



Dave Yost • Auditor of State



**LIBERTY-BENTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HANCOCK COUNTY**

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Hancock County  
9190 County Road 9  
Findlay, Ohio 45840

To the Board of Education:

### ***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Liberty-Benton Local School District, Hancock County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the District's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

### ***Opinion***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Liberty-Benton Local School District, Hancock County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund thereof

for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Other Matters**

*Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require this presentation to include *Management's discussion and analysis*, and schedules of net pension liabilities and pension contributions listed in the table of contents, to supplement the basic financial statements. Although this information is not part of the basic financial statements, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board considers it essential for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, consisting of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, to the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not opine or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to opine or provide any other assurance.

**Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 11, 2017, on our consideration of the District'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 internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

April 11, 2017

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016  
Unaudited

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The discussion and analysis of Liberty-Benton Local School District's financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

**Highlights**

Highlights for fiscal year 2016 were as follows:

Net position increased \$1,011,145, or almost 29 percent.

General revenues were \$12,726,054, or 80 percent of total revenues, and demonstrate the School District's significant dependence on property taxes and income taxes as well as State funding.

**Using the Basic Financial Statements**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. The statements are organized so the reader can understand Liberty-Benton Local School District as a financial whole, or as an entire operating entity.

The statement of net position and the statement of activities provide information about the activities of the whole School District, presenting both an aggregate view of the School District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances.

Fund financial statements provide a greater level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the School District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in a single column.

**Reporting the School District as a Whole**

The statement of net position and the statement of activities reflect how the School District did financially during fiscal year 2016. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting similar to that which is used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting considers all of the current fiscal year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These statements report the School District's net position and changes in net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader whether the financial position of the School District as a whole has increased or decreased from the prior fiscal year. Over time, these increases and/or decreases are one indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating. Causes for these changes may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the School District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs, and other factors.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
 Management's Discussion and Analysis  
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016  
 Unaudited

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In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, all of the School District's activities are reflected as governmental activities. The programs and services reported here include instruction, support services, non-instructional services, and extracurricular activities. These services are primarily funded by property taxes and income tax revenues as well as unrestricted State entitlements.

**Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds**

Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. While the School District uses many funds to account for its financial transactions, the fund financial statements focus on the School District's most significant funds. The School District's major funds are the General Fund and the Bond Retirement Fund.

Governmental Funds - All of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how monies flow into and out of those funds and the balances left at fiscal year end for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or less financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs.

Fiduciary Funds - Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the School District. Fiduciary funds are not reflected on the government-wide financial statements because the resources from these funds are not available to support the School District's programs. These funds use the accrual basis of accounting.

**The School District as a Whole**

Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for fiscal year 2016 and fiscal year 2015:

Table 1  
 Net Position

	Governmental Activities		
	2016	2015	Change
<u>Assets</u>			
Current and Other Assets	\$15,461,730	\$14,967,361	\$494,369
Capital Assets, Net	8,645,375	8,390,851	254,524
Total Assets	24,107,105	23,358,212	748,893

(continued)



Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016  
Unaudited

Table 1  
Net Position  
(continued)

	Governmental Activities		
	2016	2015	Change
<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>			
Pension	\$1,959,933	\$1,168,928	\$791,005
Other Amounts	10,281	10,281	0
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>1,970,214</u>	<u>1,179,209</u>	<u>791,005</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>			
Current and Other Liabilities	1,666,521	1,623,416	(43,105)
Long-Term Liabilities			
Pension	18,227,922	15,977,427	(2,250,495)
Other Amounts	2,925,635	3,306,538	380,903
Total Liabilities	<u>22,820,078</u>	<u>20,907,381</u>	<u>(1,912,697)</u>
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>			
Pension	1,309,752	2,899,869	1,590,117
Other Amounts	4,385,387	4,179,214	(206,173)
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>5,695,139</u>	<u>7,079,083</u>	<u>1,383,944</u>
<u>Net Position</u>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	7,008,457	6,719,705	288,752
Restricted	683,583	683,820	(237)
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>(10,129,938)</u>	<u>(10,852,568)</u>	<u>722,630</u>
Total Net Position (Deficit)	<u>(\$2,437,898)</u>	<u>(\$3,449,043)</u>	<u>\$1,011,145</u>

The net pension liability is the largest liability reported by the School District at June 30, 2016, and is reported pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions". For reasons discussed below, end users of these financial statements will gain a clearer understanding of the School District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and the net pension liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016  
Unaudited

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GASB standards are national standards and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. When accounting for pension costs, GASB Statement No. 27 focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's net pension liability. GASB Statement No. 68 takes an earnings approach to pension accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension systems and State law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

GASB Statement No. 68 requires the net pension liability to equal the School District's proportionate share of each plan's collective present value of estimated future pension benefits attributable to active and inactive employees' past service minus plan assets available to pay these benefits.

GASB notes that pension obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange", that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this pension promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the School District is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of this liability. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific legal limit to its contribution to the pension system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension system against the public employer. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The pension system is responsible for the administration of the plan.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or in the case of compensated absences (i.e. vacation and sick leave) are satisfied through paid time off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability. As explained above, changes in pension benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of the net pension liability but are outside the control of the School District. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required pension payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability is satisfied, this liability is separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 68, the School District's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense for their proportionate share of each plan's change in net pension liability not accounted for as deferred outflows/inflows.

Although there was a 29 percent increase in total net position, the above table reflects few changes of significance with the exception of changes related to pension. The only other change of note is the decrease in other long-term liabilities due to the retirement of debt.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
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Table 2 reflects the change in net position for fiscal year 2016 and fiscal year 2015:

Table 2  
Change in Net Position

	Governmental Activities		
	2016	2015	Change
<u>Revenues</u>			
Program Revenues			
Charges for Services	\$2,085,488	\$2,015,153	\$70,335
Operating Grants, Contributions, and Interest	1,024,789	1,179,451	(154,662)
Total Program Revenues	<u>3,110,277</u>	<u>3,194,604</u>	<u>(84,327)</u>
General Revenues			
Property Taxes	5,117,482	5,081,720	35,762
Income Taxes	1,796,047	1,786,416	9,631
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	17,007	18,091	(1,084)
Grants and Entitlements	5,614,509	5,393,256	221,253
Interest	28,651	32,893	(4,242)
Gifts and Donations	1,099	1,430	(331)
Miscellaneous	151,259	174,539	(23,280)
Total General Revenues	<u>12,726,054</u>	<u>12,488,345</u>	<u>237,709</u>
Total Revenues	<u>15,836,331</u>	<u>15,682,949</u>	<u>153,382</u>
<u>Expenses</u>			
Instruction:			
Regular	6,466,167	6,415,546	(50,621)
Special	1,428,375	1,415,802	(12,573)
Vocational	394,828	499,367	104,539
Support Services:			
Pupils	1,215,340	1,123,264	(92,076)
Instructional Staff	748,961	473,802	(275,159)
Board of Education	9,684	15,303	5,619
Administration	1,096,885	972,810	(124,075)
Fiscal	351,867	335,427	(16,440)
Business	1,372	1,830	458
Operation and Maintenance			
of Plant	1,204,086	1,152,415	(51,671)
Pupil Transportation	525,353	547,769	22,416
Central	181,202	174,883	(6,319)
Non-Instructional Services	478,919	509,132	30,213
Extracurricular Activities	546,898	496,313	(50,585)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	175,249	242,466	67,217
Total Expenses	<u>14,825,186</u>	<u>14,376,129</u>	<u>(449,057)</u>
Increase in Net Position	1,011,145	1,306,820	(295,675)
Net Position (Deficit) at Beginning of Year	<u>(3,449,043)</u>	<u>(4,755,863)</u>	<u>1,306,820</u>
Net Position (Deficit) at End of Year	<u><u>(\$2,437,898)</u></u>	<u><u>(\$3,449,043)</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,011,145</u></u>

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016  
Unaudited

Total revenues increased less than 1 percent from the prior fiscal year. For program revenues, there was a decrease in operating grants and contributions due to a reduction in State foundation funding for special instruction; however, this was offset by an increase in unrestricted grants and entitlements (also State foundation funding) in general revenues.

There was also little change in expenses with a modest 3 percent increase. The largest change is reflected in the instructional staff program. As is to be expected, the instruction programs are the School District's largest expense, accounting for 56 percent of all governmental activities expenses. Combined with the support services related to instruction, such as pupils, instructional staff, operation and maintenance of plant, and pupil transportation, 81 percent of all of the School District's expenses are directly related to delivering education and maintaining facilities.

Table 3 indicates the total cost of services and the net cost of services for governmental activities. The statement of activities reflects the cost of program services and the charges for services, grants, and contributions offsetting those services. The net cost of services identifies the cost of those services supported primarily from tax revenues and unrestricted State entitlements.

Table 3  
Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
<b>Instruction:</b>				
Regular	\$6,466,167	\$6,415,546	\$4,804,950	\$4,897,610
Special	1,428,375	1,415,802	624,985	420,167
Vocational	394,828	499,367	350,572	448,792
<b>Support Services:</b>				
Pupils	1,215,340	1,123,264	1,209,940	1,117,864
Instructional Staff	748,961	473,802	748,961	473,802
Board of Education	9,684	15,303	9,684	15,303
Administration	1,096,885	972,810	1,096,885	972,810
Fiscal	351,867	335,427	351,867	335,427
Business	1,372	1,830	1,372	1,830
<b>Operation and Maintenance of Plant</b>				
Pupil Transportation	1,204,086	1,152,415	1,204,086	1,152,415
Central	525,353	547,769	515,267	538,000
Non-Instructional Services	181,202	174,883	181,202	174,883
Extracurricular Activities	478,919	509,132	(661)	(4,088)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	546,898	496,313	440,550	394,244
Total Expenses	175,249	242,466	175,249	242,466
	<u>\$14,825,186</u>	<u>\$14,376,129</u>	<u>\$11,714,909</u>	<u>\$11,181,525</u>

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016  
Unaudited

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The above table demonstrates that 79 percent of all of the School District's costs for fiscal year 2016 were provided for through general revenues (78 percent in fiscal year 2015). Only several of the School District's programs receive significant support from program revenues. For instance, the regular instruction program paid for 26 percent of its costs through program revenues (primarily open enrollment tuition). The special instruction program paid for 56 percent of its costs through program revenues, those generally being operating grants restricted to special instruction programs. Program revenues paid for the entire non-instructional program in fiscal year 2016. These revenues consists of cafeteria sales, state and federal subsidies, and donated commodities for food service operations.

### **The School District's Funds**

The School District's governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fund balance in the General Fund decreased less than 1 percent, not a significant change.

The change in fund balance in the Bond Retirement Fund was also not significant.

### **General Fund Budgeting Highlights**

The School District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund.

During fiscal year 2016, the School District amended its General Fund budget as needed. For revenues, changes from the original budget to the final budget as well as from the final budget to actual revenues were not significant. For expenditures final budgeted amounts increased over \$1.1 million from the original budget primarily due to capital expenditures approved during the year. Changes from the final budget to actual expenditures were not significant.

### **Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

#### **Capital Assets**

At the end of fiscal year 2016, the School District had \$8,645,375 invested in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation). Additions consisted of construction in progress, equipment replacement, and vehicles. For further information regarding the School District's capital assets, refer to Note 10 to the basic financial statements.

#### **Debt**

At June 30, 2016, the School District had outstanding general obligation bonds, in the amount of \$2,151,485. The School District's long-term obligations also include the net pension liability and compensated absences. For further information regarding the School District's long-term obligations, refer to Note 16 to the basic financial statements.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016  
Unaudited

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**Current Issues**

Liberty-Benton Local School District is comprised of portions of Blanchard, Eagle, and Liberty Townships. It has a number of small and medium size businesses with agriculture contributing a significant influence on the local economy.

**Contacting the School District's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to reflect the School District's accountability for the monies it receives. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to Lisa Dobbins, Treasurer, Liberty-Benton Local School District, 9190 County Road 9, Findlay, Ohio 45840.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2016

	Governmental Activities
<u>Assets:</u>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$9,364,726
Accounts Receivable	31,312
Accrued Interest Receivable	4,297
Intergovernmental Receivable	25,783
Income Taxes Receivable	805,193
Prepaid Items	9,396
Inventory Held for Resale	6,027
Materials and Supplies Inventory	6,455
Property Taxes Receivable	5,191,535
Payment in Lieu of Taxes Receivable	17,006
Nondepreciable Capital Assets	1,295,840
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	7,349,535
Total Assets	24,107,105
 <u>Deferred Outflows of Resources:</u>	
Deferred Charge on Refunding	10,281
Pension	1,959,933
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	1,970,214
 <u>Liabilities:</u>	
Accounts Payable	44,995
Contracts Payable	349,180
Accrued Wages and Benefits Payable	1,029,946
Intergovernmental Payable	237,641
Accrued Interest Payable	4,759
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	87,739
Due in More Than One Year	
Net Pension Liability	18,227,922
Other Amounts Due in More Than One Year	2,837,896
Total Liabilities	22,820,078
 <u>Deferred Inflows of Resources:</u>	
Property Taxes	4,376,606
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	8,781
Pension	1,309,752
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	5,695,139
 <u>Net Position:</u>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	7,008,457
Restricted For:	
Capital Projects	707
Debt Service	577,637
Food Service	12,974
Athletics and Music	54,413
Other Purposes	37,852
Unrestricted (Deficit)	(10,129,938)
Total Net Position (Deficit)	(\$2,437,898)

See Accompanying Notes to Basic Financial Statements

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Statement of Activities  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

	Program Revenues		
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants, Contributions, and Interest
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>			
Instruction:			
Regular	\$6,466,167	\$1,609,355	\$51,862
Special	1,428,375	82,575	720,815
Vocational	394,828	0	44,256
Support Services:			
Pupils	1,215,340	0	5,400
Instructional Staff	748,961	0	0
Board of Education	9,684	0	0
Administration	1,096,885	0	0
Fiscal	351,867	0	0
Business	1,372	0	0
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,204,086	0	0
Pupil Transportation	525,353	0	10,086
Central	181,202	0	0
Non-Instructional Services	478,919	289,760	189,820
Extracurricular Activities	546,898	103,798	2,550
Interest and Fiscal Charges	175,249	0	0
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$14,825,186</u>	<u>\$2,085,488</u>	<u>\$1,024,789</u>

General Revenues:

Property Taxes Levied for General Purposes  
Property Taxes Levied for Debt Service Purposes  
Income Taxes Levied for General Purposes  
Payment in Lieu of Taxes  
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs  
Interest  
Gifts and Donations  
Miscellaneous  
Total General Revenues

Change in Net Position

Net Position (Deficit) at Beginning of Year  
Net Position (Deficit) at End of Year

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements



Net (Expense) Revenue  
and Change in  
Net Position

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Governmental  
Activities

---

(\$4,804,950)  
(624,985)  
(350,572)

(1,209,940)  
(748,961)  
(9,684)

(1,096,885)  
(351,867)  
(1,372)

(1,204,086)  
(515,267)  
(181,202)

661  
(440,550)  
(175,249)

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(11,714,909)

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4,596,576

520,906

1,796,047

17,007

5,614,509

28,651

1,099

151,259

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12,726,054

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1,011,145

(3,449,043)

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(\$2,437,898)

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Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Balance Sheet  
Governmental Funds  
June 30, 2016

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Assets:</u>				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$7,548,341	\$497,949	\$1,318,436	\$9,364,726
Accounts Receivable	30,688	0	624	31,312
Accrued Interest Receivable	4,297	0	0	4,297
Intergovernmental Receivable	6,946	0	18,837	25,783
Income Taxes Receivable	805,193	0	0	805,193
Prepaid Items	9,181	0	215	9,396
Inventory Held for Resale	0	0	6,027	6,027
Materials and Supplies Inventory	4,877	0	1,578	6,455
Property Taxes Receivable	4,667,558	523,977	0	5,191,535
Payment in Lieu of Taxes Receivable	15,309	1,697	0	17,006
Total Assets	<u>\$13,092,390</u>	<u>\$1,023,623</u>	<u>\$1,345,717</u>	<u>\$15,461,730</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>				
Accounts Payable	\$39,837	\$0	\$5,158	\$44,995
Contracts Payable	\$349,180	0	0	349,180
Accrued Wages and Benefits Payable	1,003,098	0	26,848	1,029,946
Intergovernmental Payable	229,173	0	8,468	237,641
Total Liabilities	<u>1,621,288</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>40,474</u>	<u>1,661,762</u>
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources:</u>				
Property Taxes	3,936,255	440,351	0	4,376,606
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	7,905	876	0	8,781
Unavailable Revenue	140,457	2,091	18,687	161,235
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>4,084,617</u>	<u>443,318</u>	<u>18,687</u>	<u>4,546,622</u>
<u>Fund Balances:</u>				
Nonspendable	14,058	0	1,793	15,851
Restricted	0	580,305	85,466	665,771
Committed	401,471	0	10,618	412,089
Assigned	850,794	0	1,188,679	2,039,473
Unassigned	6,120,162	0	0	6,120,162
Total Fund Balances	<u>7,386,485</u>	<u>580,305</u>	<u>1,286,556</u>	<u>9,253,346</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	<u>\$13,092,390</u>	<u>\$1,023,623</u>	<u>\$1,345,717</u>	<u>\$15,461,730</u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances  
to Net Position of Governmental Activities  
June 30, 2016

Total Governmental Fund Balances	\$9,253,346
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Amounts reported for governmental activities on the statement of net position are different because of the following:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	8,645,375
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Deferred outflows of resources includes deferred charges on refundings which do not provide current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	10,281
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Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are reported as unavailable revenue in the funds.

Accounts Receivable	29,910	
Accrued Interest Receivable	2,121	
Intergovernmental Receivable	18,687	
Income Taxes Receivable	90,288	
Delinquent Property Taxes Receivable	20,229	
		161,235

Some liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.

Accrued Interest Payable	(4,759)	
General Obligation Bonds Payable	(2,151,485)	
Compensated Absences Payable	(774,150)	
		(2,930,394)

The net pension liability is not due and payable in the current period, therefore, the liability and related deferred outflows/inflows are not reported in the governmental funds.

Deferred Outflows - Pension	1,959,933	
Deferred Inflows - Pension	(1,309,752)	
Net Pension Liability	(18,227,922)	
		(17,577,741)

Net Position of Governmental Activities	(\$2,437,898)
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See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances  
Governmental Funds  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Property Taxes	\$4,596,498	\$520,964	\$0	\$5,117,462
Income Taxes	1,819,545	0	0	1,819,545
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	15,310	1,697	0	17,007
Intergovernmental	5,947,868	118,722	543,646	6,610,236
Interest	28,367	0	195	28,562
Tuition and Fees	1,688,343	0	0	1,688,343
Extracurricular Activities	0	0	103,798	103,798
Charges for Services	0	0	289,760	289,760
Gifts and Donations	1,099	0	2,550	3,649
Miscellaneous	92,925	0	71,231	164,156
Total Revenues	<u>14,189,955</u>	<u>641,383</u>	<u>1,011,180</u>	<u>15,842,518</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	6,301,037	0	23,115	6,324,152
Special	1,317,194	0	107,860	1,425,054
Vocational	380,290	0	0	380,290
Support Services:				
Pupils	984,410	0	222,220	1,206,630
Instructional Staff	717,225	0	124,246	841,471
Board of Education	9,680	0	0	9,680
Administration	1,069,442	0	0	1,069,442
Fiscal	333,273	11,226	0	344,499
Business	1,372	0	0	1,372
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,100,041	0	61,057	1,161,098
Pupil Transportation	628,451	0	0	628,451
Central	174,767	0	0	174,767
Non-Instructional Services	0	0	466,127	466,127
Extracurricular Activities	321,587	0	120,221	441,808
Capital Outlay	399,545	0	68,658	468,203
Debt Service:				
Principal Retirement	0	34,228	0	34,228
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	59,893	0	59,893
Interest on Capital Appreciation Bonds	0	535,772	0	535,772
Total Expenditures	<u>13,738,314</u>	<u>641,119</u>	<u>1,193,504</u>	<u>15,572,937</u>
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	<u>451,641</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>(182,324)</u>	<u>269,581</u>
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>				
Transfers In	0	0	492,952	492,952
Transfers Out	<u>(492,952)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(492,952)</u>
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(492,952)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>492,952</u>	<u>0</u>
Changes in Fund Balances	(41,311)	264	310,628	269,581
Fund Balances at Beginning of Year	<u>7,427,796</u>	<u>580,041</u>	<u>975,928</u>	<u>8,983,765</u>
Fund Balances at End of Year	<u>\$7,386,485</u>	<u>\$580,305</u>	<u>\$1,286,556</u>	<u>\$9,253,346</u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
 Reconciliation of Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances  
 of Governmental Funds to Statement of Activities  
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

Changes in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds \$269,581

Amounts reported for governmental activities on the statement of activities are different because of the following:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, on the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay exceeded depreciation in the current fiscal year.

Capital Outlay - Nondepreciable Capital Assets	365,270	
Capital Outlay - Depreciable Capital Assets	417,593	
Depreciation	<u>(515,829)</u>	267,034

The book value of capital assets is removed from the capital asset account on the statement of net position when disposed of resulting in a gain or a loss on disposal of capital assets on the statement of activities.

Gain on Disposal of Capital Assets	18,303	
Loss on Disposal of Capital Assets	<u>(30,813)</u>	(12,510)

Revenues on the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in governmental funds.

Delinquent Property Taxes	20	
Income Taxes	(23,498)	
Intergovernmental	(4,883)	
Interest	284	
Tuition and Fees	<u>3,587</u>	(24,490)

Repayment of principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the statement of net position

34,228

Interest is reported as an expenditure when due in the governmental funds but is accrued on outstanding debt on the statement of net position.

Annual Accretion on Capital Appreciation Bonds	(115,356)	
Payment of Accretion of Capital Appreciation Bonds	<u>535,772</u>	420,416

Compensated absences reported on the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds

(73,741)

Except for amounts reported as deferred outflows/inflows, changes in the net pension liability are reported as pension expense on the statement of activities.

(910,356)

Contractually required contributions are reported as expenditures in the governmental funds, however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows or a reduction of the liability

1,040,983

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities

\$1,011,145

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance  
Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual  
General Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with
	Original	Final		Final Budget Over (Under)
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Property Taxes	\$4,398,132	\$4,478,722	\$4,651,571	\$172,849
Income Taxes	1,693,077	1,693,077	1,773,059	79,982
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	11,100	11,100	15,452	4,352
Intergovernmental	6,014,117	6,014,117	5,939,937	(74,180)
Interest	6,000	6,000	22,916	16,916
Tuition and Fees	1,568,534	1,568,534	1,687,658	119,124
Gifts and Donations	1,600	1,600	1,099	(501)
Miscellaneous	51,922	62,922	65,387	2,465
Total Revenues	<u>13,744,482</u>	<u>13,836,072</u>	<u>14,157,079</u>	<u>321,007</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	6,309,560	6,308,640	6,121,074	187,566
Special	1,238,719	1,238,717	1,155,971	82,746
Vocational	275,123	404,822	414,982	(10,160)
Support Services:				
Pupils	726,716	726,715	760,611	(33,896)
Instructional Staff	419,706	495,705	663,774	(168,069)
Board of Education	23,484	23,484	25,135	(1,651)
Administration	986,251	986,252	1,056,272	(70,020)
Fiscal	321,387	321,386	332,418	(11,032)
Business	2,199	2,199	2,212	(13)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	606,421	609,395	610,447	(1,052)
Pupil Transportation	732,551	732,553	737,993	(5,440)
Central	316,415	322,135	186,888	135,247
Extracurricular Activities	319,359	319,361	321,368	(2,007)
Capital Outlay	25,381	23,626	49,584	(25,958)
Adult Education				
Adult/Continuing	216	216	0	216
Rotary				
Instructional Staff	25,000	25,000	8,671	16,329
Emergency Levy				
Instruction:				
Regular	209,252	209,252	179,656	29,596
Special	156,931	156,931	149,626	7,305
Vocational	123,995	123,995	124,931	(936)
Support Services:				
Pupils	245,703	245,703	244,508	1,195
Instructional Staff	37,484	37,484	39,979	(2,495)
Fiscal	30,000	30,000	26,121	3,879
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	521,498	572,998	600,488	(27,490)
Pupil Transportation	3,821	3,821	2,846	975
Capital Outlay	0	904,360	907,456	(3,096)
Academic Incentives				
Administration	54,049	54,049	53,161	888
District Support				
Administration	0	0	984	(984)
Total Expenditures	<u>13,711,221</u>	<u>14,878,799</u>	<u>14,777,156</u>	<u>101,643</u>

(continued)

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance  
Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual  
General Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016  
(continued)

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget Over (Under)
	Original	Final		
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$33,261	(\$1,042,727)	(\$620,077)	\$422,650
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>				
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	13,200	13,200	15,640	2,440
Other Financing Sources	0	0	13,817	13,817
Transfers Out	(481,549)	(486,549)	(492,952)	(6,403)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(468,349)	(473,349)	(463,495)	9,854
Changes in Fund Balance	(435,088)	(1,516,076)	(1,083,572)	432,504
Fund Balance at Beginning of Year	6,955,488	6,955,488	6,955,488	0
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	358,995	358,995	358,995	0
Fund Balance at End of Year	<u>\$6,879,395</u>	<u>\$5,798,407</u>	<u>\$6,230,911</u>	<u>\$432,504</u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Funds  
June 30, 2016

	<u>Private Purpose Trust</u>	<u>Agency</u>
<u>Assets:</u>		
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,722	<u>\$100,156</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>		
Undistributed Assets		\$2,826
Due to Students	<u>0</u>	<u>97,330</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>\$100,156</u>
<u>Net Position:</u>		
Held in Trust for Scholarships	<u>\$1,722</u>	

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements



Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Statement of Change in Fiduciary Net Position  
Private Purpose Trust Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

<u>Additions:</u>	
Gifts and Donations	\$1,180
 <u>Deductions:</u>	
Non-Instructional Services	3,200
	<hr/>
Change in Net Position	(2,020)
Net Position at Beginning of Year	3,742
Net Position at End of Year	<hr/> <hr/>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

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**Note 1 - Description of the School District and Reporting Entity**

Liberty-Benton Local School District (the “School District”) is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The School District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The School District provides educational services as authorized by state and federal guidelines.

The School District was established in 1954. It is located in Hancock County and includes all of the Village of Benton Ridge, and part of Blanchard, Eagle, and Liberty Townships. It is staffed by sixty-four classified employees, ninety-seven certified teaching personnel, and eight administrative employees who provide services to one thousand one hundred ninety-five students and other community members. The School District currently operates two instructional buildings.

**Reporting Entity**

A reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the School District consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For Liberty-Benton Local School District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the School District.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organization’s governing board and (1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization’s resources; the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes, and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the School District. There are no component units of the Liberty-Benton Local School District.

The School District participates in five jointly governed organizations and three insurance pools. These organizations are the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative, Millstream Career and Technology Center, Hancock County Local Professional Development Committee, Northwestern Ohio Educational Research Council, Inc., Bay Area Council of Governments, Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority, Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund, and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan. These organizations are presented in Notes 20 and 21 to the basic financial statements.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The basic financial statements of Liberty-Benton Local School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

**A. Basis of Presentation**

The School District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. These statements usually distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental activities (primarily supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues) and those that are considered business-type activities (primarily supported by fees and charges). However, the School District has no business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the School District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and, therefore, clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants, contributions, and interest that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the School District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School District.

**Fund Financial Statements**

During the fiscal year, the School District segregates transactions related to certain School District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the School District at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

**B. Fund Accounting**

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the School District are reported in two categories, governmental and fiduciary.

**Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the School District are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses, and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is reported as fund balance. The School District's major governmental funds are the General Fund and the Bond Retirement debt service fund.

**General Fund** - The General Fund is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the School District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

**Bond Retirement Fund** - The Bond Retirement Fund is used to account for property taxes and other revenues restricted for the payment of principal, interest, and related costs on general obligation bonds.

The other governmental funds of the School District account for grants and other resources whose use is restricted, committed, or assigned to a particular purpose.

**Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds, and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the School District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are not available to support the School District's own programs. The School District's private purpose trust fund accounts for programs that provide college scholarships to students after graduation. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The School District's agency funds account for various non-instructional faculty-related activities and student-managed activities.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

**C. Measurement Focus**

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the School District are included on the statement of net position. The statement of activities presents increases (e.g. revenues) and decreases (e.g. expenses) in total net position.

Fund Financial Statements

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances reflects the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements, therefore, include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the fund financial statements for governmental funds.

The private purpose trust fund is accounted for using a flow of economic resources measurement focus.

**D. Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting; fiduciary funds use the accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, recording of deferred outflows and deferred inflows of resources, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

Revenues - Exchange and Nonexchange Transactions

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On the modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the School District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal year end.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

Nonexchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, income taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On the accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from income taxes is recognized in the fiscal year in which the income is earned. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the fiscal year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the School District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School District on a reimbursement basis. On the modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered both measurable and available at fiscal year end: property taxes available as an advance, income taxes, grants, interest, tuition, student fees, and charges for services.

**Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position may report deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until that time. For the School District, deferred outflows of resources includes a deferred charge on refunding reported on the government-wide statement of net position. A deferred charge on refunding results from the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and the reacquisition price. This amount is deferred and amortized over the life of the old debt or the life of the new debt, whichever is shorter. Deferred outflows of resources are also reported on the government-wide statement of net position for pension and explained in Note 13 to the basic financial statements.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position may report deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized until that time. For the School District, deferred inflows of resources consists of property taxes, payment in lieu of taxes, unavailable revenue, and pension. Property taxes represent amounts for which there was an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2016, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2017 operations. Payment in lieu of taxes represents a contractual promise to make payment of property taxes which reflect all or a portion of the taxes which would have been paid if the taxes had not been exempted. These amounts have been recorded as deferred inflows of resources on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental fund balance sheet and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. For the School District, unavailable revenue includes accrued interest, intergovernmental revenue including grants, income taxes, delinquent property taxes, and other sources. These amounts are deferred and recognized as inflows of resources in the period when the amounts become available. For further details on unavailable revenue, refer to the Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Position of Governmental Activities. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension are reported on the government-wide statement of net position and explained in Note 13 to the basic financial statements.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

**Expenses/Expenditures**

On the accrual basis, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

**E. Budgetary Process**

All funds, except agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control selected by the Board is at the fund level for all funds. Budgetary allocations at the function and object level within all funds are made by the School District Treasurer.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the final amended certificate of estimated resources requested by the School District prior to fiscal year end.

The appropriations resolution is subject to amendment throughout the fiscal year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriations resolution for that fund that covered the entire fiscal year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior fiscal years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

**F. Cash and Investments**

To improve cash management, cash received by the School District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".



Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

During fiscal year 2016, investments included negotiable certificates of deposit, federal agency securities, U.S. Treasury securities, mutual funds, and STAR Ohio. Investments are reported at fair value, which is based on quoted market price or current share price. STAR Ohio is an investment pool, managed by the State Treasurer's Office, which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The School District measures the investment in STAR Ohio at net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides a NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For the fiscal year 2016, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given twenty-four hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$25 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$50 million requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$50 million limit. All accounts of the participant are combined for these purposes.

The School District allocates interest earnings according to State statutes. Interest revenue credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2016 was \$28,367, which included \$13,779 assigned from other School District funds.

Investments of the School District's cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the School District are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that were not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

**G. Prepaid Items**

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2016, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

**H. Inventory**

Inventory is presented at cost on a first-in, first-out basis and is expended/expensed when used. Inventory consists of expendable supplies held for consumption and donated and purchased food.

**I. Capital Assets**

All of the School District's capital assets are general capital assets generally resulting from expenditures in governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column on the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported on the fund financial statements.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

All capital assets are capitalized at cost and updated for additions and reductions during the fiscal year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition value on the date donated. The School District maintains a capitalization threshold of one thousand five hundred dollars. Improvements are capitalized. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

All capital assets, except land and construction in progress, are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Useful Lives</u>
Land Improvements	20 years
Buildings and Building Improvements	18 - 109 years
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	5 - 40 years
Vehicles	10 - 15 years

**J. Deferred Charge on Refunding**

For advance refundings resulting in the defeasance of debt, the difference between the reacquisition price and the net carrying amount of the old debt is deferred and amortized as a component of interest expense. This deferred amount is amortized over the remaining life of the old debt or the life of the new debt, whichever is shorter, and is presented as deferred outflows of resources on the statement of net position.

**K. Compensated Absences**

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable the School District will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. The School District records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. The liability includes the employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the School District has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the School District's termination policy. The School District records a liability for accumulated unused sick leave for all employees after ten years of service.

**L. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations**

All payables, accrued liabilities, and long-term obligations are reported on the government-wide financial statements.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources are reported as obligations of the funds. However, net pension liability and compensated absences that are paid from governmental funds are reported as liabilities on the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current fiscal year. Bonds are recognized as a liability on the fund financial statements when due.

**M. Unamortized Premiums**

On government-wide financial statements, premiums are deferred and amortized over the term of the bonds using the bonds-outstanding method, which approximates the effective interest method. Bond premiums are presented as an addition to the face amount of bonds payable.

On the governmental fund financial statements, bond premiums are recognized in the period in which the debt is issued.

**N. Net Position**

Net position represents the difference between all other elements on the statement of financial position. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balance of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes includes resources restricted for federal and state grants.

The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

**O. Fund Balance**

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable - The nonspendable classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted - Fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

Committed - The committed classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the Board of Education. The committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Education removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds, other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. Assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Education. Fund balance policy of the Board of Education has authorized the Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided those amounts have been lawfully appropriated. The Board of Education also assigned fund balance to cover a gap between estimated resources and appropriations in the fiscal year 2017 budget. Certain resources have also been assigned for extracurricular activities and permanent improvements.

Unassigned - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

The School District first applies restricted resources when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used.

**P. Interfund Transactions**

Transfers within governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the statement of activities. Payments for interfund services provided and used are not eliminated.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

**Q. Pensions**

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension plans, and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension systems. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension systems report investments at fair value.

**R. Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

**Note 3 - Change in Accounting Principles**

For fiscal year 2016, the School District has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 72, "Fair Value Measurement and Application", GASB Statement No. 76, "Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments", GASB Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants", and GASB Statement No. 82, "Pension Issues-an Amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 69, and No. 73".

GASB Statement No. 72 addresses accounting and financial reporting issues related to fair value measurements. This Statement provides guidance for determining a fair value measurement for financial reporting purposes for applying fair value to certain investments and disclosures related to all fair value measurements. These changes were incorporated in the School District's fiscal year 2016 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

GASB Statement No. 76 identifies, in the context of the current governmental financial reporting environment, the sources of accounting principles used to prepare financial statements of state and local governmental entities in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and the framework for selecting those principles. The implementation of this statement did not result in any changes to the School District's financial statements.

GASB Statement No. 79 establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for qualifying external investment pools that elect to measure, for financial reporting purposes, all of their investments at amortized cost. The Statement provides accounting and financial reporting guidance that also establishes additional note disclosure requirements for governments that participate in these pools. The School District participates in STAR Ohio which implemented GASB Statement No. 79 for fiscal year 2016. The School District incorporated the corresponding GASB Statement No. 79 guidance into the fiscal year 2016 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

GASB Statement No. 82 improves consistency in the application of pension accounting. These changes were incorporated in the School District's fiscal year 2016 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 4 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting**

While the School District is reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balances on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual for the General Fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget.

The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are as follows:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures (budget basis) rather than as restricted, committed, or assigned fund balance (GAAP basis).

The adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP and budgetary basis statements for the General Fund are as follows:

Changes in Fund Balance

GAAP Basis	(\$41,311)
<u>Increase (Decrease) Due To:</u>	
Revenue Accruals:	
Accrued FY 2015, Received in Cash FY 2016	1,446,276
Accrued FY 2016, Not Yet Received in Cash	(1,445,374)
Expenditure Accruals:	
Accrued FY 2015, Paid in Cash FY 2016	(1,348,113)
Accrued FY 2016, Not Yet Paid in Cash	1,621,288
Cash Adjustments:	
Unrecorded Activity FY 2015	6,832
Unrecorded Activity FY 2016	(11,153)
Prepaid Items	(9,181)
Materials and Supplies Inventory	3,441
Encumbrances Outstanding at Fiscal Year End (Budget Basis)	(1,306,277)
Budget Basis	(\$1,083,572)

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

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**Note 5 - Deposits and Investments**

Monies held by the School District are classified by State statute into three categories.

Active monies are public monies determined to be necessary to meet current demands upon the School District treasury. Active monies must be maintained either as cash in the School District treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits are public deposits the Board of Education has identified as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Interim monies held by the School District may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio and, within certain limitations, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2);
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio); and
8. Commercial paper and bankers' acceptances if training requirements have been met.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 5 - Deposits and Investments** (continued)

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At fiscal year end, \$5,589,711 of the School District's bank balance of \$6,689,858 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized. Although all State statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with federal requirements could potentially subject the School District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

The School District has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the School District or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured.

Investments

Investments are reported at fair value. As of June 30, 2016, the School District had the following investments:

<u>Measurement/Investment</u>	<u>Measurement Amount</u>	<u>Maturity</u>
Fair Value		
Negotiable Certificate of Deposit	\$250,615	1/3/17
Negotiable Certificate of Deposit	250,930	5/22/17
Negotiable Certificate of Deposit	250,873	6/20/17
Negotiable Certificate of Deposit	252,160	4/16/18
Negotiable Certificate of Deposit	251,963	5/3/18
Federal National Mortgage Association Notes	501,010	4/20/17
U.S. Treasury Securities	250,083	1/31/17
U.S. Treasury Securities	250,023	3/31/17
Mutual Funds	29,744	30 days
Net Value Per Share		
STAR Ohio	652,202	51.9 days
Total Investments	<u>\$2,939,603</u>	



Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

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**Note 5 - Deposits and Investments** (continued)

The School District has categorized its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The above chart identifies the School District's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2016. All of the School District's investments measured at fair value are valued using quoted market prices (Level 1 inputs).

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The investment policy restricts the Treasurer from investing in any securities other than those identified in the Ohio Revised Code and that all investments must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless they are matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District.

The negotiable certificates of deposit are generally covered by FDIC and/or SIPC insurance. The Federal National Mortgage Association Note and U.S. Treasury Securities carry a rating of Aaa by Moodys. The mutual fund is not rated. STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAA by Standard and Poor's. The School District has no investment policy dealing with credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that no-load money market mutual funds must be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service and STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service.

The School District places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer or investment type. The following table indicates the percentage of investments to the School District's total portfolio:

	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Percentage of Portfolio</u>
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	\$1,256,541	42.7%
Federal National Mortgage Association	501,010	17.0
U.S. Treasury	500,106	17.0

**Note 6 - Receivables**

Receivables at June 30, 2016, consisted of accounts (student fees and billings for user charged services), accrued interest, intergovernmental, income taxes, property taxes, and payment in lieu of taxes. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the ability to foreclose for the nonpayment of taxes, the stable condition of State programs, and the current year guarantee of federal funds. All receivables, except income taxes and property taxes, are expected to be collected within one year. Income taxes and property taxes, although ultimately collectible, include some portion of delinquencies that will not be collected within one year.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

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**Note 6 - Receivables** (continued)

A summary of the principal items of intergovernmental receivables follows:

	<u>Amount</u>
Governmental Activities	
General Fund	
State of Ohio	\$6,946
Other Governmental Funds	
Athletics and Music	150
Title I	18,687
Total Other Governmental Funds	<u>18,837</u>
Total Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$25,783</u></u>

**Note 7 - Income Taxes**

The School District levies a voted tax of .75 percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was effective on January 1, 1995, and was renewed in 2010 for a ten year period. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue is credited to the General Fund.

**Note 8 - Property Taxes**

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis, while the School District's fiscal year runs from July through June. First-half tax distributions are received by the School District in the second half of the fiscal year. Second-half tax distributions are received in the first half of the following fiscal year.

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenues received in calendar year 2016 represent the collection of calendar year 2015 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2016 were levied after April 1, 2015, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2015, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2016 represent the collection of calendar year 2015 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2016 became a lien on December 31, 2014, were levied after April 1, 2015, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 8 - Property Taxes** (continued)

The School District receives property taxes from Hancock County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the county by June 30, 2016, are available to finance fiscal year 2016 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

Accrued property taxes receivable represents real and public utility property taxes which were measurable as of June 30, 2016, and for which there was an enforceable legal claim. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, only the amount of real property taxes available as an advance at June 30 were levied to finance current fiscal year operations and are reflected as revenue at fiscal year end. The portion of the receivable not levied to finance current fiscal year operations is offset by a credit to deferred inflows of resources - property taxes.

The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2016, was \$713,165 in the General Fund and \$81,535 in the Bond Retirement debt service fund. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2015, was \$768,238 in the General Fund and \$90,815 in the Bond Retirement debt service fund.

Collectible delinquent property taxes have been recorded as a receivable and revenue on an accrual basis. On a modified accrual basis, the revenue has been recorded as deferred inflows of resources - unavailable revenue.

The assessed values upon which fiscal year 2016 taxes were collected are:

	2015 Second- Half Collections		2016 First- Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/Residential	\$143,093,230	80.22%	\$146,393,930	79.36%
Industrial/Commercial	27,572,510	15.46	27,696,950	15.01
Public Utility	7,718,780	4.32	10,389,450	5.63
Total Assessed Value	<u>\$178,384,520</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$184,480,330</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$41.73		\$41.35	

**Note 9 - Payment in Lieu of Taxes**

In accordance with agreements related to tax increment financing districts, the City of Findlay and Hancock County have entered into agreements with a number of property owners under which the City and County have granted property tax exemptions to those property owners. The property owners have agreed to make payments to the City and County which reflect all or a portion of the property taxes which the property owners would have paid if the taxes had not been exempted. The agreements provide for a portion of these payments to be paid to the School District. The property owners contractually promise to make these payments in lieu of taxes until the agreement expires.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 10 - Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, was as follows:

	Balance at 6/30/15	Additions	Reductions	Balance at 6/30/16
Governmental Activities				
Nondepreciable Capital Assets				
Land	\$930,570	\$0	\$0	\$930,570
Construction in Progress	0	365,270	0	365,270
Total Nondepreciable Capital Assets	\$930,570	\$365,270	\$0	\$1,295,840
Depreciable Capital Assets				
Land Improvements	1,316,220	0	0	1,316,220
Buildings and Building Improvements	14,838,485	29,545	0	14,868,030
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	1,816,129	233,394	(236,778)	1,812,745
Vehicles	1,127,717	180,192	(115,167)	1,192,742
Total Depreciable Capital Assets	19,098,551	443,131	(351,945)	19,189,737
Less Accumulated Depreciation				
Land Improvements	(663,123)	(64,941)	0	(728,064)
Buildings and Building Improvements	(9,045,448)	(295,710)	0	(9,341,158)
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	(1,335,252)	(95,862)	218,895	(1,212,219)
Vehicles	(594,447)	(59,316)	95,002	(558,761)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(11,638,270)	(515,829)	313,897	(11,840,202)
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	7,460,281	(72,698)	(38,048)	7,349,535
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$8,390,851	\$292,572	(\$38,048)	\$8,645,375

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:	
Regular	\$189,585
Special	14,625
Vocational	16,913
Support Services:	
Pupils	13,548
Instructional Staff	8,450
Administration	13,521
Fiscal	3,670
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	70,446
Pupil Transportation	56,929
Central	7,807
Non-Instructional Services	11,938
Extracurricular Activities	108,397
Total Depreciation Expense	<u>\$515,829</u>

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

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**Note 11 - Risk Management**

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2016, the School District contracted for the following insurance coverage:

Coverage provided by The Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority is as follows:

Building and Contents	\$300,000,000
General School District Liability	
Per Occurrence	15,000,000
Aggregate	17,000,000
Automobile Liability	15,000,000
Uninsured Motorists	1,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years and there has been no significant reduction in insurance coverage from the prior fiscal year.

For fiscal year 2016, the School District participated in the Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority (SORSA), an insurance purchasing pool. Each participant enters into an individual agreement with the SORSA for insurance coverage and pays annual premiums to the SORSA based on the types and limits of coverage and deductibles selected by the participant.

The School District participates in the Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund (Fund), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of seven local school districts, the Hancock County Educational Service Center, and the Blanchard Valley Board of Developmental Disabilities. The School District pays monthly premiums to the Fund for employee medical, dental, and vision insurance benefits. The Fund is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the Fund, a participant is responsible for the payment of all Fund liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

The School District participates in the Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (Plan), an insurance purchasing pool. The intent of the Plan is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the Plan. The third party administrator, Sheakley Uniservice, Inc., reviews each participants' claims experience and determines the rating tier for that participant. A common premium rate is applied to all participants in a given rating tier. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for their rating tier rather than its individual rate. Sheakley Uniservice, Inc. provides administrative, cost control, and actuarial services to the Plan.

**Note 12 - Contractual Commitments**

At fiscal year end, the amount of significant encumbrances expected to be honored upon performance by the vendor in fiscal year 2017 are as follows:

General Fund	\$1,306,277
Other Governmental Funds	41,611

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**Net Pension Liability**

The net pension liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for pensions. Pensions are a component of exchange transactions, between an employer and its employees, of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions are provided to an employee on a deferred payment basis as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that have already occurred.

The net pension liability represents the School District's proportionate share of each pension plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments, and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

The Ohio Revised Code limits the School District's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The School District cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the School District does receive the benefit of employees' services in exchange for compensation, including pension.

GASB Statement No. 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer because (1) they benefit from employee services and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from the employers. All contributions to date have come solely from the employer (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within thirty years. If the amortization period exceeds thirty years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term net pension liability on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the fiscal year is included as an intergovernmental payable on both the accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting.

**Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

Plan Description - School District classified employees participate in SERS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3309. SERS issues a publicly available stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information, and detailed information about SERS' fiduciary net position. The report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under employers/audit resources.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows.

	Eligible to retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially Reduced Benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit; Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; Age 60 with 25 years of service credit

\* Members with 25 years of service credit as of August 1, 2017, will be included in this plan.

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service; 2.2 percent for the first thirty years of service and 2.5 percent for years of service credit over thirty years. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

One year after an effective benefit date, a benefit recipient is entitled to a 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). This same COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14 percent. No allocation was made to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$245,877 for fiscal year 2016. Of this amount, \$47,253 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

**Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

Plan Description - School District licensed teachers and other certified faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a publicly available stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information, and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. The report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS website at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org).

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit Plan (DBP), a Defined Contribution Plan (DCP), and a Combined Plan (CP). Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DBP offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. With certain exceptions, the basic benefit is increased each year by 2 percent of the original base benefit. For members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, the first 2 percent is paid on the fifth anniversary of the retirement benefit. Members are eligible to retire at age sixty with five years of qualifying service credit, at age fifty-five with twenty-five years of service credit, or thirty years of service credit regardless of age. Age and service requirements for retirement increased effective August 1, 2015, and will continue to increase periodically until they reach age sixty with thirty-five years of service or age sixty-five with five years of service on August 1, 2026.

The DCP allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.5 percent of the 14 percent employer contribution into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.5 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age fifty and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The CP offers features of both the DBP and the DCP. In the CP, 11 percent of the 12 percent member rate goes to the DCP and 1 percent goes to the DBP. Member contributions to the DCP are allocated among investment choices by the member and contributions to the DBP from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DBP. The defined benefit portion of the CP payment is payable to a member on or after age sixty with five years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age fifty.

New members who choose the DCP or CP will have another opportunity to reselect a permanent plan during their fifth year of membership. Members may remain in the same plan or transfer to another STRS plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's CP account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS has therefore included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB Statement No. 68 reporting purposes.

A DBP or CP member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. New members on or after July 1, 2013, must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit that apply for disability benefits. Members in the DCP who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member of the DCP dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.



Liberty-Benton Local School District  
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For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, plan members were required to contribute 13 percent of their annual covered salary. Effective July 1, 2016, the statutory maximum employee contribution rate was increased 1 percent to 14 percent. The School District was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2016 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$795,106 for fiscal year 2016. Of this amount, \$132,988 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

**Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions**

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2015, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense.

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability Prior Measurement Date	0.04875700%	0.05554252%	
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability Current Measurement Date	<u>0.05273670%</u>	<u>0.05506630%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.00397970%</u>	<u>(0.00047622%)</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$3,009,207	\$15,218,715	\$18,227,922
Pension Expense	\$247,199	\$663,157	\$910,356

At June 30, 2016, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources.

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$48,454	\$693,782	\$742,236
Changes in Proportionate Share and Difference Between School District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions School District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	176,714	0	176,714
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>245,877</u> <u>\$471,045</u>	<u>795,106</u> <u>\$1,488,888</u>	<u>1,040,983</u> <u>\$1,959,933</u>

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	\$99,705	\$1,094,513	\$1,194,218
Changes in Proportionate Share and Difference Between School District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	0	115,534	115,534
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$99,705</b>	<b>\$1,210,047</b>	<b>\$1,309,752</b>

\$1,040,983 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized as pension expense as follows.

	SERS	STRS	Total
Fiscal Year Ended June 30,			
2017	\$20,250	(\$275,880)	(\$255,630)
2018	20,250	(275,880)	(255,630)
2019	20,021	(275,880)	(255,859)
2020	64,942	311,375	376,317
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$125,463</b>	<b>(\$516,265)</b>	<b>(\$390,802)</b>

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67 as part of the annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and plan members to that point. The projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes does not explicitly incorporate the potential effects of legal or contractual funding limitations.

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. For a newly hired employee, actuarial calculations will take into account the employee's entire career with the employer and also take into consideration the benefits, if any, paid to the employee after termination of employment until the death of the employee and any applicable contingent annuitant. In many cases, actuarial calculations reflect several decades of service with the employer and the payment of benefits after termination.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation prepared as of June 30, 2015, are presented below.

Wage Inflation	3.25 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	4 percent to 22 percent 3 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent net of investment expenses, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	entry age normal

For postretirement mortality, the table used in evaluating allowances to be paid is the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set back one year for both men and women. Special mortality tables are used for the period after disability retirement.

The most recent experience study was completed June 30, 2010.

The long-term return expectation for the pension plan investments has been determined using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' Statement of Investment Policy. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating an arithmetic weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalanced uncorrelated asset classes. The target allocation and the long-term expected real rate of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table.

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	1.00%	0.00%
U.S. Stocks	22.50	5.00
Non-U.S. Stocks	22.50	5.50
Fixed Income	19.00	1.50
Private Equity	10.00	10.00
Real Assets	10.00	5.00
Multi-Asset Strategies	15.00	7.50
Total	100.00%	

Discount Rate - The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.75 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and to illustrate the potential impact, the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.75 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	4,172,689	3,009,207	2,029,460

**Changes between Measurement Date and Report Date**

In April 2016, the SERS Board adopted certain assumption change which impacted their annual actuarial valuation prepared as of June 30, 2016. The most significant change is a reduction in the discount rate from 7.75 percent to 7.5 percent. Although the exact amount of these changes is not known, the impact to the School District's net pension liability is expected to be significant.

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2015, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions applied to all periods included in the measurement.

Inflation	2.75 percent
Projected Salary Increases	12.25 percent at age 20 to 2.75 percent at age 70
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent, net of investment expenses
Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)	2 percent simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2 percent per year; for members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, 2 percent COLA commences on fifth anniversary of retirement date

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table (Projection 2022-Scale AA) for males and females. Males ages are set back two years through age eighty-nine and no set back for age ninety and above. Females younger than age eighty are set back four years, one year set back from age eighty through eighty-nine, and no set back from age ninety and above.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2015, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study effective July 1, 2012.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

STRS' investment consultant develops best estimates for the investment return assumption based on the target allocation adopted by the retirement board. The target allocation and long-term expected rate of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows.

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Nominal Rate of Return *
Domestic Equity	31.00%	8.00%
International Equity	26.00	7.85
Alternatives	14.00	8.00
Fixed Income	18.00	3.75
Real Estate	10.00	6.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	3.00
	<u>100.00%</u>	

\*10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.5 percent.

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2015. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2015. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.75 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2015.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following table presents the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.75 percent as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.75 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	21,139,943	15,218,715	10,211,434

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

**Social Security System**

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the State Teachers Retirement System or the School Employees Retirement System have an option to choose Social Security or the State Teachers Retirement System/School Employees Retirement System. As of June 30, 2016, three of the Board of Education members have elected Social Security. The Board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

**Note 14 - Postemployment Benefits**

**School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

Health Care Plan Description - The School District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund administered by SERS for classified retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB Statement No. 45 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. The Health Care Plan includes hospitalization and physicians' fees through several types of plans including HMO's, PPO's, Medicare Advantage, and traditional indemnity plans as well as a prescription drug program. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained by visiting the SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under employers/audit resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. Health care is financed through a combination of employer contributions and retiree premiums, copays and deductibles on covered health care expenses, investment returns, and any funds received as a result of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Retirees and their beneficiaries are required to pay a health care premium that varies depending on the plan selected, the number of qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required basic benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund. For fiscal year 2016, no allocation of covered payroll was allocated to health care. In addition, employers pay a surcharge for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated according to service credit earned. For fiscal year 2016, this amount was \$23,000. State statute provides that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2016, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$29,155.

The School District's contribution for health care for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2016, 2015, and 2014 was \$0, \$13,097, and \$2,217, respectively. The full amount has been contributed for all three fiscal years.

**Note 14 - Postemployment Benefits** (continued)

**State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

Health Care Plan Description - The School District participates in the cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit health care plan administered by the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer the plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs, and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The Plan is included in the STRS financial report which can be obtained by visiting the STRS website at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the health care plan and gives the Retirement Board authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the health care plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for postemployment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2016, and June 30, 2015, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to postemployment health care. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, 1 percent of covered payroll was allocated to postemployment health care. The School District's contribution for health care for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2016, 2015, and 2014 were \$0, \$0, and \$56,984 respectively. The full amount has been contributed for all three fiscal years.

**Note 15 - Other Employee Benefits**

**A. Compensated Absences**

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Classified employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Accumulated unused vacation time is paid to classified employees and administrators upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at a rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of two hundred twenty-five days for all employees other than the superintendent which is a maximum of two hundred twenty days. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fourth of accrued but unused sick leave to a maximum of forty-five or fifty-six and one-fourth days for all employees depending on their classification.

**B. Health Care Benefits**

The School District provides medical, dental, and vision insurance to all employees through the Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund. The School District offers life insurance to all employees through American United Life Insurance. Depending upon the plan chosen, the employees share the cost of monthly premium with the Board. The premium varies with employee depending on the terms of the union contract.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
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For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 16 - Long-Term Obligations**

Changes in the School District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2016 were as follows:

	Balance at 6/30/15	Additions	Reductions	Balance at 6/30/16	Amounts Due Within One Year
General Obligation Bonds					
1998 School Improvement Refunding					
Capital Appreciation Bonds	\$63,395	\$0	\$34,228	\$29,167	\$29,167
Accretion on Capital Appreciation Bonds	924,702	115,356	535,772	504,286	0
FY 2010 School Improvement Refunding					
Term Bonds 3.65% - 4.00%	1,570,000	0	0	1,570,000	0
Premium	48,032	0	0	48,032	0
Total General Obligation Bonds	<u>2,606,129</u>	<u>115,356</u>	<u>570,000</u>	<u>2,151,485</u>	<u>29,167</u>
Net Pension Liability					
SERS	2,467,564	541,643	0	3,009,207	0
STRS	13,509,863	1,708,852	0	15,218,715	0
Total Net Pension Liability	<u>15,977,427</u>	<u>2,250,495</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>18,227,922</u>	<u>0</u>
Compensated Absences Payable	700,409	78,228	4,487	774,150	58,572
Total Governmental Activities Long-Term Liabilities	<u>\$19,283,965</u>	<u>\$2,444,079</u>	<u>\$574,487</u>	<u>\$21,153,557</u>	<u>\$87,739</u>

**FY 1998 School Improvement Refunding Bonds** - On April 1, 1998, the School District issued \$7,303,427 in voted general obligation bonds to pay notes, in the amount of \$700,000, and to refund bonds previously issued in 1994, in the amount of \$6,604,053, for constructing, furnishing, and equipping a new high school and improvements to other School District buildings. The refunding bond issue included serial, term, and capital appreciation bonds, in the original amount of \$5,290,000, \$1,575,000, and \$438,427, respectively. The bonds were issued for a twenty-two year period, with final maturity during fiscal year 2020.

The capital appreciation bonds are not subject to prior redemption. The capital appreciation bonds mature in fiscal years 2010 through 2017. The maturity amount of the bonds is \$4,560,000. For fiscal year 2016, \$115,356 was accreted and \$570,000 was paid on the capital appreciation bonds for a total outstanding bond value of \$533,453 at fiscal year end.

The refunded bonds have been fully retired.

**FY 2010 School Improvement Refunding Bonds** - On December 16, 2009, the School District issued bonds, in the amount of \$1,570,000, to partially refund bonds previously issued in 1998 for constructing, furnishing, and equipping a new high school and improvements to other School District buildings. The refunding bond issue consists of term bonds, in the amount of \$1,570,000. The bonds were issued for a ten year period, with final maturity during fiscal year 2020.



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**Note 16 - Long-Term Obligations** (continued)

The School District pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service. For additional information related to the net pension liability, see Note 13 to the basic financial statements.

Compensated absences will be paid from the General Fund.

The School District's overall debt margin was \$14,652,681 with an unvoted debt margin of \$174,128 at June 30, 2016.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2016, were as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	General Obligations Bonds			Total
	Term	Capital	Interest	
2017	\$0	\$29,167	\$600,725	\$629,892
2018	525,000	0	49,393	574,393
2019	545,000	0	28,946	573,946
2020	500,000	0	9,500	509,500
	<u>\$1,570,000</u>	<u>\$29,167</u>	<u>\$688,564</u>	<u>\$2,287,731</u>

**Note 17 - Fund Balance**

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in governmental funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

Fund Balance	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental	Total Governmental Funds
Nonspendable for:				
Materials and Supplies Inventory	\$4,877	\$0	\$1,578	\$6,455
Prepaid Items	9,181	0	215	9,396
Total Nonspendable	<u>14,058</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,793</u>	<u>15,851</u>
Restricted for:				
Athletics and Music	0	0	54,413	54,413
Debt Retirement	0	580,305	0	580,305
Food Service Operations	0	0	5,154	5,154
Inventory Held for Resale	0	0	6,027	6,027
Regular Instruction	0	0	19,373	19,373
Vocational Instruction	0	0	499	499
Total Restricted	<u>0</u>	<u>580,305</u>	<u>85,466</u>	<u>665,771</u>

(continued)

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016

**Note 17 - Fund Balance** (continued)

Fund Balance	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental	Total Governmental Funds
Committed for:				
Permanent Improvements	\$349,180	\$0	\$10,618	\$359,798
Future Severance Payments	52,291	0	0	52,291
Total Committed	401,471	0	10,618	412,089
Assigned for:				
Extracurricular Activities	32,843	0	0	32,843
Permanent Improvements	0	0	1,188,679	1,188,679
Projected Budget Shortage	243,428	0	0	243,428
Unpaid Obligations	574,523	0	0	574,523
Total Assigned	850,794	0	1,188,679	2,039,473
Unassigned	6,120,162	0	0	6,120,162
Total Fund Balance	\$7,386,485	\$580,305	\$1,286,556	\$9,253,346

**Note 18 - Set Asides**

The School District is required by State statute to annually set aside, in the General Fund, an amount based on a statutory formula for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. The amount not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the fiscal year must be held in cash at fiscal year end. This amount must be carried forward and used for the same purpose in future years.

The following cash basis information identifies the change in the fund balance reserve for capital improvements during fiscal year 2016.

	Capital Improvements
Balance June 30, 2015	\$0
Current Year Set Aside Requirement	231,396
Current Year Offsets	(231,396)
Reserve Balance June 30, 2016	\$0

**Note 19 - Interfund Transfers**

During fiscal year 2016, the General Fund made transfers to other governmental funds, in the amount of \$492,952, to subsidize permanent improvements and operations of other governmental funds.

**Note 20 - Jointly Governed Organizations**

**A. Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative**

The School District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (NOACSC), which is a computer consortium. NOACSC is an association of public school districts within the boundaries of Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Seneca, Van Wert, Wood, and Wyandot Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member school districts. The governing board of NOACSC consists of two representatives from Hancock, Paulding, Allen, Mercer, Putnam, and Van Wert counties and two at large members. During fiscal year 2016, the School District paid \$60,980 to NOACSC for various services. Financial information can be obtained from NOACSC, 4277 East Road, Lima, Ohio 45804.

**B. Millstream Career and Technology Center**

The Millstream Career and Technology Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio established under Section 3313.90 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Career Center provides vocational instruction to students. The Career Center operates under the direction of an Advisory Council consisting of the superintendent of each participating school district and one additional representative appointed by the Findlay City School District. Financial information can be obtained from the Findlay City School District, 1100 Broad Avenue, Findlay, Ohio 45840-3377.

**C. Hancock County Local Professional Development Committee**

The Hancock County Local Professional Development Committee (HCLPDC) was established in 1999 to plan, promote, and facilitate effective and efficient professional educator license renewal standards and staff development activities. The HCLPDC is organized under Ohio laws as a regional council of governments pursuant to a written agreement entered into by its members. The HCLPDC is governed by a fourteen member Executive Board. Financial information can be obtained from the Hancock County Educational Service Center, who serves as fiscal agent, 7746 County Road 140, Findlay, Ohio 45840.

**D. Northwestern Ohio Educational Research Council, Inc.**

The Northwestern Ohio Educational Research Council, Inc. (NOERC) is a jointly governed organization formed to bring educational entities into a better understanding of their common educational problems, facilitate and conduct practical educational research, coordinate educational research among members, provide a means for evaluating and disseminating the results of research, serve as a repository for research and legislative materials, and provide opportunities for training. The NOERC serves a twenty-five county area in Northwest Ohio. The Board of Directors consists of superintendents from two educational service centers, two exempted village school districts, five local school districts, and five city school districts, as well as representatives from two private or parochial schools and three institutions of higher education. Each active member is entitled to one vote on all issues addressed by the Board of Directors. Financial information can be obtained from the Northwestern Ohio Educational Research Council, Inc., 441 East Market Street, Celina, Ohio, 45822.

**Note 20 - Jointly Governed Organizations** (continued)

**E. Bay Area Council of Governments**

The Bay Area Council of Governments (Council) is a jointly governed organization among school districts which was formed to purchase quality products and services at the lowest possible cost to the participants. The Council is governed by a board consisting of seven superintendents from the participating school districts. The degree of control exercised by any school district is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained from the Bay Area Council of Governments, North Point Educational Service Center, 1210 East Bogart Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870.

The School District participates in the Council's prepaid natural gas program. This program allows the School District to purchase natural gas at reduced rates. The School District makes monthly payments based on estimated usage. Each month the estimates are compared to actual usage and adjustments are made.

**Note 21 - Insurance Pools**

**A. Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority**

The School District participates in the Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority (SORSA), an insurance purchasing pool established under Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. SORSA is an incorporated nonprofit association of its members which enables the participants to provide for a formalized joint insurance purchasing program for maintaining adequate insurance protection and provides risk management programs and other administrative services. SORSA's business and affairs are conducted by a board consisting of superintendents, treasurers, and business managers. Carter Raynes Claims Service, Inc. is responsible for processing claims between SORSA and its members. Financial information can be obtained from SORSA, 8050 North High Street, Suite 160, Columbus, Ohio 43235-6483.

**B. Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund**

The Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of seven local school districts, the Hancock County Educational Service Center, and the Blanchard Valley Board of Developmental Disabilities. The Fund is a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical, dental, and vision insurance benefits to the employees of the participants. Each participant's superintendent is appointed to an Administrative Committee which advises the consultant concerning aspects of the administration of the Fund.

Each participant decides which plans offered by the Administrative Committee will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Fund is by written application subject to acceptance by the Administrative Committee and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information can be obtained from Assured Partners, 285 Cozzins Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

**Note 21 - Insurance Pools** (continued)

**C. Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan**

The School District participates in a group rating plan for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (Plan) was established through the Ohio Association of School Business Officials as an insurance purchasing pool. The Plan's business and affairs are conducted by a five member OASBO Board of Directors. Each year, the participants pay an enrollment fee to the Plan to cover the costs of administering the program.

**Note 22 - Contingencies**

**A. Grants**

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2016.

**B. School Foundation**

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Effective for fiscal year 2015, traditional school districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the School District, which can extend past fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, ODE has not finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2016, foundation funding for the School District, therefore, any financial statement impact is not determinable at this time. ODE and management believe this will result in either a receivable to or a liability of the School District.

**C. Litigation**

There are currently no matters in litigation with the School District as defendant.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Three Fiscal Years (1)

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.05273670%	0.04875700%	0.04875700%
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$3,009,207	\$2,467,564	\$2,899,422
School District's Covered Employee Payroll	\$1,597,193	\$1,583,924	\$1,594,695
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	188.41%	155.79%	181.82%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	69.16%	71.70%	65.52%

(1) Information prior to 2013 is not available.

Amounts presented as of the School District's measurement date which is prior fiscal year end.

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability  
 School Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Three Fiscal Years (1)

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.05506630%	0.05554252%	0.05554252%
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$15,218,715	\$13,509,863	\$16,092,861
School District's Covered Employee Payroll	\$5,766,814	\$5,698,431	\$5,411,062
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	263.90%	237.08%	297.41%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	72.10%	74.70%	69.30%

(1) Information prior to 2013 is not available.

Amounts presented as of the School District's measurement date which is prior fiscal year end.

Liberty-Benton Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the School District's Contributions  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$245,877	\$210,510	\$219,532	\$220,706
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(245,877)</u>	<u>(210,510)</u>	<u>(219,532)</u>	<u>(220,706)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>	<u><u>\$0</u></u>
School District Covered Employee Payroll	\$1,756,264	\$1,597,193	\$1,583,924	\$1,594,695
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	14.00%	13.18%	13.86%	13.84%



<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
\$215,183	\$187,292	\$199,335	\$148,612	\$145,340	\$137,697
<u>(215,183)</u>	<u>(187,292)</u>	<u>(199,335)</u>	<u>(148,612)</u>	<u>(145,340)</u>	<u>(137,697)</u>
<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
\$1,599,874	\$1,489,992	\$1,472,191	\$1,510,286	\$1,480,044	\$1,289,298
13.45%	12.57%	13.54%	9.84%	9.82%	10.68%

Liberty-Benton Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the School District's Contributions  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$795,106	\$807,354	\$740,796	\$703,438
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(795,106)</u>	<u>(807,354)</u>	<u>(740,796)</u>	<u>(703,438)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
School District Covered Employee Payroll	\$5,679,329	\$5,766,814	\$5,698,431	\$5,411,062
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	13.00%	13.00%

<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
\$691,668	\$684,992	\$678,285	\$695,306	\$647,400	\$628,848
<u>(691,668)</u>	<u>(684,992)</u>	<u>(678,285)</u>	<u>(695,306)</u>	<u>(647,400)</u>	<u>(628,848)</u>
<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
\$5,320,523	\$5,269,169	\$5,217,577	\$5,348,508	\$4,980,000	\$4,837,292
13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%

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# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Liberty-Benton Local School District  
Hancock County  
9190 County Road 9  
Findlay, Ohio 45840

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Liberty-Benton Local School District, Hancock County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 11, 2017.

### ***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the District's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

### ***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District'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, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

***Purpose of this Report***

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

April 11, 2017



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**LIBERTY BENTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**HANCOCK 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 4, 2017**