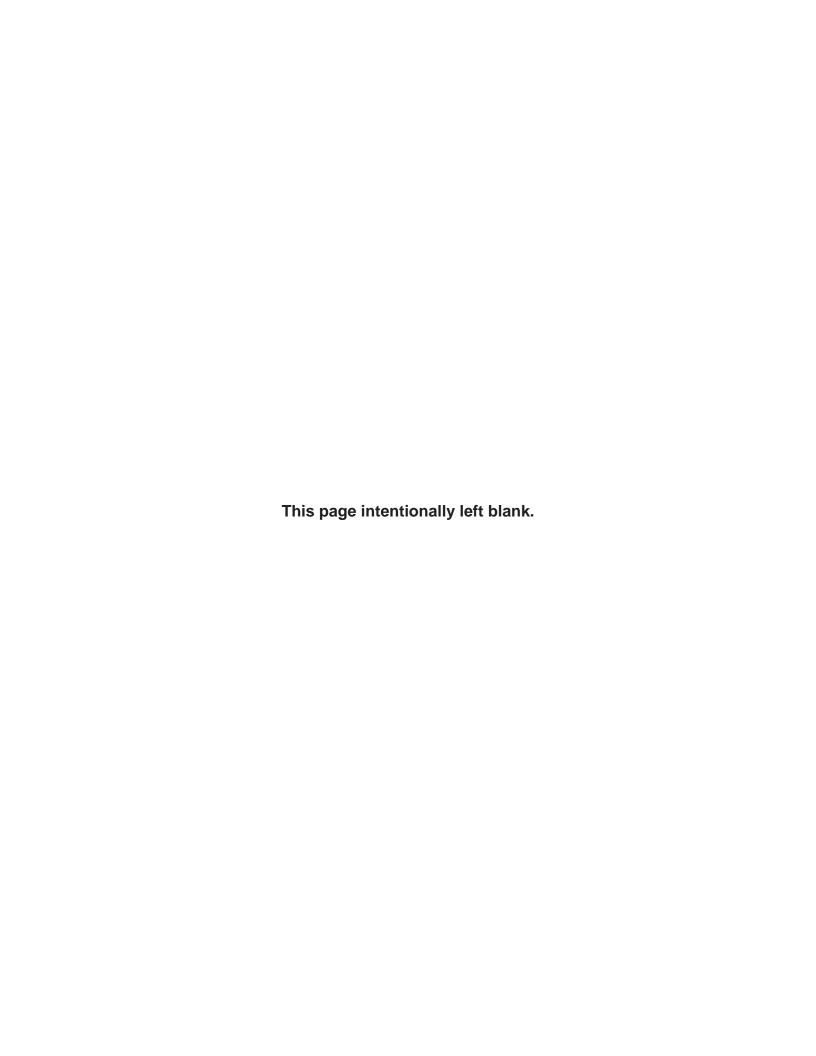




NEW BREMEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AUGLAIZE COUNTY JUNE 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

New Bremen Local School District Auglaize County 901 East Monroe Street New Bremen, Ohio 45869

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 the New Bremen Local School District, Auglaize County, Ohio (the School District), as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School 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 New Bremen Local School District, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General fund for the fiscal 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 School 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 School 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.

Efficient • Effective • Transparent

New Bremen Local School District Auglaize County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

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 School 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 School 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 School 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.

New Bremen Local School District Auglaize County Independent Auditor's Report Page 3

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted to opine on the financial statements as a whole that collectively comprise the School 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 April 17, 2024, on our consideration of the School 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 School 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 School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

April 17, 2024

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STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS JUNE 30, 2023

	 vernmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 9,651,797
Net position:	
Restricted for:	
Debt service	\$ 749,948
Capital improvements	551,893
Classroom facilities maintenance	211,425
Food service operations	227,647
Extracurricular	393,347
State funded programs	4,314
Other purposes	20,044
Unrestricted	7,493,179
Total net position	\$ 9,651,797

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

				Pi	rogram	ı Cash Receipts	S		R	Net sbursements) eceipts and Changes in tet Position
Governmental activities:	Die	Cash sbursements	fo	Charges or Services and Sales	6	Operating Grants and ontributions	Gi	Capital rants and ntributions	Governmental S Activities	
Instruction:		sour sements		inu Saics		hitributions		itiibutions		Activities
Regular	\$	5,085,710	\$	96,321	\$	184,374	\$	_	\$	(4,805,015)
Special		1,241,538		136,960		491,076		-		(613,502)
Vocational		141,987		-		55,938		-		(86,049)
Other		59,412		-		32,234		-		(27,178)
Support services:										
Pupil		551,088		-		170,510		-		(380,578)
Instructional staff		412,962		3,350		21,500		-		(388,112)
Board of education		65,109		-		-		-		(65,109)
Administration		789,880		-		-		-		(789,880)
Fiscal		348,330		-		-		-		(348,330)
Operations and maintenance		1,013,050		7,599		23,960		45.000		(981,491)
Pupil transportation		537,279		21,694		223,233		45,000		(247,352)
Central Operation of non-instructional		16,323		-		-		-		(16,323)
services:				-0.4.0-0		4.4.004				(22.515)
Food service operations		443,470		294,930		124,894		-		(23,646)
Extracurricular activities		762,898		543,904		4,720		-		(214,274)
Facilities acquisition and construction Debt service:		604,663		-		-		-		(604,663)
Principal retirement		320,000								(320,000)
Interest and fiscal charges		369,350		-		-		-		(369,350)
interest and risear charges	-	309,330	-							(309,330)
Total governmental activities	\$	12,763,049	\$	1,104,758	\$	1,332,439	\$	45,000		(10,280,852)
			Prope Ger Spe Del Caj	eral cash receiperty taxes levice neral purposes ecial revenue bt service pital outlay	d for:					2,846,638 60,974 762,983 202,521
			-	nents in lieu of						254,100
			Gen	me taxes levied neral purposes ts and entitleme						3,089,238
			rest	ricted to specifi	c progr	rams				3,830,689
			Inves	stment earnings						221,538
			Misc	ellaneous						23,782
				l general cash re	-					11,292,463
				nge in net positi		e				1,011,611
			•	position at beg	·	•			•	8,640,186
			net	position at end	or year	ı			\$	9,651,797

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS JUNE 30, 2023

	(General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds		Total Governmental Funds	
Assets:						
Equity in pooled cash						
and investments	\$	7,493,179	\$	2,158,618	\$	9,651,797
Fund balances:						
Restricted:						
Debt service	\$	-	\$	749,948	\$	749,948
Capital improvements		-		551,893		551,893
Classroom facilities maintenance		-		211,425		211,425
Food service operations		-		227,647		227,647
State funded programs		-		4,314		4,314
Extracurricular		-		393,347		393,347
Other purposes		-		20,044		20,044
Assigned:						
Student and staff support		18,610		-		18,610
School supplies		148,752		-		148,752
Other purposes		3,512		-		3,512
Unassigned		7,322,305		-		7,322,305
Total fund balances	\$	7,493,179	\$	2,158,618	\$	9,651,797

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Gover		Nonmajor overnmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds	
Receipts:	,				
Property taxes	\$ 2,846,638	\$	1,026,478	\$	3,873,116
Income taxes	3,089,238		-		3,089,238
Intergovernmental	4,325,043		804,377		5,129,420
Investment earnings	209,002		20,157		229,159
Tuition and fees	256,857		-		256,857
Extracurricular	25,194		518,710		543,904
Rental income	6,329		1,270		7,599
Charges for services	1,468		294,930		296,398
Contributions and donations	2,000		71,087		73,087
Payment in lieu of taxes	254,100		_		254,100
Miscellaneous	21,782		_		21,782
Total receipts	11,037,651		2,737,009		13,774,660
Disbursements: Current: Instruction:					
Regular	4,883,383		202,327		5,085,710
Special	1,019,558		221,980		1,241,538
Vocational	139,235		2,752		141,987
Other	27,178		32,234		59,412
Support services:	27,170		32,23 .		55,112
Pupil	540,637		10,451		551,088
Instructional staff	391,462		21,500		412,962
Board of education	65,109		21,500		65,109
Administration	789,880				789,880
Fiscal	327,648		20,682		348,330
Operations and maintenance	898,296		114,754		1,013,050
Pupil transportation	302,479				537,279
Central			234,800		
	16,323		-		16,323
Operation of non-instructional services:			442 470		442 470
Food service operations Extracurricular activities	212.000		443,470		443,470
	312,980		449,918		762,898
Facilities acquisition and construction Debt service:	-		604,663		604,663
Principal retirement	-		320,000		320,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-		369,350		369,350
Total disbursements	 9,714,168		3,048,881		12,763,049
Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements	 1,323,483		(311,872)		1,011,611
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers in	-		250,017		250,017
Transfers (out)	-		(250,017)		(250,017)
Total other financing sources (uses)	-		-		-
Net change in fund balances	1,323,483		(311,872)		1,011,611
Fund balances at beginning of year	 6,169,696		2,470,490		8,640,186
Fund balances at end of year	\$ 7,493,179	\$	2,158,618	\$	9,651,797

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGET BASIS) GENERAL FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

		d Amounts	-	Variance with Final Budget Positive	
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)	
Receipts:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •				
Property taxes	\$ 2,488,644	\$ 2,488,644	\$ 2,846,638	\$ 357,994	
Income taxes	3,116,150	3,116,150	3,089,238	(26,912)	
Intergovernmental	4,243,228	4,243,228	4,325,043	81,815	
Investment earnings	95,000	95,000	209,002	114,002	
Tuition and fees	144,000	144,000	178,687	34,687	
Rental income	2,700	2,700	6,329	3,629	
Charges for services	3,000	3,000	1,468	(1,532)	
Contributions and donations	245.000	245,000	2,000	2,000	
Payment in lieu of taxes	245,000	245,000	254,100	9,100	
Miscellaneous	10,000	10,000	9,485	(515)	
Total receipts	10,347,722	10,347,722	10,921,990	574,268	
Disbursements:					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular	4,954,381	4,925,077	4,812,401	112,676	
Special	927,900	1,038,684	1,019,558	19,126	
Vocational	148,800	148,415	139,235	9,180	
Other	24,900	27,300	27,178	122	
Support services:					
Pupil	509,950	546,351	540,637	5,714	
Instructional staff	482,951	445,676	387,695	57,981	
Board of education	110,800	66,750	65,109	1,641	
Administration	795,450	804,196	789,880	14,316	
Fiscal	325,500	354,850	327,648	27,202	
Operations and maintenance	879,900	914,202	898,296	15,906	
Pupil transportation	266,320	305,368	302,479	2,889	
Central	19,900	19,045	16,323	2,722	
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Other non-instructional services	100	100	-	100	
Extracurricular activities	307,750	298,049	290,071	7,978	
Total disbursements	9,754,602	9,894,063	9,616,510	277,553	
Excess of receipts over disbursements	593,120	453,659	1,305,480	851,821	
Other financing sources (uses):					
Refund of prior year disbursements	10,000	10,000	13,146	3,146	
Refund of prior year's receipts	-	(250)	(250)	-	
Transfers in	171,547	171,547	171,547	-	
Transfers (out)	_	(171,547)		_	
Contingencies	(2,000)	(2,000)		2,000	
Sale of assets	12,000	12,000	12,547	547	
Total other financing sources (uses)	191,547	19,750	25,443	5,693	
Net change in fund balance	784,667	473,409	1,330,923	857,514	
Unencumbered fund balance at beginning of year	5,991,382	5,991,382	5,991,382	-	
Unencumbered fund balance at end of year	\$ 6,776,049	\$ 6,464,791	\$ 7,322,305	\$ 857,514	

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - CASH BASIS FIDUCIARY FUND JUNE 30, 2023

	C	ustodial
Assets: Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$	10,115
Net position: Held for individuals	\$	10,115

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - CASH BASIS FIDUCIARY FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Cı	ustodial
Additions:	·	177
Earnings on investments	Ф	177
Deductions:		
Scholarships awarded		125
Change in net position		52
Net position at beginning of year		10,063
Net position at end of year	\$	10,115

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

New Bremen 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 serves an area of approximately thirty-six square miles. It is located in Auglaize, Mercer, and Shelby Counties. It is staffed by 36 classified employees, 66 certified teaching personnel, and 7 administrators who provide services to 809 students and other community members. The School District currently operates two instructional buildings.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Reporting Entity

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

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

The School District participates in two jointly governed organization, three insurance pools, and one joint venture. These organizations are the Western Ohio Computer Organization, Auglaize County Educational Academy, Ohio School Plan, Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefit Plan Trust, Cincinnati Regional Chamber of Commerce Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan, and Tri-Star Career Compact. These organizations are presented in Notes 17, 18, and 19 to the basic financial statements.

These financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This 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. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

B. 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.

<u>Government-Wide Financial Statements</u> - 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.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

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 compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the School District is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services and grants, contributions, and interest restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, 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 School District's general receipts.

<u>Fund Financial Statements</u> - 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.

C. 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 divided into 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.

<u>General Fund</u> - 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.

Other governmental funds of the School District are used to account for (a) financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets, and (b) specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to an expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds, and custodial funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the School District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are not available to support the School District's own programs. The School District has no trust funds. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The School District's custodial fund accounts for scholarship funds collected and distributed on behalf of the Schrage Family.

D. Basis of Accounting

The School District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, 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 a liability is incurred.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

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

E. Budgetary Process

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the summary of levy funds, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The summary of levy funds provides the County Budget Commission information on the estimated receipts and disbursements for those funds that receive property tax receipts. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control selected by the Board is at the object level for the General Fund and the fund level for all other funds. Budgetary allocations at the function level for the General Fund and the function and object level for all other funds are made by the School District Treasurer.

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

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

F. Cash and Investments

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

During fiscal year 2023, the School District invested in nonnegotiable certificates of deposit, commercial paper, negotiable certificates of deposit (negotiable CDs), Federal Home Loan Bank Discount Note (FHLB) Securities, Federal Farm Credit Bank Note (FFCB), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC) Securities, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Treasury money market fund and STAR Ohio. Investments are recorded at cost.

The School District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The School District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2023 was \$209,002, which included \$37,186 assigned from other School District funds.

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

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts (contra revenue), respectively.

G. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. The financial statements do not report these assets.

H. Compensated Absences

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

I. Leases

The School District is the lessee in a lease related to equipment under a noncancelable lease. Leases payable are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

J. Long-Term Obligations

The School District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds. 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, financed purchase transaction, or Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangement (SBITA) is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments, financed purchase payments, and SBITA payments are reported when paid.

K. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its 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 local grants. The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

L. Fund Balance

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

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

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

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

<u>Assigned</u> - Amounts in the assigned classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds, other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. Assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Education. The Board of Education has authorized the Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

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

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

M. Interfund Activity

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

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

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

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

N. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board of Education and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during fiscal year 2023.

O. Pension/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

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

P. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

The School District has SBITAS under noncancelable arrangements. SBITA payables are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2023, the School District has implemented GASB Statement No. 91, "<u>Conduit Debt Obligations</u>", GASB Statement No. 94, "<u>Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements</u>", GASB Statement No. 96, "<u>Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements</u>", certain questions and answers of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 and certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "Omnibus 2022".

GASB Statement No. 91 provides a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations by issuers and eliminate diversity in practice associated with (1) commitments extended by issuers, (2) arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations, and (3) related note disclosures. This Statement achieves those objectives by clarifying the existing definition of a conduit debt obligation; establishing that a conduit debt obligation is not a liability of the issuer; establishing standards for accounting and financial reporting of additional commitments and voluntary commitments extended by issuers and arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations; and improving required note disclosures. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 91 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 94 is to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public partnership arrangements (PPPs). As used in this Statement, a PPP is an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contracts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide public services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 94 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 96 provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users (governments). This Statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards for SBITAs are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended. The notes to the basic financial statements include the disclosure requirements under the Statement.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 99 to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

B. 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 basic financial statements on a cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying basic financial statements omit assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, 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 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

- 1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
- Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, 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;

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

- 4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio or Ohio local governments;
- 5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
- 6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2);
- 7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio); and,
- 8. Certain banker's acceptance and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed two-hundred seventy days from the purchase date in an amount not to exceed forty percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time.

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

A. Cash on Hand

At fiscal year end, the School District had \$150 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the School District as part of "equity in pooled cash and investments."

B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2023, the carrying amount of all School District deposits was \$561,020. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures", as of June 30, 2023, \$589,700 of the School District's bank balance of \$855,471 was collateralized by pledged collateral held by a financial institution in the School District's name as discussed below, while \$265,771 was covered by the FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the School District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) 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 fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a reduced rate set by the Treasurer of State. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the School District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

C. Investments

As of June 30, 2023, the School District had the following investments.

		Investment Maturities				
	Carrying	6 months or	7 to 12	13 to 18	19 to 24	Greater than
<u>Investment type</u>	Value	less	months	months	months	24 months
STAR Ohio	\$ 1,019,814	\$ 1,019,814	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Negotiable CD's	2,001,276	248,751	244,876	791,300	248,751	467,598
Commercial Paper	2,244,957	1,156,415	1,088,542	-	-	-
FHLB	1,079,903	-	130,000	774,903	105,000	70,000
FFCB	388,456	-	-	99,848	-	288,608
FHLMC	299,816	149,816	-	-	-	150,000
U.S. Treasury notes	1,563,932	248,398	614,139	194,619	-	506,776
U. S. Treasury						
money market fund	502,588	502,588				
Total	\$ 9,100,742	\$ 3,325,782	\$ 2,077,557	\$ 1,860,670	\$ 353,751	\$ 1,482,982

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The investment policy restricts the Treasurer from investing in any securities other than those identified in the Ohio Revised Code and that all investments must mature within five years from the date of investment unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District. The Treasurer is also restricted from purchasing investments that cannot be held until the maturity date.

The negotiable certificates of deposit are insured by FDIC or SIPC insurance. The U.S. Treasury money market fund was not rated. The commercial paper carries a rating of P-1 by Moody's and A-1+ and A-1 from Standard and Poor's. The FHLB, FFCB and FHLMC Securities carries a rating of Aaa by Moody's and AA+ and AAA from Standard and Poor's. The U.S. Treasury notes carry a rating of Aaa by Moody's and AA+ by Standard & Poor's. STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAA by Standard and Poor's. The School District has no policy dealing with credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that mutual funds in eligible securities must be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service.

For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

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

	Carrying	
Investment type	Value	% of Total
STAR Ohio \$	1,019,814	11.21
Negotiable CD's	2,001,276	21.99
Commercial Paper	2,244,957	24.67
FHLB	1,079,903	11.87
FFCB	388,456	4.27
FHLMC	299,816	3.29
U.S. Treasury notes	1,563,932	17.18
U. S. Treasury		
money market fund	502,588	5.52
Total <u>\$</u>	9,100,742	100.00

D. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position

The following is a reconciliation of cash as reported in the note above to cash as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2023:

Cash and investments per note	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 561,020
Investments	9,100,742
Cash on hand	 150
Total	\$ 9,661,912
Cash and investments per statement of net position	
Governmental funds	\$ 9,651,797
Custodial fund	 10,115
Total	\$ 9,661,912

NOTE 5 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The budget basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis presented for the general fund is prepared on the budget basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budget basis and the cash basis is outstanding year-end encumbrances that are treated as cash disbursements (budget basis) rather than as an assignment of fund balance (cash basis).

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 5 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING - (Continued)

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the budget basis statement to the cash basis statement for the general fund:

Net Change in Fund Cash Balance

	G	eneral fund
Budget basis	\$	1,330,923
Funds budgeted elsewhere	_	(7,440)
Cash basis	\$	1,323,483

Certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund on a cash basis. This includes the uniform school supplies fund, public schools support fund, and trust fund.

NOTE 6 - 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 effective on January 1, 2005, for five years. On May 5, 2009, the income tax levy was renewed by the voters for an additional five years beginning on January 1, 2010. On May 6, 2014, the income tax levy was passed by the voters as a continuing levy. 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 receipts are recorded in the General Fund.

NOTE 7 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenues received in calendar year 2023 represent the collection of calendar year 2022 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2023 were levied after April 1, 2022, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2021, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised fair value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2023 represent the collection of calendar year 2022 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2023 became a lien on December 31, 2021, were levied after April 1, 2022, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Auglaize, Mercer, and Shelby Counties. The County Auditors periodically advance to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the counties by June 30, 2023, are available to finance fiscal year 2023 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 7 - PROPERTY TAXES - (Continued)

The assessed values upon which fiscal year 2023 taxes were collected are:

	2022 Second Half Collections			2023 Firs Half Collect	
	 Amount	Amount Percent Amo		Amount	Percent
Real Public utility	 137,199,630 3,831,110	97.28 2.72	_	138,046,010 4,054,730	97.15 2.85
Total	\$ 141,030,740	100.00	\$	142,100,740	100.00
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$51.31			\$49.21	

NOTE 8 - PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES

According to State law, the Village of New Bremen has entered into agreements with a number of property owners under which the Village has granted property tax exemptions to those property owners. The property owners have agreed to make payments to the Village which reflect all or a portion of the property taxes which the property owners would have paid if their taxes had not been exempted. The agreements require 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 agreements expire. The School District recorded \$254,100 in payment in lieu of taxes during fiscal year 2023.

NOTE 9 - INTERFUND ACTIVITY

Transfers

During fiscal year 2023, the School District transferred \$242,796 and \$3,727 from the Ohio School Facilities Construction fund (a nonmajor capital projects fund) to the Building fund (a nonmajor capital projects fund) and the Capital Projects fund (a nonmajor capital projects fund), respectively. The purpose of the transfers was to close out the Ohio School Facilities Construction fund (a nonmajor capital projects fund) and to move the local interest earnings from the Ohio School Facilities Construction Commission project in accordance with the project agreement.

The School District also transferred \$3,494 from the Other grant fund (a nonmajor special revenue fund) to the Student Managed Activity fund (a nonmajor special revenue fund). The purpose of the transfer was to allocate the amount to a specific program.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financials statements.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 10 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

During fiscal year 2023, the School District contracted for the following insurance coverage.

Coverage provided by the Ohio School Plan is as follows:

General Liability

Per Occurrence \$ 3,000,000 Aggregate \$ 5,000,000

Coverage provided by Ohio School Plan is as follows:

Building and Contents \$43,905,659 Automobile Liability 3,000,000 Excess Liability 1,000,000

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

For fiscal year 2023, the School District participated in the Ohio School Plan (Plan), an insurance purchasing pool. Each participant enters into an individual agreement with the Plan for insurance coverage and pays annual premiums to the Plan based on the types and limits of coverage and deductibles selected by the participant.

The School District participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Benefit Plan Trust (the "EPC"). The School District pays monthly premiums to the EPC for employee medical and prescription insurance benefits. The EPC is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the EPC, a participant is responsible for the payment of all EPC liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal. See Note 18 for more information about the EPC Trust, an insurance pool.

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

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset reported on the statement of net position represents a liability or asset to employees for pensions and OPEB, respectively.

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 obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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.

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

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 cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 12 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to	Eligible to		
	Retire on or before	Retire after		
	August 1, 2017 *	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; or 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.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service; 2.2% for the first thirty years of service and 2.5% for years of service credit over 30. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it will be indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0%. In 2022, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2023.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14.00% 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 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% 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, 2023, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00%. For fiscal year 2023, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$170,429 for fiscal year 2023.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - Licensed teachers participate in STRS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS website at www.strsoh.org.

New members have a choice of three retirement plans: a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined (CO) 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 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2023 when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years of service credit regardless of age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 9.53% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS Ohio. The remaining 4.47% of the 14% 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.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12% of the 14% member rate goes to the DC Plan and the remaining 2% 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 after termination of employment 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 to 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 2023 employer and employee contribution rate of 14% was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2023, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$674,362 for fiscal year 2023.

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, 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:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension			
liability prior measurement date	0.029808700%	0.034444692%	
Proportion of the net pension			
liability current measurement date	0.030865300%	0.034777900%	
Change in proportionate share	0.001056600%	0.000333208%	
Proportionate share of the net			
pension liability	\$ 1,669,435	\$ 7,731,172	\$ 9,400,607

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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, 2022, are presented below:

Wage inflation:

Current measurement date 2.40% Prior measurement date 2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

Current measurement date 3.25% to 13.58% Prior measurement date 3.25% to 13.58%

COLA or ad hoc COLA:

Current measurement date 2.00% Prior measurement date 2.00%

Investment rate of return:

Current measurement date 7.00% net of system expenses Prior measurement date 7.00% net of system expenses

Discount rate:

Current measurement date 7.00%
Prior measurement date 7.00%

Actuarial cost method Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

In 2022, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among 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% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

	Target	Long-Term Expected
Asset Class	Allocation	Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate - The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. 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%). 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%, 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%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	Current					
	1% Decrease		Discount Rate		1% Increase	
School District's proportionate share						
of the net pension liability	\$	2,457,329	\$	1,669,435	\$	1,005,646

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation are presented below:

	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	12.50% at age 20 to
		2.50% at age 65
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment	7.00%, net of investment
	expenses, including inflation	expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.00%
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments	0.00%	0.00%
(COLA)		

For the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

STRS Ohio's investment consultant develops an estimate range for the investment return assumption based on the target allocation adopted by the Retirement Board. The target allocation and long-term expected rate of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.60 %
International Equity	22.00	6.80
Alternatives	19.00	7.38
Fixed Income	22.00	1.75
Real Estate	10.00	5.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	1.00
Total	100.00 %	

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

- * Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.
- **10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio's investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. 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 the rates described previously. 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 Ohio's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following table represents the net pension liability as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

	Current					
	1% Decrease		Discount Rate		1% Increase	
School District's proportionate share						
of the net pension liability	\$	11,678,985	\$	7,731,172	\$	4,392,543

Changes Between Measurement Date and Reporting Date - STRS approved a one-time 1.00% cost-of-living adjustment to eligible benefit recipients effective July 1, 2023. It is unknown what effect this change will have on the net pension liability.

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 11 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. The SERS Retirement Board established the rules for the premiums paid by the retirees for health care coverage for themselves and their dependents or for their surviving beneficiaries. Premiums vary depending on the plan selected, qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment 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 2023, this amount was \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2023, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$19,695.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$19,695 for fiscal year 2023.

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 Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, 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, 2022, and the total OPEB liability/asset 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.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

		SERS		STRS	 Total
Proportion of the net OPEB					
liability/asset prior measurement date	0.0	30789200%	0.0	034444692%	
Proportion of the net OPEB					
liability/asset current measurement date	0.0	31401300%	0.0	034777900%	
Change in proportionate share	0.0	00612100%	0.0	000333208%	
Proportionate share of the net					
OPEB liability	\$	440,878	\$	-	\$ 440,878
Proportionate share of the net					
OPEB asset	\$	-	\$	(900,515)	\$ (900,515)

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.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2022 are presented below:

Wage in	ıtlatıon:

Current measurement date 2.40% Prior measurement date 2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

Current measurement date 3.25% to 13.58% Prior measurement date 3.25% to 13.58%

Investment rate of return:

Current measurement date 7.00% net of investment

expense, including inflation

Prior measurement date 7.00% net of investment

expense, including inflation

Municipal bond index rate:

Current measurement date 3.69% 1.92% Prior measurement date

Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense,

including price inflation:

Current measurement date 4.08% Prior measurement date 2.27%

Medical trend assumption:

Current measurement date 7.00 to 4.40%

Prior measurement date

5.125 to 4.400% Medicare Pre-Medicare 6.750 to 4.400%

In 2022, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among 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% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

In the prior measurement date, mortality rates 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% 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% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The most recent experience study was completed 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 5-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2016 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 long-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%, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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 are summarized as follows:

	Target	Long-Term Expected
Asset Class	Allocation	Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2022, was 4.08%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2022, was 2.27%. 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% of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% 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, 2022 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 3.69% at June 30, 2022 and 1.92% at June 30, 2021.

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, what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.08%) and higher (5.08%) than the current discount rate (4.08%). Also shown is what the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.40%).

	1%	Decrease		Current count Rate	1% Increase		
School District's proportionate share	Ф.	5.47.577	Φ.	440.070	Φ.	254.742	
of the net OPEB liability	2	547,577	\$	440,878	\$	354,742	
			(Current			
	1%	Decrease	Tr	end Rate	1%	Increase	
School District's proportionate share							
of the net OPEB liability	\$	339,996	\$	440,878	\$	572,646	

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation, compared with June 30, 2021 actuarial valuation, are presented below:

	June 3	0, 2022	June 3	0, 2021
Inflation	2.50%		2.50%	
Projected salary increases	Varies by service	e from 2.50%	12.50% at age 20) to
	to 8.50%		2.50% at age 65	
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of inv	estment	7.00%, net of inv	estment
	expenses, include	ding inflation	expenses, includ	ding inflation
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%		0.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.00%	
Blended discount rate of return	N/A		N/A	
Health care cost trends				
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	3.94%	5.00%	4.00%
Medicare	-68.78%	3.94%	-16.18%	4.00%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	9.00%	3.94%	6.50%	4.00%
Medicare	-5.47%	3.94%	29.98%	4.00%

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

For the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate remained unchanged at 7.00% for the June 30, 2022 valuation.

Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - Salary increase rates were updated based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021 and were changed from age based to service based.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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 Real Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.60 %
International Equity	22.00	6.80
Alternatives	19.00	7.38
Fixed Income	22.00	1.75
Real Estate	10.00	5.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	1.00
Total	100.00 %	

^{*} Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on those 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, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022.

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, 2022, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, 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%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) 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.

			(Current			
	1%	Decrease	Dis	count Rate	1% Increase		
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$	832,503	\$	900,515	\$	958,774	
	1% Decrease		Current Trend Rate		1%	Increase	
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$	934,054	\$	900,515	\$	858,182	

^{**10-}Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio's investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 13 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Classified employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. The superintendent and treasurer earn twenty days of vacation per year. Accumulated unused vacation time is paid to the superintendent and the treasurer on a yearly basis up to five days. The superintendent can roll up to five vacation days per year to max of fifteen days and is paid out upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. All employees may accumulate sick leave up to a maximum of two hundred forty days. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fourth of accrued but unused sick leave credit to a maximum of sixty days.

B. Health Care Benefits

The School District offers medical and dental insurance to most employees through Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Benefit Plan Trust. In addition, the School District offers life insurance through American United Life Insurance Company.

C. Separation Benefit

The School District provides a separation benefit to eligible certified employees. A full-time employee who elects to retire within thirty days after the end of the school year in which they initially become eligible for retirement under the pension eligibility criteria will be paid \$15,000.

NOTE 14 - DEBT OBLIGATIONS

Changes in the School District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2023 were as follows:

General Obligation Bonds:	_	Balance Outstanding 06/30/22		Additions		Reductions	(Balance Outstanding 06/30/23	_	Amount Due in One Year
2017 School Facilities Construction										
and Improvement Bonds	\$	4,010,000	\$	-	\$	(200,000)	\$	3,810,000	\$	210,000
2021 Refunding Bonds										
Current Interest		9,285,000		-		(120,000)		9,165,000		105,000
Capital Appreciation		70,000		-		_		70,000		-
Accreted Interest		10,710	_	30,509	_		_	41,219	_	
Total debt obligations	\$	13,375,710	\$	30,509	\$	(320,000)	\$	13,086,219	\$	315,000

<u>Series 2017 School Facilities Construction and Improvement Bonds</u> - On September 20, 2017, the School District issued general obligation bonds in the amount of \$14,365,000 for the purpose of constructing, improving, equipping and furnishing school facilities and improvements. Interest rates on the serial and term bonds ranges from 2.00% to 4.00%. Principal and interest payments will be made from the Bond Retirement fund (a nonmajor fund). Interest payments are due June 1 and December 1 of each year. The final maturity stated on the issue is December 1, 2047.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 14 - DEBT OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

Principal and interest requirements to retire the Series 2017 current interest bonds are as follows:

Fiscal	General Obligation Bonds								
Year Ended	_	Principal Inte		Interest	_	Total			
2024	\$	210,000	\$	129,093	\$	339,093			
2025		245,000		121,044		366,044			
2026		260,000		110,944		370,944			
2027		-		105,744		105,744			
2028		-		105,743		105,743			
2029 - 2033		-		528,719		528,719			
2034 - 2038		-		528,719		528,719			
2039 - 2043		2,065,000		425,697		2,490,697			
2044 - 2048	_	1,030,000	_	86,975		1,116,975			
Total	\$	3,810,000	\$	2,142,678	\$	5,952,678			

<u>Series 2021 Refunding Bonds</u> - On December 22, 2021, the School District issued \$9,355,000 in Series 2021 Refunding bonds (general obligation bonds) to advance refund \$9,375,000 of the Series 2017 School Facilities Construction and Improvement bonds. The School District made a cash contribution of \$600,000, which was included in the payment to refunding bond escrow agent. The refunding bond issue is comprised of both current interest bonds, par value \$9,285,000, and capital appreciation bonds, par value \$70,000. The interest rate on the current interest bonds ranges from 0.47 percent to 3.10 percent. The capital appreciation bonds mature on December 1, 2029, 2030, and 2031 (stated interest ranges from 32.98 percent to 37.01 percent) at a redemption price equal to 100 percent of the principal, plus accrued interest to the redemption date. The accreted value at maturity for the capital appreciation bonds is \$1,120,000.

The net present value savings of the refunding was \$651,546. The issuance proceeds were used to purchase securities which were placed in an irrevocable trust to provide resources for all future debt service payments on the refunded debt. The refunded bonds, which have a balance of \$9,375,000, were not included in the School District's outstanding debt obligations since the School District has in-substance satisfied its obligations through the advance refunding.

Principal and interest payments will be made from the Bond Retirement fund (a nonmajor fund). Interest payments are due June 1 and December 1 of each year. The final maturity stated on the issue is December 1, 2047.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the Series 2021 refunding bonds are as follows:

Fiscal		Сι	ırrer	nt Interest Bo	nds		Capital Appreciation Bond				nds	
Year Ended	Princ	cipal_	_	Interest	Total		P ₁	<u>Principal</u>		terest		Total
2024	\$ 1	05,000	\$	233,499	\$	338,499	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
2025	1	05,000		232,664		337,664		-		-		-
2026	1	05,000		231,483		336,483		-		-		-
2027	3	80,000		228,094		608,094		_		-		-
2028	4	15,000		222,015		637,015		-		-		-
2029 - 2033	1,1	55,000		1,044,831		2,199,831		70,000	1,0	050,000		1,120,000
2034 - 2038	2,7	70,000		805,688		3,575,688		-		-		-
2039 - 2043	1,2	70,000		472,247		1,742,247		-		-		-
2044 - 2048	2,8	60,000		227,987		3,087,987						
Total	\$ 9,1	65,000	\$	3,698,508	\$	12,863,508	\$	70,000	\$ 1,0	050,000	\$	1,120,000

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 14 - DEBT OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

<u>Legal Debt Margin</u> - Revised Code Section 133.06(I) permits school districts to incur net indebtedness in excess of the 9% limitation, without obtaining the consent of the State Superintendent and the Tax Commissioner, when bond proceeds will be used exclusively to fund a school district's Commission-required local effort. Accordingly, the proceeds of the bonds will be used exclusively to fund the School District's Commission-required local effort, and, as a result, are not subject to State consents/special needs approval.

The School District's overall debt margin was \$494,015 with an unvoted debt margin of \$142,101 at June 30, 2023.

NOTE 15 - SET ASIDES

The School District is required by State statute to annually set aside, in the General Fund, an amount based on a statutory formula for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the fiscal year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. This amount must be carried forward and used for the same purpose in future years. The following cash basis information identifies the change in the fund balance for capital improvements during fiscal year 2023.

	<u>Im</u> j	Capital provements
Balance June 30, 2022	\$	-
Current year set-aside requirement		172,481
Current year qualifying disbursements		(155,698)
Current year offsets		(282,019)
Total	\$	(265,236)
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2024	\$	
Set-aside balance June 30, 2023	\$	

NOTE 16 - DONOR RESTRICTED ENDOWMENTS

The School District's custodial fund includes donor restricted endowments. Endowments, in the amount of \$10,000, represent the principal portion. The amount of net appreciation in donor restricted investments that is available for expenditures by the School District is \$115 and is included as restricted for individuals. State law permits the School District to appropriate, for purposes consistent with the endowment's intent, net appreciation, realized and unrealized, unless the endowment terms specify otherwise. The endowment indicates that the interest should be used to provide a scholarship each year. The School District does not have administrative involvement in selecting the recipients of the scholarship.

NOTE 17 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Western Ohio Computer Organization

The School District is a participant in the Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO). WOCO is an association of public school districts within the boundaries of Auglaize, Champaign, Hardin, Logan, Miami, and Shelby counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member school districts. The governing board of WOCO consists of two representatives from each county elected by majority vote of all charter member school districts within each county plus a representative from the fiscal agent school district. Financial information can be obtained from the Western Ohio Computer Organization, 129 East Court Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 17 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS - (Continued)

B. Auglaize County Educational Academy

The School District is a participant in the Auglaize County Educational Academy (ACEA), which is a community school. The ACEA is an association of the school districts within Auglaize County to provide general curricular education for kindergarten through twelfth grade students for gifted, regular, and special education instruction through the use of a virtual curriculum. The governing board of the ACEA consists of the superintendents from each of the participating school districts. Financial information can be obtained from the Auglaize County Educational Service Center, 1045 Dearbaugh Avenue, Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895.

NOTE 18 - INSURANCE POOLS

A. Ohio School Plan

The School District participates in the Ohio School Plan (Plan), an insurance purchasing pool established under Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Plan 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 Plan's business and affairs are conducted by a fifteen member board consisting of superintendents, treasurers, a member of the Harcum-Schuett Insurance Agency, Inc., and a member of the Hylant Group, Inc. The Hylant Group, Inc. is the Plan's administrator and is responsible for processing claims. Harcum-Schuett Insurance Agency serves as the sales and marketing representative which established agreements between the Plan and its members. Financial information can be obtained from the Hylant Administrative Services, 811 Madison Avenue, 11th Floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

B. Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefit Plan Trust

The School District participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefit Plan Trust (EPC). The EPC is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of 55 school districts. The EPC is organized as a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501C(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical, dental, and vision insurance benefits to the employees of the participants. The EPC is governed by the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative and its participating members. Each participant decides which plan offered by the EPC will be extended to its employees. Participation in the EPC is by written application subject to acceptance by the EPC and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information may be obtained from the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, at 303 Coporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, Ohio 45377.

C. Cincinnati Regional Chamber of Commerce Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The School District participates in a group rating plan for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Cincinnati Regional Chamber of Commerce Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (Plan) was established through the Cincinnati Regional Chamber of Commerce as an insurance purchasing pool. The Plan is governed by the Chamber of Commerce and the participants of the Plan. The Director of Member Benefits of the Chamber of Commerce coordinates the management and administration of the Plan. Each year, the participants pay an enrollment fee to the Plan to cover the costs of administering the Plan.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 19 - JOINT VENTURE

Tri-Star Career Compact

The School District participates in the Tri-Star Career Compact (the "Compact"), a joint venture with eight other school districts. The eight participating school districts comprise a "qualifying partnership" as defined by Ohio Revised Code Section 3318.71. The purpose of the Compact is to establish and maintain a career technical education program in accordance with standards adopted by the State Board of Education.

The joint venture is served by an advisory council consisting of two representatives each from the St. Marys City School District, the Celina City School District, and the Coldwater Exempted Village School District, three members representing the local school districts in Auglaize County (Minster, New Bremen and New Knoxville), and three members representing the local school districts in Mercer County (Fort Recovery, Marion, and St. Henry). Members serve terms of two years. The advisory council serves at the discretion of the Boards of Education of the participating school districts and is not responsible to serve the electorate in any legal capacity.

In fiscal year 2016. The joint venture issued \$16,999,987 in classroom facilities bonds to acquire classroom facilities. The bonds are a general obligation of the "qualifying partnership". The bonds have an interest rate ranging from 2 percent to 4.2 percent and mature in fiscal year 2032. The bonds will be repaid from the resources of a property tax levied by the qualifying partnership and the qualifying partnership is obligated to pay all debt service on the bonds. If the proceeds of the tax collection are less than anticipated in any particular year resulting in insufficient resources to pay the principal and interest requirements of the bonds, the school districts making up the partnership are obligated to make up the amount of any shortfall.

In addition, each participating school district is required to contribute a service fee and a reserve capital fee for each participating student from their school district and may incur excess costs for operations of the Compact.

The joint venture has not currently accumulated significant financial resources nor is the joint venture experiencing fiscal stress that would cause an additional financial benefit to or burden on the participants; however, all participants have an ongoing financial responsibility as outlined above. Financial information may be obtained from the Celina City School District who serves as fiscal agent for the joint venture.

NOTE 20 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2023.

B. Litigation

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

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 20 - CONTINGENCIES - (Continued)

C. Foundation Funding

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Traditional districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the School District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODE has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2023 Foundation funding for the School District. The adjustments were not significant to the School District.

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SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

FEDERAL GRANTOR	Federal Assistance	
Pass Through Grantor	Listing	Total Federal
Program / Cluster Title	Number	Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce		
Child Nutrition Cluster:		
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution):		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	\$27,647
Cash Assistance:		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	181,678
COVID-19 - Special Milk Program for Children	10.556	18,226
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		227,551
COVID-19 State Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Administrative Cost Grants	10.649	628
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		228,179
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce		
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	30,963
Special Education Cluster		
Special Education - Grants to States	84.027	158,592
Total Special Education Cluster		158,592
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	10,860
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	10,000
COVID-19 - Education Stabilization Fund		
ARP - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	84.425U	388,746
Total U.S. Department of Education		599,161
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		\$827,340

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS 2 CFR 200.510(b)(6) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE A - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of New Bremen Local School District (the School District) under programs of the federal government for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. 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 School District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the School 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 School 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 School District commingles cash receipts from the U.S. Department of Agriculture with similar State grants. When reporting expenditures on this Schedule, the School District assumes it expends federal monies first.

NOTE E - FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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



65 East State Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov 800-282-0370

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

New Bremen Local School District Auglaize County 901 East Monroe Street New Bremen, Ohio 45869

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 the 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 the New Bremen Local School District, Auglaize County, (the School District) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 17, 2024, wherein we noted the School District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School 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 School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School 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 School 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.

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New Bremen Local School District Auglaize County Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School 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 matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2023-001.

School District's Response to Finding

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

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

April 17, 2024



65 East State Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov 800-282-0370

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

New Bremen Local School District Auglaize County 901 East Monroe Street New Bremen, Ohio 45869

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We have audited New Bremen Local School District's, Auglaize County, (the School 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 New Bremen Local School District's major federal program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. New Bremen 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, New Bremen 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 fiscal year ended June 30, 2023.

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 School 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 School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

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New Bremen Local School District
Auglaize County
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
Page 2

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

The School 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 School 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 School 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 School 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 School 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 School 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 School 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.

New Bremen Local School District
Auglaize County
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
Page 3

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

April 17, 2024

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SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS 2 CFR § 200.515 JUNE 30, 2023

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified	
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?		
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No	
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?		
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	ontrol reported for major federal	
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No	
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified	
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No	
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund – AL #84.425U	
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others	
(d)(1)(ix)	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	No	

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

FINDING NUMBER 2023-001

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.

New Bremen Local School District Auglaize County Schedule of Findings Page 2

FINDING NUMBER 2023-001 (Continued)

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

The School District prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by 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 School 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 School District's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the School District. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the School District should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Officials' Response:

New Bremen Local School District has determined the time and financial resources to convert the reports to GAAP reporting has no offsetting benefit to the District.

3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None

901 E. Monroe Street New Bremen, Ohio 45869 PH: 419-629-8606

FX: 419-629-0115

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS 2 CFR 200.511(b) June 30, 2023

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2022-001	Ohio Rev. Code 117.38 & Ohio Admin Code 117-2-03(B) Noncompliance – Failure to File GAAP The school district did not file GAAP Statements in Fiscal Year 2022. This comment originated as 2018-001.	Not Corrected. Repeated as Finding 2023- 001.	New Bremen Local School District has determined the time and financial resources to convert the reports to GAAP reporting has no offsetting benefit to the District.
2022-002	Ohio Rev. Code 3307.26(C) – Non- Compliance – Failure to withhold retirement and submit contributions to STRS for employee Veronica Bell	Corrected.	Repayment being made in accordance with repayment plan between the School District and Veronica Bell. Balance to be repaid at June 30, 2023 is \$7,332.

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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2 CFR § 200.511(c) JUNE 30, 2023

Finding Number: 2023-001

Planned Corrective Action: New Bremen Local School District has determined the time and

financial resources to convert the reports to GAAP reporting has no

offsetting benefit to the District.

Anticipated Completion Date: Not Applicable

Responsible Contact Person: Jill Ahlers, Treasurer





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 5/14/2024

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