



**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

SINGLE AUDIT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

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**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

North Central Local School District
Williams County
400 East Baubice Street
Pioneer, Ohio 43554-9637

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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of North Central Local School District, Williams County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the 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 year then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

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

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Supplementary Information

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

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

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 13, 2024, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 13, 2024

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**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
JUNE 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 3,540,606</u>
Net position:	
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	10,152
Classroom facilities maintenance	273,501
Debt service	291,970
State funded programs	4,534
Federally funded programs	43,996
Food service operations	258,253
Student activities	245,088
Other purposes	8,953
Unrestricted	<u>2,404,159</u>
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 3,540,606</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>Charges for</u>	<u>Program Receipts</u>	<u>Capital Grants</u>	<u>Net (Disbursements)</u>
	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Services and Sales</u>	<u>Operating Grants</u>	<u>and Contributions</u>	<u>Receipts and</u>
			<u>and Contributions</u>	<u>and Contributions</u>	<u>Changes in</u>
					<u>Net Position</u>
					<u>Governmental</u>
					<u>Activities</u>
Governmental activities:					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 3,296,657	\$ 51,941	\$ 79,081		\$ (3,165,635)
Special	2,089,080		665,208		(1,423,872)
Vocational	235,500		34,858		(200,642)
Support services:					
Pupil	467,317		179,267		(288,050)
Instructional staff	364,605	1,514			(363,091)
Board of education	35,577				(35,577)
Administration	682,566	3,524			(679,042)
Fiscal	312,461				(312,461)
Business	7,381	11,242			3,861
Operations and maintenance	966,547	132	39,151	\$ 50,000	(877,264)
Pupil transportation	658,856	8,500	64,535		(585,821)
Central	199,492				(199,492)
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	290,614	49,095	155,822		(85,697)
Other non-instructional services	6,261		4,390		(1,871)
Extracurricular activities	875,834	125,791	303,098		(446,945)
Facilities acquisition and construction	26,113				(26,113)
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	310,000				(310,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	108,885				(108,885)
Totals	<u>\$ 10,933,746</u>	<u>\$ 251,739</u>	<u>\$ 1,525,410</u>	<u>\$ 50,000</u>	<u>(9,106,597)</u>
General receipts:					
Property taxes levied for:					
General purposes					3,044,204
Debt service					116,728
Capital outlay					384,267
Classroom facilities maintenance					51,211
Payments in lieu of taxes					549,568
Grants and entitlements not restricted					
to specific programs					4,123,820
Investment earnings					77,772
Miscellaneous					6,028
					<u>8,353,598</u>
					Change in net position (752,999)
					<u>Net position at beginning of year 4,293,605</u>
					<u>Net position at end of year \$ 3,540,606</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	General	Permanent Improvement	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,029,515	\$ 388,391	\$ 1,122,700	\$ 3,540,606
Fund balances:				
Restricted:				
Debt service			\$ 291,970	\$ 291,970
Capital improvements			10,152	10,152
Classroom facilities maintenance			273,501	273,501
Food service operations			258,253	258,253
State funded programs			4,534	4,534
Federally funded programs			43,996	43,996
Extracurricular			245,088	245,088
Other purposes			8,953	8,953
Committed:				
Capital improvements		\$ 388,391		388,391
Assigned:				
Student instruction	\$ 30,527			30,527
Student and staff support	310,463			310,463
Extracurricular activities	316			316
Subsequent year's appropriations	486,854			486,854
Educational activities	27,159			27,159
Unassigned (deficit)	1,174,196		(13,747)	1,160,449
Total fund balances	\$ 2,029,515	\$ 388,391	\$ 1,122,700	\$ 3,540,606

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>General</u>	<u>Permanent Improvement</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Receipts:				
Property taxes	\$ 3,044,204	\$ 384,267	\$ 167,939	\$ 3,596,410
Intergovernmental	4,563,225	47,302	759,605	5,370,132
Investment earnings	77,735	37	100	77,872
Tuition and fees	60,255			60,255
Extracurricular	19,736		122,516	142,252
Charges for services			49,232	49,232
Contributions and donations		42,530	286,468	328,998
Payment in lieu of taxes	549,568			549,568
Miscellaneous	6,028			6,028
Total receipts	<u>8,320,751</u>	<u>474,136</u>	<u>1,385,860</u>	<u>10,180,747</u>
Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,167,458	54,071	75,128	3,296,657
Special	1,654,821		434,259	2,089,080
Vocational	234,200		1,300	235,500
Support services:				
Pupil	467,317			467,317
Instructional staff	364,605			364,605
Board of education	35,577			35,577
Administration	682,566			682,566
Fiscal	300,703	8,420	3,338	312,461
Business	7,381			7,381
Operations and maintenance	862,138	73,893	30,516	966,547
Pupil transportation	642,111		16,745	658,856
Central	199,492			199,492
Operation of non-instructional services				
Food service operations			290,614	290,614
Other non-instructional services	2,668		3,593	6,261
Extracurricular activities	543,295	21,874	310,665	875,834
Facilities acquisition and construction			26,113	26,113
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	35,000	235,000	40,000	310,000
Interest and fiscal charges	17,399	17,781	73,705	108,885
Total disbursements	<u>9,216,731</u>	<u>411,039</u>	<u>1,305,976</u>	<u>10,933,746</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>(895,980)</u>	<u>63,097</u>	<u>79,884</u>	<u>(752,999)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers in			31,721	31,721
Transfers (out)	(31,721)			(31,721)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(31,721)</u>		<u>31,721</u>	
Net change in fund balances	(927,701)	63,097	111,605	(752,999)
Fund balances at beginning of year	<u>2,957,216</u>	<u>325,294</u>	<u>1,011,095</u>	<u>4,293,605</u>
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 2,029,515</u>	<u>\$ 388,391</u>	<u>\$ 1,122,700</u>	<u>\$ 3,540,606</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Receipts:				
Property taxes	\$ 2,950,000	\$ 2,950,000	\$ 3,044,204	\$ 94,204
Intergovernmental	4,371,491	4,371,491	4,525,389	153,898
Investment earnings	15,000	15,000	77,735	62,735
Tuition and fees	37,500	37,500	60,255	22,755
Payment in lieu of taxes	500,000	500,000	549,568	49,568
Miscellaneous	4,500	4,500	3,968	(532)
Total receipts	<u>7,878,491</u>	<u>7,878,491</u>	<u>8,261,119</u>	<u>382,628</u>
Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,307,655	3,755,380	3,204,108	551,272
Special	1,375,368	1,561,538	1,654,914	(93,376)
Vocational	201,308	228,557	234,435	(5,878)
Support services:				
Pupil	364,452	413,784	489,465	(75,681)
Instructional staff	279,557	317,398	363,467	(46,069)
Board of education	30,781	34,948	35,577	(629)
Administration	566,907	643,643	683,199	(39,556)
Fiscal	249,439	283,203	301,494	(18,291)
Operations and maintenance	923,664	1,048,691	1,098,565	(49,874)
Pupil transportation	640,251	726,915	721,560	5,355
Central	72,854	82,715	213,654	(130,939)
Operation of non-instructional services				
Other non-instructional services			2,668	(2,668)
Extracurricular activities	393,965	447,292	541,064	(93,772)
Total disbursements	<u>8,406,201</u>	<u>9,544,064</u>	<u>9,544,170</u>	<u>(106)</u>
Excess of disbursements over receipts	<u>(527,710)</u>	<u>(1,665,573)</u>	<u>(1,283,051)</u>	<u>382,522</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Refund of prior year's disbursements	30,000	30,000	40,620	10,620
Transfers (out)		(31,721)	(31,721)	
Sale of capital assets			4,097	4,097
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>30,000</u>	<u>(1,721)</u>	<u>12,996</u>	<u>14,717</u>
Net change in fund balance	(497,710)	(1,667,294)	(1,270,055)	397,239
Fund balance at beginning of year	2,354,188	2,354,188	2,354,188	
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	576,917	576,917	576,917	
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 2,433,395</u>	<u>\$ 1,263,811</u>	<u>\$ 1,661,050</u>	<u>\$ 397,239</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>Custodial</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,500
Net position:	
Restricted for individuals, organizations and other government:	<u>\$ 3,500</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>Custodial</u>
Additions:	
Contributions and donations	\$ <u>5,500</u>
Deductions:	
Scholarships awarded	<u>8,000</u>
Change in net position	(2,500)
Net position at beginning of year	<u>6,000</u>
Net position at end of year	<u><u>\$ 3,500</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

North Central Local School District (the District) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is a local school district as defined by §3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) and is responsible for the provision of public education to residents of the District. The Board oversees the operations of the District's instructional/support facility staffed by 35 noncertified and 58 certified full-time teaching personnel who provide services to 585 students and other community members.

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading.

A. Primary Government

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

B. Component Units

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the District is financially accountable. The District is financially accountable for an organization if the District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the District in that the District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. Component units also include legally separate, tax-exempt entities whose resources are for the direct benefit of the District, are accessible to the District, and are significant in amount to the District. The District does not have any component units.

C. Jointly Governed Organizations

The District is associated with organizations, which are defined as jointly governed organizations and group purchasing pools. These organizations include the Northwest Ohio Computer Association, the Northern Buckeye Education Council, the Four County Career Center, the Northern Buckeye Health Plan – Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiatives (OHI), the Northern Buckeye Health Plan Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan, and the Ohio School Plan. These organizations are presented in Notes 14 and 15 to the basic financial statements.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in Note 2.C, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the District's accounting policies.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

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

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. The statements distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The District reports no business type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the 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 government is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support 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 District's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements - During the fiscal year, the District segregates transactions related to certain 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 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. Non-major funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

B. Fund Accounting

The 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 District are divided into two categories, governmental and fiduciary.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable resources are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used.

The following are the District's major governmental funds:

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

Permanent Improvement Fund - The permanent improvement fund is used to account for the acquisition and construction of permanent improvements.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

The other governmental funds of the District account for grants and other resources of the District whose uses are restricted or committed to a particular purpose.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that have certain characteristics. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The District's custodial funds are used to account for college scholarships for students.

C. Basis of Accounting

Although Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (B) requires the District's financial report to follow generally accepted accounting principles, the District chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting. This is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

The District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the 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.

As a result of the use of this 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 these financial statements.

D. Budgetary Process

The budgetary process is prescribed by provision of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within established timetable. All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of budgetary control selected by the Board is at the object level for the General fund and the fund level for all other funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education. Budgetary allocations below these levels are made by the 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 amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Board.

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

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

The District is required to use the encumbrance method of accounting by virtue of Ohio law. Under this system, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve the portion of the applicable appropriation. Expenditures plus encumbrances may not legally exceed appropriations.

At the close of each fiscal year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriations. The encumbered appropriation balance is carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and need not be reappropriated.

E. Cash and Investments

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

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

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

During fiscal year 2023, investments were limited to nonnegotiable certificates of deposits and U.S. Treasury Bills. All investments are reported at cost.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2023, amounted to \$77,735, of which \$28,227 was interest assigned from other District funds.

F. Inventory and Prepaid Items

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

G. Capital Assets

Acquisition of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as cash disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements under the cash basis of accounting.

H. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirements, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave. Unpaid vacation and leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

I. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

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

J. Pensions/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.

K. Leases

The District is the lessee in various leases related to equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

L. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

The District has Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) under noncancelable arrangements. SBITA payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

M. Long-Term Obligations

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

N. Internal Activity

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

O. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for food service operations, music and athletic programs, and federal and state grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes. The District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

P. Fund Balance

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

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

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

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

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the 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. These amounts are assigned by the District’s Board of Education. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the District Board of Education or a District official delegated by that authority by resolution or by State Statute. State statute authorizes the District’s Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provide such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

Unassigned - Unassigned fund cash balance is the residual classification for the General fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund cash balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

The District applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) fund cash balance is available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund cash 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 cash balance classifications could be used.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

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

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

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 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 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.

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 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 District.

B. Compliance

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the District prepared its 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 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 District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the District.

C. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2023 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Title I, Disadvantaged Children Fund	\$ 13,159
Improving Teacher Quality Fund	588

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the fair value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. 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 items (1) and (2) above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio);
8. Certain bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (Continued)

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

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

A. Cash on Hand

At year end, the District had \$2,090 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the District as part of “equity in pooled cash and investments”.

B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At June 30, 2023, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$2,960,327 and the bank balance of all District deposits was \$3,007,859. Of the bank balance, \$2,778,077 was covered by the FDIC and \$229,782 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and collateralized.

The District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by:

Eligible securities pledged to the District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least one hundred five percent of the deposits being secured; or

Participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be one hundred two percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

C. Investments

As of June 30, 2023, the District had the following investments and maturities:

<u>Measurement/ Investment type</u>	<u>Balance at fair value</u>	<u>Balance at cost</u>	<u>Investment Maturities 6 months or less</u>
U.S. Treasury Bill	<u>\$ 581,689</u>	<u>\$ 581,689</u>	<u>\$ 581,689</u>

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (Continued)

Interest Rate Risk – Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The District has no investment policy that addresses interest rate risk. State statute requires that an investment mature within five years from the date of the purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the District, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. State statute limits investments in commercial paper to a maximum maturity of 180 days from the date of purchase. Repurchase agreements are limited to 30 days and the market value of the securities must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least 2 percent and be marked to market daily.

Credit Risk – The District has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

Custodial Credit Risk – For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the 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 District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirements in ORC 135.14(M)(2) which states, “Payment for investments shall be made only upon the delivery of securities representing such investments to the treasurer, investing authority, or qualified trustee. If the securities transferred are not represented by a certificate, payment shall be made only upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian by the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee.”

Concentration of Credit Risk - The District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the District at June 30, 2023:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
U.S. Treasury Bill	\$ 581,689	100.00

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

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments 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	\$ 2,960,327
Investments	581,689
Cash on hand	<u>2,090</u>
Total	<u>\$ 3,544,106</u>

Cash and investments per statement of net position

Governmental activities	\$ 3,540,606
Custodial funds	<u>3,500</u>
Total	<u>\$ 3,544,106</u>

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 5 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The budgetary 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 (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) presented for the General fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis is outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (cash basis) and certain funds included in the General Fund as part of the GASB 54 requirements are not included in the budgetary statement.

The adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations for the year on the budget basis to the cash basis for the General fund is as follows:

Net Change in Fund Cash Balance

	<u>General fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ (1,270,055)
Funds budgeted elsewhere	1,048
Adjustment for encumbrances	341,306
Cash basis	\$ (927,701)

The uniform school supplies fund, public school support fund and the internally rotary fund are legally budgeted as separate special revenue funds; however, these funds are considered part of the general fund for financial reporting purposes.

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

During the year ended June 30, 2023, the following changes occurred in long-term obligations:

	<u>Balance</u>		<u>Additions</u>		<u>Reductions</u>		<u>Balance</u>		<u>Amount</u>
<u>Description</u>	<u>06/30/22</u>				<u>06/30/23</u>		<u>06/30/23</u>		<u>Due in</u>
									<u>One Year</u>
School Improvement Bonds, Series 2014									
Current Interest Term Bonds	\$ 1,945,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (40,000)	\$ 1,905,000		\$ 40,000		\$ 40,000
Certificates of Participation, Series 2014	720,000	-	-	(235,000)	485,000		240,000		240,000
Note Payable - Financed Purchase - Energy Efficiency Improvements	480,000	-	-	(35,000)	445,000		40,000		40,000
Total debt obligations	\$ 3,145,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (310,000)	\$ 2,835,000		\$ 320,000		\$ 320,000

School Improvement Bonds, Series 2014

Proceeds from the outstanding bonds were used for the purpose of construction, additions to and renovating and improving existing school buildings and facilities. These bonds were issued on October 16, 2014. The bonds consisted of \$175,000 in current interest serial bonds, \$2,020,000 in current interest term bonds, and \$29,999 in capital appreciation bonds. The serial bonds matured on December 1, 2016, the term bonds which mature on December 1, 2050, and the capital appreciation bonds matured on December 1, 2019. The bonds are being retired through the Bond Retirement Debt Service fund.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

The Current Interest Bonds (Term Bonds) shall bear interest at the respective rates per annum shall be as follows:

Maturity Date (December 1)	Principal Amount Maturing	Interest Rate
2023	\$155,000	2.300%
2028	215,000	3.500%
2033	265,000	4.000%
2038	320,000	3.625%
2043	385,000	4.000%
2050	680,000	4.000%

Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemption

The Current Interest Bonds due December 1, 2023 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. The mandatory sinking fund redemption occurred on December 1, 2020, 2021, and 2022 at 100% of the principal amounts of \$35,000, \$40,000, and \$40,000, respectively, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption.

Unless otherwise called for redemption, the remaining \$40,000 principal amount of the Bonds due December 1, 2023 is to be paid at stated maturity.

The Current Interest Bonds due December 1, 2028 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. The mandatory sinking fund redemption is to occur on December 1, 2024, and on each December 1 thereafter at 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption according to the following schedule:

Date (December 1)	Principal Amount to be Redeemed
2024	\$40,000
2025	40,000
2026	45,000
2027	45,000

Unless otherwise called for redemption, the remaining \$45,000 principal amount of the Bonds due December 1, 2028 is to be paid at stated maturity.

The Current Interest Bonds due December 1, 2033 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. The mandatory sinking fund redemption is to occur on December 1, 2029, and on each December 1 thereafter at 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption according to the following schedule:

Date (December 1)	Principal Amount to be Redeemed
2029	\$50,000
2030	50,000
2031	55,000
2032	55,000

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

Unless otherwise called for redemption, the remaining \$55,000 principal amount of the Bonds due December 1, 2033 is to be paid at stated maturity.

The Current Interest Bonds due December 1, 2038 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. The mandatory sinking fund redemption is to occur on December 1, 2034, and on each December 1 thereafter at 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption according to the following schedule:

<u>Date (December 1)</u>	<u>Principal Amount to be Redeemed</u>
2034	\$60,000
2035	60,000
2036	65,000
2037	65,000

Unless otherwise called for redemption, the remaining \$70,000 principal amount of the Bonds due December 1, 2038 is to be paid at stated maturity.

The Current Interest Bonds due December 1, 2043 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. The mandatory sinking fund redemption is to occur on December 1, 2039, and on each December 1 thereafter at 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption according to the following schedule:

<u>Date (December 1)</u>	<u>Principal Amount to be Redeemed</u>
2039	\$70,000
2040	75,000
2041	75,000
2042	80,000

Unless otherwise called for redemption, the remaining \$85,000 principal amount of the Bonds due December 1, 2043 is to be paid at stated maturity.

The Current Interest Bonds due December 1, 2050 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption. The mandatory sinking fund redemption is to occur on December 1, 2044, and on each December 1 thereafter at 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption according to the following schedule:

<u>Date (December 1)</u>	<u>Principal Amount to be Redeemed</u>
2044	\$85,000
2045	90,000
2046	95,000
2047	95,000
2048	100,000
2049	105,000

Unless otherwise called for redemption, the remaining \$110,000 principal amount of the Bonds due December 1, 2050 is to be paid at stated maturity.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

Optional Redemption

The Current Interest Bonds maturing on December 1, 2023 (to only include the December 1, 2023 mandatory sinking fund date of the December 1, 2023 term bond) are subject to optional redemption, in whole or in part on any date in any order of maturity as determined by the Board of Education and by lot within a maturity, at the option of the Board of Education on or after December 1, 2022 at par plus accrued interest. The Capital Appreciation Bonds are not subject to redemption prior to scheduled maturity.

Certificates of Participation, Series 2014

Proceeds from the outstanding certificates were used for the purpose of construction, additions to and renovating and improving existing school buildings and facilities. These certificates were issued on December 2, 2014. The certificates consisted of \$2,230,000 in current interest certificates. The serial certificates will mature on December 1, 2024. The certificates are being retired through the Permanent Improvement fund.

The serial certificates bear interest payable at the rates per year and will mature in the principal amounts and on the following dates:

<u>Maturity Date (December 1)</u>	<u>Principal Amount Maturing</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
2023	\$240,000	3.000%
2024	245,000	3.000%

Optional Redemption

The Certificates of Participation are not subject to redemption prior to scheduled maturity.

Principal and interest requirements to retire long-term liabilities outstanding at June 30, 2023 are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>School Improvement Bonds - Series 2014</u>			<u>Certificates of Participation - Series 2014</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 40,000	\$ 72,785	\$ 112,785	\$ 240,000	\$ 10,950	\$ 250,950
2025	40,000	71,625	111,625	245,000	3,675	248,675
2026	40,000	70,225	110,225	-	-	-
2027	45,000	68,738	113,738	-	-	-
2028	45,000	67,163	112,163	-	-	-
2029 - 2033	255,000	308,388	563,388	-	-	-
2034 - 2038	305,000	254,338	559,338	-	-	-
2039 - 2043	370,000	190,869	560,869	-	-	-
2044 - 2048	450,000	109,200	559,200	-	-	-
2049 - 2052	315,000	19,300	334,300	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 1,905,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,232,631</u>	<u>\$ 3,137,631</u>	<u>\$ 485,000</u>	<u>\$ 14,625</u>	<u>\$ 499,625</u>

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

Note Payable - Financed Purchases

The District entered into a noncancelable note payable agreement for equipment and renovations in the amount of \$620,000, which will mature on December 1, 2032, to create energy efficiency savings. Principal and interest payments are made from the General fund from the savings.

The District disbursed \$52,399 to pay note costs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Future note payments are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Note Payable		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 40,000	\$ 15,989	\$ 55,989
2025	40,000	14,484	54,484
2026	40,000	12,979	52,979
2027	40,000	11,474	51,474
2028	45,000	9,875	54,875
2029 - 2033	<u>240,000</u>	<u>23,136</u>	<u>263,136</u>
Total	<u>\$ 445,000</u>	<u>\$ 87,937</u>	<u>\$ 532,937</u>

NOTE 7 - PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis while the District fiscal year runs from July through June. First half tax collections are received by the District in the second half of the fiscal year. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent. Second half tax distributions occur in the first half of the following fiscal year.

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located within the District. Real property tax receipts received in calendar year 2023 represent the collection of calendar year 2022 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2022 were levied after April 1, 2022, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2022, 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 receipts 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 District receives property taxes from Williams County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County 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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 7 - PROPERTY TAXES- (Continued)

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

	2022 Second Half Collections		2023 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 112,989,580	97.85	\$ 113,686,560	96.59
Public utility personal	<u>2,485,960</u>	<u>2.15</u>	<u>4,017,150</u>	<u>3.41</u>
Total	<u>\$ 115,475,540</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 117,703,710</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation:	\$60.70		\$60.70	

NOTE 8 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Transfers for the year ended June 30, 2023, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund financial statement:

	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Transfers from the General fund to:</u>	
Nonmajor governmental fund	<u>\$ 31,721</u>

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or (1) budget requires to expend them and (2) to use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated for reporting purposes in the statement of activities - cash basis. All transfers were made in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16.

NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Comprehensive

The District maintains comprehensive insurance coverage with the Ohio School Plan for liability, real property, building contents, and vehicles. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. In addition, real property contents are fully insured.

The District joined together with other school districts in Ohio to participate in the Ohio School Plan (the Plan), a public entity insurance purchasing pool (Note 15). Each participant enters into an individual agreement with the Plan for insurance coverage and pays annual premiums to the Plan based on types and limits of coverage and deductibles that it selected by the participant.

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

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT- (Continued)

B. Employee Insurance Benefits Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP), Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiative (OHI) Consortium, a self-insurance pool, for insurance benefits to employees (Note 15). The District pays monthly premiums to NBHP for the benefits offered to its employees, which includes health, dental, and life insurance. NBHP is responsible for the management and operations of the program. The agreement with NBHP provides for additional assessment to participants if the premiums are insufficient to pay the program costs for the fiscal year. Upon withdrawal from NBHP, a participant is responsible for any claims not processed and paid and any related administrative costs.

C. Workers' Compensation Group Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP), Northern Division of Optimal Health Initiative (OHI) Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (the Plan), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 15). The Plan is intended to reduce premiums for the participants. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the Plan. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the Plan rather than its individual rate. The Executive Director of the NBHP coordinates the management and administration of the program.

Participation in the Plan is limited to educational entities that can meet the Plan's selection criteria. Each participant must apply annually. The Plan provides the participants with a centralized program for the processing, analysis and management of workers' compensation claims and a risk management program to assist in developing safer work environments. Each participant must pay its premiums, enrollment or other fees, and perform its obligations in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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.

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

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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 11 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description - The 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, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3309. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about SERS’ fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire after August 1, 2017
Full benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially reduced benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit; 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.

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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the 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 District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$193,263 for fiscal year 2023.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - Licensed teachers participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 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. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, an ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. 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.

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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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 District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$516,483 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 District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the 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:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.034479100%	0.026067860%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.033026000%</u>	<u>0.025492850%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.001453100%</u>	<u>-0.000575010%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,786,303	\$ 5,667,093	\$ 7,453,396

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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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, compared with June 30, 2021, 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)

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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
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	<u>100.00 %</u>	

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 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.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,629,353	\$ 1,786,303	\$ 1,076,045

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation compared to those used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation are presented below:

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected salary increases	From 2.5% to 12.5% based on age	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.00%
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%	0.00%

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 %	

* 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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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 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:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 8,560,914	\$ 5,667,093	\$ 3,219,816

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 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 10 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The 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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 11 - 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 District's surcharge obligation was \$42,728.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$42,728 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. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% 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 District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.035360400%	0.026067860%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.033705800%</u>	<u>0.025492850%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.001654600%</u>	<u>-0.000575010%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 473,233	\$ -	\$ 473,233
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (660,095)	\$ (660,095)

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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 11 - 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 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%
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%
Prior measurement date	1.92%
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	
Medicare	5.125 to 4.400%
Pre-Medicare	6.750 to 4.400%

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. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

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 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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected 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 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 (3.08%)	Current Discount Rate (4.08%)	1% Increase (5.08%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 587,762	\$ 473,233	\$ 380,777
	1% Decrease (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%)	Current Trend Rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.40%)	1% Increase (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 364,948	\$ 473,233	\$ 614,671

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 11 - 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 30, 2022		June 30, 2021	
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
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 expenses, including inflation		7.00%, net of investment expenses, including 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				
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.

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.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 11 - 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	<u>100.00 %</u>	

* 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 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 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.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
	District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 610,240	\$ 660,095

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
	District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 684,679	\$ 660,095

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 12 – COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements, administrator contracts, and State laws. Employees earn ten to twenty-five days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Employees who are not on an eleven or twelve-month contract do not earn vacation time. Accumulated unused vacation time is paid to administrators at the end of each contract year. Employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fourth of the total sick leave accumulation, up to a maximum accumulation of 260 days.

NOTE 13 - SET-ASIDE REQUIREMENTS

The 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. These amounts must be carried forward and used for the same purposes in future years.

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

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside reserve balance June 30, 2022	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	125,129
Current year offsets	<u>(125,129)</u>
Total	<u>\$ -</u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2024	<u>\$ -</u>

NOTE 14 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Northwest Ohio Computer Association

The District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA), which is a computer consortium. NWOCA is an association of educational entities within the boundaries of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood 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 educational entities.

The NWOCA Assembly consists of the superintendent from each participating educational entity and a representative from the fiscal agent. The Assembly elects the Governing Council of two representatives from each of the six counties in which member educational entities are located and the representative from the member educational entity serving as fiscal agent for NWOCA. The degree of control exercised by any participating educational entity is limited to its representation on the Governing Council. During fiscal year 2023, the District paid \$133,539 to NWOCA for various services. Financial information can be obtained from Northwest Ohio Computer Association, 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 14 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS - (Continued)

B. Northern Buckeye Education Council

The Northern Buckeye Education Council (NBEC) was established in 1979 to foster cooperation among various educational entities located in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood counties. NBEC is organized under Ohio laws as a regional council of governments pursuant to a written agreement entered into by its member educational entities and bylaws adopted by the representatives of the member educational entities. NBEC is governed by an elected Board consisting of two representatives from each of the six counties in which the member educational entities are located. The Board is elected from an Assembly consisting of a representative from each participating educational entity. Total disbursements made by the District to NBEC were \$250. Financial information can be obtained from the Northern Buckeye Education Council, 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

C. Four County Career Center

The Four County Career Center (Career Center) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio which provides vocational education to students. The Career Center is operated under the direction of a Board consisting of five representatives from the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center and one representative from the participating school districts elected boards. The Career Center possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. Total disbursements made by the District to Four County Career Center were \$35. Financial information can be obtained from the Four County Career Center, 22-900 State Route 34, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

NOTE 15 - GROUP PURCHASING POOLS

A. Employee Insurance Benefits Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan – Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiatives Consortium (OHI), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of educational entities throughout the state. The Pool is governed by OHI and its participating members. The District contributed a total of \$1,064,070 to Northern Buckeye Health Plan – Northwest Division of OHI for all four plans. Financial information for the period can be obtained from Optimal Health Initiatives, 10999 Reed Hartman Highway, Suite 304E, Blue Ash, Ohio 45242-8300.

B. Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The District participates in a group-rating plan for workers' compensation as established under §4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Northern Buckeye Health Plan – Northwest Division of OHI Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (WCGRP) was established through the Ohio Health Initiatives (OHI) as a group purchasing pool. The group was formed to create a workers' compensation group rating plan which would allow employers to group together to achieve a potentially lower premium rate than they may otherwise be able to acquire as individual employers. OHI has created a workers' compensation group rating and risk management program which will potentially reduce the workers' compensation premiums for the District.

OHI has retained Sheakley UniService as the servicing agent to perform administrative, actuarial, cost control, claims, and safety consulting services and unemployment claims services for program participants. During this fiscal year, the District paid an enrollment fee of \$218 to WCGRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 15 - GROUP PURCHASING POOLS - (Continued)

C. Ohio School Plan

The District belongs to the Ohio School Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to approximately 281 members.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, general liability, educator’s legal liability, automobile, and violence coverages, modified for each member’s needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member’s specific deductible.

The Plan issues its own policies and reinsures the Plan with reinsurance carriers. Only if the Plan’s paid liability loss ratio exceeds 65 percent and is less than 80 percent does the Plan contribute to paid claims. (See the Plan’s audited financial statements on the website for more details.) The individual members are responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

The Ohio School Plan’s audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and net position at December 31, 2022 and 2021:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Assets	\$ 17,878,913	\$ 16,691,066
Liabilities	11,253,693	7,777,013
Net Position	6,625,220	8,914,053

You can read the complete audited financial statements for The Ohio School Plan at the Plan’s website, www.ohioschoolplan.org.

NOTE 16 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The District used one local businesses which had ties to one board of education members. The District made purchases of food and drinks from the Pizza Barn, which is owned by the parents of Board Member, Shane Martin, in the amount of \$2,008. The transactions were approved at arm’s length, with full knowledge by District officials, of Mr. Martin’s interests. They also took no part in the deliberation or decision by District officials with respect to the transactions.

NOTE 17 - TAX ABATEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS

The Village of Holiday City and Williams County entered into tax abatement agreements with various companies for the abatement of property taxes to bring jobs and economic development into the area. The agreement affects the property tax receipts collected and distributed to the District. Under the agreements, the District property taxes were reduced by \$1,508,483 during fiscal year 2023. The District received \$549,568 in compensation for the forgone property taxes.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 18 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grantors may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

B. Litigation

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

C. Foundation Funding

District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, ODE has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2023 Foundation funding for the District. There is no effect on the financial statements.

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY

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

FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> Program / Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
<u>Child Nutrition Cluster:</u>		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	
Cash Assistance		\$ 249,860
COVID-19 Cash Assistance		18,705
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)		<u>27,543</u>
Total National School Lunch Program		296,108
School Breakfast Program	10.553	
Cash Assistance		<u>22,856</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		<u>318,964</u>
COVID-19 State Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) Administrative Costs Grant	10.649	<u>628</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		<u>319,592</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
<i>Consortium Amount Passed/Transferred to Consortium to Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center</i>		
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	1,328
<u>Special Education Cluster (IDEA):</u>		
Special Education - Grants to States (IDEA, Part B)	84.027	134,413
Special Education - Preschool Grants (IDEA, Preschool)	84.173	4,534
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
<u>Special Education Cluster (IDEA):</u>		
COVID-19 Special Education - Grants to States (IDEA, ARP)	84.027	9,300
COVID-19 Special Education - Preschool Grants (IDEA, ARP)	84.173	<u>2,164</u>
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)		150,411
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	147,516
Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	84.048	1,300
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	84.367	11,146
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	20,000
Education Stabilization Fund COVID-19 Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER)	84.425U	<u>135,846</u>
Direct Assistance		
Rural Education	84.358	<u>75,571</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education		<u>543,118</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Facilities Construction Commission</i>		
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	<u>6,004</u>
Total U.S. Department of Treasury		<u>6,004</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		<u>\$ 868,714</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**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 North Central Local School District, Williams County, Ohio (the District's) under programs of the federal government for the 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 District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the District.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

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

NOTE D – CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE E – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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

NOTE F – TRANSFERS BETWEEN PROGRAM YEARS

Federal regulations require schools to obligate certain federal awards by June 30. However, with ODE's consent, schools can transfer unobligated amounts to the subsequent fiscal year's program. The District transferred the following amounts from 2023 to 2024 programs:

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>CFDA Number</u>	<u>Amt. Transferred</u>
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	84.367	\$ 28,855

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

North Central Local School District
Williams County
400 East Baubice Street
Pioneer, Ohio 43554-9637

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with 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, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of North Central Local School District, Williams County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 13, 2024, wherein we noted the 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 District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the procedures of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion of the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2023-002 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2023-001.

District's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The District's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Purpose of this Report

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



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 13, 2024



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

North Central Local School District
Williams County
400 East Baubice Street
Pioneer, Ohio 43554-9637

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited North Central Local School District, Williams County, Ohio's (the District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of North Central Local School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. North Central Local School District's major federal programs are identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

Qualified Opinion on Special Education Cluster

In our opinion, except for the noncompliance described in the *Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions* section of our report, North Central Local School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Special Education Cluster for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Unmodified Opinion on the Other Major Federal Program

In our opinion, North Central 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 other major federal program identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions

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

We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified and unmodified opinions on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Matter Giving Rise to Qualified Opinion on Special Education Cluster

As described in finding 2023-003 in the accompanying schedule of findings, the District did not comply with requirements regarding allowable costs/cost principles applicable to its Special Education Cluster major federal program.

Compliance with such requirements is necessary, in our opinion, for the District to comply with requirements applicable to that program.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

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

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

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

Other Matter

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

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify a certain deficiency in internal control over compliance that we consider to be a material weakness.

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. We consider the deficiency in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2023-003, to be a material weakness.

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.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the internal control over compliance finding identified in our audit described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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

March 13, 2024

**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WILLIAMS COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2023**

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS
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(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)?	Yes
(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)?	Yes
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	Yes
(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 for all major programs except for Special Education Cluster, which we qualified.
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	Yes
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	Child Nutrition Cluster Special Education Cluster
(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.

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

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

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

Officials' Response:

See corrective action plan.

FINDING NUMBER 2023-002

Material Weakness – Financial Reporting

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, *Terms of Engagement*, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

The following errors were identified:

- Contributions and donations in the amount of \$42,530 were improperly reported in the Permanent Improvement fund as reductions of regular instruction, support services – operations and maintenance, and capital outlay disbursements in the amounts of \$2,200, \$33,549, and \$6,781, respectively.
- Contributions and donations in the amount of \$282,078 were improperly reported in nonmajor governmental funds as extracurricular activities receipts and reductions of extracurricular activities disbursements in the amounts of \$220,718 and \$61,360, respectively.

These errors were not identified or corrected prior to the District preparing its financial statements due to deficiencies in the District's internal controls over financial statement monitoring. Failure to complete accurate financial statements and notes to the financial statements could lead to the Board making misinformed decisions. The accompanying financial statements and notes to the financial statements have been adjusted to correct these errors.

The District should adopt policies and procedures over financial reporting, including a final review of the financial statements and notes to the financial statements by the Treasurer and Board of Education, to help identify and correct errors and omissions.

Officials' Response:

See corrective action plan.

3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

Finding Number:	2023-003
AL Number and Title:	<u>Special Education Cluster:</u> AL # 84.027 Special Education Grants to States AL # 84.173 Special Education Preschool Grants
Federal Award Identification Number / Year:	2023
Federal Agency:	U.S. Department of Education
Compliance Requirement:	Allowable Costs/Cost Principles
Pass-Through Entity:	Ohio Department of Education
Repeat Finding from Prior Audit?	No

Noncompliance and Material Weakness

2 CFR § 3474.1 provides that the Department of Education (DOE) adopts the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance in **2 CFR part 200**. Thus, this part gives regulatory effect to the OMB guidance and supplements the guidance as needed for the DOE, except as otherwise noted in that section. **2 CFR § 200.430(a)** provides, in part, that costs of compensation are allowable to the extent that they satisfy the specific requirements of this part, and that the total compensation for individual employees:

1. Is reasonable for the services rendered and conforms to the established written policy of the non-Federal entity consistently applied to both Federal and non-Federal activities;
2. Follows an appointment made in accordance with a non-Federal entity's laws and/or rules or written policies and meets the requirements of Federal statute, where applicable; and
3. Is determined and supported as provided in paragraph (i) of this section, Standards for Documentation of Personnel Expenses, when applicable.

Furthermore, Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Grants Manual, revised in October, 2022, and ODE's Grants Management Guidance 2014-002, revised in July 2023, further clarifies these requirements. The type of documentation required is based on the funding source and/or cost objective:

- Semi-annual certifications are allowed when an employee's compensation is funded by only one Federal grant. An employee funded by a federal grant and the General fund would fall under this category.
- Time and effort documentation is used when an employee's compensation is funded by more than one federal grant.
- The substitute system of collecting time and effort is used when an employee's compensation is funded by more than one grant.

Due to a deficiency in internal policies and procedures over compliance, the District employee paid from the Special Education Cluster funds did not complete semi-annual certifications for payroll expenditures in fiscal year 2023. This resulted in Special Education Cluster actual and projected expenditures of \$9,300 not being supported with semi-annual certifications. Based on the above guidance, the employee should have completed semi-annual certifications as their compensation was funded by a single Federal grant and the General fund.

The District should implement control procedures to verify that all District employees who perform work for federal cost objectives complete semi-annual certifications, time and effort documentation, or a substitute system of certification, depending on the funding source and/or cost objective. The documentation should be signed by each individual employee or a supervisor who has firsthand knowledge of the information contained in the documentation.

Officials' Response:

See corrective action plan.

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOLS
400 Baubice St.
Pioneer, Ohio 43554

ADMINISTRATION

Michael L. Bute; Superintendent
 (419) 737-2392 (Phone)
 (419) 737-3361 (Fax)
mbute@northcentralschools.org

Mr. Andy Morr; Principal (K-6)
 (419) 737-2293 (Phone)

Mr. Gregory Puthoff; Principal (7-12)
 (419) 737-2366 (Phone)



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Kati Burt; President
 Mrs. Tim Livengood; Vice President
 Mr. John Huffman
 Mr. Tim Livengood
 Mr. Dustin Meyers

Mr. Eric Smeltzer; Treasurer
 (419) 737-2392 (Phone)

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

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2022-001	Finding first reported in 2008. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03 (B) for not reporting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2023-001 in this report.	Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.
2022-002	Material weakness due to financial statement reporting errors.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2023-002 in this report.	Management is aware and understands the importance of the information presented on the financial statements and will ensure the reporting errors will be accurately identified and reported.
2022-003	Noncompliance and significant deficiency due to financial statement reporting errors related to Federal noncompliance.	Fully corrected.	
2022-004	2 CFR § 200.403(h) for charging costs incurred outside the budget period and 2 CFR § 200.403(a) and (b) for unallowed allowable costs.	Fully corrected.	



Align For Students

Providing Educational Services for communities of: Bridgewater, Bridgewater Center, Jefferson East, Jefferson West, Holiday City, Kunkle, Lake Seneca, Madison and Millcreek Townships and Pioneer.

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOLS

**400 Baubice St.
Pioneer, Ohio 43554**

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(419) 737-2392 (Phone)

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

Finding Number: 2023-001
Planned Corrective Action: Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.
Anticipated Completion Date: N/A
Responsible Contact Person: Eric Smeltzer, Treasurer

Finding Number: 2023-002
Planned Corrective Action: Management is aware and understands the importance of the information presented on the financial statements and will ensure the reporting errors will be accurately identified and reported.
Anticipated Completion Date: June 30, 2024
Responsible Contact Person: Eric Smeltzer, Treasurer

Finding Number: 2023-003
Planned Corrective Action: Management will update time and effort documentation process with additional steps to ensure compliance and review requirements with applicable employees.
Anticipated Completion Date: June 30, 2024
Responsible Contact Person: Eric Smeltzer, Treasurer



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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

WILLIAMS COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 3/28/2024

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

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