

Charter School Authorizing Program

FY 2023 Authorizer Income and Expense Report

(Statutory Reference: Minn. Stat. § 124E.05, subd 8 - Authorizer Statement of Expenditures)

Background

Per Minnesota Statutes, 124E.05, subd 8: By September 30 of each year, an authorizer shall submit to the commissioner a statement of income and expenditures related to chartering activities during the previous school year ending June 30. A copy of the statement shall be given to all schools chartered by the authorizer. Statements of income and expenditures serve multiple purposes. They provide transparency regarding the use of public funds, inform charter schools regarding the value of authorizer services and provide accurate information to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and the State Legislature about the actual costs of authorizing.

Executive Summary

In 2000, Volunteers of America of Minnesota (VOA-MN) became the first non-profit charter school authorizer in the nation. The VOA-MN Charter School Authorizing Program envisions a society composed of all students achieving maximum learning while serving others. The VOA-MN Authorizing Program mission is to guide our authorized charter schools to improve all pupil learning and all student achievement with service to others.

VOA-MN has maintained a modest growth plan for authorizing new schools and approving school transfers. Smart-growth has always been our model. In FY23, Heartland Lakes Community School (HLCS) in Park Rapids, Minnesota, submitted a new school application to the VOA-MN Charter School Authorizing Program. The HLCS application was approved by VOA-MN and the VOA-MN HLCS Affidavit was approved by Minnesota Department of Education. HLCS is on schedule to open fall 2024. VOA-MN presently authorizes 20 operational charter schools with the approval of HLCS.

In the years that we have been authorizing, VOA-MN has developed a model of charter school authorizing that goes beyond the compliance-based role vaguely outlined in state statute. We engage in proactive relationships and add value to the schools with which we work. The VOA-MN Charter School Authorizing Program vigilantly monitors the academics, financial, board governance and management/compliance performance of its schools through frequent communication and site visits and regular review of financial and board documents. When signs of concern arise, we work closely with the school's board and management to problem solve and identify resources that may be helpful. We routinely provide technical assistance within our authorizer role, emphasize collaboration between our schools, and our Minnesota Charter School Leadership Conference promoted by VOA-MN continues to grow in participants and popularity.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 (FY23) Authorizer VOA-MN received \$423,665 in **income** attributable to authorizing fees and \$41,500 in **income** attributable to Annual Minnesota Charter School Leadership Conference.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 (FY23) Authorizer VOA-MN had \$416,592 in related **expenses** for chartering activities.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, Authorizer VOA-MN had a budget surplus of \$59,248.

Authorizer VOA-MN FY23 Income and Expense Report Details

(FY23 Authorizer Fee Amounts Include FY22 Adjustments)

INCOME

	School Name	Amount Collected	Notes
1	Athlos Academy of St. Cloud St. Cloud, MN 26,912.00	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
2	Athlos Leadership Academy Brooklyn Park, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
3	Birch Grove Community School Tofte, MN	\$ 6,863.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
4	Bluffview Montessori School Winona, MN	\$ 22,603.90	FY23 Authorizer Fee
5	FIT Academy Apple Valley, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
6	Green Isle Community School Green Isle, MN	\$ 6,863.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
7	Harbor City International School Duluth, MN	\$ 23,533.26	FY23 Authorizer Fee
8	Heartland Lakes Community School Park Rapids, MN	NA	<i>Pre-operation phase</i>
9	Kaleidoscope Charter School Otsego, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
10	KIPP: Stand Academy Minneapolis, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
11	Lakes International Language Academy Forest Lake, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
12	Naytahwaush Community Charter School Naytahwaush, MN	\$ 11,829.72	FY23 Authorizer Fee
13	New Century School St. Paul, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
14	PACT Charter School Ramsey, MN	\$27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
15	Schoolcraft Learning Community Bemidji, MN	\$ 21,719.79	FY23 Authorizer Fee
16	Southside Family Charter School, Minneapolis, MN	\$ 12,474.91	FY23 Authorizer Fee
17	Spectrum High School Elk River, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
18	Twin Lakes STEM Academy (formerly Tesfa) Brooklyn Center, MN	\$ 15,805.21	FY23 Authorizer Fee
19	TrekNorth Junior and Senior High School Bemidji, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
20	Woodbury Leadership Academy Woodbury, MN	\$ 27,452.00	FY23 Authorizer Fee
Total FY23 Authorizer Fees Collected		\$ 423,664.78	
FY23 Annual Conference Contributions to VOAMN		\$ 41,500	Vendor and non-VOA School Registrations
FY23 TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 475,840	

EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY

Salaries	\$ 103,608	
Other Employee Benefits	\$ 24,019	Health/Life
Payroll Taxes	\$ 6,592	
Workers Comp Insurance	\$ 356	
Other Professional Fees	\$ 143,783	Independent Contractors: Governance Analyst/Constituent Services, Financial Analyst, Academic Analyst, Program

		Assistant, Field Representative / New School development Lead, Special Education Programs Analyst, Peer Reviewers
Supplies and Expenses	\$ 643	Office/Food
Telephone	\$ 607	Telephone/Cell Phone/Technology
Travel	\$ 2,737	Includes travel for a minimum of two site visits per year to 19 schools, plus charter school application interviews and the annual conference in Bemidji, MN.
Conferences and Meetings / Training	\$ 55,838	Includes Site Visit - lodging & meal expenses, school management meeting meals, and the Annual Leadership Conference, Annual NACSA Conference and both the California and North Carolina State Charter School Conferences.
Other	\$ 16,488	Rent/Liability Ins/Dues
	Admin Fees	\$ 61,922
	Total Expenses	\$ 416,592

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