

La Fe Preparatory School Inc.  
La Fe Preparatory School  
74-2991952  
Certificate of Board  
071-807

We, the undersigned, certify that the attached Financial and Compliance Report of La Fe Preparatory School was reviewed and       X       approved        disapproved for the year ended August 31, 2019, at a meeting of the governing body of the La Fe Preparatory School on the 24th day of January, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Board Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Board President

**NOTE:** If the governing body of charter holder does not approve the independent auditor's report, it must forward a written statement discussing the reason(s) for not approving the report.

Board of Directors and Management  
La Fe Preparatory School, Inc.  
El Paso, Texas

As part of our audit of the consolidated financial statements of La Fe Preparatory School, Inc. (the "Charter School") as of and for the year ended August 31, 2019, we wish to communicate the following to you.

## **AUDIT SCOPE AND RESULTS**

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

An audit performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States is designed to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about the financial statements. In performing auditing procedures, we establish scopes of audit tests in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole. Our engagement does not include a detailed audit of every transaction. Our engagement letter more specifically describes our responsibilities.

These standards require communication of significant matters related to the financial statement audit that are relevant to the responsibilities of those charged with governance in overseeing the financial reporting process. Such matters are communicated in the remainder of this letter or have previously been communicated during other phases of the audit. The standards do not require the auditor to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to be communicated with those charged with governance.

An audit of the consolidated financial statements does not relieve management or those charged with governance of their responsibilities. Our engagement letter more specifically describes your responsibilities.

### ***Qualitative Aspects of Significant Accounting Policies and Practices***

#### **Significant Accounting Policies**

The Charter School's significant accounting policies are described in *Note 1* of the audited consolidated financial statements.

#### **Alternative Accounting Treatments**

No matters are reportable.

### **Management Judgments and Accounting Estimates**

Accounting estimates are an integral part of financial statement preparation by management, based on its judgments. The following areas involve significant areas of such estimates for which we are prepared to discuss management's estimation process and our procedures for testing the reasonableness of those estimates:

- Allowance for uncollectible grant revenue

### **Financial Statement Disclosures**

The following areas involve particularly sensitive financial statement disclosures for which we are prepared to discuss the issues involved and related judgments made in formulating those disclosures:

- Contributions
- Government grants
- Contributed services
- Related party transactions

### **Audit Adjustments**

During the course of any audit, an auditor may propose adjustments to financial statement amounts. Management evaluates our proposals and records those adjustments which, in its judgment, are required to prevent the consolidated financial statements from being materially misstated.

### **Proposed Audit Adjustments Recorded**

- Property and equipment and related operating expense
- Net assets without donor restrictions and net assets with donor restrictions
- Accounts payable and prepaid expenses

### **Auditor's Judgments About the Quality of the Entity's Accounting Principles**

During the course of the audit, we made the following observations regarding the Charter School's application of accounting principles:

In 2019, the Organization changed its method of financial statement presentation with the adoption of Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2016-14, *Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities*.

### **Other Material Communications**

Listed below are other material communications between management and us related to the audit:

- Management representation letter (attached)
- We orally communicated to management other deficiencies in internal control identified during our audit that are not considered material weaknesses or significant deficiencies

### **Substantial Doubt About the Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern**

As required by accounting standards, management is required to evaluate the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time and provide disclosures related to the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. The following events or conditions that, when considered in the aggregate, indicate there could be substantial doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time:

- The Charter School has a loan that matures on February 2020.
- The Charter School's related party, Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe, Inc., has agreed to pay the loan when it comes due and fund any operating expenses through February 2021. The Charter School has properly disclosed this agreement in *Note 4* of the audited consolidated financial statements.
- As a result, we have not added an emphasis of matter paragraph to the independent auditor's report.
- Management's use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate in the preparation of the financial statements.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

We observed the following matters and offer these comments and suggestions with respect to matters which came to our attention during the course of the audit of the consolidated financial statements. Our audit procedures are designed primarily to enable us to form an opinion on the consolidated financial statements and, therefore, may not bring to light all weaknesses in policies and procedures that may exist. However, these matters are offered as constructive suggestions for the consideration of management as part of the ongoing process of modifying and improving financial and administrative practices and procedures. We can discuss these matters further at your convenience and may provide implementation assistance for changes or improvements.

### **Economic Environment**

The continued economic environment presents not-for-profit organizations with difficult circumstances and challenges, which in some cases have resulted in large declines in the fair value of assets, declines in contributions, constraints on liquidity and difficulty obtaining financing. The financial statements have been prepared using values and information currently available to the Charter School.

Current economic conditions have made it difficult for some donors and grantors to continue to contribute to not-for-profit organizations. A significant decline in contribution and grant revenue could have an adverse impact on the Charter School's future operating results.

In addition, given the volatility of current economic conditions, the values of assets and liabilities recorded in the financial statements could change rapidly, resulting in material future adjustments in asset values that could negatively impact the Charter School's ability to maintain sufficient liquidity.

We recommend that management and the Board of Directors continue to monitor and aggressively manage all of these matters, including:

- Monitor state and federal legislation impacting funding levels
- Evaluate any financing needs and liquidity plans

### **FASB Issues New Lease Accounting Standard**

On February 25, 2016, FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2016-02, *Leases* (Topic 842), the long-awaited new standard on lease accounting.

Under the new ASU, lessees will recognize lease assets and liabilities on their balance sheet for all leases with terms of more than 12 months. The new lessee accounting model retains two types of leases and is consistent with the lessee accounting model under existing GAAP. One type of lease (finance leases) will be accounted for in substantially the same manner as capital leases are accounted for today. The other type of lease (operating leases) will be accounted for (both in the income statement and statement of cash flows) in a manner consistent with today's operating leases. Lessor accounting under the new standard is fundamentally consistent with existing GAAP.

Lessees and lessors would be required to provide additional qualitative and quantitative disclosures to help financial statement users assess the amount, timing and uncertainty of cash flows arising from leases. These disclosures are intended to supplement the amounts recorded in the financial statements so that users can understand more about the nature of an organization's leasing activities.

### *Effective Dates*

- For public business entities, not-for-profit entities that have issued, or is a conduit bond obligor for, securities that are traded, listed or quoted on an exchange or an over-the-counter market, and employee benefit plans that file financial statements within the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the final leases standard will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those fiscal years.

- Upon the issuance of ASU 2019-10 on November 15, 2019, all other entities are required to adopt Topic 842 for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2020 – that is fiscal year 2021 for calendar year-end entities and fiscal year 2022 for those entities with other fiscal years. Early application is permitted.

### *Implementation*

The approved delay by FASB of the effective date of the new leases standard (ASC 842) by one year for private companies and most nonprofit organizations is welcome relief as many of these entities continue to work on their implementations of the new revenue standard (ASC 606).

However, there are certain lease implementation items to get moving on sooner rather than later:

1. Educate yourself and key stakeholders about ASC 842:
  - a. Check out [www.bkd.com](http://www.bkd.com) for BKD Thoughtware resources, including articles and webinars related to the new standard and the related implementation efforts
2. Early decision points:
  - a. Transition method
  - b. Practical expedients and accounting policy elections
3. Accumulate the population of potential leases.
4. Communicate with lenders – expected impact of ASC 842 on existing debt covenants.
5. Systems analysis – Do you need lease software? If so, vendor selection takes time.
6. Start developing the processes and controls necessary for effective implementation of the ASC 842 as well as the ongoing accounting requirements.

### **FASB Issues New Revenue Recognition Standard**

The model for revenue recognition is changing with FASB's release on May 28, 2014, of ASU 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (the ASU). The goal of the final standard is to improve consistency of requirements, comparability of revenue recognition practices and usefulness of disclosures.

The ASU applies to all contracts with customers, other than those within the scope of other standards, such as leases, insurance, financing arrangements, financial instruments and guarantees. For nonprofit organizations, the primary income streams – contributions and investment returns – are not in scope. However all ancillary income must be reviewed for inclusion under the new guidance – subscriptions, membership dues, etc. The ASU does not apply to other parties to a contract who are not customers, *i.e.*, collaborative arrangements.

The core principle of the new model is that an entity would recognize revenue as it transfers goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration it expects to receive. In order to achieve that core principle, an entity would apply a five-step model.

The five-step application is as follows:

- Step 1: Identify the contract with a customer
- Step 2: Identify the separate performance obligations in the contract
- Step 3: Determine the transaction price
- Step 4: Allocate the transaction price to the separate performance obligations in the contract
- Step 5: Recognize revenue when (or as) performance obligations are satisfied

Outlined below are the significant changes to expect from the new revenue recognition standard.

#### **Under the Current Guidance**

1. There are several requirements for recognizing revenue, including many that are industry specific.
2. Most companies provide little disclosure information about revenue contracts; disclosures usually relate to accounting policies and segment reporting.
3. Some goods or services promised to a customer in a contract might represent separate obligations to the customer but could be determined to not be distinct revenue generating transactions.
4. In a multiple deliverable arrangement, the amount of consideration allocated to a delivered item is limited to the amount that is not contingent on the future delivery of goods or services.
5. Accounting for variable consideration varies from industry to industry.

#### **Under the New Guidance**

1. There will be consistent principles, regardless of industry, for recognizing revenue.
2. There is now a cohesive set of disclosure requirements. These disclosures will provide users of the financial statements with quantitative and qualitative information regarding revenue recognition policies and how they are applied.
3. Organizations will need to go through the five-step process outlined above.
4. Organizations will determine the transaction price. The transaction price will then be allocated to each performance obligation, except when a discount or some sort of variable consideration can be attributed entirely to one or more performance obligations in the contract.
5. Variable consideration will be included in the transaction price as long as it is deemed probable that a significant reversal of revenue will not occur. The new model includes consideration for various types of variable consideration, such as rebates, discounts, bonuses or a right of return.

Entities can apply the new standard using either the full retrospective method—including the optional application of certain practical expedients—or use an alternative transition method. The alternative transition method requires an entity to apply the new guidance only to contracts in process under legacy U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) at the date of initial application and recognize the cumulative effect of adoption as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings in the year of initial application. An entity choosing to apply the alternative transition method would not restate comparative years, but it would be required to provide additional disclosures in the initial year of adoption.

For public business entities, not-for-profit entities that have issued, or is a conduit bond obligor for, securities that are traded, listed or quoted on an exchange or an over-the-counter market, and employee benefit plans that file financial statements within the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the standard became effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after December 15, 2017, including interim reporting periods therein. For all other entities, the standard will be effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after December 15, 2018, and interim and annual reporting periods thereafter.

#### **FASB Releases Not-for-Profit Accounting Standard for Grants and Contributions**

On June 21, 2018, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2018-08. This standard clarifies existing guidance on determining whether a transaction with a resource provider, *e.g.*, the receipt of funds under a government grant or contract, is a contribution or an exchange transaction. The guidance requires all organizations to evaluate whether the resource provider is receiving commensurate value in a transfer of assets transaction, and whether contributions are conditional or unconditional.

If commensurate value is received by the resource provider, the transaction would be accounted for as an exchange transaction by applying Topic 606, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, or other topics. The standard clarifies that a resource provider is not synonymous with the general public. Indirect benefit received by the public as a result of the assets transferred is not equivalent to commensurate value received by the resource provider. If commensurate value is not received by the resource provider, *i.e.*, the transaction is nonexchange, the recipient organization would record the transaction as a contribution under Topic 958 and determine whether the contribution is conditional or unconditional.

FASB expects that the new standard could result in more grants and contracts being accounted for as contributions (often conditional contributions) than under current generally accepted accounting principles. Because of this, it believes the clarifying guidance about whether a contribution is conditional or unconditional, which affects the timing of revenue recognition, is important. Both the recipient and resource provider would equally apply the guidance.

For public entities, the standard became effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after June 15, 2018. For all other entities, the standard will be effective for reporting periods beginning on or after December 15, 2018.



Board of Directors and Management  
La Fe Preparatory School, Inc.  
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This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Directors and others within the organization and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*BKD, LLP*

January 27, 2020



January 27, 2020

**BKD, LLP**  
Certified Public Accountants  
P.O. Box 1190  
Springfield, MO 65801-1190

We are providing this letter in connection with your audits of our consolidated financial statements as of and for the years ended August 31, 2019 and 2018. We confirm that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We are also responsible for adopting sound accounting policies, establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, operations and compliance, and preventing and detecting fraud.

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

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following:

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of our engagement letter dated October 7, 2019, for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
2. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
3. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
4. We acknowledge the Organization is not a conduit debt obligor whose debt securities are listed, quoted or traded on an exchange or an over-the-counter market. As a result, we acknowledge the Organization does meet the definition of a "public



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**BKD, LLP**  
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entity” under generally accepted accounting principles for certain accounting standards.

5. We have reviewed and approved a draft of the consolidated financial statements and related notes referred to above, which you prepared in connection with your audit of our consolidated financial statements. We acknowledge that we are responsible for the fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements and related notes.
6. We have provided you with:
  - (a) Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters.
  - (b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
  - (c) Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
  - (d) All minutes of directors’ meetings held through the date of this letter.
  - (e) All significant contracts and grants.
7. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the consolidated financial statements.
8. We have informed you of all current risks of a material amount that are not adequately prevented or detected by Organization procedures with respect to:
  - (a) Misappropriation of assets.
  - (b) Misrepresented or misstated assets, liabilities or net assets.
9. We understand the potential penalties for failure to disclose reportable tax transactions to the taxing authorities and have fully disclosed to BKD any and all known reportable tax transactions.
10. We have no knowledge of any known or suspected:
  - (a) Fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets involving management or employees who have significant roles in internal control.
  - (b) Fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets involving others that could have a material effect on the consolidated financial statements.

11. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Organization received in communications from employees, customers, regulators, suppliers or others.
12. We have disclosed to you the identity of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware. Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We understand that the term related party refers to an affiliate; management, and members of their immediate families, subsidiaries accounted for by the equity method; and any other party with which the Organization may deal if the Organization can significantly influence, or be influenced by, the management or operating policies of the other. The term affiliate refers to a party that directly or indirectly controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, the Organization.
13. Except as reflected in the consolidated financial statements, there are no:
  - (a) Plans or intentions that may materially affect carrying values or classifications of assets and liabilities.
  - (b) Material transactions omitted or improperly recorded in the financial records.
  - (c) Material gain/loss contingencies requiring accrual or disclosure, including those arising from environmental remediation obligations.
  - (d) Events occurring subsequent to the statement of financial position date through the date of this letter requiring adjustment or disclosure in the consolidated financial statements.
  - (e) Agreements to purchase assets previously sold.
  - (f) Restrictions on cash balances or compensating balance agreements.
  - (g) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Organization is contingently liable.
14. We have disclosed to you all known instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing consolidated financial statements.
15. We have no reason to believe the Organization owes any penalties or payments under the Employer Shared Responsibility Provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act nor have we received any correspondence from the IRS or other agencies indicating such payments may be due.

16. We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation or claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the consolidated financial statements. We have not sought or received attorney's services related to pending or threatened litigation or claims during or subsequent to the audit period. Also, we are not aware of any litigation or claims, pending or threatened, for which legal counsel should be sought.
17. Adequate provisions and allowances have been accrued for any material losses from:
  - (a) Uncollectible receivables, including pledges.
  - (b) Purchase commitments in excess of normal requirements or above prevailing market prices.
18. Except as disclosed in the consolidated financial statements, the Organization has:
  - (a) Satisfactory title to all recorded assets, and they are not subject to any liens, pledges or other encumbrances.
  - (b) Complied with all aspects of contractual and grant agreements, for which noncompliance would materially affect the consolidated financial statements.
19. The consolidated financial statements disclose all significant estimates and material concentrations known to us. Significant estimates are estimates at the statement of financial position date which could change materially within the next year. Concentrations refer to volumes of business, revenues, available sources of supply, or markets for which events could occur which would significantly disrupt normal finances within the next year. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
20. The fair values of financial and nonfinancial assets and liabilities, if any, recognized in the consolidated financial statements or disclosed in the notes thereto are reasonable estimates based on the methods and assumptions used. The methods and significant assumptions used result in measurements of fair value appropriate for financial statement recognition and disclosure purposes and have been applied consistently from period to period, taking into account any changes in circumstances. The significant assumptions appropriately reflect market participant assumptions.
21. We have not been designated as a potentially responsible party (PRP or equivalent status) by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or other cognizant regulatory agency with authority to enforce environmental laws and regulations.
22. With respect to any nonattest services you have provided us during the year, including assisting with the preparation of the consolidated financial statements,

supplementary and other information and related notes and form 990 federal tax returns:

- (a) We have designated a qualified management-level individual to be responsible and accountable for overseeing the nonattest services.
  - (b) We have established and monitored the performance of the nonattest services to ensure that they meet our objectives.
  - (c) We have made any and all decisions involving management functions with respect to the nonattest services and accept full responsibility for such decisions.
  - (d) We have evaluated the adequacy of the services performed and any findings that resulted.
23. We are an organization exempt from income tax under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and a similar provision of state law and, except as disclosed in the consolidated financial statements, there are no activities that would jeopardize our tax-exempt status or subject us to income tax on unrelated business income or excise tax on prohibited transactions and events.
24. We have identified to you any activities conducted having both fund raising and program or management and general components (joint activities) and have allocated the costs of any joint activities in accordance with the provisions of FASB ASC 958-720-45.
25. We acknowledge that we are responsible for compliance with applicable laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements.
26. We have identified and disclosed to you all laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements that have a direct and material effect on the determination of amounts in our consolidated financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
27. We have identified and disclosed to you any violations or possible violations of laws, regulations and provisions of contracts and grant agreements whose effects should be considered for recognition and/or disclosure in the consolidated financial statements or for your reporting on noncompliance.
28. We have taken or will take timely and appropriate steps to remedy any fraud, abuse, illegal acts or violations of provisions of contracts or grant agreements that you or other auditors report.
29. We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.

30. We have identified to you any previous financial audits, attestation engagements, performance audits or other studies related to the objectives of your audit and the corrective actions taken to address any significant findings and recommendations made in such audits, attestation engagements or other studies.
31. We have provided our views on any findings, conclusions and recommendations, as well as our planned corrective actions with respect thereto, to you for inclusion in the findings and recommendations referred to in your report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on your audit of the consolidated financial statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
32. With regard to supplementary information:
  - (a) We acknowledge our responsibility for the presentation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
  - (b) We believe the supplementary information is fairly presented, both in form and content, in accordance with the applicable criteria.
  - (c) The methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information are unchanged from those used in the prior period.
  - (d) We believe the significant assumptions or interpretations underlying the measurement and/or presentation of the supplementary information are reasonable and appropriate.
  - (e) If the supplementary information is not presented with the audited consolidated financial statements, we acknowledge we will make the audited consolidated financial statements readily available to intended users of the supplementary information no later than the date such information and the related auditor's report are issued.
33. We have evaluated whether there are conditions or events known or reasonably knowable, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern within one year of the date of this letter without consideration of potential mitigating effects of management's plans not yet fully implemented and concluded substantial doubt does not exist. Fully implemented management plans considered in our evaluation include a commitment letter from Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe, Inc. to continue to fund the cash flow needs of the Organization including the payment of the loan through February 2021.
34. We acknowledge the current protracted economic decline continues to present difficult circumstances and challenges for not-for-profit organizations. Not-for-profit organizations are facing declines in the fair values of investments and other assets, declines in contributions, constraints on liquidity and difficulty obtaining



financing. We understand the values of the assets and liabilities recorded in the consolidated financial statements could change rapidly, resulting in material future adjustments to asset values, allowances for contributions receivable, etc. that could negatively impact the Organization's ability to maintain sufficient liquidity. We acknowledge that you have no responsibility for future changes caused by the current economic environment and the resulting impact on the Organization's consolidated financial statements. Further, management and the Board are solely responsible for all aspects of managing the Organization, including reviewing allowances for uncollectible amounts and evaluating capital needs and liquidity plans.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Gonzales, COO

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lucy Rodarte, CFO

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rene Rocha, Comptroller