

Academy of Collaborative Education

Board Meeting

Published on October 16, 2026 at 7:46 AM CDT

Date and Time

Wednesday October 21, 2026 at 3:30 PM CDT

Location

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85114287278?pwd=e1cEPf8dXRU5njacNAc8R0wcVwEz0o.1>

Meeting ID: 851 1428 7278

Passcode: 916947

Pursuant to Louisiana Open Meetings Law - La. R.S. 42:19, notice is hereby given to the members of the Board of Directors of Academy of Collaborative Education and to the general public that the Board will hold a regular, special, or re-scheduled meeting, open to the public as specified below. To ensure compliance with the Open Meeting Law, recipients of this message should not forward it to other Board members, and Board members should not reply to this message.

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			3:30 PM
A. Record Attendance		Anna Grimmett	3 m
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Anna Grimmett	1 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
C. Approve Minutes from previous meeting	Approve Minutes	Anna Grimmatt	3 m

Motion: Move to approve minutes from the previous meeting of the governing ACE Board of Directors as presented in the board packet.

Approve minutes for Board Meeting on August 19, 2026

D. Approval of Agenda	Vote	Anna Grimmatt	3 m
------------------------------	------	---------------	-----

Motion Option #1: Move to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Option #2: Move to approve the agenda as amended by board discussion to include .

Request for amendment to the agenda, or approval of the agenda as presented.

II. Committee Reports 3:40 PM

A. Governance Report	FYI	Curtis Eberts	10 m
-----------------------------	-----	---------------	------

B. Finance Report	FYI	Hannah Nguyen	10 m
--------------------------	-----	---------------	------

- Financials (updated P&L, balance sheet)
- Independent Audit

C. Academic Excellence Report	FYI	Matthew Fowlkes	10 m
--------------------------------------	-----	-----------------	------

D. Facilities Report	FYI	Davy Mize	10 m
-----------------------------	-----	-----------	------

E. Executive Director Report	FYI	Joellen Freeman	10 m
-------------------------------------	-----	-----------------	------

F. SY2026-27 Academic Report	FYI	Joellen Freeman	10 m
-------------------------------------	-----	-----------------	------

Executive Director, Joellen Freeman, will provide the board with an overview of SY26-27 academic goals and progress to those goals as well as a full briefing on the assessments taken by ACE students and how students performed on those assessments both this school year and overtime.

III. Discussion of New Business 4:40 PM

A. Financial Discussion	Discuss	Anna Grimmatt	10 m
--------------------------------	---------	---------------	------

- Cash flow and funding update
- Capital development strategy

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
• Fundraising priorities and board engagement			
IV. Executive Session			4:50 PM
A. Convene into Executive Session	Vote	Anna Grimmett	1 m
B. Legal Advice	Discuss	Joellen Freeman	15 m
Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(2) and (A)(11), the Board will convene in executive session to receive privileged legal advice from counsel regarding pending Due Process Matters (Docket #2026-17330-DOE-IDEA) and related issues requiring legal advice.			
C. Reconvene into open session	Vote	Anna Grimmett	1 m
V. Closing Items			5:07 PM
A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Anna Grimmett	1 m

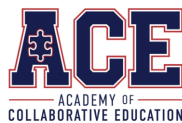
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance at a public meeting of Academy of Collaborative Education, please contact Joellen Freeman at jcfreeman@aceforasd.org describing the assistance that is necessary.

Coversheet

Approve Minutes from previous meeting

Section:	I. Opening Items
Item:	C. Approve Minutes from previous meeting
Purpose:	Approve Minutes
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	Minutes for Board Meeting on August 19, 2026

DRAFT



Academy of Collaborative Education

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday August 19, 2026 at 3:30 PM

Location

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85114287278?pwd=e1cEPf8dXRU5njacNAc8R0wcVwEz0o.1>

Meeting ID: 851 1428 7278

Passcode: 916947

Pursuant to Louisiana Open Meetings Law - La. R.S. 42:19, notice is hereby given to the members of the Board of Directors of Academy of Collaborative Education and to the general public that the Board will hold a regular, special, or re-scheduled meeting, open to the public as specified below. To ensure compliance with the Open Meeting Law, recipients of this message should not forward it to other Board members, and Board members should not reply to this message.

Directors Present

Anna Grimmett, Curtis Eberts, Davy Mize (remote), Hannah Nguyen, Holly Allen (remote), Matthew Fowlkes, Richard Cannon, Seth Hall

Directors Absent

Latner McDonald

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

Davy Mize

Ex Officio Members Present

Joellen Freeman

Non Voting Members Present

Joellen Freeman

Guests Present

Melissa Grand (remote), jmartin@ed-ops.com (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

Davy Mize arrived.

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Anna Grimmatt called a meeting of the board of directors of Academy of Collaborative Education to order on Wednesday Aug 19, 2026 at 3:32 PM.

C. Approve Minutes from previous meeting

Seth Hall made a motion to approve the minutes from Annual Meeting + Board Retreat on 06-27-26.

Matthew Fowlkes seconded the motion.

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

D. Approval of Agenda

Amend to amend agenda to include financial information. In all other respects Agenda approved

Anna Grimmatt made motion

Hannah Nguyen seconded motion.

Anna Grimmatt made a motion to Approve Agenda as Amended.

Hannah Nguyen seconded the motion.

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

II. Committee Reports

A. Executive Director Report

Joellen Freeman:

1. Staffing:

- 55 staff members total
- 4 paraprofessionals down
- 2 teachers down
- Actively recruiting for a Speech Therapist and a CODA
- Down 1 Nurse. Ours resigned due to job offer with Ouachita Parish. Working through process with an applicant for position
- Working to better understand job qualifications of Principal position prior to seeking

2. Students:

- 135/160 students
- 55 students on waitlist
- 50 students with interest

3. Events:

- Visit by St. Tammany Parish - August 31, 2026
- River Rat Paddle Challenge - Sept 19, 2026
- Fall Break - October 12-16, 2026
- Med Camps Annual Boo Bash - October 31, 2026

B. Governance Report

Curtis Eberts:

- Transportation discussion
- New Business -
 - policy/procedure to have leave time documented
 - pathway of moving para's to certified teachers
 - offering employees cafeteria plan as part of their available benefits

C. Finance Report

Joe Martin:

- End 2025/26 SY - 472K loss
- FY 26/27 Budget is tight
 - Budgets are negatively impacted by cut in MFP funding, delayed Medicaid funding and lack of compensation for high-cost services.
 - Budgets looking ahead are more positive due to Medicaid funding and increased student enrollment.

- Primary issue is that ACE serves a high needs population not covered by MFP funding which results in the need to aggressively pursue additional funding.

D. Academic Excellence Report

Will meet next month and report will be given at following meeting.

E. Facilities Report

F. SY2026-27 Academic Report

III. Executive Session

A. Legal Advice

Richard Cannon made a motion to Move to Executive Session.

Matthew Fowlkes seconded the motion.

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

Joellen Freeman and Melissa Grand (counsel):

- Served with due process complaint brought by parent. Disagreement with proposed accommodation for student. Working to come to resolution. Currently scheduled for mediation in September 2026.

Holly Allen made a motion to Move out of Executive Session.

Anna Grimmett seconded the motion.

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

IV. Discussion of New Business

A. Financial Discussion

Anna Grimmett:

- 13th Check - consider in finance committee what that would look like to pay out a stipend

B. ACE Educator Residency Program

Discussion of program generally.

Curtis Eberts made a motion to Approve ACE Educator Residency Program.

Richard Cannon seconded the motion.

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

C. CEO PTO policy

Discussion of issue generally.

Seth Hall made a motion to Approve CEO PTO Policy.

Matthew Fowlkes seconded the motion.

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

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Matthew Fowlkes made a motion to Adjourn.

Curtis Eberts seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Holly Allen

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance at a public meeting of Academy of Collaborative Education, please contact Joellen Freeman at jcfreeman@aceforasd.org describing the assistance that is necessary.

Coversheet

Finance Report

Section:	II. Committee Reports
Item:	B. Finance Report
Purpose:	FYI
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	ACE - Summary Presentation - September 2026.pptx



September 2026 Financials

PREPARED **OCT'26** BY

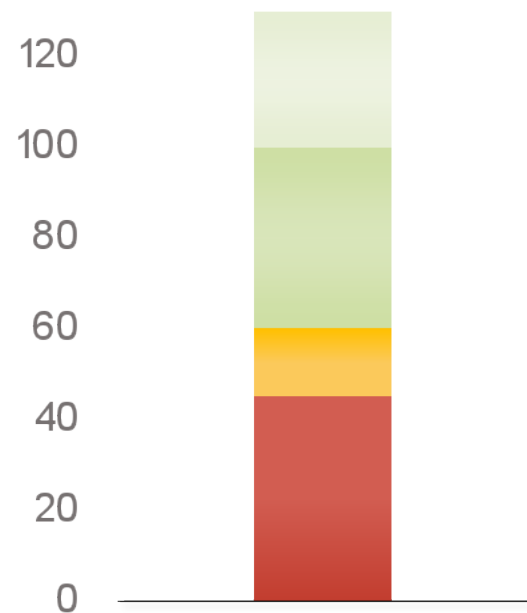


- **Key Performance Indicators**
- **Forecast Overview**
- **Cash Forecast**
- **Forecast History**
- **Appendix**

Key Performance Indicators

Days of Cash

Cash balance at year-end divided by average daily expenses

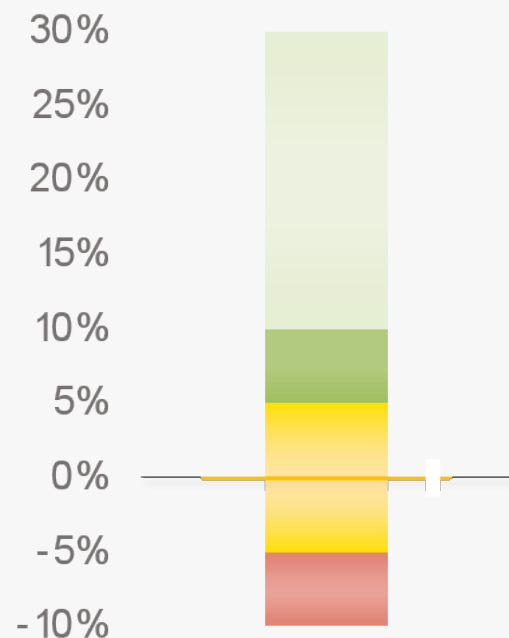


-53 DAYS OF CASH AT YEAR'S END

The school will end the year with -53 days of cash. This is below the recommended 60 days

Gross Margin

Revenue less expenses, divided by revenue

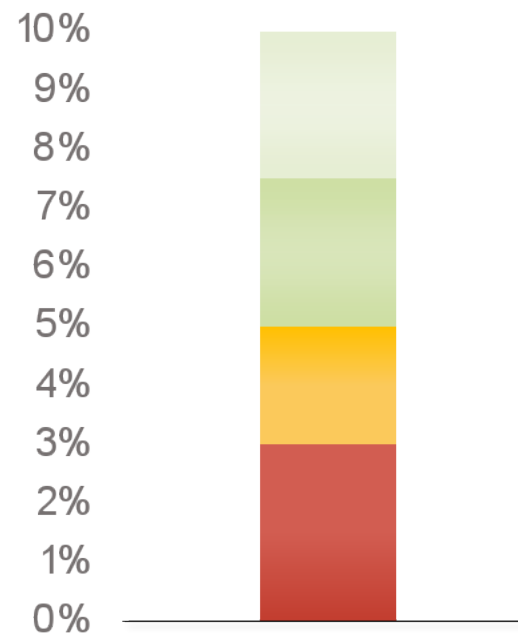


-26.2% GROSS MARGIN

The forecasted net income is -\$783k, which is \$759k below the budget. It yields a -26.2% gross margin.

Fund Balance %

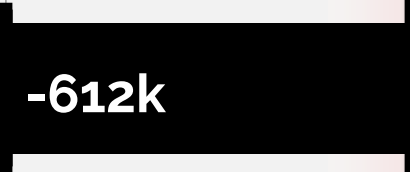
Forecasted Ending Fund Balance / Total Expenses



-22.40% AT YEAR'S END

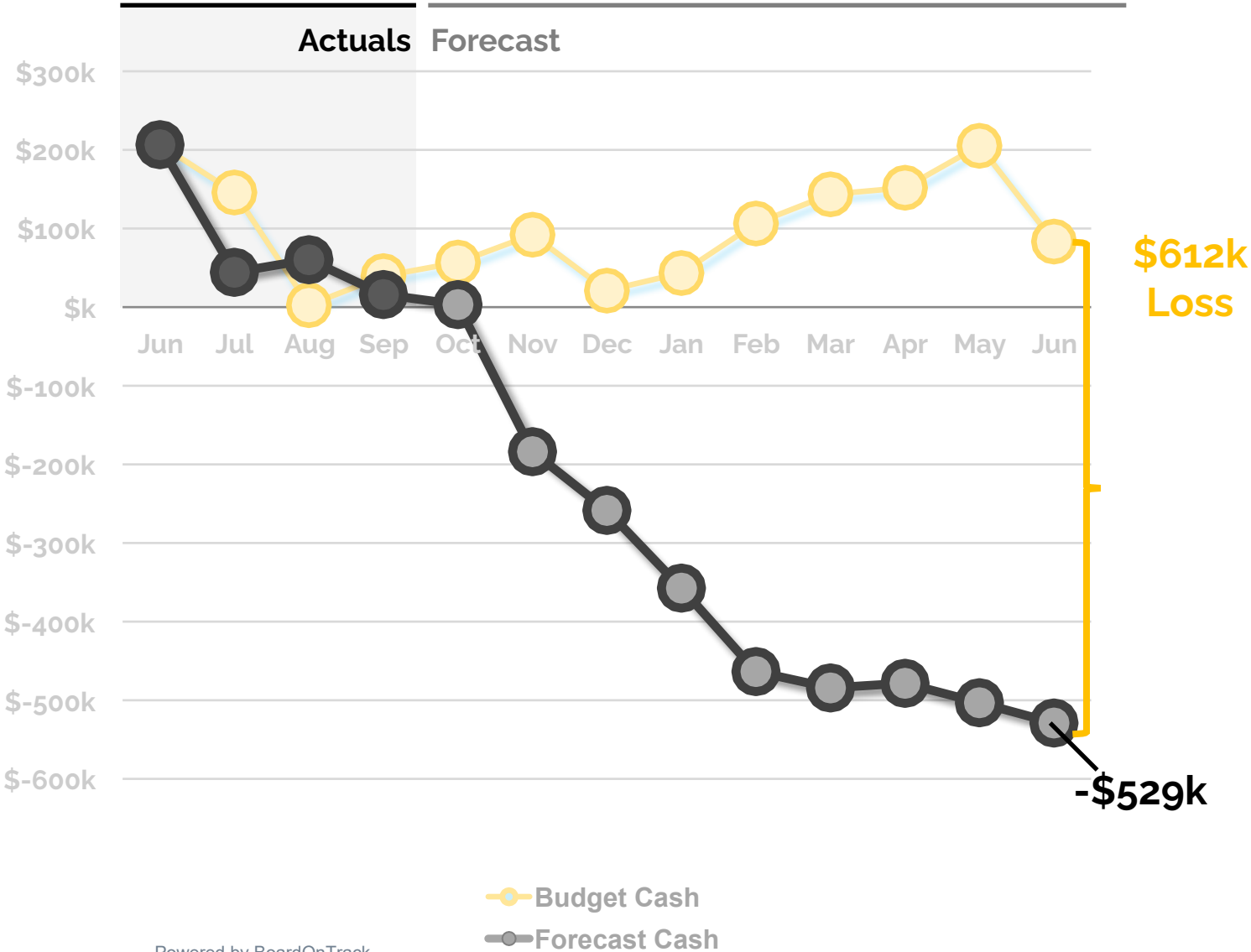
The school is projected to end the year with a fund balance of -\$845,030. Last year's fund balance was -\$61,889.

Forecast Overview

	Forecast	Budget	Variance	Variance Graphic	Comments
Revenue	\$3m	\$3.8m	-\$823k		- \$70k enrollment drop (154 from 160) - \$60k contribution drop (\$80k budgeted) - \$729k Medicaid drop (assuming no collections) + \$34k HCS round 2
Expenses	\$3.8m	\$3.8m	\$64k		+ \$235k in salary and benefits savings - \$125k for translation services - \$40k in non-cash depreciation increase
Net Income	-\$783k	-\$24k	-\$759k		
Cash Flow Adjustments	\$48k	-\$99k	\$147k		
Change in Cash	-\$736k	-\$123k	-\$612k		Presumes \$200k LOC drawn

-53 Days of Cash at year s end

We forecast the school s year ending cash balance as **-528,849**, **\$612k** below budget.



	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Variance</i>	<i>Forecast</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Variance</i>	<i>Remaining</i>	<i>Rem %</i>
Revenue								
MFP	514,491	694,520	(180,029)	2,707,203	2,778,081	(70,878)	2,192,711	81%
Local Revenue	2,958	3,499	(541)	31,100	91,100	(60,000)	28,142	90%
Earned Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
State Revenue	5,615	-	5,615	5,615	-	5,615	-	0%
Federal Revenue	84,373	88,483	(4,110)	244,841	942,648	(697,807)	160,468	66%
Total Revenue	607,437	786,503	(179,065)	2,988,759	3,811,829	(823,070)	2,381,321	
Expenses								
Salaries	300,343	527,221	226,877	2,060,175	2,284,622	224,447	1,759,832	85%
Employee Benefits	48,294	72,770	24,476	294,755	304,826	10,071	246,461	84%
Professional Services	116,926	92,462	(24,464)	546,302	432,463	(113,839)	429,376	79%
Purchased Property Services	78,213	99,653	21,440	390,684	390,684	(0)	312,471	80%
Other Purchased Services	67,030	16,460	(50,570)	167,384	150,452	(16,932)	100,354	60%
Supplies	34,111	138,683	104,572	188,250	188,750	500	154,139	82%
Furniture and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Depreciation	25,004	15,484	(9,520)	100,016	61,936	(38,080)	75,012	75%
Dues, Fees, and Miscellaneous	4,496	6,006	1,510	24,334	22,000	(2,334)	19,838	82%
Total Expenses	674,418	968,738	294,320	3,771,899	3,835,732	63,833	3,097,481	
Total Expenses	674,418	968,738	294,320	3,771,899	3,835,732	63,833	3,097,481	
Net Income	(66,980)	(182,236)	115,255	(783,140)	(23,903)	(759,237)	(716,160)	
Cash Flow Adjustments	(123,723)	15,078	(138,801)	47,550	(99,415)	146,965	171,273	
Change in Cash	(190,704)	(167,158)	(23,546)	(735,591)	(123,318)	(612,272)	(544,887)	

Income Statement	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	TOTAL
Revenue													
MFP	164,063	164,062	186,366	185,957	185,957	185,957	185,957	185,957	315,732	315,732	315,732	315,732	2,707,203
Local Revenue	0	1,626	1,332	5,202	15,223	17	51	42	42	6	0	7,559	31,100
State Revenue	0	0	5,615	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,615
Federal Revenue	4,154	43,905	36,314	16,396	14,653	20,428	12,242	12,242	12,242	12,242	12,242	47,780	244,841
Total Revenue	168,217	209,593	229,627	207,555	215,833	206,402	198,250	198,241	328,016	327,980	327,974	371,071	2,988,759
Expenses													
Salaries	33,781	117,031	149,532	169,055	253,583	169,055	169,055	169,055	169,055	169,055	236,390	255,526	2,060,175
Employee Benefits	10,483	22,954	14,857	22,789	31,010	27,565	25,762	25,722	25,762	25,762	30,157	31,932	294,755
Professional Services	26,161	44,523	46,242	54,858	44,358	41,777	55,214	40,746	38,096	46,477	33,033	74,816	546,302
Purchased Property Services	22,724	25,704	29,785	31,499	34,397	24,665	30,938	50,761	27,858	49,877	28,461	34,015	390,684
Other Purchased Services	52,432	6,643	7,955	7,411	9,880	14,253	6,172	5,193	41,732	8,960	4,869	1,886	167,384
Supplies	20,676	10,237	3,198	35,213	37,673	5,411	8,376	14,401	11,227	15,299	19,581	6,959	188,250
Depreciation	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	8,335	100,016
Dues, Fees, and Miscellaneous	1,251	1,455	1,790	1,729	1,730	1,728	4,920	1,727	1,845	1,906	2,205	2,046	24,334
Total Ordinary Expenses	175,842	236,882	261,694	330,890	420,967	292,789	308,770	315,939	323,910	325,670	363,031	415,515	3,771,899
Total Expenses	175,842	236,882	261,694	330,890	420,967	292,789	308,770	315,939	323,910	325,670	363,031	415,515	3,771,899
Net Income	-7,625	-27,288	-32,067	-123,335	-205,133	-86,387	-110,521	-117,698	4,106	2,309	-35,057	-44,444	-783,140
Cash Flow Statement	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	TOTAL
Net Income	-7,625	-27,288	-32,067	-123,335	-205,133	-86,387	-110,521	-117,698	4,106	2,309	-35,057	-44,444	-783,140
Accounts Receivable	83,676	-39,687	-5,854	-9,545	-9,545	-9,545	-9,545	-9,545	-9,545	-9,545	-9,545	-9,545	-47,774
Other Current Assets	51,696	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-36,471	-8,037	-1,340	-1,340	4,508
Cash Flow Adjustments	-154,762	43,393	-12,355	110,645	18,112	11,608	11,608	11,608	-24,863	3,571	10,268	18,715	47,550
Change in Cash	-162,387	16,105	-44,422	-12,689	-187,022	-74,779	-98,912	-106,090	-20,757	5,881	-24,789	-25,729	-735,591
Ending Cash	44,355	60,459	16,038	3,348	-183,673	-258,453	-357,365	-463,455	-484,212	-478,331	-503,120	-528,849	

	<i>Previous Year End</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Year End</i>
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash	206,741	16,038	-528,849
Accounts Receivable	89,452	51,317	137,226
Other Current Assets	24,260	-27,435	19,752
Total Current Assets	320,454	39,919	-371,871
Noncurrent Assets			
Operating Fixed Assets, Net	3,247,868	3,247,868	3,247,868
Accumulated Depreciation	-127,729	-168,434	-290,753
Facilities, Net	0	23,669	23,669
Total Noncurrent Assets	3,120,139	3,103,103	2,980,783
Total Assets	3,440,593	3,143,022	2,608,913
Liabilities and Equity			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities	3,315,623	3,011,562	3,193,613
Accounts Payable	186,859	260,329	260,329
Total Current Liabilities	3,502,482	3,271,891	3,453,942
Total Long-Term Liabilities	0	0	
Total Liabilities	3,502,482	3,271,891	3,453,942
Equity			
Unrestricted Net Assets	437,588	-61,889	-61,889
Net Income	-499,477	-66,980	-783,140
Total Equity	-61,889	-128,870	-845,030
Total Liabilities and Equity	3,440,593	3,143,022	2,608,913