engaged in with the charter school(s) operated by the education corporation during the time you have served on the Board, and in the six-month period prior to such service. If there has been no such interest or transaction, write **None**. Please note that if you answered **Yes** to Questions 2-3 above, you need not disclose again your employment status, salary, etc.

Date(s)	Nature of financial interest/transaction	Steps taken to avoid a conflict of interest, (e.g., did not vote, did not participate in discussion)	Name of person holding interest or engaging in transaction and relationship to you
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.			
None			

8. Identify each individual, business, corporation, union association, firm, partnership, franchise holding company, joint-stock company, business or real estate trust, non-profit organization, or other organization or group of people doing business with the school(s) operated by the education corporation **and** in which such entity, during the time of your tenure as a trustee, you and/or your immediate family member(s) or person(s) living in your house had a financial interest or other relationship. If you are a member, director, officer or employee of an organization formally partnered with the school(s) that is/are doing business with the school(s) through a management or services agreement, please identify only the name of the organization, your position in the organization, and the relationship between such organization and the school(s). If there was no financial interest, write "**None**."

Organization conducting business with the school(s)	Nature of business conducted	Approximate value of the business conducted	Name of Trustee and/or immediate family member of household holding an interest in the organization conducting business with the school(s) and the nature of the interest	Steps taken to avoid conflict of interest
Please write "None" if applicable. Do not leave this space blank.				
None				

[redacted]

Please note that this document is considered a public record and, as such, may be made available to members of the public upon request under the Freedom of Information Law. Personal contact information provided below will be redacted.

-last revised 04/2021

Signature: Patrick Romain
Patrick Romain (Jun 17, 2021 12:36 EDT)

Email: [redacted]

NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form

Final Audit Report 2021-06-17

Created:	2021-06-17
By:	Jen Pasek [redacted]
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	[redacted]

"NYSED 202021 BOT Financial Disclosure Form" History

[redacted]

Adobe Sign

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday July 16, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Location
Remote due to covid-19 closure

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), N. Velilla (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
S. Wallace

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), S. Jahn (remote), T. Stutsrim

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I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Jul 16, 2020 at 9:07 AM.

C. Approve Minutes
N. Velilla made a motion to approve the minutes from Annual Board Meeting on 06-30-20.
Z. Nelson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Policy

A. BCCSB - Discipline Policy

Luke Licygiewicz reported that the disciplinary policy was nearly ready for publication.
T. Hanmer made a motion to accept the BCCSB DIscipline Policy, contingent upon Mr. Licygiewicz's addition of a few edits suggested by Ms. Hanmer.
N. Velilla seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Principal's report - BCCSB

Karen Mclean reported:

Summer School:
Only 24 enrolled, and absenteeism has been high, around 25%. Consequently, the lessons for incoming second and third graders and incoming fourth and fifth graders have been combined. The scholars who have committed to the program are actively engaged. The focus has been on shoring up areas of weakness in mathematics and ELA that were identified during the 2019-20 school year. A progress monitoring online tool maintained by the teachers is shared with Ms. Mclean each week and is providing insights into remote learning that should be useful in planning for remote instruction that may be needed in the fall.

Fall enrollment:
Currently stands at 284; the goal is 309. Because of pandemic, the school has not been able to host or be present at traditional summer events that usually attract families. Ms. Mclean stressed the importance of constant presence on FaceBook and other social media, but noted that all the other charter schools are there, as well.

Staffing:
Ms. Mclean reported on changes in boys' staffing: a fourth grade writing teacher, a third grade ELA teacher, a SPED teacher, and a science teacher resigned, and a second SPED teacher's contract was not renewed. She is not planning to replace the science teacher this fall, but will be hiring for the other positions.

C. Principal's Report - BCCSG

Kristina Ford reported:

Summer School:
35 students enrolled in the girls' summer school program, 29 have been faithful attendees. The original enrollment was 8 second graders, 8 third graders, and 13 students in a combined fourth/fifth program. The teachers share progress through Google sheets, and Ms. Ford has been visiting classrooms remotely, which has been helpful as she thinks about fall teacher training for remote learning.

Fall Enrollment:
Fall enrollment at the girls' school is currently 295, with 36 pending. Those 36 have been targeted with aggressive follow-up. The school has continued radio ads, bus ads, and social media. Ms. Snyder suggested that the narrative in the ads contain targeted messages about the schools during the pandemic (1:1 Chromebook program, for example) and emphasize single gender classrooms.

Staffing:
Ms. Ford reported that her staffing is nearly complete and will be when she hires a new SPED teacher in the next few days.

III. Finance

A. Budget for SY 2020-2021

At the next meeting Mr. Jahn will present the proposed budget for 2020-2021. Enrollment is the biggest concern at this point, and if the shortfall remains, will have serious budget implications.

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday August 13, 2020 at 9:30 AM

Location
Remote due to covid-19 closure

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), N. Velilla (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
S. Wallace

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), S. Jahn (remote), T. Stutsrim (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Aug 13, 2020 at 9:17 AM.

C. Approve Minutes
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 07-16-20.
N. Maresca seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Finance

A. Budget

S. Jahn and P. Augello will run various budget scenarios based on potentially lower than expected enrollments levels.

M. Snyder also asked that they share considerations for the potential use of the Payroll Protection Program funds, if needed for staffing levels during the school year.

III. Governance

A. Charter Renewal - item 1 - BCCSG Renewal application

N. Maresca made a motion to approve the Renewal Application for BCCSG.
T. Hanmer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Charter Renewal - item 2 - BCCSB Renewal application

T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the Renewal Application for BCCSB.
R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Charter Renewal - item 3 - Renewal application cover letter

R. McLaughlin made a motion to approve the proposed Renewal application cover letter with the adjusted wording of the final sentence and the corrected misspelling of Martha Snyder's last name.
Z. Nelson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Charter Renewal - item 4 - Complaint Policy

T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the proposed Informal and Formal Complaint policy.
R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Charter Renewal - item 5 - Mission

R. McLaughlin made a motion to approve the proposed new Mission statement.
T. Hanmer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Charter Renewal - item 6 - Key Design Elements

Z. Nelson made a motion to approve the combining of the two schools' Key Design Elements into the proposed draft version.
T. Hanmer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Closing Items

A. Future Items

Finance:

- Budget
- PPP use?
- 403B

Governance:

- Renewal
- Re-opening
- Enrollment

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday September 10, 2020 at 9:30 AM

Location
remote due to continued suspension of in-person requirement for open meetings

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
N. Velilla, R. McLaughlin, S. Wallace

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), Paul Augello, S. Jahn (remote), T. Stutsrim (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Sep 10, 2020 at 9:48 AM.

C. Approve Minutes from August, 13, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 08-13-20.
N. Maresca seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Policy

A. Future Business

The Board of Trustees will continue to monitor:

- Fall 2020 Instructional models
- Fall 2020 Enrollment data

III. Finance

A. Summary of Finance Committee meeting of 9/10/2020

- Cusack Financial Audit to begin 9/21/2020.
- The schools enrollment numbers are under budgeted amount. The Board of Trustees will review various budgeting scenarios at a future meeting, in anticipation of making amendments to the budget.

IV. Closing Items

A. Future Items

See specific information, above.

Also:

- M. Snyder asked that an additional Finance Committee meeting be scheduled during the week of 9/21/2020.
- Discuss Data Management and Reporting.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday September 24, 2020 at 9:30 AM

Location
remote due to continued suspension of in-person requirement for open meetings

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), N. Velilla (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
R. McLaughlin, S. Wallace

Guests Present
K. Ford, K. Mclean, L. Licygiewicz, S. Jahn, T. Stutsrim (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Sep 24, 2020 at 9:55 AM.

II. Finance

A. Budget
T. Hanmer made a motion to Approve the amended Budget for SY 2020-2021 for BCCSG.
N. Velilla seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

N. Maresca made a motion to Approve the amended Budget for SY 2020-2021 for BCCSB.
Z. Nelson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Governance

A. District Safety Plan

T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the District Safety Plan, with contact information edits, for SY 2020-2021.
N. Maresca seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Closing Items

A. Future Items

Continue to monitor:

- Charter Renewal
- Enrollment data
- Data Management
- Board Goals
- Budget

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday October 15, 2020 at 8:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
N. Velilla, T. Hanmer

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), S. Jahn (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Oct 15, 2020 at 8:30 AM.

C. Approve Minutes from September, 24, 2020 Board of Trustees Meeting
M. Snyder made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 09-24-20.
R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.
Pending removal of Shawn Wallace, former Trustee, from these minutes. The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Finance

A. Updates
S. Jahn reported out on the finances of the Girls School:

Paul will upload amended budget to Quickbooks next week. Revenue and Income down due to lower enrollment. Salaries and expenses on par with the original budget. Outstanding $650,000 accounts receivable for the Girls School.

S. Jahn reported out on the finances of the Boys School:
The Boys' Schoo is in a similar financial position as the Girls School. Revenue and Income down due to lower enrollment. Salaries and expenses on par with the original budget. Outstanding $290,000 accounts receivable for the Boys School.

S. Jahn reported out on the following:
Troy not accepting our "proof of residencies" (POR) even though they are accepted by NYSED guidance as well as what Albany uses for their PORs. Shawn emailed Troy this information and is currently awaiting a response. Spoke to Parent Coordinators to not use these PORs moving forward.
Albany City School District 20% holdback so far on District Aid (software, hardware, library).

The audit has been finalized with minimal entries and no findings.

III. Governance

A. Renewal

Renewal:
M. Snyder reported that on November 16-19 there will be a virtual visit by NYSED. Martha will reach out to Laura to solidify dates for focus groups. Karen and Kristina submitted Benchmark 1 narrative yesterday.

IV. Closing Items

A. Future Items

B. Adjourn Meeting

M. Snyder made a motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting.
R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday November 12, 2020 at 9:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
N. Velilla

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), S. Jahn (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Nov 12, 2020 at 9:30 AM.

C. Approve Minutes
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 09-10-20.
N. Maresca seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Approve Minutes
N. Maresca made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 10-15-20.
M. Snyder seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Academic Report

A. Principal Report

K. Mclean reported on enrollment and enrollment trends at the Boys' school. K. Mclean discussed the plans for authorizer (SED) virtual visits for the upcoming week and setting up the focus groups, including teachers, families, board, and classroom visits.

B. Principal Report

K. Ford reports stable enrollment at the Girls' school and reports that 60%of scholars will be learning in person for the coming quarter and 40% remote. K. Ford discussed the plans for authorizer (SED) virtual visits for the upcoming week and setting up the focus groups, including teachers, families, board, and classroom visits.

III. Finance

A. Finance Committee Report

N. Maresca reported on the financial condition of both schools, each ending the reporting period with sufficient revenues and cash on hand. N. Maresca reported details of a clean audit. She **reported that BCCS ended 2019-2020 in sound financial shape. Cusack issued a clean, unmodified management letter for each school and the schools in combination.**

IV. Governance

A. Governance Committee Report

M. Snyder reported on the status of in-person and virtual instructional choices being presented at the schools. It was reported that the Committee discussed charter renewal visits taking place in the coming week. The Governance Committee discussed data management updates as well as a successful submission of a proposal to the Charles Touhey Foundation.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday December 10, 2020 at 9:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), N. Velilla (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
None

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), S. Jahn (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Dec 10, 2020 at 10:09 AM.

C. Approve Minutes
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 11-12-20.
N. Velilla seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Brighter Choice Success Plan

A. Strategic Plan

M. Snyder and the Board will begin planning a mini-virtual retreat for Strategic planning.

III. CEO Support And Eval

A. School Leaders, Finance Director, Operations Manager

Board members will conduct evaluations of School Leadership. Final review February.

IV. Finance

A. Financial Update

S. Jahn provided an update on the financials through the end of October. Expenditures and revenues are on par with budgeted figures.

S. Jahn proposed a vote on opening an account for staff members who did not open a retirement account.
N M. moved to create an account, seconded by Trudy, unanimous

V. Governance

A. Merit/Bonus

T. Hanmer made a motion to authorize a merit payment in-lieu of a pay raise to faculty and staff.
Z. Nelson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Discipline Policy

N. Maresca made a motion to update the discipline policy in accordance with NYSED recommendations.
N. Velilla seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Board By-Laws

T. Hanmer made a motion to Add changes to the Board By-Laws to include Vice Chair as an officer of the board.
N. Maresca seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Snyder

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday January 14, 2021 at 9:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
N. Maresca, N. Velilla

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), S. Jahn (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Jan 14, 2021 at 9:34 AM.

C. Approve Minutes
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 12-10-20.
R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Finance

A. Finance Committee report
S. Jahn reported out the discussions regarding YTD spending and intercepts send (with funding pending) from Schenectady ($400,000) and Albany ($230,000)

districts. As of today, we have not received January payment from Schenectady and will be reaching out.

III. Governance

A. Code of Ethics Edits

T. Hanmer made a motion to Make an edit to the Code of Ethics regarding the percentage of Board members who can be compensated (or have family members be compensated) by the BCCS Schools.
R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Marketing

M. Snyder indicated a need to have further discussions about marketing for the schools.

IV. Other Business

A. Accelerator Session

M. Snyder discussed the Board on Track Accelerator Session to work on a strategic plan for the BCCS Schools.

B. The Brighter Choice Charter School Foundation

M. Snyder discussed the restructuring of the BCCF and will have an initial conversation with the Foundation to see if there are strategies for fundraising partnerships going forward.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday February 11, 2021 at 9:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder, N. Velilla, T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson

Trustees Absent
N. Maresca, R. McLaughlin

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Feb 11, 2021 at 9:56 AM.

C. Approve Minutes
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 01-14-21.
N. Velilla seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Policy

A. Academic calendar amendment
T. Hanmer made a motion to accept the amendment to the calendar to add five instructional days consisting of 5 half day instructional days and 2 days at the end of June.
N. Velilla seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday March 11, 2021 at 9:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Velilla (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
N. Maresca

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), S. Jahn (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Approve Minutes
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 02-11-21.
N. Velilla seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Governance

A. Governance Committee Report
T. Hanmer made a motion to recommend Patrick Romain as Trustee.
Z. Nelson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday April 8, 2021 at 9:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), N. Velilla (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
R. McLaughlin

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), Patrick Romain (remote), S. Jahn (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Apr 8, 2021 at 9:08 AM.

C. Approve Minutes
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 03-11-21.
N. Velilla seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Policy

A. Academic Committee Report

L. Licygiewicz reported that the enrollment and and fall re-enrollment numbers were discussed during the Academic committee meeting.

III. Finance

A. YTD Financial update

S. Jahn reported that March financial reports have not been closed out. Both schools are ahead of budget. As of last meeting, Schenectady was withholding 20% of current year financials and has paid a large portion of their accounts receivable. Boost Ed representative, Paul Aguello has been in person on campus once a month.

IV. Governance

A. Calendar Update vote

M. Snyder reports that the Governance committee discussed a new opportunity for funding from the Brighter Choice Foundation to address transformative issues at the school. The committee also discussed amending the school calendar to reflect the additional two holidays the ACSD has added.
N. Velilla made a motion to Amend the school calendar to align with ACSD's two new school holidays.
T. Hanmer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday May 13, 2021 at 9:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), P. Romain (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
N. Velilla

Guests Present
K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), Patrick Romain, S. Jahn (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday May 13, 2021 at 10:31 AM.

C. Approve Minutes
T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 04-08-21.
N. Maresca seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Governance

A. Vote on Pay Scale

M. Snyder reported that we will revisit the pay scale and discuss how to organize it regarding advancement and education.

III. Other Business

A. Board planning meeting

Board members will meet next week 5/21 to discuss enrollment trends, staffing trends and the impacts on the schools' budgets.

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Snyder

APPROVED

Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Annual Board Meeting

Election of Officers

Date and Time
Thursday June 17, 2021 at 8:30 AM

Trustees Present
M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), P. Romain (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent
N. Velilla

Guests Present
L. Licygiewicz (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order
M. Snyder called a meeting to order on Thursday Jun 17, 2021 at 8:30 AM.

II. Renew Board Terms

A. Martha Snyder
T. Hanmer made a motion to renew Matha Snyder's board term.
P. Romain seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Trudy Hanmer

M. Snyder made a motion to renew Trudy Hanmer's board term.
P. Romain seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Zoe Nelson
M. Snyder made a motion to renew Zoe Nelson's board term.
P. Romain seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Nilsa Velilla
M. Snyder made a motion to renew Nilsa Vellila's board term.
P. Romain seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Elections

A. Elect Board Chairperson for 2021-2022
T. Hanmer made a motion to elect Martha Snyder as board chair.
N. Maresca seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Elect Vice Chairperson for 2021-2022
M. Snyder made a motion to elect Trudy Hanmer as Vice Chair.
N. Maresca seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Elect Treasurer for 2021-2022
M. Snyder made a motion to elect Nicole Katz as Treasurer.
T. Hanmer seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Elect Secretary for 2021-2022
M. Snyder made a motion to elect Zoe Nelson as Secretary.
R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Committee Structures and Meetings

A. Committee Membership and Schedule
The board discussed moving committee meetings to times other than just prior to full Board meetings. These committees would report out during the monthly board meetings.
Suggested committee membership"
Finance:
Chair- Nicole Katz
Martha
Patrick

Staff:
Shawn
Luke
Paul Augello
Karen (as needed)
Kristina (as needed)

Academic:
Chair- Trudy
Zoë
Nilsa
Patrick
Staff:
Karen
Kristina

Governance:
Chair- Martha
Bob
Trudy

Staff:
Luke
Kristina
Karen

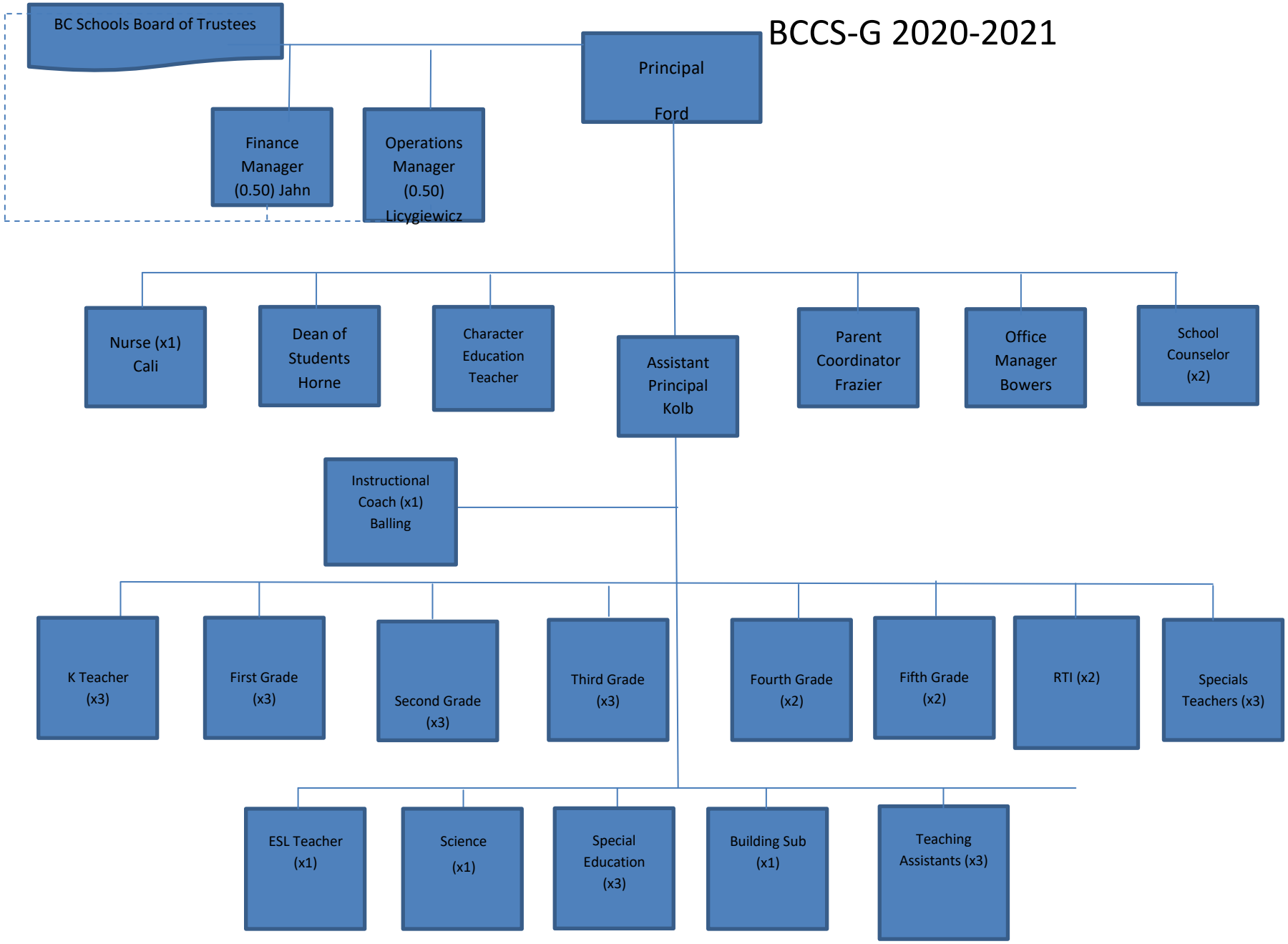
V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson

BCCS-G 2020-2021



Brighter Choice 2021-22 School Calendar

19-20 New Staff Reports half-days
23 All staff returns PD

August 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

2- First Day of School Beginning of Trimester 1
6 No School- Labor Day

20 Instructional Days
140 Hours of Instruction

TBD Emergency EARLY RELEASE
11 No School – Columbus Day

20 Instructional Days
137.5 Hours of Instruction

OCTOBER 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

NOVEMBER 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

11 No School – Veteran's Day
24-26 No School – Thanksgiving Break
26- End of Trimester 1

18 Instructional Days
127 5 Hours of Instruction

1 Start of Trimester 2
10 Half Day (11 30) Academic Conferences
24-31 No School – Winter Break

17 Instructional Days
120 Hours of Instruction

DECEMBER 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

JANUARY 2022

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

1 No School – Winter Break
17 No School – MLK Day

20 Instructional Days
140 Hours of Instruction

21-25 No School – February Break

15 Instructional Days
105 Hours of Instruction

FEBRUARY 2022

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

MARCH 2022

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

11 End of Trimester 2
14- Start of Trimester 3
18 Half Day (11:30) Academic Conferences

23 Instructional Days
162 5 Hours of Instruction

18-22 No School – Spring Break

16 Instructional Days
110 Hours of Instruction

APRIL 2022

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY 2022

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

3- No School- Eid-al-Fitr
30 No School- Memorial Day

20 Instructional Days
140 Hours of Instruction

20 No School- Juneteenth (Observed)
24 End of Trimester 3
30 Last Day of School Half Day

21 Instructional Days
145 Hours of Instruction

JUNE 2022

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

JULY 2022

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

First & Last Day
Half Day
Professional Development
Special Event
No School

Scholar Days: 190
Teacher Days: 199
New Teacher Days: 201

District Days: 181

Updated 2021_9_14

January 2019

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
State Office of Religious and Independent Schools - Room 1078 Education Building Annex
Albany, New York 12234

ANNUAL NONPUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDING FIRE SAFETY REPORT

(PLEASE PRINT)

All school buildings containing classroom, dormitory, laboratory, physical education, dining, or recreational facilities for student use, which are owned, operated, or leased by nonpublic schools must be inspected at least annually for fire hazard which might endanger the lives of students, teachers, and employees therein. (In compliance with N.Y. Education Law 807-A(1) and New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (NYSUFPBC)).

School Name

B	R	I	G	H	T	E	R		C	H	O	I	C	E		C	S		G	I	R	L	S		

Facility/Building Name

B	R	I	G	H	T	E	R		C	H	O	I	C	E		C	S		G	I	R	L	S		

Street Address (NO PO Box Numbers)

2	5	0		C	E	N	T	R	A	L		A	V	E											

City/Town/Village **Zip Code**

A	L	B	A	N	Y																1	2	2	0	6

Name of Municipality Responsible for Local Code Enforcement

C	I	T	Y		O	F		A	L	B	A	N	Y												

Nonpublic School BEDS Code

0	1	0	1	0	0	8	6	0	8	3	0

INSTRUCTIONS

- Read the "*Manual for New York State Nonpublic School Facility Fire Safety Inspections*" prior to inspecting the facility.
- A separate report must be completed for each building and location.
- **Part I:** General Information. School officials must complete this section annually.
- **Part II:**
  - Items 08A-2 through 08E-2 on the Non-Conformance Report Sheet – Must be completed for schools with electrically operated partitions (Regulations of the Commissioner 155.25).
  - Items 09A-2 through 25A-3 on the Non-Conformance Report Sheet – Must be completed for all schools (New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code).
- **Part III (A, B, C and D) Certifications.** To be completed by individuals as indicated.
- This form must be kept on file at the school for three years and must be available for public review.
- **Submitting the Report:** The final submission package includes a total of five pages. After the inspection, sign the Certifications on pages 4 and 5, staple the pages together, and mail to the address above.

Part I. General Information and Fire/Life Safety History
(to be completed annually)

1. Indicate the primary use of this facility: (check one box)

a) Student Instruction	X	b) Other Student Use (dormitory, dining hall, physical education building, etc.)	

2. Is there a fire sprinkler system in this facility? Yes__X__ No_____

   If yes, is the sprinkler alarm connected with the building alarm? Yes__X__ No_____

3. Is there a fire hydrant system for facility protection? Yes__X__ No_____

   If yes, indicate ownership of the system.
   Public Owned__X__ School Owned _____ Other_____ (specify)

4. Indicate the ownership of this facility.

   Leased_____ Owned __X__ Other_____ (specify)

5. What is the current gross square footage of this facility? (to the nearest whole ten feet) [redacted]

6. If this facility is used for instruction, complete (a) – (d); otherwise go to question #7.

   a) Fire drills were held in accordance with Section 807 of State Education Law and Sections F405 of the 2015 International Fire Code and F403.5.4 of the NYS Uniform Code Supplement.
   Yes__X__ No_____

   b) Average time to evacuate this facility: [redacted]
   Minutes Seconds

   c) Student instruction in arson and fire prevention was provided in accordance with Section 808 of State Education Law; which requires every school in New York State to provide a minimum of 45 minutes of instruction in arson, fire prevention, injury prevention, and life safety during each month that school is in session.
   Yes__X__ No_____

   d) Employee training in fire prevention, evacuation, and fire safety was provided during the past year, and Records maintained in accordance with Section F406 of the 2015 International Fire Code.
   Yes__X__ No_____

7. If the fire alarm was activated since the last annual fire inspection, was the fire department immediately notified in accordance with Section F401.3.2 of the 2015 International Fire Code?
   Yes__X__ No_____

8. Have there been any fires in this facility since the last annual fire inspection?

Yes_____ No___X__

If yes, indicate:

a) Number of fires

b) Total number of injuries

c) Total cost of property damage $

Part II: Nonpublic School Fire Safety Non-Conformance Report Sheet

School Name: Brighter Choice Charter School for Girls Building Name: Brighter Choice CS Girls

Item #	Non-Conformance	Date Corrected
08A-2		
08B-2		
08C-2		
08D-2		
08E-2		
09A-2		
09B-2		
09C-1		
09D-1		
09F-2		
09G-2		
10A-2		
10B-2		
10C-1		
10D-1		
11A-2		
11B-1		
11C-2		
11D-2		
11E-1		
12A-1		
12B-3		
12C-2		
12D-2		
12E-1		
12F-1		
12G-1		
12H-1		
12I-1		
12J-1		
12K-1		
12L-1		
12M-1		
12N-1		
12O-2		

Item #	Non-Conformance	Date Corrected
13A-2		
13B-2		
14A-2		
14B-2		
14C-2		
14D-1		
14E-1		
15A-2		
15B-1		
15C-2		
15D-2		
15E-1		
16A-2		
16B-2		
16C-2		
17A-3		
17B-2		
17C-2		
17D-2		
17E-1		
17F-3		
17G-1		
17H-2		
17I-2		
17J-1		
17K-1		
17L-1		
18A-2		
18B-2		
18C-2		
18D-2		
19A-3		
19B-2		
19C-1		
19D-1		

Item #	Non-Conformance	Date Corrected
19E-1		
19F-1		
19G-1		
19H-2		
20A-1		
20B-1		
20C-1		
21A-3		
22A-3		
22B-3		
22C-3		
23A-1		
23B-1		
23C-1		
23D-2		
24A-3		
25A-3		

If any additional non-conformances are observed, check item 25A-3 and list the Code section below.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Inspector

The inspector has been provided with a copy of the previous year's school fire safety report:

Yes ✓ No_____

Part III: Nonpublic School Certifications

Please complete sections III-A, Section III-B and/or Section III-C, and Section III-D as directed below

Section III-A Fire Inspection Method

What method(s) did the school authorities use to complete the annual fire inspection for this building? **Check appropriate box(es)**

- ☒ Inspection by the **fire department** of the city, town, village or **fire district** in which the building is located (complete section III-B)
- ☐ Inspection by a **fire corporation** whose territory includes the school building (complete section III-B)
- ☐ Inspection by the **county fire coordinator**, or the officer performing the powers and duties of a county fire coordinator pursuant to a local law, of the county in which the building is located (complete section III-B)
- ☐ **Employing or contracting persons** who, in the judgment of the school authorities, are qualified to make such an inspection (complete section III-C)

For additional information regarding these methods, please refer to: https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/EDN/807-A

Section III-B-Fire Inspection by Local Fire Department, Fire District, Fire Corporation, or County Fire Coordinator

The individual noted below inspected this building on 7/21/2020 (date) and the information in this Report represents, to the best of their knowledge and belief, an accurate description of the building and conditions they observed. The individual that performed this inspection has maintained their certification requirements pursuant to 19 NYCRR 1208-3.1.

Inspector's Name: KELLY S. GOERTZ Title: FF / INVESTIGATOR

Signature: [signature] Date: 7/21/2020

Inspector's Organization: ALBANY FIRE DEPT.

Inspector's Telephone #[redacted] Inspector[redacted]

Inspector's Registry # (assigned by the NYS Department of State)[redacted]

Section III-C Fire Inspection by Another Individual

School authorities must give reasonable notice of the date and time the annual fire inspection is to be made to the local fire official who has the regular duty of fighting fire in the building to be inspected. Such official, or any subordinate designated by him, may be present during the inspection and may also file a report of inspection.

The individual noted below inspected this building on _____(date) and the information in this Report represents, to the best of their knowledge and belief, an accurate description of the building and conditions they observed.

Inspector's Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Inspector's Organization: _____

Inspector's Telephone #: _____ Inspector's Email: _____

Inspector's Registry # (assigned by the NYS Department of State) _____

Name of Local Fire Authority: _____

Address of Local Fire Authority: _____

Notification Date: _____ Fire Authority Contact Name: _____

Was a Local Fire Official Representative present at inspection?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Section III-D. School or Building Administrator, Director, or Headmaster

The individual noted below certifies that this building was inspected as indicated in Section III-A above and hereby submits this fire inspection report on behalf of the Board of Trustees and certifies that:

1. Public notice of report availability has been published, and that
2. Any nonconformances noted as corrected on the *Nonpublic Fire Safety Non-Conformance Report Sheet* portion of this report were corrected on the date indicated, and that
3. For any uncorrected nonconformances that appear on this report, the Board of Trustees, has at the meeting held pursuant to Section 807-a of New York State Education Law, conferred with the fire chief concerning the alleged deficiencies appearing on the inspection report and the measures proposed to be taken to correct such deficiencies.

Name: Luke Licygiewicz Title: Operations Manager

Signature: [redacted] Telephone #

Email: [redacted]

City of Albany
Department of Public Safety
Division of Building and Codes

M. Christian Bender
250 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12206

Certificate of Occupancy

Address: **88 North Lake Avenue aka 250 Central Ave**

Permit [redacted]

Parcel [redacted]

This is to Certify that the building located at 88 North Lake Avenue aka 250 Central Ave in the City of Albany, NY has been inspected and found to be in compliance with the plans on file and with permit application for Renovations & Addition to the Brighter Choice Charter School for Boys and Girls.

The following occupancy is permitted at this location:

Area	Use	Uniform Code Classification
Cellar/Basement	[redacted]	[redacted]
First Floor		
Second Floor		
Third Floor		
Other Floors		

No change in the nature of this parcel, building or use is allowed without a permit and the issuance of a new Certificate of Occupancy.

Zoning District at time of Issuance [redacted]

Issuance Recommended By:

Vincent J. DiBiase
Building Inspector

Valerie Scott
Division of Building and Codes

Issue Date: **Tuesday, September 02, 2003**