

<p>Form 5500</p> <p>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</p> <p>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).</p> <p>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</p>	<p>OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold;">2024</p> <hr/> <p>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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Part I Annual Report Identification Information
 For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

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

<p>1a Name of plan <u>THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN</u></p>	<p>1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u></p>
<p>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) <u>THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.</u></p> <p><u>1300 PAPER MILL ROAD</u> <u>NEWARK, DE 19711-3408</u></p>	<p>1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/1980</u></p> <p>2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>51-0225189</u></p> <p>2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>302-239-0330</u></p> <p>2d Business code (see instructions) <u>611000</u></p>

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.	08/25/2025	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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	212
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)	104
	6a(2)	121
	6b	44
	6c	61
	6d	226
	6e	0
	6f	226
	6g(1)	178
	6g(2)	181
h	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:
2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2T

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)	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor

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	b General Schedules
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> R (Retirement Plan Information)	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H (Financial Information)
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> I (Financial Information – Small Plan)
(3) <input type="checkbox"/> SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>1</u>
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> DCG (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information)
(5) <input type="checkbox"/> MEP (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	(5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> 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 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 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 _____

<p>SCHEDULE A (Form 5500)</p> <p>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p>Insurance Information</p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p>	<p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p>2024</p> <hr/> <p>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

<p>A Name of plan THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN</p>	<p>B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</p>	<p>001</p>
<p>C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.</p>	<p>D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 51-0225189</p>	

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.

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	123	01/01/2024	12/31/2024

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
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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
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(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	5874592
5	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	8069908
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. Specify nature of costs ▶	6d
e	Type of contract: (1) <input type="checkbox"/> individual policies (2) <input type="checkbox"/> group deferred annuity (3) <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) ▶	
f	If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>	
7	Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)	
a	Type of contract: (1) <input type="checkbox"/> deposit administration (2) <input type="checkbox"/> immediate participation guarantee (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> guaranteed investment (4) <input type="checkbox"/> other ▶	
b	Balance at the end of the previous year	7b 5862919
c	(1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1) 0
	(2) Dividends and credits.....	7c(2) 0
	(3) Interest credited during the year.....	7c(3) 258194
	(4) Transferred from separate account	7c(4) 12670
	(5) Other (specify below)..... ▶	7c(5) 0
	(6) Total additions	7c(6) 270864
d	Total of balance and additions (add lines 7b and 7c(6))	7d 6133783
e	Deductions:	
	(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1) 194123
	(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	7e(2) 0
	(3) Transferred to separate account	7e(3) 65068
	(4) Other (specify below)..... ▶	7e(4) 0
(5) Total deductions	7e(5) 259191	
f	Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line 7e(5) from line 7d).....	7f 5874592

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 <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> 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) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

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)

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

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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	1000	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(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	41098	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

TIAA

13-1624203

(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	37510	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

A Name of plan <u>THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN)	<u>001</u>
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>51-0225189</u>	

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)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	<u>TIAA REAL ESTATE</u>		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	<u>TIAA-CREF</u>		
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)	
<u>13-1624203-004</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>204450</u>	
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) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024	
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.

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
Assets			
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	
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)		0
(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)	233352	204450
(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)	15261305	16654985
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	5862920	5874592
(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	
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	1f	21357577	22734027
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g	0	0
h Operating payables.....	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities.....	1j	0	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	21357577	22734027

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)	244838	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	413290	
(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)		658128
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)		
(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)	0	
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)	258194	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		258194
(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)	177834	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		177834
(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)	-9505
(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)	2512090
c Other income	2c	
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d	3596741

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:		
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	2140683
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)	0
(3) Other.....	2e(3)	0
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)	2140683
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)	78608
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)	0
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)	0
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	1000
(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)	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)	79608
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j	2220291

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k	1376450
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.)		X	
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.)		X	
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.)		X	
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.)		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		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?		X	
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?		X	
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?		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
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.)		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
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) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

A Name of plan <u>THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC. 403(B) PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE INDEPENDENCE SCHOOL, INC.</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>51-0225189</u>	

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

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: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> 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. <input type="checkbox"/> 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

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

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 03 / 31 / 2017 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number J500747A.

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan

**Financial Statements and ERISA-Required
Supplemental Schedule and
Independent Auditor's Report**

December 31, 2024 and 2023

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Table of Contents
December 31, 2024 and 2023

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator
The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
1300 Paper Mill Road
Newark, DE 19711

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, 2024 and 2023, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024, 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, 2024 and 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 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.

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 the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, 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 that the financial statements were 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 are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of 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 judgment, 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 certifications, 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 U.S. GAAP.

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 U.S. GAAP.

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, 2024, 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.

August 18, 2025
Wilmington, DE

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2024 and 2023

Assets		<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Investments at fair value (See notes 3 and 4)	\$	22,075,378	\$ 20,703,078
Investments at contract value (See note 5)		<u>658,649</u>	<u>654,499</u>
Total Investments		<u>22,734,027</u>	<u>21,357,577</u>
Total Assets		22,734,027	21,357,577
Liabilities			
Total Liabilities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Assets Available for Benefits	\$	<u><u>22,734,027</u></u>	\$ <u><u>21,357,577</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
Year ended December 31, 2024

Additions to Net Assets:	<u>2024</u>
Investment income:	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 2,502,585
Interest	258,194
Dividends	<u>177,834</u>
Net Investment Income	2,938,613
Contributions:	
Participants	413,290
Employer (See note 1)	<u>244,838</u>
Total Contributions	<u>658,128</u>
Total Additions	3,596,741
Deductions from Net Assets:	
Benefits paid to participants	2,140,683
Administrative expenses	<u>79,608</u>
Total Deductions	<u>2,220,291</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	1,376,450
Net Assets Available for Benefits - Beginning of Year	<u>21,357,577</u>
Net Assets Available for Benefits - End of Year	<u><u>\$ 22,734,027</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 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 document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a 403(b) defined contribution plan established by The Independence School, Inc. (the "Plan Sponsor", "Plan Administrator", and "School"), for the benefit of eligible employees of the School and any adopting participating employers. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as well as certain provisions of the federal income tax laws.

All employees of the School and any participating affiliates are subject to the following eligibility requirements, as defined in accordance with the universal availability standards:

- Age: None
- Service: 0 months
- Status Exclusions:
 - a. Non-resident aliens with no U.S. earned income
 - b. Employees who normally work less than 20 hours per week
 - c. Employees under a collective bargaining agreement are excluded for employer contribution purposes only

Upon satisfying the eligibility requirements, employees may participate in the Plan immediately upon eligibility.

Contributions

The Plan is funded through employee elective deferrals and School contributions. Each year, participants may elect to contribute a portion of their compensation, subject to certain maximum limitations imposed by Section 402(g) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "IRC"). At the discretion of the Plan Administrator, participants may be permitted to deposit or "roll over" into the Plan distributions they have received from other plans and certain Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions.

The following contribution types are allowed by the Plan:

- Elective deferrals
- Roth deferrals
- Rollover contributions
- Employer matching

**The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023**

The School may make discretionary employer match contributions each year. From January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024, 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%

Effective July 1, 2024, the School’s board of trustees increased the discretionary employer match to 6% for all employees deferring at least 3%.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, allocation of the School’s contributions, and plan earnings or losses and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses that are paid by the Plan. Allocations may be charged based on participant earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in their voluntary contributions, rollover contributions, and actual earnings thereon. Employees hired before September 15, 2024 are always 100% vested in their School matching contributions. The Plan was amended effective September 15, 2024 to change the employer matching vesting schedule. Employees hired on or after September 15, 2024 are 50% vested in their School matching contributions until they have three or more years of service, at which point they will be 100% vested.

Forfeited Accounts

Forfeitures represent unvested portions of terminated participants’ accounts. The Plan allows forfeitures of non-vested School contributions to be used as follows:

- Reallocated as additional employer contributions
- Used to pay administrative expenses

As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$0. During the year ended December 31, 2024, forfeited non-vested accounts of \$0 were used.

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023

Investment Options

Upon enrollment in the Plan, a participant may direct the contributions made to the Plan, for or on behalf of the participant, to any one or more of the investment funds determined at the discretion of the Plan Administrator and in such multiples as the participant prescribes. A participant may change his or her investment direction with respect to future contributions or redirect the investment of his or her account balances.

Benefits Paid to Participants

Upon termination of service, disability, or retirement, a participant is entitled to receive a distribution equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account. Distribution of a deceased participant's account will be made to the designated beneficiary.

Participants with a vested account balance less than \$1,000 will automatically receive a lump-sum distribution. Participants with a vested account balance between \$1,000 and \$5,000 who do not elect a form of distribution will have their vested account balance rolled over to an individual retirement account selected by the Plan. Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan adopted the provision of the SECURE 2.0 Act which increased the mandatory distribution limit from \$5,000 to \$7,000. The Plan will be amended as required.

As required under Section 401(a)(9) of the 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 year in which the participant reaches age 73, or (ii) the year in which the participant retires.

The following types of distributions are also allowed by the Plan:

- Termination partial withdrawal
- Installment payments from CREF Annuity Account
- Installment payments from TIAA Real Estate Account
- Purchase annuity contract with account balance (annuity settlement option)
- In service
- Hardship
- Rollover source withdrawal at any time

Plan Expenses

The Plan's expenses are paid by either the Plan or the School, as provided by the plan document. Expenses paid directly by the School are excluded from these financial statements. Certain expenses incurred in connection with the general administration of the Plan that are paid by the Plan are recorded as deductions in the accompany statement of changes to net assets available for benefits. In addition, certain administrative expenses are netted against the earnings of the investment alternatives held by the participants.

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023

Termination of the Plan

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. Upon termination, no further contributions will be made to the Plan and all amounts credited to the participant's account will become 100% vested. The School will direct the distribution of the participant's account in a manner permitted by the Plan as soon as practicable.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

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 accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and 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 any 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 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of investments are recorded on the trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments, including realized gains and losses on sales during the year and current changes in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) in the market value of investments held at year end, is presented in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Contributions

Contributions from plan participants and the related employer matching contributions, if any, are recorded in the year in which the participant contributions are withheld from compensation.

**The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023**

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Subsequent Events

The Plan'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 administrator has evaluated events and transactions through the date of the independent auditor's report, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 3 – Certified Investments

Certain information summarized below related to the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information 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.

	2024	2023
Investment values certified	\$ 22,734,027	\$ 21,357,577
Year ended December 31, 2024		
Investment income certified:		
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$	2,502,585
Interest		258,194
Dividends		177,834
Net Investment Income	\$	2,938,613

Note 4 – 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 the fair value hierarchy 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;

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023

- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
- 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 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 maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value, including the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

Registered Investment Companies (Mutual Funds)

Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-ended mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded and are classified as Level 1 within the fair value hierarchy.

Variable Annuity Contracts

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 Accounts

Certain contracts within the TIAA Traditional Annuity are non-benefit responsive. The non-benefit-responsive contracts are reported at fair value, which approximates contract value. 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 contracts are classified as Level 3 within the fair value hierarchy.

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

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023
Level 1		
Mutual funds	\$ 16,654,985	\$ 15,261,305
Level 2		
Variable Annuity Contracts	204,450	233,352
Level 3		
Insurance Company General Contracts Non-Benefit Responsive	5,215,943	5,208,421
Investments at fair value	\$ 22,075,378	\$ 20,703,078

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, 2024 and 2023. The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets the year ended December 31:

	2024
Balance - Beginning of Year	\$ 5,208,421
Interest Income	232,960
Purchases, Issuances, Sales, and Settlements	
Contributions, Rollovers, and Transfers In	12,670
Withdrawals, Distributions, Settlements, and Transfers Out	(238,108)
Total Purchases, Issuances, Sales, and Settlements, Net	(225,438)
Balance - End of Year	\$ 5,215,943

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:

	2024	2023	Principal	Significant	Range
	Fair Value	Fair Value	Valuation	Unobservabl	
			Technique	e Input	
TIAA Traditional Annuity - Non-Benefit-Responsive Retirement Account	\$ 5,215,943	\$ 5,208,421	Discounted Cash Flow Theoretical Transfer (Exit Value)	Risk-Adjusted Discount Rate Applied	3.65% - 6.50%

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023

Note 5 – Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment 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, 2024 and 2023, the Plan held RA, SRA, and GSRA contracts. As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, \$5,215,943 and \$5,208,421, respectively, of the Annuity was not benefit-responsive, and \$658,649 and \$654,499, 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.

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.

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023

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.

Note 6 – Related Party Transactions and Transactions with Parties-in-Interest

A related party is any party who can control or significantly influence plan management or operating policies. Parties-in-interest are defined under DOL regulations as any employees of the Plan, fiduciaries of the Plan, service providers to the Plan, the employer whose employees are covered by the Plan, and certain significant owners of the employer and their relatives. Service providers may include, but are not limited to, the custodian, trustee, third-party administrator (TPA), investment managers, investment advisors, legal counsel, and plan auditor.

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Plan made direct payments of \$79,608 to certain parties-in-interest for administration and investment advisory fees, as allowed by ERISA. The Plan Sponsor pays directly any other fees related to the operation of the Plan.

Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in the net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of the related investment, as they are paid using investment earnings rather than a direct payment.

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023

Note 7 – Risks and Uncertainties

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

Note 8 – Tax Status

The underlying 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, 2024 and 2023, 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.

Note 9 – Plan Amendment

The Plan was amended effective September 15, 2024 to change the employer matching vesting schedule. Employees hired before September 15, 2024 are always 100% vested in their School matching contributions. Employees hired on or after September 15, 2024 are 50% vested in their School matching contributions until they have three or more years of service, at which point they will be 100% vested.

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Exhibit A – Form 5500, Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
EIN 51-0225189 Plan # 001
December 31, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower Lessor or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Maturity Date, Rate, Collateral, Value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	American Funds American Balanced	Mutual Fund	**	\$ 460,232
	Baird Aggregate Bond	Mutual Fund	**	1,204,536
	BlackRock High Yield Bond	Mutual Fund	**	698,635
	Causeway International Value	Mutual Fund	**	389,967
*	CREF Stock	Mutual Fund	**	3,450,274
*	CREF Money Market	Mutual Fund	**	61,771
*	CREF Social Choice	Mutual Fund	**	37,645
*	CREF Global Equities	Mutual Fund	**	850,416
*	CREF Growth	Mutual Fund	**	2,255,237
*	CREF Equity Index	Mutual Fund	**	720,703
*	CREF Inflation-Linked Bond	Mutual Fund	**	177,081
*	CREF Core Bond	Mutual Fund	**	312,331
	Dodge & Cox Stock Fund	Mutual Fund	**	1,495,330
	First Eagle Gold	Mutual Fund	**	387,208
	Franklin Small-Cap Value	Mutual Fund	**	13,564
	JPMorgan Large-Cap Growth	Mutual Fund	**	2,436,634
	T. Rowe Price Large-Cap Growth	Mutual Fund	**	105,938
	Schwab Treasury Inflat Protected Sec Idx	Mutual Fund	**	471
	Vanguard 500 Index	Mutual Fund	**	22,611
	Vanguard Explorer	Mutual Fund	**	362,713
	Vanguard Federal Money Market	Mutual Fund	**	9,113
	Vanguard Growth Index	Mutual Fund	**	420,614
	Vanguard Interm-Term Treasury Index	Mutual Fund	**	292,806
	Vanguard Real Estate Index	Mutual Fund	**	4,297
	Vanguard Small-Cap Growth Index	Mutual Fund	**	115,175
	Vanguard Small-Cap Value Index	Mutual Fund	**	172,256
	Vanguard Value Index	Mutual Fund	**	197,426
		Total Mutual Funds		<u>16,654,985</u>
*	TIAA Real Estate Account	Variable Annuity Contract	**	<u>204,450</u>
*	TIAA Traditional Benefit-Responsive	Insurance General Account	**	658,649
*	TIAA Traditional Non-Benefit-Responsive	Insurance General Account	**	<u>5,215,943</u>
		Total Insurance General Accounts		<u>5,874,592</u>
		Total assets held at end of year		<u>\$ 22,734,027</u>

* A party-in-interest as defined by ERISA

** Not required for participant-directed transactions under an individual account plan

See accompanying independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

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

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- 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
	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		8/25/25	Patrick Burns
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE		8/25/25	Patrick Burns
	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 (2024)
v. 240311

The Independence School, Inc. 403(b) Plan
Exhibit A – Form 5500, Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
EIN 51-0225189 Plan # 001
December 31, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower Lessor or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Maturity Date, Rate, Collateral, Value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	American Funds American Balanced	Mutual Fund	**	\$ 460,232
	Baird Aggregate Bond	Mutual Fund	**	1,204,536
	BlackRock High Yield Bond	Mutual Fund	**	698,635
	Causeway International Value	Mutual Fund	**	389,967
*	CREF Stock	Mutual Fund	**	3,450,274
*	CREF Money Market	Mutual Fund	**	61,771
*	CREF Social Choice	Mutual Fund	**	37,645
*	CREF Global Equities	Mutual Fund	**	850,416
*	CREF Growth	Mutual Fund	**	2,255,237
*	CREF Equity Index	Mutual Fund	**	720,703
*	CREF Inflation-Linked Bond	Mutual Fund	**	177,081
*	CREF Core Bond	Mutual Fund	**	312,331
	Dodge & Cox Stock Fund	Mutual Fund	**	1,495,330
	First Eagle Gold	Mutual Fund	**	387,208
	Franklin Small-Cap Value	Mutual Fund	**	13,564
	JPMorgan Large-Cap Growth	Mutual Fund	**	2,436,634
	T. Rowe Price Large-Cap Growth	Mutual Fund	**	105,938
	Schwab Treasury Inflat Protected Sec Idx	Mutual Fund	**	471
	Vanguard 500 Index	Mutual Fund	**	22,611
	Vanguard Explorer	Mutual Fund	**	362,713
	Vanguard Federal Money Market	Mutual Fund	**	9,113
	Vanguard Growth Index	Mutual Fund	**	420,614
	Vanguard Interm-Term Treasury Index	Mutual Fund	**	292,806
	Vanguard Real Estate Index	Mutual Fund	**	4,297
	Vanguard Small-Cap Growth Index	Mutual Fund	**	115,175
	Vanguard Small-Cap Value Index	Mutual Fund	**	172,256
	Vanguard Value Index	Mutual Fund	**	197,426
		Total Mutual Funds		<u>16,654,985</u>
*	TIAA Real Estate Account	Variable Annuity Contract	**	<u>204,450</u>
*	TIAA Traditional Benefit-Responsive	Insurance General Account	**	658,649
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		Total Insurance General Accounts		<u>5,874,592</u>
		Total assets held at end of year		<u>\$ 22,734,027</u>

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