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Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

A For the 2008 calendar year, or tax year beginning **JUL 30, 2008** and ending **JUN 30, 2009**

| | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| B Check if applicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Termination <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending | Please use IRS label or print or type See Specific Instructions | C Name of organization EXPLORE SCHOOLS, INC. Doing Business As Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite 155 WATER STREET City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4 BROOKLYN, NY 11201 | D Employer identification number 26-3282250 |
| | | F Name and address of principal officer: MORTON A. BALLEEN SAME AS C ABOVE | E Telephone number 718-703-4484 |
| | | I Tax-exempt status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c) (3) ◀ (insert no.) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527 | G Gross receipts \$ 235,000. |
| | | J Website: ▶ WWW.EXPLORENETWORK.ORG | H(a) Is this a group return for affiliates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No H(b) Are all affiliates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No," attach a list. (see instructions) H(c) Group exemption number ▶ |
| | | K Type of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other ▶ | L Year of formation: 2008 M State of legal domicile: NY |

Part I Summary

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| | 1 | Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: TO PROVIDE STRATEGIC PLANNING, BOARD GOVERNANCE, FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT, HUMAN RESOURCE AND OTHER | | |
| | 2 | Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its assets. | | |
| Activities & Governance | 3 | Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a) | 3 | 3 |
| | 4 | Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b) | 4 | 2 |
| | 5 | Total number of employees (Part V, line 2a) | 5 | 0 |
| | 6 | Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary) | 6 | 0 |
| | 7a | Total gross unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, line 12, column (C) | 7a | 0. |
| | 7b | Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34 | 7b | 0. |
| | Revenue | 8 | Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h) | Prior Year |
| 9 | | Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g) | | 235,000. |
| 10 | | Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d) | | |
| 11 | | Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e) | | |
| 12 | | Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12) | | 235,000. |
| Expenses | | 13 | Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3) | |
| | 14 | Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4) | | |
| | 15 | Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10) | | 121,272. |
| | 16a | Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e) | | |
| | b | Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 48,144. | | |
| | 17 | Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24f) | | 62,387. |
| Net Assets or Fund Balances | 18 | Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25) | | 183,659. |
| | 19 | Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12 | | 51,341. |
| | | | Beginning of Year | End of Year |
| | 20 | Total assets (Part X, line 16) | | 70,973. |
| | 21 | Total liabilities (Part X, line 26) | | 19,632. |
| | 22 | Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20 | | 51,341. |

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Signature of officer: *Morton A. Ballen* **Date:** 12/15/11
MORTON A. BALLEEN, CEO
 Type or print name and title

Preparer's signature: *Matthew Heit CPA* **Date:** 2/14/11
RSM MCGLADREY, INC.
1185 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NY 10036-2602

Check if self-employed **Preparer's identifying number (see instructions):** **P00029738**
EIN: **41-1944416**
Phone no.: **212-372-1000**

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) Yes No

G 15 H

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see instructions)

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission: SEE SCHEDULE O FOR CONTINUATION
EXPLORE SCHOOLS IS A NEW YORK BASED NON-PROFIT THAT ESTABLISHES,
SUPPORTS AND TRANSFORMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN EDUCATIONALLY UNDERSERVED
COMMUNITIES. THE MISSION IS TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH THE SKILLS AND
KNOWLEDGE THEY NEED TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, SUCCEED IN COLLEGE

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on
the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? [] Yes [X] No
If "Yes", describe these new services on Schedule O.

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?
If "Yes", describe these changes on Schedule O. [] Yes [X] No

4 Describe the exempt purpose achievements for each of the organization's three largest program services by expenses.
Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts are required to report the amount of grants and
allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ 84,804. including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)
SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED A NEW CHARTER SCHOOL SERVING KINDERGARTEN THRU
2ND GRADE IN SEPTEMBER 2009. SOME PRE-LAUNCH ACTIVITIES INCLUDED THE
COMPLETION AND APPROVAL OF A CHARTER APPLICATION, COORDINATING A
YEAR-LONG PRINCIPAL RESIDENCY AND LOCATION.

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ 14,304. including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)
COMPLETED PHASE I OF A PROJECT TO TURNAROUND FAILING PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
ACTIVITIES INCLUDED RESEARCHING BEST PRACTICES, MONITORING PUBLIC
POLICY AND STRATEGIC PLANNING.

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ 3,065. including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)
ENGAGED TWO PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN YEAR-LONG SUPPORT CONTRACTS

4d Other program services. (Describe in Schedule O.)
(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses \$ 102,173. (Must equal Part IX, Line 25, column (B).)

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

| | Yes | No |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i> | X | |
| 2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors? | X | |
| 3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i> | | X |
| 4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i> | | X |
| 5 Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), and 501(c)(6) organizations. Is the organization subject to the section 6033(e) notice and reporting requirement and proxy tax? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i> | | |
| 6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any accounts where donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i> | | X |
| 7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i> | | X |
| 8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i> | | X |
| 9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i> | | X |
| 10 Did the organization hold assets in term, permanent, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i> | | X |
| 11 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, lines 10, 12, 13, 15, or 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable</i> | X | |
| 12 Did the organization receive an audited financial statement for the year for which it is completing this return that was prepared in accordance with GAAP? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII</i> | X | |
| 13 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i> | | X |
| 14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the U.S.? | | X |
| b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, and program service activities outside the U.S.? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part I</i> | | X |
| 15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part II</i> | | X |
| 16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part III</i> | | X |
| 17 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 11e? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I</i> | | X |
| 18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i> | | X |
| 19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i> | | X |
| 20 Did the organization operate one or more hospitals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i> | | X |
| 21 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II</i> | | X |
| 22 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III</i> | | X |
| 23 Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, questions 3, 4, or 5? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J</i> | X | |
| 24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer questions 24b-24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to question 25</i> | | X |
| b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception? | | |
| c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds? | | |
| d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year? | | |
| 25a Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i> | | X |
| b Did the organization become aware that it had engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person from a prior year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I</i> | | X |
| 26 Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highly compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II</i> | | X |
| 27 Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, or substantial contributor, or to a person related to such an individual? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III</i> | | X |

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

| | Yes | No |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 28 During the tax year, did any person who is a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee: | | |
| a Have a direct business relationship with the organization (other than as an officer, director, trustee, or employee), or an indirect business relationship through ownership of more than 35% in another entity (individually or collectively with other person(s) listed in Part VII, Section A)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> | | X |
| b Have a family member who had a direct or indirect business relationship with the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> | | X |
| c Serve as an officer, director, trustee, key employee, partner, or member of an entity (or a shareholder of a professional corporation) doing business with the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV</i> | | X |
| 29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i> | | X |
| 30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M</i> | | X |
| 31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I</i> | | X |
| 32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II</i> | | X |
| 33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I</i> | | X |
| 34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1</i> | X | |
| 35 Is any related organization a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i> | X | |
| 36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2</i> | | X |
| 37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI</i> | | X |

Form 990 (2008)

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

| | | Yes | No |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 1a | Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096, Annual Summary and Transmittal of U.S. Information Returns. Enter -0- if not applicable | | |
| 1b | Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable | | |
| 1c | Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners? | | |
| 2a | Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return | | |
| 2b | If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file this return. (see instructions) | | |
| 3a | Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year covered by this return? | | X |
| 3b | If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O | | |
| 4a | At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? | | X |
| 4b | If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts. | | |
| 5a | Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year? | | X |
| 5b | Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? | | X |
| 5c | If "Yes," to question 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T, Disclosure by Tax-Exempt Entry Regarding Prohibited Tax Shelter Transaction? | | |
| 6a | Did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible? | | X |
| 6b | If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible? | | |
| 7 | Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c). | | |
| 7a | Did the organization provide goods or services in exchange for any quid pro quo contribution of more than \$75? | | X |
| 7b | If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided? | | |
| 7c | Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282? | | X |
| 7d | If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year | | |
| 7e | Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract? | | X |
| 7f | Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract? | | X |
| 7g | For all contributions of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required? | | |
| 7h | For contributions of cars, boats, airplanes, and other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C as required? | | |
| 8 | Section 501(c)(3) and other sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations. Did the supporting organization, or a fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year? | | |
| 9 | Section 501(c)(3) and other sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds. | | |
| 9a | Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966? | | |
| 9b | Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person? | | |
| 10 | Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter: N/A | | |
| 10a | Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12 | | |
| 10b | Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities | | |
| 11 | Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter: N/A | | |
| 11a | Gross income from members or shareholders | | |
| 11b | Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them) | | |
| 12a | Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041? | | |
| 12b | If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year N/A | | |

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure (Sections A, B, and C request information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Section A. Governing Body and Management

For each "Yes" response to lines 2-7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8 or 9b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

| | | Yes | No |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 1a | Enter the number of voting members of the governing body | | |
| 1b | Enter the number of voting members that are independent | | |
| 2 | Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee? | | X |
| 3 | Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person? | | X |
| 4 | Did the organization make any significant changes to its organizational documents since the prior Form 990 was filed? | | X |
| 5 | Did the organization become aware during the year of a material diversion of the organization's assets? | | X |
| 6 | Does the organization have members or stockholders? | | X |
| 7a | Does the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who may elect one or more members of the governing body? | | X |
| 7b | Are any decisions of the governing body subject to approval by members, stockholders, or other persons? | | X |
| 8 | Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following: | | |
| a | The governing body? | X | |
| b | Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body? | X | |
| 9a | Does the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates? | | X |
| b | If "Yes," does the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with those of the organization? | | |
| 10 | Was a copy of the Form 990 provided to the organization's governing body before it was filed? All organizations must describe in Schedule O the process, if any, the organization uses to review the Form 990 | X | |
| 11 | Is there any officer, director or trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O | | X |

Section B. Policies

| | | Yes | No |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 12a | Does the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13 | X | |
| b | Are officers, directors or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts? | X | |
| c | Does the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this is done | X | |
| 13 | Does the organization have a written whistleblower policy? | X | |
| 14 | Does the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy? | X | |
| 15 | Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision: | | |
| a | The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official? | X | |
| b | Other officers or key employees of the organization? Describe the process in Schedule O. (see instructions) | X | |
| 16a | Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year? | | X |
| b | If "Yes," has the organization adopted a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and taken steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements? | | |

Section C. Disclosure

| | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| 17 | List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed | NONE |
| 18 | Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you make these available. Check all that apply. <input type="checkbox"/> Own website <input type="checkbox"/> Another's website <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Upon request | |
| 19 | Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how), the organization makes its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public. | |
| 20 | State the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization: | |
| | ADEL HAGEB - (347)661-6351 | |
| | 155 WATER STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11201 | |

| Part VIII | | Statement of Revenue | | (A) | (B) | (C) | (D) | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | Total revenue | Related or exempt function revenue | Unrelated business revenue | Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512, 513, or 514 | |
| Contributions, gifts, grants and other similar amounts | 1 a | Federated campaigns | 1a | | | | | |
| | b | Membership dues | 1b | | | | | |
| | c | Fundraising events | 1c | | | | | |
| | d | Related organizations | 1d | | | | | |
| | e | Government grants (contributions) | 1e | | | | | |
| | f | All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above | 1f | 235,000. | | | | |
| | g | Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$ | | | | | | |
| | h | Total. Add lines 1a-1f | | | 235,000. | | | |
| | Program Service Revenue | 2 | | Business Code | | | | |
| a | | | | | | | | |
| b | | | | | | | | |
| c | | | | | | | | |
| d | | | | | | | | |
| e | | | | | | | | |
| f | | All other program service revenue | | | | | | |
| g | Total. Add lines 2a-2f | | | | | | | |
| Other Revenue | 3 | Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) | | | | | | |
| | 4 | Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds | | | | | | |
| | 5 | Royalties | | | | | | |
| | 6 a | Gross Rents | (i) Real | (ii) Personal | | | | |
| | | Less: rental expenses | | | | | | |
| | | Rental income or (loss) | | | | | | |
| | | Net rental income or (loss) | | | | | | |
| | 7 a | Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory | (i) Securities | (ii) Other | | | | |
| | | Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses | | | | | | |
| | | Gain or (loss) | | | | | | |
| | | Net gain or (loss) | | | | | | |
| | 8 a | Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18 | | | | | | |
| | | Less: direct expenses | | | | | | |
| | | Net income or (loss) from fundraising events | | | | | | |
| | 9 a | Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19 | | | | | | |
| Less: direct expenses | | | | | | | | |
| Net income or (loss) from gaming activities | | | | | | | | |
| 10 a | Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances | | | | | | | |
| | Less: cost of goods sold | | | | | | | |
| | Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory | | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | | Business Code | | | | | | |
| 11 a | | | | | | | | |
| | b | | | | | | | |
| | c | | | | | | | |
| | d | All other revenue | | | | | | |
| | e | Total. Add lines 11a-11d | | | | | | |
| 12 | Total Revenue. Add lines 1h, 2g, 3, 4, 5, 6d, 7d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e | | | 235,000. | 0. | 0. | 0. | |

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns.
 All other organizations must complete column (A) but are not required to complete columns (B), (C), and (D).

| Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII. | (A) Total expenses | (B) Program service expenses | (C) Management and general expenses | (D) Fundraising expenses |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the U.S. See Part IV, line 21 | | | | |
| 2 Grants and other assistance to individuals in the U.S. See Part IV, line 22 | | | | |
| 3 Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the U.S. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16 | | | | |
| 4 Benefits paid to or for members | | | | |
| 5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees | 51,250. | 33,615. | 9,041. | 8,594. |
| 6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B) | | | | |
| 7 Other salaries and wages | 62,038. | 45,788. | 16,250. | |
| 8 Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k) and section 403(b) employer contributions) | | | | |
| 9 Other employee benefits | | | | |
| 10 Payroll taxes | 7,984. | 5,596. | 1,782. | 606. |
| 11 Fees for services (non-employees): | | | | |
| a Management | | | | |
| b Legal | | | | |
| c Accounting | | | | |
| d Lobbying | | | | |
| e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17 | | | | |
| f Investment management fees | | | | |
| g Other | 37,085. | | | 37,085. |
| 12 Advertising and promotion | | | | |
| 13 Office expenses | 20,605. | 14,331. | 4,723. | 1,551. |
| 14 Information technology | | | | |
| 15 Royalties | | | | |
| 16 Occupancy | | | | |
| 17 Travel | | | | |
| 18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials | | | | |
| 19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings | 4,056. | 2,843. | 905. | 308. |
| 20 Interest | | | | |
| 21 Payments to affiliates | | | | |
| 22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization | 641. | | 641. | |
| 23 Insurance | | | | |
| 24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (Expenses grouped together and labeled miscellaneous may not exceed 5% of total expenses shown on line 25 below.) | | | | |
| a _____ | | | | |
| b _____ | | | | |
| c _____ | | | | |
| d _____ | | | | |
| e _____ | | | | |
| f All other expenses _____ | | | | |
| 25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24f | 183,659. | 102,173. | 33,342. | 48,144. |
| 26 Joint Costs. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation | | | | |

Part X Balance Sheet

| | | (A) Beginning of year | | (B) End of year | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|----------|---------|
| Assets | 1 | Cash - non-interest-bearing | | 1 | 500. | |
| | 2 | Savings and temporary cash investments | | 2 | | |
| | 3 | Pledges and grants receivable, net | | 3 | 25,000. | |
| | 4 | Accounts receivable, net | | 4 | 40,792. | |
| | 5 | Receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, or other related parties. Complete Part II of Schedule L | | 5 | | |
| | 6 | Receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B). Complete Part II of Schedule L | | 6 | | |
| | 7 | Notes and loans receivable, net | | 7 | | |
| | 8 | Inventories for sale or use | | 8 | | |
| | 9 | Prepaid expenses and deferred charges | | 9 | | |
| | 10a | Land, buildings, and equipment. cost basis | 5,322. | | | |
| | b | Less: accumulated depreciation. Complete Part VI of Schedule D | 641. | 0. | 4,681. | |
| | 11 | Investments - publicly traded securities | | 11 | | |
| | 12 | Investments - other securities. See Part IV, line 11 | | 12 | | |
| | 13 | Investments - program-related. See Part IV, line 11 | | 13 | | |
| | 14 | Intangible assets | | 14 | | |
| | 15 | Other assets See Part IV, line 11 | | 15 | | |
| 16 | Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34) | | 0. | 16 | 70,973. | |
| Liabilities | 17 | Accounts payable and accrued expenses | | 17 | 489. | |
| | 18 | Grants payable | | 18 | | |
| | 19 | Deferred revenue | | 19 | | |
| | 20 | Tax-exempt bond liabilities | | 20 | | |
| | 21 | Escrow account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D | | 21 | | |
| | 22 | Payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L | | 22 | | |
| | 23 | Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties | | 23 | | |
| | 24 | Unsecured notes and loans payable | | 24 | | |
| | 25 | Other liabilities. Complete Part X of Schedule D | | 0. | 25 | 19,143. |
| | 26 | Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25 | | 0. | 26 | 19,632. |
| Net Assets or Fund Balances | Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34. | | | | | |
| | 27 | Unrestricted net assets | | 27 | -51,167. | |
| | 28 | Temporarily restricted net assets | | 28 | 102,508. | |
| | 29 | Permanently restricted net assets | | 29 | | |
| | Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34. | | | | | |
| | 30 | Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds | | 30 | | |
| | 31 | Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund | | 31 | | |
| | 32 | Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds | | 32 | | |
| 33 | Total net assets or fund balances | | 0. | 33 | 51,341. | |
| 34 | Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances | | 0. | 34 | 70,973. | |

Part XI Financial Statements and Reporting

- 1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: Cash Accrual Other
- 2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?
- b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?
- c If "Yes" to lines 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?
- 3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?
- b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits?

| | Yes | No |
|----|-----|----|
| 2a | | X |
| 2b | X | |
| 2c | X | |
| 3a | | X |
| 3b | | |

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

To be completed by all section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Name of the organization EXPLORE SCHOOLS, INC. | Employer identification number 26-3282250 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part) (see instructions)

- The organization is not a private foundation because it is: (Please check only one organization.)
- 1 A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).
 - 2 A school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii). (Attach Schedule E.)
 - 3 A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). (Attach Schedule H.)
 - 4 A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii). Enter the hospital's name, city, and state: _____
 - 5 An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv). (Complete Part II)
 - 6 A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).
 - 7 An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi). (Complete Part II.)
 - 8 A community trust described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi). (Complete Part II)
 - 9 An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions - subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See section 509(a)(2). (Complete the Part III.)
 - 10 An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See section 509(a)(4). (see instructions)
 - 11 An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2). See section 509(a)(3). Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| a <input type="checkbox"/> Type I | b <input type="checkbox"/> Type II | c <input type="checkbox"/> Type III - Functionally integrated | d <input type="checkbox"/> Type III - Other |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
- e By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2).
- f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box
- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----|
| (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization? | Yes | No |
| (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above? | 11g(ii) | |
| (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above? | 11g(iii) | |
- h Provide the following information about the organizations the organization supports.

| (i) Name of supported organization | (ii) EIN | (iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above or IRC section (see instructions)) | (iv) Is the organization in col. (i) listed in your governing document? | | (v) Did you notify the organization in col. (i) of your support? | | (vi) Is the organization in col. (i) organized in the U.S.? | | (vii) Amount of support |
|------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| | | | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | | | | |

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990. Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2008

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I)

Section A. Public Support

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) | (a) 2004 | (b) 2005 | (c) 2006 | (d) 2007 | (e) 2008 | (f) Total |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") | | | | | 235,000. | 235,000. |
| 2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf | | | | | | |
| 3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge | | | | | | |
| 4 Total. Add lines 1 - 3 | | | | | 235,000. | 235,000. |
| 5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) | | | | | | |
| 6 Public Support. Subtract line 5 from line 4 | | | | | | 235,000. |

Section B. Total Support

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) | (a) 2004 | (b) 2005 | (c) 2006 | (d) 2007 | (e) 2008 | (f) Total |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 7 Amounts from line 4 | | | | | 235,000. | 235,000. |
| 8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources | | | | | | |
| 9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on | | | | | | |
| 10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.) | | | | | | |
| 11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10 | | | | | | 235,000. |
| 12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) | | | | | 12 | |

13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|
| 14 Public support percentage for 2008 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) | 14 | % |
| 15 Public support percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 26f | 15 | % |
| 16a 33 1/3% support test - 2008. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| b 33 1/3% support test - 2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 17a 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| b 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| 18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2) (Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I.)

Section A. Public Support

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) | (a) 2004 | (b) 2005 | (c) 2006 | (d) 2007 | (e) 2008 | (f) Total |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") | | | | | | |
| 2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose | | | | | | |
| 3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513 | | | | | | |
| 4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf | | | | | | |
| 5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge | | | | | | |
| 6 Total. Add lines 1 - 5 | | | | | | |
| 7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons | | | | | | |
| b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of 1% of the total of lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12 for the year or \$5,000 | | | | | | |
| c Add lines 7a and 7b | | | | | | |
| 8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6) | | | | | | |

Section B. Total Support

| Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) | (a) 2004 | (b) 2005 | (c) 2006 | (d) 2007 | (e) 2008 | (f) Total |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 9 Amounts from line 6 | | | | | | |
| 10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources | | | | | | |
| b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975 | | | | | | |
| c Add lines 10a and 10b | | | | | | |
| 11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on | | | | | | |
| 12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.) | | | | | | |
| 13 Total support (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12) | | | | | | |

14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 15 Public support percentage for 2008 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) | 15 | % |
| 16 Public support percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 27g | 16 | % |

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 17 Investment income percentage for 2008 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f)) | 17 | % |
| 18 Investment income percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 27h | 18 | % |

19a 33 1/3% support tests - 2008. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

b 33 1/3% support tests - 2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions

Schedule D
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

▶ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

EXPLORE SCHOOLS, INC.

Employer identification number

26-3282250

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

| | (a) Donor advised funds | (b) Funds and other accounts |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Total number at end of year | | |
| 2 Aggregate contributions to (during year) | | |
| 3 Aggregate grants from (during year) | | |
| 4 Aggregate value at end of year | | |
| 5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control? | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds may be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor or other impermissible private benefit? | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

- 1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply).
- Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or pleasure) Preservation of an historically important land area
- Protection of natural habitat Preservation of certified historic structure
- Preservation of open space
- 2 Complete lines 2a-2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.

| | Held at the End of the Year |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a Total number of conservation easements | 2a |
| b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements | 2b |
| c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a) | 2c |
| d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06 | 2d |

- 3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the taxable year ▶ _____
- 4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶ _____
- 5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? Yes No
- 6 Staff or volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing easements during the year ▶ _____
- 7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing easements during the year ▶ \$ _____
- 8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? Yes No
- 9 In Part XIV, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

- 1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIV, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items.
- b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items:
- (i) Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ _____
- (ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ _____
- 2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 relating to these items:
- a Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ _____
- b Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ _____

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

3 Using the organization's accession and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):

- a Public exhibition
- b Scholarly research
- c Preservation for future generations
- d Loan or exchange programs
- e Other _____

4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIV.

5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? Yes No

Part IV Trust, Escrow and Custodial Arrangements. Complete if organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? Yes No

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV and complete the following table:

- c Beginning balance
- d Additions during the year
- e Distributions during the year
- f Ending balance

| | Amount |
|----|--------|
| 1c | |
| 1d | |
| 1e | |
| 1f | |

2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21? Yes No

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV.

Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

| | (a) Current year | (b) Prior year | (c) Two years back | (d) Three years back | (e) Four years back |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1a Beginning of year balance | | | | | |
| b Contributions | | | | | |
| c Investment earnings or losses | | | | | |
| d Grants or scholarships | | | | | |
| e Other expenditures for facilities and programs | | | | | |
| f Administrative expenses | | | | | |
| g End of year balance | | | | | |

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the year end balance held as:

- a Board designated or quasi-endowment _____ %
- b Permanent endowment _____ %
- c Term endowment _____ %

3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:

- (i) unrelated organizations
- (ii) related organizations

| | Yes | No |
|--------|-----|----|
| 3a(i) | | |
| 3a(ii) | | |
| 3b | | |

b If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

4 Describe in Part XIV the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI Investments - Land, Buildings, and Equipment. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

| Description of investment | (a) Cost or other basis (investment) | (b) Cost or other basis (other) | (c) Depreciation | (d) Book value |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1a Land | | | | |
| b Buildings | | | | |
| c Leasehold improvements | | | | |
| d Equipment | | 5,322. | 641. | 4,681. |
| e Other | | | | |

Total. Add lines 1a-1e. (Column (d) should equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c)) 4,681.

Part XI Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets from Form 990 to Financial Statements

| | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----------|
| 1 | Total revenue (Form 990, Part VIII, column (A), line 12) | 1 | 235,000. |
| 2 | Total expenses (Form 990, Part IX, column (A), line 25) | 2 | 183,659. |
| 3 | Excess or (deficit) for the year. Subtract line 2 from line 1 | 3 | 51,341. |
| 4 | Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments | 4 | |
| 5 | Donated services and use of facilities | 5 | |
| 6 | Investment expenses | 6 | |
| 7 | Prior period adjustments | 7 | |
| 8 | Other (Describe in Part XIV) | 8 | |
| 9 | Total adjustments (net). Add lines 4-8 | 9 | 0. |
| 10 | Excess or (deficit) for the year per financial statements. Combine lines 3 and 9 | 10 | 51,341. |

Part XII Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----------|
| 1 | Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements | 1 | 235,000. |
| 2 | Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12: | | |
| a | Net unrealized gains on investments | 2a | |
| b | Donated services and use of facilities | 2b | |
| c | Recoveries of prior year grants | 2c | |
| d | Other (Describe in Part XIV) | 2d | |
| e | Add lines 2a through 2d | 2e | 0. |
| 3 | Subtract line 2e from line 1 | 3 | 235,000. |
| 4 | Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1: | | |
| a | Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b | 4a | |
| b | Other (Describe in Part XIV) | 4b | |
| c | Add lines 4a and 4b | 4c | 0. |
| 5 | Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This should equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.) | 5 | 235,000. |

Part XIII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return

| | | | |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----------|
| 1 | Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements | 1 | 183,659. |
| 2 | Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25: | | |
| a | Donated services and use of facilities | 2a | |
| b | Prior year adjustments | 2b | |
| c | Losses reported on Form 990, Part IX, line 25 | 2c | |
| d | Other (Describe in Part XIV) | 2d | |
| e | Add lines 2a through 2d | 2e | 0. |
| 3 | Subtract line 2e from line 1 | 3 | 183,659. |
| 4 | Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1: | | |
| a | Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b | 4a | |
| b | Other (Describe in Part XIV) | 4b | |
| c | Add lines 4a and 4b | 4c | 0. |
| 5 | Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This should equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.) | 5 | 183,659. |

Part XIV Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4, Part X, Part XI, line 8; Part XII, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XIII, lines 2d and 4b.

PART X: SEE DISCLOSURE ON SCHEDULE O RE: AUDITED FINANCIAL

STATEMENTS AND FIN 48 FOOTNOTE

**SCHEDULE J
(Form 990)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 23.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

EXPLORE SCHOOLS, INC.

Employer identification number

26-3282250

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions | <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef) |

b If line 1a is checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain

2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all officers, directors, trustees, and the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?

3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the organization uses to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee |

4 During the year, did any person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a:

- a** Receive a severance payment or change of control payment?
b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?
c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?

If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.

Only 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete lines 5-8.

5 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:

- a** The organization?
b Any related organization?

If "Yes," to line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.

6 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:

- a** The organization?
b Any related organization?

If "Yes" to line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.

7 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III

8 Were any amounts reported in Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regs. section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III

| | Yes | No |
|-----------|-----|----|
| 1a | | |
| 1b | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4a | | X |
| 4b | | X |
| 4c | | X |
| 5a | | X |
| 5b | | X |
| 6a | | X |
| 6b | | X |
| 7 | X | |
| 8 | | X |

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Schedule J (Form 990) 2008

Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees. Use Schedule J-1 if additional space is needed

For each individual whose compensation must be reported in Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII.

Note. The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) must equal the applicable column (D) or column (E) amounts on Form 990, Part VII, line 1a.

| (A) Name | (B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation | | | (C) Deferred compensation | (D) Nontaxable benefits | (E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D) | (F) Compensation reported in prior Form 990 or Form 990-EZ |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| | (i) Base compensation | (ii) Bonus & incentive compensation | (iii) Other compensation | | | | |
| (i) MORTON A. BALLEEN | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0. | 0. |
| (ii) | 128,610. | 30,000. | 1,500. | 7,713. | 4,538. | 172,361. | 0. |
| (iii) | | | | | | | |
| (iv) | | | | | | | |
| (v) | | | | | | | |
| (vi) | | | | | | | |
| (vii) | | | | | | | |
| (viii) | | | | | | | |
| (ix) | | | | | | | |
| (x) | | | | | | | |
| (xi) | | | | | | | |
| (xii) | | | | | | | |
| (xiii) | | | | | | | |
| (xiv) | | | | | | | |
| (xv) | | | | | | | |
| (xvi) | | | | | | | |
| (xvii) | | | | | | | |
| (xviii) | | | | | | | |
| (xix) | | | | | | | |
| (xx) | | | | | | | |
| (xxi) | | | | | | | |
| (xxii) | | | | | | | |
| (xxiii) | | | | | | | |
| (xxiv) | | | | | | | |
| (xxv) | | | | | | | |
| (xxvi) | | | | | | | |
| (xxvii) | | | | | | | |
| (xxviii) | | | | | | | |
| (xxix) | | | | | | | |
| (xxx) | | | | | | | |

Part III Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8. Also complete this part for any additional information.

PART I, LINE 7: THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES, LISTED ON FORM 990, PART VII, RECEIVED NON-FIXED PAYMENTS IN THE FORM OF BONUSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

ENDED 6/30/09:

MORTON A. BALLEEN - \$30,000

CATHERINE BARUFALDI - \$15,000

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990

▶ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations to provide additional information for responses to specific questions for the Form 990 or to provide any additional information.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

EXPLORE SCHOOLS, INC.

Employer identification number
26-3282250

FORM 990, PART I, LINE 1, DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION MISSION:

MANAGEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES TO SCHOOLS

FORM 990, PART III, LINE 1, DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION MISSION:

AND ACHIEVE THEIR DREAMS.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 10: SENIOR MANAGEMENT REVIEWS THE FORM 990 AND THEN FORWARDS IT TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR THEIR REVIEW. CHANGES ARE MADE TO THE DRAFT RETURN, WHEN NECESSARY. THE FINAL VERSION OF THE FORM 990 IS THEN DISTRIBUTED TO ALL THE ORGANIZATION'S BOARD MEMBERS PRIOR TO FILING WITH THE IRS.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C: PRIOR TO ELECTION TO THE BOARD, AND THEREAFTER ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, ALL TRUSTEES, OFFICERS AND KEY EMPLOYEES (IF APPLICABLE) ARE REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE, IN WRITING, TO THE BEST OF THEIR KNOWLEDGE, ANY INTEREST SUCH TRUSTEE MAY HAVE IN ANY CORPORATION, ORGANIZATION, PARTNERSHIP OR OTHER ENTITY WHICH PROVIDES PROFESSIONAL OR OTHER GOODS OR SERVICES TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR A FEE OR OTHER COMPENSATION, AND ANY INTEREST SUCH TRUSTEE MAY HAVE AS A RESULT OF A POSITION OR OTHER RELATIONSHIP WITH ANY NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION WITH WHICH THE ORGANIZATION HAS AN ATTORNEY-CLIENT OR OTHER BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP (COLLECTIVELY, A 'CONFLICT OF INTEREST').

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15: THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE DOES A MARKET ANALYSIS TO COMPARE CEO AND OTHER LEADERSHIP POSITION SALARIES IN SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS AND IS ALSO INVOLVED IN THE APPROVAL FOR THE ANNUAL

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Schedule O (Form 990) 2008

832211
12-18-08

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990

▶ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations to provide additional information for responses to specific questions for the Form 990 or to provide any additional information.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

EXPLORE SCHOOLS, INC.

Employer identification number

26-3282250

BUDGET FOR THE ORGANIZATION. THE SAME PROCESS IS FOLLOWED TO DETERMINE KEY EMPLOYEE SALARIES WHEN APPLICABLE.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19: THE ORGANIZATION MAKES ITS GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

FORM 990, PART VII

OF HOURS WORKED FOR RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

MORTON A. BALLEEN WORKED 39 HOURS/WEEK FOR EXPLORE CHARTER SCHOOL AND 1 HOUR/WEEK FOR FRIENDS OF EXPLORE CHARTER SCHOOL.

CATHERINE BARUFALDI WORKED 40 HOURS/WEEK FOR EXPLORE CHARTER SCHOOL.

FORM 990, PART XI, LINE 2B & SCHEDULE D, PART XIV

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & FIN 48 DISCLOSURE

THE ORGANIZATION WAS NOT REQUIRED TO PERFORM AN AUDIT OF ITS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE INITIAL STARTUP PERIOD AS IT WAS NOT SUBJECT TO STATE FILING REQUIREMENTS.

ONE SET OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE INITIAL STARTUP PERIOD

(6/30/09) AND THE FIRST FULL YEAR OF OPERATIONS (6/30/10), BOTH OF

WHICH ARE BROKEN OUT AND REFERRED TO SEPARATELY IN THE AUDIT OPINION,

WERE ISSUED SUBSEQUENT TO THE ORIGINAL FILING OF THIS RETURN.

THE ORGANIZATION WAS NOT SUBJECT TO FIN 48, ACCOUNTING FOR UNCERTAIN

INCOME TAX (NOW REFERRED TO AS 'ASC 740') FOR THE FISCAL 2009 ANNUAL

990 FILING.

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990

▶ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations to provide additional information for responses to specific questions for the Form 990 or to provide any additional information.

OMB No 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

EXPLORE SCHOOLS, INC.

Employer identification number

26-3282250

FORM 990

AMENDED RETURN

THE FORM 990 FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED 6/30/09 WAS AMENDED DUE TO CHANGES

PURSUANT TO AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. THE FOLLOWING PARTS

AND SCHEDULES OF THE 990 WERE SUBSTANTIALLY REVISED:

1) PART I

2) PART IV

3) PART VII

4) PART VIII

5) PART IX

6) PART X

7) SCHEDULE A

8) SCHEDULE D

9) SCHEDULE J

10) SCHEDULE O

11) SCHEDULE R

Part V Transactions With Related Organizations

Note. Complete line 1 if any entity is listed in Parts II, III, or IV.

1 During the tax year, did the organization engage in any of the following transactions with one or more related organizations listed in Parts II-IV?

a Receipt of (i) interest (ii) annuities (iii) royalties (iv) rent from a controlled entity

b Gift, grant, or capital contribution to other organization(s)

c Gift, grant, or capital contribution from other organization(s)

d Loans or loan guarantees to or for other organization(s)

e Loans or loan guarantees by other organization(s)

f Sale of assets to other organization(s)

g Purchase of assets from other organization(s)

h Exchange of assets

i Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets to other organization(s)

j Lease of facilities, equipment, or other assets from other organization(s)

k Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations for other organization(s)

l Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations by other organization(s)

m Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, or other assets

n Sharing of paid employees

o Reimbursement paid to other organization for expenses

p Reimbursement paid by other organization for expenses

q Other transfer of cash or property to other organization(s)

r Other transfer of cash or property from other organization(s)

2 If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," see the instructions for information on who must complete this line, including covered relationships and transaction thresholds.

| | (A) Name of other organization(s) | (B) Transaction type (a-r) | (C) Amount involved |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| (1) | FRIENDS OF EXPLORE CHARTER SCHOOL - START UP LOAN OUTSTANDING BALANCE | E | 19,143. |
| (2) | EXPLORE CHARTER SCHOOL - ALLOCATED SALARIES TO THE FILING ORGANIZATION | N | 113,288. |
| (3) | | | |
| (4) | | | |
| (5) | | | |
| (6) | | | |

