

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023	
A	This return/report is for: ☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____ ☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ▶ ☐
D	Check box if filing under: ☒ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☐ special extension (enter description)
E	If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. ▶ ☐

Part II	Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information
1a	Name of plan THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/1980
2a	Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 1300 PAPER MILL ROAD NEWARK, DE 19711-3408
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 51-0225189
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 302-239-0330
2d	Business code (see instructions) 611000

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/09/2024	PATRICK BURNS
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5 190
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6a(1) 94 6a(2) 123 6b 43 6c 63 6d 229 6e 0 6f 229 6g(1) 165 6g(2) 187 6h 0
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

2A 2E

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☒ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☒ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor
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10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- (1) ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4) ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- (5) ☐ **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- (1) ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3) ☒ **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 1
- (4) ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) ☒ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE A (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Insurance Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500. ▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 51-0225189	

Part I	Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions	Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.
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1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
TIAA-CREF

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
13-1624203	69345	366700/366699	126	01/01/2023	12/31/2023

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	5862920
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	7075537

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶**b** Premiums paid to carrier**6b****c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year.....**6c****d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount.**6d**

Specify nature of costs ▶

e Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity(3) ☐ other (specify) ▶**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ☐**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)**a** Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee(3) ☒ guaranteed investment (4) ☐ other ▶**b** Balance at the end of the previous year**7b**

5791314

c Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year**7c(1)**

0

(2) Dividends and credits

7c(2)

0

(3) Interest credited during the year

7c(3)

268568

(4) Transferred from separate account.....

7c(4)

704808

(5) Other (specify below)

7c(5)

▶

(6) Total additions.....

7c(6)

973376

d Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**)**7d**

6764690

e Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year

7e(1)

246851

(2) Administration charge made by carrier

7e(2)

(3) Transferred to separate account.....

7e(3)

654920

(4) Other (specify below)

7e(4)

▶

(5) Total deductions.....

7e(5)

901771

f Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)**7f**

5862919

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- a** ☐ Health (other than dental or vision)
b ☐ Dental
c ☐ Vision
d ☐ Life insurance
e ☐ Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
f ☐ Long-term disability
g ☐ Supplemental unemployment
h ☐ Prescription drug
i ☐ Stop loss (large deductible)
j ☐ HMO contract
k ☐ PPO contract
l ☐ Indemnity contract
m ☐ Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid.....	9a(2)		
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)		
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)).....		9a(4)	0
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid.....	9b(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)		
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)).....		9b(3)	0
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)		
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)		
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)		
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)		
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)		
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies.....	9c(1)(F)		
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)		
(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)	0
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were ☐ paid in cash, or ☐ credited.).....		9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves.....		9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e	

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount	10b	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A?..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 51-0225189	

Part I	Service Provider Information (see instructions)
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You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. ☒ Yes ☐ No
- b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
TIAA
13-1624203

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
--

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
--

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(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

BIDDLE CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

5807 KENNETT PIKE
SUITE C
WILMINGTON, DE 19807

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27	INVESTMENT ADVISORY	28568	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

THE VANGUARD GROUP

23-1945930

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
64	RECORDKEEPER	7074	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration		DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.		OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.	
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023					
A Name of plan THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN				B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001	
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.				D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 51-0225189	
Part I Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)					
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: TIAA REAL ESTATE					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TIAA-CREF					
c EIN-PN 13-1624203-004		d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 233352		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:					
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):					
c EIN-PN		d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)		

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

a Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 51-0225189	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
---------------	--------------------------------------

1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	0	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	0	0
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	0	0
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	0	0
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	0	0
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	260271	233352
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	12823373	15261305
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	5791314	5862920
(15) Other	1c(15)	0	0

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	18874958	21357577
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g	0	0
h Operating payables	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	661	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	661	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	18874297	21357577

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	191278	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	407092	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	0	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)	0	
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		598370
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	0	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	268568	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		268568
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	0	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	206132	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		206132
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	0	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	0	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	0	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		0
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		37016
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		2746894
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		3856980

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	1310492	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)	27566	
(3) Other	2e(3)	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		1338058
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		0
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		0
h Interest expense	2h		0
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)	0	
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)	0	
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)	0	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	35642	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	0	
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)	0	
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	0	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)	0	
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)	0	
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	0	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		35642
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		1373700

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		2483280
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		0

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☐ Unmodified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☒ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) ☒ DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) ☐ DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) ☐ neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: BELFINT, LYONS, & SHUMAN, P.A.

(2) EIN: 51-0232399

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		☒	
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	☒		500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		☒	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		☒	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		☒	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	☒		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		☒	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		☒	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		☒	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		☒	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 51-0225189
Part I	Distributions	
All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.		
1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....		1 0
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 13-3586142 23-1945930		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year		3
Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)	
4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.		
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____		
If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.		
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)		6a
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year.....		6b
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)		6c
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.		
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
Part III	Amendments	
9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box. ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Both ☐ No		
Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.	
10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?..... ☐ Yes ☐ No		
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) ☐ Yes ☐ No		
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.		
Schedule R (Form 5500) 2023 v. 230707		

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:		
a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14b	
c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14c	
15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:		
a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	
16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:		
a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	
17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐		

Part VI	Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans
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18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐	
19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):	
a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as: Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%	
b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: ☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more	
20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.	
a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:	
☐ Yes.	
☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.	
☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.	
☐ No. Other. Provide explanation. _____	

Part VII	IRS Compliance Questions
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21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☐ Yes ☒ No	
21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).	
☐ Design-based safe harbor method	
☐ "Prior year" ADP test	
☐ "Current year" ADP test	
☒ N/A	
22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter <u>03 / 31 / 2017</u> (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number <u>J500747A</u> .	

**THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.
403(b) PLAN**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT,
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
ERISA REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
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DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator
The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We were engaged to perform audits of the financial statements of The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan (Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from TIAA and CREF and Ascensus, LLC as agent on behalf of Ascensus Trust Company, the custodians of the Plan, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 5 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Disclaimer of Opinion

We do not express an opinion on the financial statements of The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan referred to in the first paragraph. Because of the significance of the matter described in the *Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion* section of our report, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on the financial statements.

To the Plan Administrator
The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan

Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

The Plan has not maintained sufficient accounting records and supporting documents relating to certain annuity and custodial accounts issued to current and former employees prior to January 1, 2009. Accordingly, predecessor auditors were unable to apply auditing procedures sufficiently to determine the extent to which the financial statements may have been affected by these conditions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments; administering the Plan; and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives were to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. However, because of the matter described in the *Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion* section of our report, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion on these financial statements.

We are required to be independent of The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

To the Plan Administrator
The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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 Matter - Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2023, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Because of the significance of the matter described in the *Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion* section of our report it is inappropriate and we do not express an opinion on the supplemental schedule referred to above.

Belfint, Lyons & Shuman, P.A.

October 7, 2024
Wilmington, Delaware

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS		
Investments, at Fair Value	\$ 20,703,078	\$ 18,243,878
Investments, at Contract Value	<u>654,499</u>	<u>631,080</u>
Total Investments	<u>21,357,577</u>	<u>18,874,958</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	21,357,577	18,874,958
LIABILITIES		
Excess Contributions Payable	<u>-</u>	<u>661</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u><u>\$ 21,357,577</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 18,874,297</u></u>

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

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

ADDITIONS

Investment Income	
Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments	\$ 2,783,910
Interest	268,568
Dividends	<u>206,132</u>
Net Investment Income	<u>3,258,610</u>
Contributions	
Participant	407,092
Employer	<u>191,278</u>
Total Contributions	<u>598,370</u>
TOTAL ADDITIONS	<u><u>3,856,980</u></u>

DEDUCTIONS

Benefits Paid to Participants	1,310,492
Payments to Insurance Company - Annuity Settlement Options	27,566
Administrative Expenses	<u>35,642</u>
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	<u><u>1,373,700</u></u>

NET CHANGE	2,483,280
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NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS - Beginning of Year	<u>18,874,297</u>
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NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS - End of Year	<u><u>\$ 21,357,577</u></u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

General - The Plan is a 403(b) defined contribution plan covering all eligible employees of The Independence School, Inc. (the “School”), a qualified 501(c)(3) organization. The Plan was established and originally effective January 1, 1992, to provide eligible employees of the School the opportunity to accumulate savings that provide benefits in the event of retirement, disability, or death. The Plan is structured to comply with the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended.

The School retains the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association of America (TIAA) as a custodian to perform recordkeeping services and to maintain certain assets of the Plan. The School retains The Vanguard Group, Inc. (Vanguard) to perform recordkeeping services and Ascensus Trust Company to maintain the assets of the Plan administered by Vanguard. The School also retains Atlantic Pension Services as the third-party administrator to perform compliance testing and Biddle Capital Management, Inc. as the investment advisor.

Eligibility - An eligible employee is any employee of the School, excluding employees who normally work fewer than 20 hours per week and nonresident aliens with no U.S. source income. Employees under a collective bargaining agreement are excluded for employer contribution purposes only. An employee is eligible to make elective deferrals and receive employer contributions immediately.

Contributions - Every year, participants may contribute a percentage of pretax annual compensation, as defined in the plan document. Roth deferral contributions are also permitted. A Roth contribution is defined as being made in lieu of all or a portion of the pretax elective deferral the participant is otherwise eligible to make under the Plan and treated by the employer as includible in the participant's income. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Special catch-up contributions for qualified employees of qualified organizations are not permitted under the Plan. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans (rollover). Upon enrollment, participants may direct their contributions to the various investments offered by the Plan. Participants may change their investment options and deferral percentages at any time. Contributions are subject to the nondiscrimination requirements and certain regulatory limitations. The School may make discretionary employer-match contributions each year. For the year ended December 31, 2023, employer-match contributions were allocated to qualifying participants according to the following schedule:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Employee %</u>	<u>Employer %</u>
0 - 4	3%	3%
5 - 9	3%	4%
≥ 10	3%	5%

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF PLAN - CONTINUED

Participant Accounts - Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and an allocation of School contributions, if any, investment results, and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses, as provided by the Plan. Allocations are based on participant earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account. All accounts are self-directed by the participants.

Vesting - Participants are immediately vested in their voluntary contributions, rollover contributions, School contributions, and actual earnings thereon.

Payment of Benefits - Distributions from the Plan are permitted upon termination of employment, death, disability, or retirement (age 59½). A participant may receive a single lump-sum payment, partial payments, or installment payments from his or her College Retirement Equities Funds (CREF) annuity, TIAA Real Estate Account, or by purchasing an annuity contract with his or her account balance. For distributions from the TIAA Traditional Annuity Account, a participant may elect a fixed period annuity, or a life annuity for single participants or a joint survivor annuity for married participants. After separation from service, a participant may delay withdrawal until a future date, but the plan administrator may automatically distribute balances of terminated participants that do not exceed \$5,000. If the terminated participant's account balance is greater than \$1,000, but not exceeding \$5,000 and the participant does not make an affirmative election to request a distribution, the distribution will be paid in a direct rollover to an individual retirement account designated by the plan administrator. If a participant has an account balance of \$1,000 or less and the participant does not make an affirmative election to request a distribution, the vested account balance will automatically be paid in a lump-sum distribution. In-service withdrawals are also permitted for participants who have reached age 59½. As required under Section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), a participant must begin receiving required minimum distributions from the Plan by April 1 of the calendar year following the later of (i) the calendar year in which the participant reaches 72, or 73 if the participant is not 72 prior to January 1, 2023, or (ii) the calendar year in which the participant retires.

Hardship Withdrawals - Participants may withdraw their account balances under the Plan to the extent permitted by the individual agreements controlling the account assets to be withdrawn in the form of a hardship withdrawal to satisfy an immediate and heavy financial need as defined by the Plan. The participant must first exhaust all other assets reasonably available prior to obtaining a hardship withdrawal. The hardship distribution cannot be in excess of the need.

Annuity Settlement Options - Represents the conversion of a deferred annuity contract to an immediate annuity contract in the name of the participant individually. The participant account balance is used to purchase an annuity with TIAA outside of the Plan.

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting - The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at fair value, except for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan.

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition - Investments are reported at fair value (except for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, which are reported at contract value). Fair value is the price that would be received for the sale of an asset or paid for the transfer of a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. See Note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is accrued when earned. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation/depreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Payment of Benefits - Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative Expenses - Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the School and are excluded from these financial statements. Costs associated with participant-initiated transactions are paid by the respective participants' accounts. Some administrative expenses are paid from the annual operating expenses of the Plan's designated investment alternatives, which are amounts netted against the investment earnings for the participant-directed investments. The net expense ratio for assets held at TIAA ranged from .405% to .87%. The expense ratio for assets held at Ascensus Trust Company ranged from .05% to .88%. Additionally, Biddle Capital Management, Inc. charges an annual fee of .40% of plan assets for advisory services.

Subsequent Events - The School's policy is to evaluate events and transactions subsequent to its year end for potential recognition in the financial statements or disclosure in the notes to the financial statements. The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through the date of the independent auditor's report, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 3: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of fair value hierarchy under Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification (FASB ASC) 820 are described as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 - Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following are descriptions of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used as of December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Registered Investment Companies (Mutual Funds) - Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 3: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS - CONTINUED

Variable Annuity Contract - The TIAA Real Estate Account is an insurance company, separate account investing, mainly in real estate and real estate-related investments. The value is principally derived from the market value of the underlying real estate holdings or other real estate-related investments. This fund is required to publish its daily NAV and to transact at that price. Since the investment has a readily determinable value, the NAV is not used as a practical expedient. Although the underlying assets of the fund cannot be quickly sold and converted to liquid assets, the TIAA General Account provides the fund with a liquidity guarantee. This investment is classified as Level 2 within the fair value hierarchy.

Insurance Company General Contracts - The TIAA Traditional Annuity is segregated into non-benefit-responsive and fully benefit-responsive contracts. The non-benefit-responsive portion is reported at fair value. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of net assets that are considered to be fully benefit-responsive. Contract value equals the accumulated cash contributions, interest credited to the Plan's contracts, and transfers, if any, less any withdrawals. The non-benefit-responsive portion is classified as Level 3 within the fair value hierarchy.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31:

	2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Registered Investment Companies	\$ 15,261,305	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,261,305
Variable Annuity Contract	-	233,352	-	233,352
Insurance Company General Contracts				
Non-Benefit-Responsive	-	-	5,208,421	5,208,421
Total Investments, at Fair Value	<u>\$ 15,261,305</u>	<u>\$ 233,352</u>	<u>\$ 5,208,421</u>	<u>\$ 20,703,078</u>

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 3: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS - CONTINUED

Insurance Company General Contracts - Continued

	2022			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Registered Investment Companies	\$ 12,823,373	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,823,373
Variable Annuity Contract	-	260,271	-	260,271
Insurance Company General Contracts Non-Benefit-Responsive	-	-	5,160,234	5,160,234
Total Investments, at Fair Value	<u>\$ 12,823,373</u>	<u>\$ 260,271</u>	<u>\$ 5,160,234</u>	<u>\$ 18,243,878</u>

There were no significant transfers between Levels 1 and 2 and no transfers in or out of Level 3 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022. The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets for the year ended December 31:

	2023
Balance - Beginning of Year	<u>\$ 5,160,234</u>
Interest Income	<u>241,990</u>
Purchases, Issuances, Sales, and Settlements	
Contributions, Rollovers, and Transfers In	677,540
Withdrawals, Distributions, Settlements, and Transfers Out	<u>(871,343)</u>
Total Purchases, Issuances, Sales, and Settlements, Net	<u>(193,803)</u>
Balance - End of Year	<u><u>\$ 5,208,421</u></u>

The following table represents the Plan's Level 3 financial instruments, the valuation techniques used to measure fair value of those financial instruments, and the significant unobservable inputs and the ranges of values for those inputs as of December 31:

	2023 Fair Value	2022 Fair Value	Principal Valuation Technique	Significant Unobservable Input	Range
TIAA Traditional Annuity - Non-Benefit-Responsive Retirement Account	\$ 5,208,421	\$ 5,160,234	Discounted Cash Flow Theoretical Transfer (Exit Value)	Risk-Adjusted Discount Rate Applied	4.00% - 6.75%

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 4: INVESTMENTS

Insurance Company General Contracts - The TIAA Traditional Annuity (Annuity) is a fixed rate annuity contract that is fully and unconditionally guaranteed and backed by the claims-paying ability of TIAA, a New York domiciled nonprofit legal reserve life insurance company. During the accumulation phase, the Annuity provides a guarantee of principal, a guaranteed minimum rate of interest, and the potential for additional interest, if declared by TIAA. Additional interest, when declared, remains in effect for the “declaration year,” which begins each March 1. Additional interest is not guaranteed for future years. When the contract value accumulation (plan asset) of the Annuity is converted to an annuity (plan withdrawal) based on life expectancy, the present value of the stream of payments is equal to the accumulation. The Annuity is offered through a variety of contract types with TIAA. The type of contract which the Plan holds in the Annuity determines the applicability of certain account features, such as a guaranteed minimum interest rate, additional interest declarations, the degree of liquidity of participant accounts, and the options for receiving income upon retirement.

The guaranteed annual interest rate is 3% for all premiums remitted since 1979 under all accumulating contracts with the exception of the Retirement Choice (RC) and Retirement Choice Plus (RCP) contracts. For the RC and RCP contracts, the guaranteed rate is between 1% and 3%. The Retirement Annuity (RA) contract does not allow lump-sum cash withdrawals and transfers must be spread out of a period of 10 annual installments. With a Group Retirement Annuity (GRA) contract, lump-sum withdrawals are available only within 120 days after termination of employment and are subject to a surrender charge. All other withdrawals and transfers from the RA or GRA must be spread over a period of 10 annual installments (or five annual installments for withdrawals after termination of employment). The Annuity within the Supplemental Retirement Annuity (SRA), Group Supplemental Retirement Annuity (GSRA), and RCP contracts, as well as holdings held as defaulted loan collateral, contain no liquidity restrictions and are benefit-responsive. The Annuity holdings within the RA, GRA, and RC contracts have liquidity restrictions and are non-benefit-responsive.

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Plan held RA, SRA, and GSRA contracts. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, \$5,208,421 and \$5,160,234, respectively, of the Annuity was not benefit-responsive, and \$654,499 and \$631,080, respectively, of the Annuity was fully benefit-responsive.

The Plan’s guaranteed annuity contracts are traditional investment contracts. Due to the nature of these contracts, they do not have specific underlying assets assigned. The key difference between a synthetic investment contract and a traditional investment contract is that the Plan owns the underlying assets of the synthetic investment contract. A synthetic investment contract includes a wrapper contract, which is an agreement for the wrap issuer, such as a bank or insurance company, to make payments to the Plan in certain circumstances. The wrapper contract typically includes certain conditions and limitations on the underlying assets owned by the Plan. With traditional investment contracts, the Plan owns only the contract itself. Synthetic and traditional investment contracts are designed to accrue interest based on crediting rates established by the contract issuers.

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 4: INVESTMENTS - CONTINUED

Insurance Company General Contracts - Continued

Market value events may limit the ability of the Annuity to transact at a contract value with the issuer. Market value events are events or conditions that occur which are outside of the normal operation of the Annuity and lead to any disbursements which have or will have a material adverse effect on the operations of the Annuity and a financial effect on the investment contract or wrap issuer's interest hereunder.

Such events may include, but are not limited to: fund administration amended or changed, merger or consolidation of investors, group terminations or layoffs, implementation of an early retirement program, termination or partial termination of the Annuity, failure to meet certain tax qualifications, participant communication that is designed to influence participants not to invest in the Annuity, transfers to competing options without meeting the equity provisions of the Annuity, and plan sponsor withdrawals without the appropriate notice to the Annuity and/or issuer.

In the normal course of business, such events or conditions would not limit the ability of the Annuity to transact at contract value with the participants in the Annuity. The Annuity is managed to maintain a certain amount of liquidity to provide for the day-to-day liquidity needs of participants as well as the occasional market value event.

The plan sponsor does not believe that any events which would limit the Annuity's ability to transact at contract value with participants are probable of occurring.

An issuer can terminate an investment contract upon the event of default by the contract holder, advisor, or trustee if the issuer determines in its reasonable discretion that such an event has had or is likely to have a material adverse effect on the issuer's interest with respect to the contract. Such events may include, but are not limited to: management of the portfolio not in accordance with investment guidelines; a breach of any material obligation under the wrap agreement; any representation or warranty made by the contract holder becomes untrue in any material way; a replacement of the advisor without prior consent of the issuer; the Annuity is terminated or ceases to qualify as a group trust or plans cease to meet the appropriate tax qualifications; or the wrap becomes a prohibited transaction within the meaning of Section 406 of ERISA.

CREF Accounts - CREF consists of eight investment portfolios including the Stock, Global Equities, Growth, Equity Index, Bond Market, Inflation-Linked Bond, Social Choice, and Money Market Accounts. In accordance with each portfolio's investment objectives, the accounts invest principally in equity securities, fixed income investments, and short-term investments.

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 4: INVESTMENTS - CONTINUED

CREF Accounts - Continued

Accumulation units in CREF Accounts are available for transactions at the closing accumulation unit value on any day the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is open for business. In an effort to reduce market timing and excessive trading, shareholders will not be permitted to make electronic transfers (i.e., transfers over the Internet, by telephone, or by fax) back into that same account through a purchase or exchange for 90 calendar days if a purchase, sale, and repurchase within that account is made within a 60-day period, other than the CREF Money Market Accounts.

TIAA Real Estate Account - The TIAA Real Estate Account (REA) is an insurance company separate account of TIAA investing mainly in real estate and real estate-related investments. Accumulation units in the REA are available for transactions at the closing accumulation unit value on any day the NYSE is open for business. Transfers out of the REA are limited to one per calendar quarter.

Although the underlying assets of the REA cannot be quickly sold and converted to liquid assets, the TIAA General Account provides the REA with a liquidity guarantee, i.e., TIAA ensures that the REA has funds available to meet participant redemption, transfer, or cash withdrawal requests executed at quoted unit values. Unit values are calculated each day and posted to the Plan's website.

NOTE 5: INFORMATION CERTIFIED BY CUSTODIANS

The following information included in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule was obtained from data that has been prepared and certified as complete and accurate by TIAA and CREF and Ascensus, LLC as agent on behalf of Ascensus Trust Company, the custodians of the Plan.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Investments, at Fair Value		
Registered Investment Companies	\$ 15,261,305	\$ 12,823,373
Variable Annuity Contract	233,352	260,271
Guaranteed Annuity Contract - Non-Benefit-Responsive	<u>5,208,421</u>	<u>5,160,234</u>
Total Investments, at Fair Value	20,703,078	18,243,878
Investments, at Contract Value		
Guaranteed Annuity Contract - Benefit-Responsive	<u>654,499</u>	<u>631,080</u>
Total Investments	<u><u>\$ 21,357,577</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 18,874,958</u></u>

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 5: INFORMATION CERTIFIED BY CUSTODIANS - CONTINUED

	<u>2023</u>
Investment Income	
Net Appreciation in Registered Investment Companies	\$ 2,746,894
Net Appreciation in Variable Annuity Contract	37,016
Interest on Guaranteed Annuity Contracts	268,568
Dividends	<u>206,132</u>
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 3,258,610</u>

NOTE 6: RELATED-PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

The School has not considered normal plan operations such as participant and employer contributions or benefits paid to participants as party-in-interest transactions that require separate disclosure. Certain plan investments are shares and units of registered investment companies (mutual funds), pooled separate accounts, and guaranteed annuity contracts managed by TIAA and Ascensus Trust Company, the custodians. These transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions that are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules. Fees paid during the year for professional services rendered by parties in interest were absorbed by the School.

NOTE 7: PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the School has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. Any unallocated assets of the Plan shall be allocated to participant accounts and distributed in such a manner as the School may determine.

NOTE 8: TAX STATUS

The underlying Atlantic Pension Services, Inc. Volume Submitter 403(b) plan has received an advisory letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) dated March 31, 2017, stating that the form of the Plan is acceptable under section 403(b) of the IRC and, therefore, the related trust is tax exempt. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the DOL or the IRS. The plan administrator has analyzed the positions taken by the Plan and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan's federal Form 5500 is subject to examination by the IRS and DOL, generally for three years after it is filed.

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2023

NOTE 9: RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investments are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investments, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investments will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances, and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

NOTE 10: COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

In the normal course of business, there may be various commitments and contingencies outstanding, which are not reflected in these financial statements. In the opinion of the School, the outcome of such events, if any, would not have a material effect on the Plan's financial position or operations.

ERISA REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN

EIN: 51-0225189, PLAN #001

ATTACHMENT TO FORM 5500, SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(i)

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

DECEMBER 31, 2023

(a)	(b) Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	American Funds American Balanced	Registered Investment Company	\$ -	\$ 573,509
	American Funds US Government Securities	Registered Investment Company	-	9,146
	Baird Aggregate Bond	Registered Investment Company	-	930,499
	BlackRock High Yield Bond	Registered Investment Company	-	624,645
	Causeway International Value	Registered Investment Company	-	344,817
	Dodge & Cox Stock Fund	Registered Investment Company	-	1,257,467
	First Eagle Gold	Registered Investment Company	-	348,486
	Franklin Small-Cap Value	Registered Investment Company	-	9,606
	JPMorgan Large-Cap Growth	Registered Investment Company	-	1,063,042
	T. Rowe Price Institutional Large-Cap Growth	Registered Investment Company	-	1,220,426
*	TIAA CREF Bond Market	Registered Investment Company	-	332,010
*	TIAA CREF Equity Index	Registered Investment Company	-	607,532
*	TIAA CREF Global Equities	Registered Investment Company	-	734,060
*	TIAA CREF Growth	Registered Investment Company	-	1,773,425
*	TIAA CREF Inflation-Linked Bond	Registered Investment Company	-	188,338
*	TIAA CREF Money Market	Registered Investment Company	-	66,298
*	TIAA CREF Social Choice	Registered Investment Company	-	34,907
*	TIAA CREF Stock	Registered Investment Company	-	3,105,615
*	Vanguard Explorer	Registered Investment Company	-	398,210
*	Vanguard Federal Money Market	Registered Investment Company	-	190,941
*	Vanguard Growth Index	Registered Investment Company	-	442,061
*	Vanguard Intermediate-Term Treasury Index	Registered Investment Company	-	252,969
*	Vanguard Real Estate Index	Registered Investment Company	-	2,490
*	Vanguard Small-Cap Growth Index	Registered Investment Company	-	183,860
*	Vanguard Small-Cap Value Index	Registered Investment Company	-	251,507
*	Vanguard Value Index	Registered Investment Company	-	315,439
		Total Registered Investment Companies	-	15,261,305
*	TIAA Real Estate Account	Variable Annuity Contract	-	233,352
*	TIAA Traditional Annuity Benefit-Responsive	Insurance Contract	-	654,499
	TIAA Traditional Annuity			
*	Non-Benefit-Responsive	Insurance Contract	-	5,208,421
		Total Insurance Contracts	-	5,862,920
		Total Investments	\$ -	\$ 21,357,577

*Indicates a party-in-interest to the Plan.

(d) Note: Historical cost information is not required for participant-directed investments.

Form 5500Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue ServiceDepartment of Labor
Employee Benefits Security
Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ **Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.**OMB Nos. 1210-0110
1210-0089**2023****This Form is Open to Public Inspection****Part I Annual Report Identification Information**For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

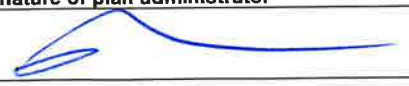
- A** This return/report is for: ☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
- ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____
- B** This return/report is: ☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report
- ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
- C** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ☐
- D** Check box if filing under: ☒ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program
- ☐ special extension (enter description) _____
- E** If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. ☐

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) The Independence School, Inc. 1300 Paper Mill Road Newark DE 19711-3408	1c Effective date of plan 01/01/1980
	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 51-0225189
	2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 302-239-0330
	2d Business code (see instructions) 611000

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	X 	X <u>10/9/24</u>	X <u>Patrick Burns</u>
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	X 	X <u>10/9/24</u>	X <u>Patrick Burns</u>
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2023)
v. 2300728

THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(b) PLAN

EIN: 51-0225189, PLAN #001

ATTACHMENT TO FORM 5500, SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(i)

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

DECEMBER 31, 2023

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		Total Insurance Contracts	-	5,862,920
		Total Investments	\$ -	\$ 21,357,577

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