





**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HANCOCK COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2022**

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Van Buren Local School District  
Hancock County  
217 South Main Street  
Van Buren, Ohio 45889

To the Board of Education:

### ***Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements***

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Van Buren Local School District, Hancock County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District'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 respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

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 District, 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 opinions.

#### ***Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis***

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

***Emphasis of Matter***

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, during 2022, the District has elected to change its financial presentation to a cash basis of accounting comparable to the requirements of *Governmental Accounting Standards*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

As discussed in Note 15 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the District. 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 the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible 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 District'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 opinions. 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 District'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 District'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.

***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted to opine on the financial statements as a whole that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied to the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, this schedule is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 17, 2023, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. 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 District'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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

May 17, 2023

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**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis*  
*June 30, 2022*

	Governmental Activities
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,361,813
<b>Net Position</b>	
Restricted for:	
Capital Outlay	265,594
Other Purposes	161,544
Restricted for Locally Funded Programs	19,001
Restricted for Student Activities	87,114
Restricted for State Funded Programs	2,515
Restricted for Federally Funded Programs	13,495
Unrestricted	2,812,550
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<i>\$ 3,361,813</i>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Activities - Cash Basis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

	Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position	
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants, Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 6,092,404	\$ 518,236	\$ 439,140	\$ 12,918	\$ (5,122,110)
Special	1,815,229	73,558	105,143	-	(1,636,528)
Vocational	403,784	-	3,108	-	(400,676)
Other	415,783	-	-	-	(415,783)
Support Services:					
Pupils	1,069,178	-	354,762	-	(714,416)
Instructional Staff	311,069	500	25,484	-	(285,085)
Board of Education	283,597	-	-	-	(283,597)
Administration	959,426	-	-	-	(959,426)
Fiscal	486,498	-	-	287	(486,211)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,975,158	-	-	25,139	(1,950,019)
Pupil Transportation	669,208	7,314	135	4,420	(657,339)
Central	60,088	-	5,400	-	(54,688)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services:					
Food Service Operations	363,469	84,144	409,646	-	130,321
Community Services	19,449	-	13,772	-	(5,677)
Extracurricular Activities	783,973	265,687	9,559	1,085	(507,642)
Capital Outlay	124,017	-	-	12,509	(111,508)
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	37,905	-	-	-	(37,905)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	364	-	-	-	(364)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 15,870,599</b>	<b>\$ 949,439</b>	<b>\$ 1,366,149</b>	<b>\$ 56,358</b>	<b>(13,498,653)</b>
<b>General Receipts</b>					
Property Taxes Levied for:					
General Purposes					8,229,509
Capital Outlay					362,973
Income Taxes Levied for:					
General Purposes					1,870,563
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs					2,343,369
Payments in Lieu of Taxes					221,687
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets					4,340
Investment Earnings					20,860
Miscellaneous					49,523
<i>Total General Receipts</i>					<u>13,102,824</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>					(395,829)
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year - (Restatement See Note 2)</i>					<u>3,757,642</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>					<u>\$ 3,361,813</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*June 30, 2022*

	<u>General</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Assets</b>			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,812,550	\$ 549,263	\$ 3,361,813
<b>Fund Balances</b>			
Restricted	\$ -	\$ 549,263	\$ 549,263
Committed	8,830	-	8,830
Assigned	2,116,159	-	2,116,159
Unassigned	687,561	-	687,561
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$ 2,812,550</u>	<u>\$ 549,263</u>	<u>\$ 3,361,813</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes*  
*in Fund Balances - Cash Basis - Governmental Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Receipts</b>			
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 8,229,509	\$ 362,973	\$ 8,592,482
Income Taxes	1,870,563	-	1,870,563
Intergovernmental	2,335,336	1,380,261	3,715,597
Investment Income	20,860	-	20,860
Tuition and Fees	561,169	-	561,169
Extracurricular Activities	77,217	216,166	293,383
Gifts and Donations	8,533	42,246	50,779
Charges for Services	10,243	84,144	94,387
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	217,586	4,101	221,687
Miscellaneous	16,187	27,633	43,820
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>13,347,203</u>	<u>2,117,524</u>	<u>15,464,727</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	5,532,349	560,055	6,092,404
Special	1,707,842	107,387	1,815,229
Vocational	400,855	2,929	403,784
Other	415,783	-	415,783
Support Services:			
Pupils	716,306	352,872	1,069,178
Instructional Staff	286,215	24,854	311,069
Board of Education	283,597	-	283,597
Administration	959,426	-	959,426
Fiscal	483,653	2,845	486,498
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,466,210	508,948	1,975,158
Pupil Transportation	618,236	50,972	669,208
Central	54,688	5,400	60,088
Extracurricular Activities	557,772	226,201	783,973
Operation of Non-Instructional Services:			
Food Service Operations	-	363,469	363,469
Community Services	5,783	13,666	19,449
Capital Outlay	-	124,017	124,017
Debt Service:			
Principal Retirement	-	37,905	37,905
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	364	364
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>13,488,715</u>	<u>2,381,884</u>	<u>15,870,599</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>(141,512)</u>	<u>(264,360)</u>	<u>(405,872)</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>			
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	4,340	-	4,340
Insurance Recoveries	5,703	-	5,703
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>10,043</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,043</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	(131,469)	(264,360)	(395,829)
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year - (Restatement See Note 2)</i>	<u>2,944,019</u>	<u>813,623</u>	<u>3,757,642</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 2,812,550</u>	<u>\$ 549,263</u>	<u>\$ 3,361,813</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in*  
*Cash Basis Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Budget Basis)*  
*General Fund*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Receipts and Other Financing Sources	\$ 13,146,720	\$ 13,366,328	\$ 13,251,908	\$ (114,420)
Disbursements and Other Financing Uses	<u>15,604,575</u>	<u>15,604,575</u>	<u>13,429,926</u>	<u>2,174,649</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(2,457,855)	(2,238,247)	(178,018)	2,060,229
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year (Restated)</i>	2,727,187	2,727,187	2,727,187	-
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	<u>53,575</u>	<u>53,575</u>	<u>53,575</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 322,907</u>	<u>\$ 542,515</u>	<u>\$ 2,602,744</u>	<u>\$ 2,060,229</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis*  
*Custodial fund*  
*June 30, 2022*

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	<u>Custodial</u>
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 3,416</u>
<b>Net Position</b>	
Restricted for Individuals, Organizations and Other Governments	<u>\$ 3,416</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis*  
*Custodial Fund*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

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	<u>Custodial</u>
<b>Additions</b>	
Extracurricular Amounts Collected for Other Governments	\$ 12,515
<b>Deductions</b>	
Extracurricular Distributions to Other Governments	<u>11,890</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	625
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>	<u>2,791</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$ 3,416</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

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**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY**

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

The School District was established in 1936 and serves an area of approximately forty-eight square miles. It is located in Hancock County and includes all of the Village of Van Buren and Allen Township and portions of Cass, Marion, and Portage Townships.

***Reporting Entity***

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity* as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units* and GASB Statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and 34*. A reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to insure the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the School District consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For Van Buren Local School District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the School District.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organization's Governing Board and (1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; or (3) the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or (4) the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. Certain organizations are also included as component units if the nature and significance of the relationship between the primary government and the organization is such that exclusion by the primary government would render the primary government's financial statements incomplete or misleading. Based upon the application of these criteria, the School District has no component units. The basic financial statements of the reporting entity include only those of the School District (the primary government).

The School District is associated with one jointly governed organization (see Note 12) and three insurance pools. These organizations are the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative, Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund, Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan, and the Ohio School Plan.

***Insurance Pools***

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

Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of seven local school districts, the Hancock County Educational Service Center, and the Blanchard Valley Board of Developmental Disabilities. The Fund is a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501 (c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits to the employees of the



**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

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participants. Each participant's superintendent is appointed to an Administrative Committee which advises the consultant concerning aspects of the administration of the Fund.

Each participant decides which plans offered by the Administrative Committee will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Fund is by written application subject to acceptance by the Administrative Committee and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information can be obtained from Mr. Jeff Young, Superintendent, Hancock County Educational Service Center, 7746 County Road 140, Findlay, Ohio 45840.

**B. Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan**

The School District participates in a group rating plan for worker's compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio School Boards Association Workers' compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP) was established through the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) as an insurance purchasing pool.

The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three-member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect, and the Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director and staff designees, who serve as coordinator of the GRP. Each year, the participants pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

**C. Ohio School Plan**

The School District participates in the Ohio School Plan (OSP), an insurance purchasing pool established under Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. The OSP is an unincorporated nonprofit association of its members which enables the participants to provide for a formalized joint insurance purchasing program for maintaining adequate insurance protection and provides risk management programs and other administrative services. The OSP's business and affairs are conducted by a twelve-member board consisting of individual representatives from various plan members. Hylant Administrative Services, LLC, 811 Madison Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting.

**A. Basis of Presentation**

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

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

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

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

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

## **B. Fund Accounting**

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

***Governmental Funds*** The School District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The School District's major fund is the general fund.

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

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

***Fiduciary Funds*** Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into the following four classifications: pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that has certain characteristics. Custodial Funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund.

The School District's only fiduciary fund is a custodial fund. Custodial funds are used to account for assets held by the School District as fiscal agent for the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA).

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

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**C. Basis of Accounting**

The School District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the School District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of the cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and receipt for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and disbursements for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued liabilities and the related disbursements) are not recorded in these financial statements.

**D. Budgetary Data**

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

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the final amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Board.

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

**E. Cash and Investments**

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

Under existing Ohio statutes, all investment earnings are assigned to the general fund except for those specifically related to the building capital projects fund (a nonmajor governmental fund), or certain trust funds individually authorized by board resolution. Investment earnings (including fair market value adjustments for investments) credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2022 amounted to \$20,860 which includes \$5,150 assigned from other School District funds.

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

**F. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

The School District reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

**G. Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

**H. Accumulated Leave**

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting used by the School District.

**I. Long-Term Obligations**

The School District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds, leases and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease or financed purchase transaction is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments are reported when paid.

**J. Net Position**

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes includes resources restricted for food service operations, music and athletic programs, and federal and state grants.

The School District applies restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

**K. Fund Balance**

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

*Nonspendable*- The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of interfund loans.

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

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

*Assigned* - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes, but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. These amounts are assigned by the School District's Board of Education. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the School District Board of Education, or a School District official delegated by that authority by resolution or by State Statute. State statute authorizes the School District's Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchase on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

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

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

#### **L. Interfund Transactions**

Transfers within governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements. Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds and as nonoperating receipts/cash disbursements in proprietary funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular cash disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented in the financial statements. Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the statement of activities.

#### **M. Pensions and OPEB**

For purposes of measuring the net pension and net other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability (asset), information about the fiduciary net position of the retirement 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 plans. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of member contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan. The pension/OPEB plans report investments at fair value.

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**N. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans**

The School District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 10 and 11, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

**O. Leases**

For fiscal year 2022, GASB Statement No. 87, Leases was effective. This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance. The School District is the lessee in various leases related to vehicles and other equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease payables are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

**P. Implementation of New Accounting Principles**

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the School District has (to the extent it applies to the cash basis of accounting) implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 87, *Leases*, certain provisions of GASB 93, *Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates*, 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*, and certain provisions in GASB Statement No. 99, *Omnibus 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.

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 11b, 13 and 14 of GASB Statement No. 93 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 97 requirements that are related to a) the accounting and financial reporting for Section 457 plans and b) 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 District.

GASB Statement No. 99 enhances comparability in the application of accounting and financial reporting requirements and will improve consistency of authoritative literature. The implementation of certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

**Q. Change in Basis of Accounting and Restatement of Net Position/Fund Balances**

The School District changed from the GAAP Basis of accounting to the Cash Basis of Accounting for fiscal year 2022, resulting in a restatement of the fiscal year 2021 financial statements. In addition, the School District evaluated certain fund classifications that resulted in a change in classifications that required a restatement to the beginning fund balances/net position. The effect on net position is below:



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	Governmental Activities
Net Position, June 30, 2021	\$ 2,314,933
Restatement to Convert to Cash basis	1,442,709
Restated Net Position, June 30, 2021	\$ 3,757,642

The change from GAAP Basis to Cash Basis and the re-evaluation of fund classifications had the following effect on fund balance as reported June 30, 2021:

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total
Fund Balances, June 30, 2021	\$ 2,825,357	\$ 966,156	\$3,791,513
Restatement to Convert to Cash basis	1,103	(34,974)	(33,871)
Restatement of PUPP Receipts	117,559	(117,559)	-
Restated Fund Balances, June 30, 2021	\$ 2,944,019	\$ 813,623	\$3,757,642

The change from GAAP Basis to Cash Basis and the re-evaluation of fund classifications had the following effect on budgeted fund balance as reported June 30, 2021:

	General Fund
Fund Balances, June 30, 2021	\$ 2,609,628
Restatement to Convert to Cash basis	117,559
Restated Fund Balances, June 30, 2021	\$ 2,727,187

The implementation of cash basis had no effect on fiduciary net position as June 30, 2021.

**NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

State statutes classify monies held by the School District into three categories.

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

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

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Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use, but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories.

Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

Interim monies may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty days and two hundred and seventy days, respectively, in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met; and,
8. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

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

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.



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**Cash on Hand** – At year-end, the School District had \$1,284 in undeposited cash on hand which is included as part of “Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents.”

**Deposits** - At year-end, \$249,343 of the School District’s bank balance of \$549,703 was exposed to custodial credit risk. Although the securities were held by the pledging financial institutions’ trust department in the School District’s name and all statutory requirements for the investment of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the School District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

**Custodial Credit Risk** - Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. The School District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by:

- Eligible securities pledged to the School District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured; or
- Participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

**Investments**

As of June 30, 2022, the School District had the following investments:

S&P Global Ratings	Investment Type	Measurement Amount	Investment Maturities		Percent of Total
			12 Months or Less	12 to 36 Months	
Net Asset Value (NAV):					
N/A	Money Market	\$ 499,285	\$ 499,285	\$ -	17.09%
AAAm	Money Market Mutual Fund	443,083	443,083	-	15.16%
Cost Value:					
N/A	Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	300,177	220,092	80,085	10.27%
Aaa-	U.S. Treasury Notes	1,483,672	993,047	490,625	50.79%
AA	Federal Farm Credit Bank	195,586	-	195,586	6.69%
Total		\$ 2,921,803	\$ 2,155,507	\$ 766,296	100.00%

**Interest Rate Risk** Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The School District's investment policy addresses interest rate risk by requiring that the School District's investment portfolio be structured so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations and/or long-term debt payments, thereby avoiding that need to sell securities on the open market prior to maturity, and by investing operating funds primarily in short-term investments.

**Credit Risk** The School District’s investments at June 30, 2022 are rated as shown above by S & P Global Rating. The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment credit risk beyond the requirements of state statutes.

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**Concentration of Credit Risk** The School District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The percentage of each investment to total investments is noted above.

**NOTE 4 - PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis while the School District fiscal year runs from July through June. First half tax collections are received by the School District in the second half of the fiscal year. Second half tax distributions occur in the first half of the following fiscal year. Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2022 represents collections of calendar year 2021 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2022 were levied after April 1, 2021, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2021, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar year 2022 represents collections of calendar year 2021 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2022 became a lien December 31, 2020, were levied after April 1, 2021 and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Hancock County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2022, are available to finance fiscal year 2022 operations. The amount available for advance at fiscal year-end can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2022 taxes were collected are:

	2021 Second- Half Collections		2022 First- Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Real Estate	\$ 290,280,650	89.71%	\$ 293,903,610	89.39%
Public Utility Personal Property	33,287,220	10.29%	34,902,060	10.61%
Total Assessed Values	\$ 323,567,870	100.00%	\$ 328,805,670	100.00%
 Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	 \$ 36.65		 \$ 36.68	

**NOTE 5 - PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES**

According to State law, the City of Findlay has entered into agreements with a number of property owners under which the City has granted property tax exemptions to those property owners. The property owners have agreed to make payments to the City which reflect all or a portion of the property taxes which the property owners would have paid if the taxes had not been exempted. The agreements provide for a portion of these payments to be made to the School District. The property owners contractually promise to make these payments in lieu of taxes until the agreement expires. Since fiscal year 2020, the School District has worked with the Board of Revision and has ultimately affected direct payment agreements based on adjusted valuation.

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

**NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

Changes in long-term obligations of the School District during fiscal year 2022 were as follows:

	Outstanding 6/30/2021	Additions	Deductions	Outstanding 6/30/2022	Due In One Year
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
<i>Direct Borrowing:</i>					
Bus Lease-Purchase	\$ 182,392	\$ -	\$ 37,905	\$ 144,487	\$ 34,874
<i>Other Long-Term Liabilities:</i>					
Lease	135,741	-	29,121	106,620	25,133
<i>Total Governmental Long-Term Liabilities</i>	<u>\$ 318,133</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 67,026</u>	<u>\$ 251,107</u>	<u>\$ 60,007</u>

*Bus Lease-Purchase Agreement*

During fiscal year 2020, the School District entered into a lease-purchase agreement for two school buses. The lease-purchase will be paid from the permanent improvement fund. In the event of default, as defined by the lease agreement, the amounts payable by the School District may become due. If payments are not made, the lessor may retake possession of the buses and hold the School District liable for amounts payable.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the lease purchase agreement at June 30, 2022 are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Bus Lease-Purchase	
	Principal	Interest
2023	\$ 34,874	\$ 3,395
2024	35,693	2,576
2025	36,532	1,737
2026	37,388	881
Totals	<u>\$ 144,487</u>	<u>\$ 8,589</u>

*Lease*

In June of 2021, a lease-purchase agreement was entered into with TEQlease Education Finance for furniture and equipment for the food court in the amount of \$135,741, commencing in July of 2021. The lease is for a period of 5 years and the District has the option to purchase the equipment for \$1 at the end of the lease. The lease-purchase will be paid from the permanent improvement fund.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the lease agreement at June 30, 2022 are as follows:

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Fiscal Year	TEQ Lease Purchase	
	Principal	Interest
2023	\$ 25,133	\$ 4,194
2024	26,121	3,205
2025	27,149	2,178
2026	28,217	1,110
Totals	\$ 106,620	\$ 10,687

**NOTE 7 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

The statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balance - budget and actual (budget basis) presented for the general fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and the cash basis are that:

- a. In order to determine compliance with Ohio law, and to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, total outstanding encumbrances (budget basis) are recorded as the equivalent of a disbursement; and,
- b. Some funds are included in the general fund (cash basis), but have separate legally adopted budgets (budget basis).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the cash basis statement to the budgetary basis statement on a fund type basis for the general fund:

**Net Change in Fund Balance**

	General Fund
Cash Basis	\$ (131,469)
Funds budgeted elsewhere**	53,111
Adjustment for encumbrances	(99,660)
Budget Basis	\$ (178,018)

\*\* As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting*, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund on a cash basis. This includes rotary fund – special services, adult education, rotary, public school support, and termination benefits (severance) funds.

**NOTE 8 - SET-ASIDES**

The School District is required by State law to annually set-aside certain general fund revenue amounts, as defined by statutory formula, for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. This amount must be carried forward to be used for the same purpose in future years. Expenditures exceeding the set-aside requirement may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

The following cash-basis information describes the change in the fiscal year-end set-aside amount for capital improvements. Disclosure of this information is required by State statute.

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	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside Restricted Balance as of June 30, 2021	\$ -
Current Year Set-aside Requirement	178,207
Current Year Offsets	<u>(419,333)</u>
Totals	<u>\$ (241,126)</u>
Balance Carried Forward to Fiscal Year 2023	<u>\$ -</u>
Set-aside Restricted Balance as of June 30, 2022	<u>\$ -</u>

Although the School District had offsets during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount below zero for the capital acquisition set-aside, this amount may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirement for future years.

**NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The School District has a comprehensive property and casualty policy. All vehicles are insured. All board members, administrators and employees are covered under a school district liability policy.

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

**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

The net pension liability is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the modified cash basis framework.

The Statewide retirement systems provide both pension benefits and other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

***Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability***

Pensions and OPEB are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions/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 net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represent the School District’s proportionate share of each pension/OPEB plan’s collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension/OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position. The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) 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 these estimates annually.

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

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GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes pension costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the retirement systems to amortize unfunded pension liabilities within 30 years. If the pension amortization period exceeds 30 years, each retirement system’s board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension/OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The net pension/net OPEB liability (asset) are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the modified cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 11 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

Plan Description – School District 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, 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](http://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 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.



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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. 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 percent and with a floor of 0 percent. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The Retirement Board approved a 0.5 percent COLA for calendar year 2021.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. For fiscal year 2022, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$302,131 for fiscal year 2022.

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

Plan Description – School District licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee 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](http://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. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. 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, 2026, when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years of service credit at any age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. 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.

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The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12 percent of the 14 percent member rate is deposited into the member’s DC account and the remaining 2 percent is applied 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 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 service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50 and after termination of employment.

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 as one defined benefit plan for GASB 68 reporting purposes.

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. 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. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. 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. The fiscal year 2022 employer and employee contribution rate of 14 percent was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2022, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School District’s contractually required contribution to STRS was \$744,011 for fiscal year 2022.

***Net Pension Liability***

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 District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Measurement Date	0.05071250%	0.04089385%	
Prior Measurement Date	<u>0.05250060%</u>	<u>0.04064292%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.00178810%</u>	<u>0.00025093%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 1,871,144	\$ 5,228,646	\$ 7,099,790



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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, compared with June 30, 2020, are presented below:

	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020
Inflation	2.4 percent	3.00 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent 2.0 percent, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent 2.5 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of System expenses	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

Mortality rates for 2021 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 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled 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 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

Mortality rates for 2020 were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females. Mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates, and 110 percent of female rates. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

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

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating an arithmetic weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

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	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**Discount Rate** The total pension liability for 2021 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent. The discount rate for 2020 was 7.5 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00 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 District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 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	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 3,113,124	\$ 1,871,144	\$ 823,728

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation compared to those used in the June 30, 2020, actuarial valuation are presented below:

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	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020
Inflation	2.50 percent	2.50 percent
Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65	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	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	7.45 percent
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent	3.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.0 percent	0.0 percent,

Post-retirement 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. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, 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 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 are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

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:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return*
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>	

\*Ten 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 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, and was 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that 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 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.

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 9,791,298	\$ 5,228,646	\$ 1,373,216

***Changes Between the Measurement Date and the Reporting date*** In February 2022, the Board approved changes to demographic measures that will impact the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation. These demographic measures include retirement, salary increase, disability/termination and mortality assumptions. In March 2022, the STRS Board approved benefit plan changes to take effect on July 1, 2022. These changes include a one-time three percent cost-of-living increase (COLA) to be paid to eligible benefit recipients and the elimination of the age 60 requirement for retirement age and service eligibility that was set to take effect in 2026. The effect on the net pension liability is unknown.

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

The net OPEB liability is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the modified cash basis framework.

See Note 10 for a description of the net OPEB liability

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

**Health Care Plan Description** - The School District 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. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981 do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. 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](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. 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.

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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, no allocation was made to health care. An additional 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 \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2022, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$34,707.

The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$34,707 for fiscal year 2022.

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

Plan Description – 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. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the 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. All benefit recipients 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.

***Net OPEB Liability (Asset)***

The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the School District'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:

	SERS	STRS
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset):		
Current Measurement Date	0.05227770%	0.04089400%
Prior Measurement Date	0.05468120%	0.04064300%
Change in Proportionate Share	-0.00240350%	0.00025100%
Proportionate Share of the Net		
OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ 989,398	\$ (862,216)

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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, compared with June 30, 2020, are presented below:

	<u>June 30, 2021</u>	<u>June 30, 2020</u>
Inflation	2.40 percent	3.00 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation		
Wage Increases	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investment expense, including inflation	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate:		
Measurement Date	1.92 percent	2.45 percent
Prior Measurement Date	2.45 percent	3.13 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation		
Measurement Date	2.27 percent	2.63 percent
Prior Measurement Date	2.63 percent	3.22 percent
Medical Trend Assumption		
Medicare	5.125 to 4.40 percent	5.25 to 4.75 percent
Pre-Medicare	6.75 to 4.40 percent	7.00 to 4.75 percent



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For 2021, mortality rates among healthy retirees were based on the 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 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled 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 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

For 2020, mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates and 110 percent of female rates. RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates set back five years.

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:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
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	<u>100.00 %</u>	

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**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 contribution rate of 1.50 percent of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination of 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 percent at June 30, 2021 and 2.45 percent at June 30, 2020.

**Sensitivity of the School District'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 (6.00% decreasing to 3.75%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.75%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 1,225,991	\$ 989,398	\$ 800,401

  

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 761,760	\$ 989,398	\$ 1,293,466

**Actuarial Assumptions – STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation and the June 30, 2020 actuarial valuation are presented below:

	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020
Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65	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	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent	3 percent
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	7.45 percent
Health Care Cost Trends		
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	5.00 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate	5.00 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	-16.18 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate	-6.69 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	6.50 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate	6.50 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	29.98 initial, 4 percent ultimate	11.87 initial, 4 percent ultimate



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*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

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 are 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, 2022 from 2.055 percent to 2.1 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D Subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in CY 2022. The 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:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return*
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>	

\*Ten 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 actuarial 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, and was 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS 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 as of June 30, 2021. 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.

**Sensitivity of the School District'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.

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (727,577)	\$ (862,216)	\$ (974,687)
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (970,130)	\$ (862,216)	\$ (728,772)

***Changes Between the Measurement Date and the Reporting date*** In February 2022, the Board approved changes to demographic measures that will impact the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation. The effect on the net OPEB liability is unknown.

**NOTE 12 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION**

*Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative* – The School District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (NOACSC), which is a computer consortium. NOACSC is an association of public school districts within the boundaries of Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Seneca, Van Wert, Wyandot, and Wood Counties and the Cities of St. Mary’s and Wapakoneta. The organization was founded for the purpose of applying modem technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member school districts. The governing board of NOACSC consists of two representatives from each county and two at large members. Financial information can be obtained from NOACSC, 4277 East Road, Elida, Ohio 45807.

**NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2022.

**B. Litigation**

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

**NOTE 14 - OTHER COMMITMENTS**

The School District utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year end may be reported as part of restricted, committed, or assigned classifications of fund balance. At year end, the School District’s commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

Fund	Amount
General	\$ 102,164
Nonmajor Governmental	40,247
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 142,411</b>

**NOTE 15 - COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 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 District received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing recovery measures will impact subsequent periods of the School District. The impact on the School District's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

**NOTE 16 - FUND BALANCE**

Fund balance can be classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in governmental funds.

The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented as follows:

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total
Restricted for:			
Capital Outlay	\$ -	\$ 265,594	\$ 265,594
Student Activities	-	87,114	87,114
Other Purposes	-	196,555	196,555
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>549,263</b>	<b>549,263</b>
Committed for:			
Severance Payments	8,830	-	8,830
Assigned for:			
Instruction	25,892	-	25,892
Support Services	73,765	-	73,765
Subsequent Year Appropriations	1,917,680	-	1,917,680
Other Purposes	98,822	-	98,822
<b>Total Assigned</b>	<b>2,116,159</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,116,159</b>
Unassigned	687,561	-	687,561
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,812,550</b>	<b>\$ 549,263</b>	<b>\$ 3,361,813</b>

**Van Buren Local School District**  
**Hancock County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022*

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**NOTE 17 - INCOME TAXES**

The School District levies a voted tax of 1 percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was levied on January 1, 2021 and will continue for five years. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue is credited to the general fund.

**NOTE 18 – COMPLIANCE**

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03 (B), requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the School District prepared its financial statements on a modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying financial statements omit assets, liabilities, net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The School District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the School District.

**NOTE 19 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

At the January 12, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of Education, the Board approved the Resolution to proceed with the submission of the Emergency Levy Renewal for the purpose of providing for the emergency requirements of the School District in the amount of \$1,275,000 per year for a ten year period on the May 2, 2023 ballot. The levy passed.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

<b>FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title</b>	<b>Federal AL Number</b>	<b>Pass Through Entity Identifying Number</b>	<b>Total Federal Expenditures</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
<b><u>Child Nutrition Cluster:</u></b>			
National School Lunch Program:			
COVID-19 Cash Assistance	10.555	2022	\$32,696
Cash Assistance	10.555	2022	330,177
Non-Cash Assistance (Commodities)	10.555	2022	39,595
Total National School Lunch Program			<u>402,468</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster:			<u>402,468</u>
COVID-19 Pandemic EBT Administrative Costs	10.649	2022	614
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			<u>403,082</u>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	2021	12,705
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	2022	61,434
Total Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies			<u>74,139</u>
<b><u>Special Education Cluster:</u></b>			
Special Education Grants to States	84.027A	2022	177,689
COVID-19 Special Education Grants to States	84.027X	2022	33,798
Total Special Education Grants to States			<u>211,487</u>
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173A	2022	5,173
COVID-19 Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173X	2022	1,960
Total Special Education Preschool Grants			<u>7,133</u>
Total Special Education Cluster:			<u>218,620</u>
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	2021	3,939
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	2022	16,401
Total Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants			<u>20,340</u>
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	2021	2,207
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	2022	4,360
Total Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program			<u>6,567</u>
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425D	2022	193,118
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425U	2022	367,769
Total COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund			<u>560,887</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education			<u>880,553</u>
<b>FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION</b>			
<b><i>Direct Program</i></b>			
COVID-19 Emergency Connectivity Fund Program	32.009	2022	34,400
Total Federal Communications Commission			<u>34,400</u>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>			<u><u>\$1,318,035</u></u>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.*

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

**NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Van Buren Local School District, Hancock County, Ohio (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2022. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the District.

**NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

**NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE**

The District has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

**NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

The District commingles cash receipts from the U.S. Department of Agriculture with similar State grants. When reporting expenditures on this Schedule, the District assumes it expends federal monies first.

**NOTE E – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM**

The District reports commodities consumed on the Schedule at the entitlement value. The District allocated donated food commodities to the respective programs that benefitted from the use of those donated food commodities.

**NOTE F - TRANSFERS BETWEEN PROGRAM YEARS**

Federal regulations require schools to obligate certain federal awards by June 30. However, with the Ohio Department of Education’s consent, schools can transfer unobligated amounts to the subsequent fiscal year’s program. The District transferred the following amounts from 2022 to 2023 programs:

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>AL Number</u>	<u>Amt.</u> <u>Transferred</u>
Food Service Subsidy - Lunch	10.555	\$ 113,350
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund (ESSER II)	84.425D	27,890
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund (ARP ESSER)	84.425U	150,175
Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies	84.010A	992
Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies - Expanding Opportunity	84.010A	341
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	3,875
COVID-19 Special Education Grants to States	84.027X	5,373

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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(800) 282-0370

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

Van Buren Local School District  
Hancock County  
217 South Main Street  
Van Buren, Ohio 45889

To the Board of Education:

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 cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Van Buren Local School District, Hancock County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 17, 2023, wherein we noted the District began using a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing measures which may impact subsequent periods of the District.

### ***Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District'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 opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 District'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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District'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 an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2022-001.

***District's Response to Finding***

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The District'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 District'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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

May 17, 2023



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Van Buren Local School District  
Hancock County  
217 South Main Street  
Van Buren, Ohio 45889

To the Board of Education:

### Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

#### *Opinion on the Major Federal Program*

We have audited Van Buren Local School District, Hancock County, Ohio's (the District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on Van Buren Local School District's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2022. Van Buren Local School District's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Van Buren Local School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2022.

#### *Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program*

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for the major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

### ***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

The District's Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the District's federal programs.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the District's compliance with the requirements of the major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

### **Report on Internal Control Over Compliance**

A *deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of this testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

May 17, 2023

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**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
2 CFR § 200.515  
JUNE 30, 2022**

<b>1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS</b>
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<b>(d)(1)(i)</b>	<b>Type of Financial Statement Opinion</b>	Unmodified
<b>(d)(1)(ii)</b>	<b>Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(ii)</b>	<b>Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(iii)</b>	<b>Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	Yes
<b>(d)(1)(iv)</b>	<b>Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(iv)</b>	<b>Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(v)</b>	<b>Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion</b>	Unmodified
<b>(d)(1)(vi)</b>	<b>Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(vii)</b>	<b>Major Programs (list):</b>	Education Stabilization Fund – AL #84.425
<b>(d)(1)(viii)</b>	<b>Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs</b>	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
<b>(d)(1)(ix)</b>	<b>Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?</b>	No

**2. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS**

**FINDING NUMBER 2022-001**

**Noncompliance**

**Ohio Rev. Code §117.38** provides that each public office shall file a financial report for each fiscal year. The Auditor of State may prescribe forms by rule or may issue guidelines, or both, for such reports. If the Auditor of State has not prescribed a rule regarding the form for the report, the public office shall submit its report on the form utilized by the public office.

**Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B)**, which further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38, requires the District to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The District prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, report on the cash basis of accounting, rather than GAAP. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, deferred inflows/outflows of resources, fund equities/net position, and disclosures that, while presumed material, cannot be determined at this time.

Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 the District may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the District's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the District. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the District should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

**Officials' Response:**

See corrective action plan.

**3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS**

None

# VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOLS



HOME OF THE BLACK KNIGHTS

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

LAURA EBRIGHT  
*PRESIDENT*

ANDY FISHER  
*VICE PRESIDENT*

MICHAEL LEIFHEIT  
KIM THOMAS  
MELINDA WILLIAMS

## ADMINISTRATION

JASON INKROTT  
*SUPERINTENDENT*

DAWN JACOBS  
TREASURER/CFO

KEVIN SHOUP  
*HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL*

JENNIFER BARRETT  
*MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL*

MICHAEL NEWCOMER  
*ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL*

## **CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN** **2 CFR § 200.511(c)** **JUNE 30, 2022**

**Finding Number:** 2022-001

**Planned Corrective Action:** The District did know they would receive this citation, but the Board decided to file on the cash basis as a cost-saving measure.

**Anticipated Completion Date:** N/A

**Responsible Contact Person:** Dawn Jacobs, Treasurer

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**HANCOCK 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 5/30/2023**

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](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)