



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

**FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND
CUYAHOGA COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2022**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Flex High School of Cleveland
Cuyahoga County
5222 Wilson Mills Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Flex High School of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Flex High School of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio as of June 30, 2022, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 13 to the financial statements, the School's enrollment was not sufficient to sustain the cash needed to run the School and they have a net deficiency. Note 13 also describes management's evaluation of the events and conditions and their plans to mitigate these matters. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter. Additionally, as discussed in Note 16 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the School. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and schedules of net pension and other post-employment benefit liabilities and pension and other post-employment benefit contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 16, 2023, on our consideration of the School'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. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's 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 School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 16, 2023

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FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND – CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

The discussion and analysis of Flex High School of Cleveland (the “School”) financial performance provides an overall review of the School’s financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School’s’ financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School’s financial performance.

The Management’s Discussion and Analysis (the MD&A) is an element of the reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments. Certain comparative information between the current fiscal year and the prior fiscal year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key Financial Highlights for the School for the 2021-22 school year are as follows:

- Total Assets decreased \$72,547.
- Total Liabilities increased \$612,968.
- Total Net Position decreased \$525,784.
- Total Operating and Non-Operating revenues were \$813,795. Total Operating and Non-Operating expenses were \$1,339,579.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This report consists of three parts: the required supplemental information, the basic financial statements, and notes to those statements. The basic financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Position reflect how the School did financially during fiscal year 2022. These statements include all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting includes all of the current year revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These statements report the School’s net position and changes in that position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader whether the financial position of the School has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the School’s’ student enrollment, per-pupil funding as determined by the State of Ohio, change in technology, required educational programs and other factors.

The School uses enterprise presentation for all of its activities.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND – CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

Statement of Net Position - The Statement of Net Position answers the question of how the School did financially during 2022. This statement includes all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resource focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

Table 1 provides a summary of the School’s Net Position for fiscal year 2022 compared to fiscal year 2021.

Table 1
Statement of Net Position

	<u>2022</u>	<u>Restated 2021</u>
Assets		
Current Assets	\$ 120,145	\$ 35,305
Non-Current Assets	<u>1,678,555</u>	<u>1,835,942</u>
Total Assets	<u>1,798,700</u>	<u>1,871,247</u>
 Deferred Outflows of Resources	 <u>387,001</u>	 <u>26,760</u>
 Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	457,049	874,590
Non-Current Liabilities	<u>2,734,483</u>	<u>1,703,974</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>3,191,532</u>	<u>2,578,564</u>
 Deferred Inflows of Resources	 <u>200,510</u>	 <u>-</u>
 Net Position		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	171,792	274,768
Unrestricted	<u>(1,378,133)</u>	<u>(955,325)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ (1,206,341)</u>	<u>\$ (680,557)</u>

Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government’s financial position. At June 30, 2022, the School’s net position totaled \$(1,206,341).

Current assets increased due to increases in cash from operations. Non-current assets decreased due to depreciation expense exceed current year additions of capital assets offset by increases in net OPEB assets. Deferred outflows/inflows or resources and noncurrent liabilities due to changes in accruals related to GASB 68/75 due to the school being open during a measurement period.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND – CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

The School has adopted GASB Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27," and GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB and net OPEB asset.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability* or *net OPEB asset/liability*. GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB asset/liability to equal the School's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

1. Present value of estimated future pension/OPEB benefits attributable to active and inactive employees' past service
2. Minus plan assets available to pay these benefits

GASB notes that pension and OPEB 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 and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this 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 is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. 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 Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

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 retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *as 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 retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND – CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e. sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability or the net OPEB asset/liability. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities, but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required 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 and the net OPEB liability are satisfied, these liabilities are separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the School’s statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan’s *change* in net pension liability and net OPEB asset/liability, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

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FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND – CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position - Table 2 shows the change in Net Position for fiscal years 2022 and 2021 as well as a listing of revenues and expenses. This change in Net Position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School as a whole, the financial position of the School has improved or diminished. The cause of this may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the current laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

**Table 2
Change in Net Position**

	2022	2021
Operating Revenues		
State Aid	\$ 802,785	\$ 214,261
Total Operating Revenues	<u>802,785</u>	<u>214,261</u>
Operating Expenses		
Salaries	331,126	190,287
Fringe Benefits	131,268	58,666
Purchased Services	489,734	497,350
Supplies	69,728	59,493
Depreciation	188,621	79,091
Other	21,434	38,136
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,231,911</u>	<u>923,023</u>
Operating (Loss)	(429,126)	(708,762)
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)		
Federal and State Grants	11,010	40,171
Interest Expense	(107,668)	(11,966)
Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>(96,658)</u>	<u>28,205</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$ (525,784)</u>	<u>\$ (680,557)</u>

As noted, previously fringe benefits increased based on changes in accruals related to GASB 68/75 due to the School being opened during a measurement period, in addition to operating revenues and remaining expenses increasing based on increased enrollment for the Schools second year of operations.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND – CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

CAPITAL ASSETS

At fiscal year end, the School's net capital asset balance was \$1,652,911. This balance represents \$5,589 of current year additions offset by current year depreciation of \$188,621. For more information on capital assets, see Note 4 of the Basic Financial Statements.

LONG TERM OBLIGATIONS

As of June 30, 2022, the School had \$1,481,119 in long term obligations related to the lease obligations of the building. For more information on long term obligations see Note 11 to the Financial Statements.

The School also had \$965,000 in notes payable due to Lifelong Learning Administration Corporation. For more information on notes payable see Note 14 to the Financial Statements.

In addition, the School had a loan payable with Flex High School of \$222,854 at fiscal year end. For more information on the loan payable see Note 15 to the Financial Statements.

CURRENT FINANCIAL ISSUES

The School is a community School and is funded through the State of Ohio Foundation Program. The School relies on this, as well as, State and Federal funds as its primary source of revenue. In 2022, the State replaced the existing funding formula with a new formula that was implemented in January 2022 as a result of changes in Ohio law under the passage of HB110. Under the new formula, community schools are funded directly with no deductions or transfers from the student's district of residence. The funding calculation for community schools uses several concepts and formulas, some of which also apply to traditional school districts. These primarily include Base Cost, Special Education, Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid, English Learners and Career Technical Education. Combined, these elements make up the Core Foundation Funding and the change in calculated amounts compared to the funding received in Fiscal Year 2020 are being phased-in at 16.67% in Fiscal Year 2022. The phase-in amount will increase to 33.33% in Fiscal Year 2023. Another key provision of HB 110 provided a guarantee that no school would receive less per pupil in Fiscal Year 2022 than it did in Fiscal Year 2021 as a result of implementing this formula change. Additionally, facility related funding was increased from \$250 per pupil to \$500 per pupil in Fiscal Year 2022 and is expected to remain at this level in Fiscal Year 2023.

The full-time equivalent enrollment of the School for the year ended June 30, 2022 was 73 compared to 24 in fiscal year 2021.

Overall, the School will continue to provide learning opportunities and apply resources to best meet the needs of students.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School's finances and to demonstrate accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information contact the School's Fiscal Officer, C. David Massa, CPA, of Massa Financial Solutions, LLC, 5222 Wilson Mills Road, Richmond Heights, OH 44143.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND - CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2022

Assets:

Current Assets:

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	107,753
Intergovernmental Receivable		1,161
Other Assets		11,231
Total Current Assets		120,145

Noncurrent Assets:

Net OPEB Asset		25,644
Capital Assets, net of Accumulated Depreciation		1,652,911
Total Non-Current Assets		1,678,555

Total Assets 1,798,700

Deferred Outflows of Resources:

Pension (STRS & SERS)		348,835
OPEB (STRS & SERS)		38,166
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources		387,001

Liabilities:

Current Liabilities:

Accounts Payable		174,877
Management Fees Payable		41,390
Accrued Expenses		82,025
Withholding Payable		2,629
Current Portion of Long Term Debt		156,128
Total Current Liabilities		457,049

Noncurrent Liabilities:

Non Current Portion of Long Term Debt		2,512,845
Net Pension Liability		198,775
Net OPEB Liability		22,863
Total Noncurrent Liabilities		2,734,483

Total Liabilities 3,191,532

Deferred Inflows of Resources:

Pension (STRS & SERS)		158,397
OPEB (STRS & SERS)		42,113
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		200,510

Net Position:

Invested in Capital Assets		171,792
Unrestricted Net Position		(1,378,133)
Total Net Position		\$ (1,206,341)

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND - CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

Operating Revenues:	
State Aid	\$ 802,785
Total Operating Revenues	<u>802,785</u>
 Operating Expenses:	
Salaries	331,126
Fringe Benefits	131,268
Purchased Services	489,734
Depreciation	188,621
Supplies	69,728
Other Operating Expenses	21,434
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,231,911</u>
 Operating Income (Loss)	 (429,126)
 Non-Operating Revenues and (Expenses):	
Federal and State Restricted Grants	11,010
Loan Interest Expense	(51,968)
Lease Interest Expense	(55,700)
Net Non-operating Revenues and (Expenses)	<u>(96,658)</u>
 Change in Net Position	 (525,784)
 Net Position - Beginning of Year	 (680,557)
Net Position - End of Year	<u>\$ (1,206,341)</u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND - CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

State Aid Receipts	\$	802,785
Cash Payments to Employees for Services Provided		(331,126)
Cash Payments for Employee Benefits		(95,005)
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services		(335,910)
Net Cash Provided By (Used For) Operating Activities		40,744

CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Loan Principal Payments		(73,600)
Loan Interest Payments		(51,968)
Proceeds from Advances		300,000
Federal and State Grant Receipts		9,847
Net Cash Provided By Noncapital Financing Activities		184,279

CASH FLOWS FOR CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Lease Interest Payments		(55,700)
Lease Principal Payments		(80,055)
Purchase of Assets		(5,589)
Net Cash Used For Capital and Related Financing Activities		(141,344)

Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents

83,679

Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of the Year

24,074

Cash and Cash Equivalents - Ending of the Year

\$ 107,753

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND - CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022
(Continued)

Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided By (Used For) Operating Activities	
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (429,126)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided By (Used For) Operating Activities:	
Depreciation	188,621
Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Deferred Inflows and Outflows:	
Increase/(Decrease) in Management Fee Payable	26,568
(Increase)/ Decrease in Net OPEB Asset	(25,644)
(Increase)/ Decrease in Deferred Outflows Pension	(322,847)
(Increase)/ Decrease in Deferred Outflows OPEB	(37,394)
Increase/ (Decrease) in Net Pension Liability	198,775
Increase/ (Decrease) in Net OPEB Liability	22,863
Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable, Trade	145,433
Increase/(Decrease) in Accrued Expenses	70,356
Increase/(Decrease) in Withholding Payable	2,629
Increase/ (Decrease) in Deferred Inflows Pension	158,397
Increase/ (Decrease) in Deferred Inflows OPEB	42,113
Net Cash Provided By (Used For) Operating Activities	<u>\$ 40,744</u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY

Flex High School of Cleveland (the School) is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702. The School's mission is to improve the lives of its students by providing authentic learning experiences in a collaborative, nurturing environment that will build a foundation for student's success in school, at future work and in life. The School operates on a foundation, which fosters character building for all students, parents and staff members. The School, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school district and is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The School may acquire facilities as needed and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the School.

The School was approved for operation under a contract with Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (the Sponsor) for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2020. The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of the School and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration or terminate the contract prior to its expiration.

The School operates under the direction of a Board of Directors (the Board). The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract which include, but are not limited to, state mandated provisions regarding student populations, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admissions standards, and qualifications of teachers. The Board controls the School's instructional and administrative staff.

The School contracts with Lifelong Learning Administration Corporation for management services including management of personnel and human resources, the program of instruction, marketing data management, purchasing, strategic planning, public relation, financial reporting, recruiting, compliance issues, budgets, contracts, and equipment and facilities.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Basis of Presentation - The School's basic financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Change in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows. Enterprise fund reporting focuses on the determination of the changes in net position, financial position and cash flows.

The Government Accounting Standards Board identifies the presentation of all financial activity to be reported within one enterprise fund for year-ending reporting purposes. Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprise where the intent is that the cost (expense) of providing goods and services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting - The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. Under this measurement focus, all assets, all deferred outflows of resources, all liabilities, and all deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total Net Position.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. The accrual basis of accounting is used for reporting purposes. Revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

Budgetary Process - Community schools are statutorily required to adopt a budget by Ohio Revised Code 3314.032(C). However, unlike traditional public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the specific budgetary process and limits set forth in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided in the contract between the School and its Sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor does not require the School to follow the provisions Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705; therefore, no budgetary information is presented in the basic financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents - Cash received by the School is reflected as “Cash and Cash Equivalents” on the Statement of Net Position. The School did not have any investments during the period ended June 30, 2022.

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 these estimates.

Capital Assets and Depreciation - Capital assets are capitalized at cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The costs of additions are capitalized and expenditures for repairs and maintenance are expensed when incurred. When property is sold or retired, the related costs and accumulated depreciation are removed from the financial records and any gain or loss is included in additions to or deductions from net position. Capital assets were \$1,652,911, as of June 30, 2022, net of accumulated depreciation. Depreciation of capital assets is calculated utilizing the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets which are as follows:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Useful Life</u>
Computers & Software	3 years
Furniture & Equipment	5 years
Leasehold Improvements	10 years
Leased Buildings	40 years or life of lease

The School’s policy for asset capitalization threshold is \$5,000. Assets or certain asset groups not meeting the capitalization threshold are not capitalized and are not included in the assets represented in the accompanying statement of net position.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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The School is reporting an intangible right to use assets related to leased buildings, structures, and improvements. These intangible assets are being amortized in a systematic and rational manner over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset.

Intergovernmental Revenues - The School currently participates in the State Foundation Program. Revenues received from this program are recognized as operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Grants and entitlements are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which eligibility requirements have been met.

Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

The School also participates in various federal programs passed through the Ohio Department of Education.

Under the above programs the School recorded \$802,785 this fiscal year from the State Foundation Program and Casino Tax Revenues and \$11,010 from Federal and State Grants.

Compensated Absences - Vacation is taken in a manner which corresponds with the School calendar; therefore, the School does not accrue vacation time as a liability.

Sick/personal leave benefits are earned by full-time employees at the rate of thirteen days per year and cannot be carried into the subsequent years. No accrual for sick time is made since unused time is not paid to employees upon employment termination.

Accrued Liabilities - Obligations incurred but unpaid at June 30 are reported as accrued liabilities in the accompanying financial statements. These liabilities consisted of Accounts Payable, Management Fees Payable, Advances Payable, Current Portion of Long Term Debt and Accrued Expenses and totaled \$457,049 at June 30, 2022.

Exchange and Non-Exchange 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. Non-exchange transactions, in which the School receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. 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 year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditures requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Net Position - Net position represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restriction imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. The School applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available. Net position invested in capital assets consist of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Operating Revenues and Expenses - Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities of the School. For the School, these revenues are primarily the State Foundation program. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the School. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

Deferred Inflows and Deferred Outflows of Resources - In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for 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 then. For the Academy, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the government-wide statement of net position for pension and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Note 6 and 7.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for 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 Academy, deferred inflows of resources include pension and OPEB. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are reported on the government-wide statement of net position. (See Note 6 and 7)

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

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

NOTE 3 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The following information classifies deposits by category of risk as defined in GASB Statement No.3 “Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments (including Repurchase Agreements) and Reverse Repurchase Agreements,” as amended by GASB Statement No.40, “Deposit, and Investment Risk Disclosures”.

The School maintains its cash balances at one financial institution, Huntington Bank in Ohio. The balances are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000, per qualifying account. At June 30, 2022, the book amount of the School’s deposits was \$107,753 and the bank balance was \$107,950.

The School had no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirement of state statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the School 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 to secure repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value shall be at least 105% of deposits being secured. At June 30, 2022, none of the bank balance was exposed to custodial credit risk.

NOTE 4 - CAPITAL ASSETS

For the period ending June 30, 2022, the School’s capital assets consisted of the following:

	Restated Balance 6/30/2021	Additions	Deletions	Balance 06/30/22
Capital Assets:				
Furniture & Equipment	\$ 109,342	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 109,342
Computers & Software	62,394	5,589	-	67,983
Leased Building	1,561,174	-	-	1,561,174
Leasehold Improvements	<u>182,123</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>182,123</u>
Total Capital Assets	<u>1,915,033</u>	<u>5,589</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,920,622</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Furniture & Equipment	(21,868)	(21,868)	-	(43,736)
Computers & Software	(20,797)	(22,661)	-	(43,458)
Leased Building	-	(107,667)	-	(107,667)
Leasehold Improvements	<u>(36,425)</u>	<u>(36,425)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(72,850)</u>
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(79,090)</u>	<u>(188,621)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(267,711)</u>
Total Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$ 1,835,943</u>	<u>\$ (183,032)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,652,911</u>

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

NOTE 5 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Property & Liability - The School 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 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, the School contracted with Cincinnati Insurance Company for nonprofits and maintained general liability insurance with a \$1,000,000 single occurrence limit and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate. Settled claims have not exceeded this coverage in the past two years, nor has there been any significant reduction in insurance coverage during the year.

Workers' Compensation - The School pays the State Worker's Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

Employee Medical and Dental Benefits - The School provides medical, vision, and dental insurance benefits through United Healthcare to all full-time employees. During the school year, the School paid 80% of the monthly premiums for all employees.

NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

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 already have occurred.

The net pension liability represents the School'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.

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

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GASB 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 these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 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 year is included in *accounts payable* on the accrual basis of accounting.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description –School non-teaching 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. That report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

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 60 with 5 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or 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; or 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 30. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. The COLA is indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0.0%.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The Retirement Board approved a 0.5% COLA for calendar year 2021.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School 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, 2022, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was the entire 14.0 percent.

The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$11,297 for fiscal year 2022.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description – School licensed teachers and other 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 stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information, and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS Web site at www.strsoh.org.

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan, and a Combined Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DB plan 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. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60. Eligibility changes for DB plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2023 when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years or service credit at any age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.47 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 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12.0 of the 14.0 percent member rates goes to the DC Plan and the remaining 2.0 percent goes to the DB plan. Member contributions to the DC plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of services. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity after termination of employment at age 50 or later.

New members who choose the DC plan or Combined Plan 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 Combined Plan 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 in the GASB 68 schedules of employer allocation and pension amounts by employer.

A DB or Combined Plan 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 DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

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, 2022, plan members were required to contribute 14 percent of their annual covered salary. The School was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2022 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School's contractually required contributions to STRS was \$32,435 for fiscal year 2022.

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

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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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	0.0000000%	0.000000000%	
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability Current Measurement Date	<u>0.0011725%</u>	<u>0.001216278%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.0011725%</u>	<u>0.001216278%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	43,262	155,513	198,775
Pension Expense	26,659	51,398	78,057

Deferred outflows/inflows of resources represent the effect of changes in the net pension liability due to the difference between projected and actual investment earnings, differences between expected and actual actuarial experience, changes in assumptions and changes in the School’s proportion of the collective net pension liability. The deferred outflows and deferred inflows are to be included in pension expense over current and future periods. The difference between projected and actual investment earnings is recognized in pension expense using a straight line method over a five year period beginning in the current year. Deferred outflows and deferred inflows resulting from changes in sources other than differences between projected and actual investment earnings are amortized over the average expected remaining service lives of all members (both active and inactive) using the straight line method. Employer contributions to the pension plan subsequent to the measurement date are also required to be reported as a deferred outflow of resources.

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At June 30, 2022, the School 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>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 4	\$ 4,804	\$ 4,808
Changes of assumptions	911	43,142	44,053
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate share of contributions	44,067	212,175	256,242
School contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>11,297</u>	<u>32,435</u>	<u>43,732</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 56,279</u>	<u>\$ 292,556</u>	<u>\$ 348,835</u>

Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 1,122	\$ 975	\$ 2,097
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	22,280	134,020	156,300
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate			
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 23,402</u>	<u>\$ 134,995</u>	<u>\$ 158,397</u>

\$43,732 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2023. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	\$ 22,230	\$ 31,104	\$ 53,334
2024	11,485	34,567	46,052
2025	(5,296)	32,977	27,681
2026	<u>(6,839)</u>	<u>26,478</u>	<u>19,639</u>
Total	<u>\$ 21,580</u>	<u>\$ 125,126</u>	<u>\$ 146,706</u>

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67 as part of their 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.

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2021, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.0 percent, on and after April 1, 2018, COLA's for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of System expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disable members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The most recent experience study was completed June 30, 2020.

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 a weighted averaged of the expected

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates 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	2.00 %	(0.33) %
US Equity	24.75	5.72
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.55
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.54
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.14
Private Equity	11.00	10.03
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	5.41
Multi-Asset Strategies	4.00	3.47
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.28
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 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 earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00 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.

Sensitivity of the School'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 7.00 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 (6.00 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School's proportionate share of the net pension liability	71,977	43,262	19,045

Changes since measurement date Effective July 1, 2022 SERS made the following changes: Retiree Health Care – changes to monthly premium deductions associated with retiree health insurance and income related Medicare Parts B & D reimbursements. Cost-of-living adjustments – Changes to the cost-of-living adjustments made to retirees’ pensions. Normal Retirement Age – changes to the “Normal Retirement Age’ for members of Tiers II and IIA.

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Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the July 1, 2021, actuarial valuation.

Inflation	2.50 percent
Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent
Payroll Increases	3 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	0.0 percent

Post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2021 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

STRS Ohio’s investment consultant develops an estimate range 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:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return *</u>
Domestic Equity	28.00 %	7.35 %
International Equity	23.00	7.55
Alternatives	17.00	7.09
Fixed Income	21.00	3.00
Real Estate	10.00	6.00
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	2.25
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

* 10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio’s investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2021. 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. Based on those assumptions, STRS’ fiduciary

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net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2021. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2021.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate The following table presents the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.00 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School's proportionate share of the net pension liability	291,216	155,513	40,843

Changes since measurement date In March 2022, the board eliminated the age 60 requirement for retirement age and service eligibility that was set to take effect in 2026. The final change to the phased-in age and service requirements will be made Aug. 1, 2023, when 35 years of service will be required for an unreduced retirement.

NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset reported on the statement of net position represents a liability or asset to employees for OPEB. OPEB is a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. OPEB 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 OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset represent the School’s proportionate share of each OPEB plan’s collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position. The net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset calculations are 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 these estimates annually.

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

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GASB 75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net OPEB liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required OPEB contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *accounts payable* on the accrual basis of accounting.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at 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. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. The SERS Retirement Board established the rules for the premiums paid by the retirees for health care coverage for themselves and their dependents or for their surviving beneficiaries. Premiums vary depending on the plan selected, 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 pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2022, there was no contribution made to health care. A health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2022, this amount was \$23,000. Statutes provide that no

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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.

The surcharge, is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$1,294 for fiscal year 2022.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians’ fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary 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 post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Asset, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

The net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset were measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total OPEB liability and asset used to calculate the net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset were determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's proportion of the net OPEB liability and net OPEB asset were based on the School's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/asset Prior Measurement Date	0.0000000%	0.0000000%	
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/asset Current Measurement Date	<u>0.0012080%</u>	<u>0.00121628%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.0012080%</u>	<u>0.00121628%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(asset)	\$ 22,863	\$ (25,644)	\$ (2,781)
OPEB Expense	\$ 4,932	\$ (1,700)	\$ 3,232

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At June 30, 2022, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 244	\$ 911	\$ 1,155
Changes of assumptions	3,586	1,637	5,223
Changes in proportion and differences between contributions and proportionate share of contributions	29,882	612	30,494
School contributions subsequent to the measurement date	1,294	-	1,294
	<u>1,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,294</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 35,006</u>	<u>\$ 3,160</u>	<u>\$ 38,166</u>

Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 11,385	\$ 4,696	\$ 16,081
Changes of assumptions	3,130	15,299	18,429
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	494	7,109	7,603
	<u>494</u>	<u>7,109</u>	<u>7,603</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 15,009</u>	<u>\$ 27,104</u>	<u>\$ 42,113</u>

\$1,294 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2023. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	\$ 2,838	\$ (6,914)	\$ (4,076)
2024	2,835	(6,743)	(3,908)
2025	2,862	(6,624)	(3,762)
2026	3,267	(2,883)	384
2027	4,315	(908)	3,407
Thereafter	2,586	128	2,714
	<u>2,586</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>2,714</u>
Total	<u>\$ 18,703</u>	<u>\$ (23,944)</u>	<u>\$ (5,241)</u>

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Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

The total OPEB liability is determined by SERS’ actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each 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 terminations). 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.

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2021, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investments expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	1.92 percent
Prior Measurement Date	2.45 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	
Measurement Date	2.27 percent
Prior Measurement Date	2.63 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	
Measurement Date	
Medicare	5.125 to 4.400 percent
Pre-Medicare	6.750 to 4.400 percent
Prior Measurement Date	
Medicare	5.25 to 4.75 percent
Pre-Medicare	7.00 to 4.75 percent

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Base Mortality: Healthy Retirees - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Disabled Retirees - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Contingent Survivors - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females. Actives - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five-year period ended June 30, 2020.

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2015 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board in 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2020 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.33) %
US Equity	24.75	5.72
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.55
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.54
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.14
Private Equity	11.00	10.03
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	5.41
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.47
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.28
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2021 was 2.27 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2021 was 2.63 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the state statute contribution rate of 1.50 percent of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no contributions from

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the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. . The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination for the SEIR for both the June 30, 2020 and the June 30, 2021 total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index rate is 1.92% at June 30, 2021 and 2.45% at June 30, 2020.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (1.27%) and higher (3.27%) than the current discount rate (2.27%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (1.27%)	Current Discount Rate (2.27%)	1% Increase (3.27%)
School's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 28,329	\$ 22,863	\$ 18,495

	1% Decrease (5.75 % decreasing to 3.40%)	Current Trend Rate (6.75 % decreasing to 4.40%)	1% Increase (7.75 % decreasing to 5.40%)
School's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 17,602	\$ 22,863	\$ 29,888

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation is presented below:

Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65	
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll Increases	3 percent	
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	0 percent	
Inflation	2.50 percent	
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	
Health Care Cost Trends	Initial	Ultimate
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	4.93 percent	4.00 percent
Medicare	-16.18 percent	4.00 percent
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	6.33 percent	4.00 percent
Medicare	29.98 percent	4.00 percent

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Projections of benefits include the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and retired plan members.

For healthy retirees the mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021 valuation is based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

STRS' investment consultant develops an estimate range 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:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Rate of Return *</u>
Domestic Equity	28.00 %	7.35 %
International Equity	23.00	7.55
Alternatives	17.00	7.09
Fixed Income	21.00	3.00
Real Estate	10.00	6.00
Liquidity Reserves	<u>1.00</u>	2.25
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

* 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actual rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2021. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.00 percent was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2021.

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Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2021, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	<u>1% Decrease (6.00%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.00%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.00%)</u>
School's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 21,640	\$ 25,644	\$ 28,989

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 28,854	\$ 25,644	\$ 21,675

Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date

In February 2022, the Board approved changes to the demographic measures that will impact the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation. The effect on the net OPEB liability is unknown.

NOTE 8 - CONTINGENCIES

Grants - The School received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of the School, any such adjustments will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the School.

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

Full-Time Equivalency - School foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. However, there is an important nexus between attendance and enrollment for Foundation funding purposes. Community schools must provide documentation that clearly demonstrates students have participated in learning opportunities. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end.

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Under Ohio Rev. Code Section 3314.08, ODE may also perform a FTE Review subsequent to the fiscal year end that may result in an additional adjustment to the enrollment information as well as claw backs of Foundation funding due to a lack of evidence to support student participation and other matters of noncompliance. ODE did not perform such a review on the School for fiscal year 2022.

As of the date of this report, additional ODE adjustments for fiscal year 2022 have been finalized. This resulted in an additional \$1,161 being owed to the School. The School's contract with their Sponsor and Management Company have been adjusted accordingly.

NOTE 9 - SPONSOR CONTRACT

The School contracted with Buckeye Community Hope Foundation as its sponsor and for oversight services as required by law. Sponsorship fees are calculated as a three percent of state funds received by the School from the State of Ohio. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the total sponsorship fees paid totaled \$22,644.

NOTE 10 - PURCHASED SERVICES

For the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, the School made the following purchased services commitments.

<u>Purchased Services</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Professional Services	\$ 301,270
Property Services	54,875
Utilities	12,074
Travel & Meetings	22,882
Communications	52,206
Contractual Trade	8,177
Pupil Transportation	38,250
Total	<u>\$ 489,734</u>

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NOTE 11 – LONG TERM LEASE OBLIGATIONS

Effective July 1, 2020, the School signed a lease with Hilltop Plaza, LLC for a term of five years with the option to renew for an additional two five year periods, and is set to expire on June 30, 2035. Rent during the first and second option period shall be at Fair Market Value, which will be determined by the landlord and the tenant at the time the tenant exercises its option, and are expected to be executed by the School. Under the lease agreement, the Academy is responsible for paying all utilities, interior repairs and maintenance, and applicable property taxes. The School has outstanding agreements to the building [space]. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement 87, these leases have met the criteria of leases thus requiring them to be recorded by the School. The future lease payments were discounted based on the interest rate implicit in the lease or using the School’s incremental borrowing rate. This discount is being amortized over the life of the lease. Accumulated depreciation on the leased building totaled \$107,667, leaving a net book value of \$1,453,507. The table below discloses the current year activity on the lease obligation.

	Balance 6/30/2021	Additions	Reductions	Balance 6/30/2022	Due Within the Year
Direct Borrowing:					
Leased Building	\$ 1,561,174	\$ -	\$ (80,055)	\$ 1,481,119	\$ 79,947
Total Direct Borrowing	<u>1,561,174</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(80,055)</u>	<u>1,481,119</u>	<u>79,947</u>
Total Long-Term Obligations	<u>\$ 1,561,174</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (80,055)</u>	<u>\$ 1,481,119</u>	<u>\$ 79,947</u>

A summary of the principal and interest amounts for the remaining leases is as follows:

Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2023	\$ 79,947	\$ 57,800	\$ 137,747
2024	85,294	54,505	139,799
2025	91,260	50,988	142,248
2026	96,088	47,232	143,320
2027	99,657	43,327	142,984
2028 - 2032	562,601	152,322	714,923
2033 - 2035	466,272	34,176	500,448
Total	<u>\$ 1,481,119</u>	<u>\$ 440,350</u>	<u>\$ 1,921,469</u>

NOTE 12 - IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES AND RESTATEMENT OF NET POSITION

Implementation of New Accounting Principles

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the School has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 87, *Leases*, certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 93, *Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates* and certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 97, *Certain Component Unit Criteria, and Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans—an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 84, and a supersession of GASB Statement No. 32.*

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

GASB Statement No. 87 requires recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources or outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. These changes were incorporated in the School's 2022 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position.

GASB Statement No. 93 addresses accounting and financial reporting effects that result from the replacement of interbank offered rates (IBORs) with other reference rates in order to preserve the reliability, relevance, consistency, and comparability of reported information. The implementation of paragraphs 13 and 14 of GASB Statement No. 93 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

GASB Statement No. 97 requirements that are related to a) the accounting and financial reporting for Section 457 plans and 2) determining whether a primary government is financially accountable for a potential component unit were implemented for fiscal year 2022. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 97 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

NOTE 13 - MANAGEMENT PLAN

For fiscal year 2022, the School accumulated a net position deficit of \$(1,154,373). Current enrollment of 73 students was not enough to sustain the cash of running the School. As of October 2022 enrollment has increased to 118 students. The School's ability to maintain a stable administrative and instructional team along with active advertising via print, radio, mailings and through referrals of current parents is anticipated to help produce the likelihood of future enrollment growth leading to surpluses and provide an opportunity for the School to recover from its deficit.

NOTE 14 – NOTES PAYABLE

During the previous fiscal year, Lifelong Learning Administration Corporation ("LLAC", the management company) advanced the School \$665,000 as startup funds and operating funds during the year due to lower than anticipated enrollment. No principal has been paid on these funds as of June 30, 2022. In addition, LLAC advance the School an additional \$300,000 during the year to be used as operating funds. These advances were converted to a note during the fiscal year, with no payment plan in place, and therefore are all included as a non-current obligation. Interest expense total \$51,968 during fiscal year 2022 on the note.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

NOTE 15 –LOAN PAYABLE

During the previous fiscal year, Flex High School, located in Franklin County, loaned the School \$350,000. Principal payments totaled \$73,600 during the year. Future principal and interest payments are as follows per the agreement:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	\$ 76,181	\$ 6,497	\$ 82,678
2024	78,853	3,825	82,678
2025	67,820	1,079	68,899
Total	<u>\$ 222,854</u>	<u>\$ 11,401</u>	<u>\$ 234,255</u>

NOTE 16 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio’s state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During fiscal year 2022, the School received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing recovery measures will impact subsequent periods of the School. The impact on the School’s future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND – CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio
 Current Fiscal Year (1)

	<u>2022</u>
School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.0011725%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 43,262
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 35,550
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	121.69%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	82.86%

(1) Information prior to 2022 is not available.
 Schedule is intended to show ten years of information, and additional information will be displayed as it becomes available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio
 Current Fiscal Year (1)

	<u>2022</u>
School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.001216278%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 155,513
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 150,079
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	103.62%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	87.80%

(1) Information prior to 2022 is not available.

Schedule is intended to show ten years of information, and additional information will be displayed as it becomes available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of School Contributions - Pension
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio
 Last Two Fiscal Years (1)

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 11,297	\$ 4,977
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(11,297)</u>	<u>(4,977)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
School Covered Payroll	\$ 80,693	\$ 35,550
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%	14.00%

(1) Information prior to 2021 is not available.

Schedule is intended to show ten years of information, and additional information will be displayed as it becomes available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of School Contributions - Pension
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio
 Last Two Fiscal Years (1)

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 32,435	\$ 21,011
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(32,435)</u>	<u>(21,011)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
School Covered Payroll	\$ 231,679	\$ 150,079
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%	14.00%

(1) Information prior to 2021 is not available.

Schedule is intended to show ten years of information, and additional information will be displayed as it becomes available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio
 Current Fiscal Year (1)

	<u>2022</u>
School's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.0012080%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 22,863
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 35,550
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	64.31%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	24.08%

(1) Information prior to 2022 is not available.
 Schedule is intended to show ten years of information,
 and additional information will be displayed as it becomes available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/Asset
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio
 Current Fiscal Year (1)

	2022
School's Proportion of the Net OPEB Asset	0.00121628%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	\$ (25,644)
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 150,079
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	-17.09%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Asset	174.73%

(1) Information prior to 2022 is not available.

Schedule is intended to show ten years of information, and additional information will be displayed as it becomes available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of School Contributions - OPEB
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio
 Last Two Fiscal Years

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Contractually Required Contribution (1)	\$ 1,294	\$ 772
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(1,294)</u>	<u>(772)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
School Covered Payroll	\$ 80,693	\$ 35,550
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (1)	1.60%	2.17%

(1) Includes Surcharge

(2) Information prior to 2021 is not available.
 Schedule is intended to show ten years of information,
 and additional information will be displayed as it becomes available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of School Contributions - OPEB
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio
 Last Two Fiscal Years

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
School Covered Payroll	\$ 231,679	\$ 150,079
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.00%	0.00%

(1) Information prior to 2021 is not available.
 Schedule is intended to show ten years of information,
 and additional information will be displayed as it becomes available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Note 1 - Net Pension Liability

Changes of benefit terms- SERS

There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014-2017 and 2019-2022.

The following changes were made to the benefit terms in 2018 as identified: The COLA was changed from a fixed 3.00% to a COLA that is indexed to CPI-W not greater than 2.5% with a floor of 0% beginning January 1, 2018. In addition, with the authority granted the Board under HB 49, the Board has enacted a three-year COLA suspension for benefit recipients in calendar years 2018-2020.

Changes in assumptions- SERS

There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014-2016 and 2018-2021. For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries was updated to the following RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates and (g) mortality among disable member was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement (h) change in discount rate from 7.75% to 7.5%. For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.0% to 0.85%, (c) Cost-of-Living-Adjustments was reduced from 2.50% to 2.00% (d) Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality amount active members, service retirees and beneficiaries, and disabled members were updated (i) change in discount rate from 7.50% to 7.00%.

Changes in benefit terms – STRS

There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014-2022.

Changes in assumptions – STRS

There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014-2017 and 2019-2021. For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) inflation assumption lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, (b) investment return assumption lowered from 7.75% to 7.45%, (c) total salary increases rates lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, as well as by 0.25% due to lower inflation, (d) payroll growth assumption lowered to 3.00%, (e) updated the healthy and disable mortality assumption to the “RP-2014” mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016, (f) rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience. For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) investment return assumption lowered from 7.45% to 7.00%, (b) discount rate of return reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%.

**FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

Note 2 - Net OPEB Liability

Changes of benefit terms- SERS

There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2018-2022.

Changes in Assumptions – SERS

Amounts reported for fiscal years 2018-2022 incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Fiscal year 2022	1.92 percent
Fiscal year 2021	2.45 percent
Fiscal year 2020	3.13 percent
Fiscal year 2019	3.62 percent
Fiscal year 2018	3.56 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.92 percent

Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense,
including price inflation

Fiscal year 2022	2.27 percent
Fiscal year 2021	2.63 percent
Fiscal year 2020	3.22 percent
Fiscal year 2019	3.70 percent
Fiscal year 2018	3.63 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.98 percent

Medicare Trend Assumption

Medicare

Fiscal year 2022	5.125 percent decreasing to 4.40 percent
Fiscal year 2020	5.25 percent decreasing to 4.75 percent
Fiscal year 2019	5.375 percent decreasing to 4.75 percent
Fiscal year 2018	5.50 percent decreasing to 5.00 percent

Pre – Medicare

Fiscal year 2022	6.75 percent decreasing to 4.40 percent
Fiscal year 2020	7.00 percent decreasing to 4.75 percent
Fiscal year 2019	7.25 percent decreasing to 4.75 percent
Fiscal year 2018	7.50 percent decreasing to 5.00 percent

Changes in Assumptions – STRS

For fiscal year 2018, the discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB) and the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

FLEX HIGH SCHOOL CLEVELAND– CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

For fiscal year 2019, the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13 percent to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45.

For fiscal year 2020 and 2021, the health care cost trend rates were modified.

For fiscal year 2022, the discount rate was decreased from 7.45 percent to 7.00 percent. The health care cost trend rates modified.

Changes in Benefit Terms – STRS

For fiscal year 2018, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2020.

For fiscal year 2019, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was increased from 1.9 percent to 1.944 percent per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.

For fiscal year 2020, claims curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2020 from 1.944% to 1.984 per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.

For fiscal year 2021, Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year end 2021 premium based on June 30, 2020 enrollment distribution. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

There were no benefit term changes from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2022.

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

Flex High School of Cleveland
Cuyahoga County
5222 Wilson Mills Road
Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the Flex High School of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, (the School) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 16, 2023, wherein we noted the School has declined enrollment and has a net deficiency. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures which may impact subsequent periods of the School.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the School's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. 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 deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2022-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

School's Response to Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings. The School's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 16, 2023

**FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2022**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2022-001

Material Weakness – Tracking of Student Participation and Absences

Article II §(A)(3) of the Community School Sponsorship Contract for Flex High School Cleveland between Buckeye Community Hope Foundation and Flex High School Cleveland (the Contract) states, “To the extent required by R.C. 3314.03, the School shall comply with R.C. 3301.0714 [EMIS guidelines] in the manner specified in R.C. 3314.17.”

Furthermore, the Contract includes the following requirements:

Article V §(D)(2) states, “The Governing Authority must adopt an attendance policy that includes a procedure for automatically withdrawing a student from the School if the student without a legitimate excuse fails to participate in seventy-two (72) consecutive hours of the Learning Opportunities offered to the student.”

Article VI §(A) states, “The School will provide learning opportunities to a minimum of twenty-five (25) students for a minimum of nine hundred twenty (920) hours per School Year.”

Article XIII §(E)(Exhibit 2) states, “Classroom and non-classroom based educational activities that count toward funding follow the guidelines within the FTE Manual for blended learning institutions and are completed outside of school hours, tracked by student work logs and certified by FLEX Staff.”

134th GA, SB 229, Section 3(E) allowed for fiscal year 2022 only, a community school that provides instruction under a blended learning declaration/model, shall be considered as having met any requirements to receive state funds under Chapters 3314 or 3317.

The Contract included the Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.03(A) requirements prescribed above. However, due to excessive turnover and the School’s change in learning model and failure to adapt proper internal controls, the School did not meet the requirements prescribed in the Contract as follows:

- The School did not withdraw 3 out of 5 students reviewed that failed to participate in seventy-two (72) consecutive hours of Learning Opportunities.
- Although the School was open 10 hours per day for 171 days and 7 hours per day for 39 days (for a total of 1,983 hours), the students were only required to attend school for 4 hours per day, 2 days a week. Therefore, students were only required to attend school for 368 hours per year which did not meet the 920 hour requirement. The remaining time was to be spent by students working on non-classroom based educational activities that were tracked by student work logs and certified by Flex staff. However, the School did not maintain any documentation to substantiate student time spent working on non-classroom based activities.

In the future, failure of the School to withdraw students as required, meet the minimum number of hours of attendance, and maintain adequate attendance documentation could result in students not receiving credit for attending the School and could impact the School’s attendance-based foundation funding.

**FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2022**

We recommend the School work with the Sponsor, Buckeye Community Hope Foundation, to ensure that students with absences in excess of 72 consecutive hours are properly withdrawn, that students are provided the minimum number learning opportunity hours, and that adequate documentation is maintained to support the learning opportunity hours and attendance.

Official's Response:

FLEX Cleveland's mission is to re-engage students who have either dropped out or who are in danger of dropping out of school, and then increase their personal and academic skills to support them in becoming career, college and/or military ready according to their own personal paths. Because one of the biggest challenges our students' face is regular and consistent attendance, FLEX Cleveland has implemented a robust truancy policy, compliant with HB410, that holds students accountable while also providing them opportunities to continue their academic journeys.

1. Policy for students with absences in excess of 72 consecutive hours:

Flex High School of Cleveland practices a 'Student Retention and Intervention Process' which identifies students in the early stages of absenteeism and counts on teachers, front office, and administration to collaborate in levels of outreach, documentation, and student recovery. Here is the process:

- a. Students that have a total of 25 hours of unexcused absences will be contacted by a center teacher. Documentation of these contacts will be done in a data tracker spreadsheet.
- b. Students that exceed 35 hours will be brought to the attention of the principal. A student meeting will be initiated with the parent/guardian, student and school representative.
- c. Students that return to school require no further action unless students are truant at another time.
- d. Students that have 50 or more hours of unexcused absences, an Attendance Intervention Meeting (AIM) meeting will take place and a plan (student contract) will be put into place including any wraparound services/supports that may be needed to increase student attendance.
- e. Students that have 72 or more unexcused absences, a Student Retention Meeting will be scheduled, and students will be transitioned back to their residential district.

All documentation will be placed in the student files as well as in the SIS system.

2. Students are provided the minimum number of learning opportunity hours.

- a. A communication was sent out to all parents and students that the expectation is for students to attend school a minimum of four hours twice a week in order to meet the required 920 hours.
- b. Currently, students sign in and out, and this attendance is entered into our SIS system.
- c. We hired a Student Relations Technician to monitor student attendance at the Tier 3 level.

3. Adequate documentation is maintained to support the learning opportunity hours and attendance.

- a. Students will be logging non-classroom-based educational activities on a weekly log.
- b. Blended learning will be documented and verified by teachers as students spend time working both in the center and at home.
- c. Teachers will certify hours and monitor academic progress utilizing Data + Design. Through this platform, teachers can contact students and classes to remind them of assignments due.

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



FLEX HIGH SCHOOL OF CLEVELAND, INC.

CUYAHOGA COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 4/4/2023

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov