

Scioto County Schools Council

Scioto County

Regular Audit

July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

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Mary Taylor, CPA

Auditor of State

Board of Directors
Scioto County Schools Council
411 Court Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Scioto County Schools Council, Scioto County, prepared by Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

The financial statements in the attached report are presented in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State. Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Independent Auditor's Report* on your financial statements. While the Auditor of State does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. The attached report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the statements are misstated under the non-GAAP regulatory basis. The *Independent Auditor's Report* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the Auditor of State permits.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Scioto County Schools Council is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

April 15, 2010

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Scioto County Schools Council
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Independent Auditor's Report

Scioto County Schools Council
411 Court Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Scioto County Schools Council, Scioto County, Ohio, (the Council) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Government's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1, the government has prepared these financial statements using the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, we presume they are material.

Revisions to GAAP require the Council to reformat its financial statement presentation and make other changes effective for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008. While the Council does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards require us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to the new GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of State permits, but does not require governments to reformat their statements. The Council has elected not to reformat its statements. Since the Council does not use GAAP to measure financial statement amounts, the following paragraph does not imply the amounts are materially misstated under accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

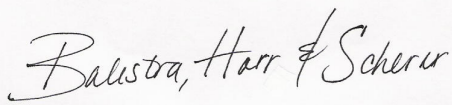
In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Government's proprietary fund as of June 30, 2009 or June 30, 2008, or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of the Scioto County Schools Council, Scioto County, as of June 30, 2009 and June 30, 2008, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

The aforementioned revision to generally accepted accounting principles also requires the Council to include Management's Discussion & Analysis for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008. The Council has not presented Management's Discussion & Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

Independent Auditor's Report
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In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 12, 2010, on our consideration of the Government's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. It does not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Balestra, Harr & Scherer". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

February 12, 2010

**SCIOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS COUNCIL
SCIOTO COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS,
AND CHANGES IN CASH BALANCE
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2009 AND 2008**

	2009	2008
Cash Receipts:		
Charges for Insurance	\$13,110,589	\$12,006,750
Earnings on Investments	207,077	304,620
Total Cash Receipts	13,317,666	12,311,370
Cash Disbursements:		
Claims Payments	12,915,559	12,350,218
TPA Fees/Stop-Loss Premiums	814,840	858,927
Purchased Services	86,275	80,878
Total Cash Disbursements	13,816,674	13,290,023
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(499,008)	(978,653)
Cash Balance, July 1	6,737,135	7,715,788
Cash Balance, June 30	\$6,238,127	\$6,737,135

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**SCIOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS COUNCIL
SCIOTO COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2009 AND 2008**

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The Scioto County Schools Council, Scioto County (the Council), a Regional Council of Governments organized under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 167, was created for the purpose of establishing and administering a cooperative health insurance program. The Council is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio.

The Board of Directors is the legislative and managerial body of the Council. The Board of Directors is composed of representatives from member school districts who have been appointed by their respective school district (normally the Superintendent).

The Board of Directors appoints a Board of Education of a member district, with the consent of the said Board of Education, as the Fiscal Agent for the Council. The Treasurer of the Fiscal Agent shall be the Treasurer of the Council. The South Central Ohio Educational Service Center serves as the Fiscal Agent for the Council.

The Council's management believes this financial statement presents all activities for which the Council is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

This financial statement follows the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

This statement includes adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, all cash received by the Council is pooled. Monies are either maintained in one of two checking accounts or temporarily used to purchase short term investments. During fiscal years 2009 and 2008, investments were limited to U.S. Government Securities, Money Market Account, and STAROhio (the state investment pool).

**SCIOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS COUNCIL
SCIOTO COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2009 AND 2008
(Continued)**

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The Council maintains a cash and investments pool. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at June 30 was as follows:

	<u>Average Maturity</u> (years)	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Demand Deposits		\$324,834	\$90,088
<u>Investments</u>			
STAROhio	Less than 1	132,418	383,856
Money Market Account	Less than 1	259,315	62,881
U.S. Government Securities:			
Federal National Mortgage Association Bonds	1 to 5	419,588	2,905,444
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Bonds	1 to 5	4,458,991	1,501,885
Federal Home Loan Banks Bonds	1 to 5	642,981	1,792,981
Total Investments		<u>5,913,293</u>	<u>6,647,047</u>
Total Deposits and Investments		<u>\$6,238,127</u>	<u>\$6,737,135</u>

Deposits: Deposits are either insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool. Deposits not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation are exposed to custodial credit risk. Custodial Credit Risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Council will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party.

Investments: The Council's investments in STAR Ohio, an investment pool operated by the Ohio State Treasurer, are unclassified investments since they are not evidenced by securities that exist in a physical or book entry form.

The Council's investments in the Money Market Account are unsecured.

The Council's investments in the U.S. Government Securities are secured by the securities purchased. Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds are held in book-entry form by the Federal Reserve, in the name of the Educational Service Center.

3. RISK MANAGEMENT

The Council is a regional council of governments organized under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 167, for the purpose of establishing and carrying out a cooperative health and dental insurance program. The Council, which is open to any board of education of any school district in the State of Ohio, is governed by a Board of Directors who selects qualified insurance companies that provide the health insurance program that is adequate to meet the needs of each member school under its benefit plan for its employees. The Board of Directors also purchases stop loss coverage for claims in excess of a set amount both for individual claims and in the aggregate. At June 30, 2009 the attachment point for individual claims was \$200,000 for each covered individual. The aggregate attachment point is calculated based on the number of covered individuals. At June 30, 2009, the aggregate attachment point was \$1,140.31 per contract for medical coverage.

**SCIOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS COUNCIL
SCIOTO COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2009 AND 2008
(Continued)**

3. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Each member of the Council is obligated to pay a fee based on an estimate of the member's share of the Council costs for the fiscal year. Included in this estimate are the claims by eligible employees which are payable by each member, the member's share of the health and dental insurance stop-loss premiums, and their proportionate share of the administrative cost of the Council.

Member schools may withdraw from the Council at the end of any fiscal year upon notification to the Fiscal Agent by September 15 in the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which the member will withdraw, and may be removed for failure to make the required payments. Upon withdrawal, the withdrawing member forfeits all funds paid into the Health Benefit Plan and shall assume and be responsible for payment of all claims of its eligible employees incurred through the withdrawal date.

4. ACTUARIAL REPORT

Actuarial Valuations of Claim Liability and Funded Status were performed for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008. The purpose of the valuations is to estimate claims that have been incurred, whether reported at June 30 or not, under the Scioto County Schools Council dental, health and prescription drug plans as of a valuation date, to compare its liability to funds reserved. Information regarding the funding status as of June 30, 2009 and 2008 is as follows:

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Cash and Investments at June 30	\$6,238,129	\$6,737,136
Actuarial Liability at June 30	<u>2,260,300</u>	<u>2,048,300</u>
Net Excess/(Deficit)	<u><u>\$3,977,829</u></u>	<u><u>\$4,688,836</u></u>



**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND
OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED by *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Scioto County Schools Council
Scioto County, Ohio
411 Court Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

We have audited the financial statement of the of the Scioto County Schools Council (the Council) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, which collectively comprise the Council's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 12, 2010, wherein we noted the Council followed the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Council's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not to opine on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Council's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with its applicable accounting basis, such that there is more than a remote likelihood that the Council's internal control will not prevent or detect a more-than-inconsequential financial statement misstatement.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, resulting in more than a remote likelihood that the Council's internal control will not prevent or detect a material financial statement misstatement.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all internal control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies or material weakness. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider material weaknesses, as defined above.

Scioto County Schools Council
Scioto County, Ohio

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER
MATTERS REQUIRED by *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

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Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Council's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We intend this report solely for the information and use of management, the audit committee, and members of the Board. We intend it for no one other than these specified parties.



Balestra, Harr & Scherer, CPAs, Inc.

February 12, 2010



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

SCIOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS COUNCIL

SCIOTO COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

CERTIFIED
MAY 6, 2010