



WOOD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER WOOD COUNTY JUNE 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Wood County Educational Service Center Wood County 1867 North Research Drive Bowling Green, Ohio 43402-8835

To the Board of Governors:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Wood County Educational Service Center, Wood County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center'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, business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Center, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof 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 Center, 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 Center 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.

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Emphasis of Matters

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, during 2023, the Center has elected to change its financial presentation to a cash basis of accounting comparable to the requirements of *Governmental* Accounting Standards. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

As discussed in Note 2 to the supplementary information, the Center has re-stated the beginning balance on the Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements, and changes in Fund Balance – Budget an Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) General Fund to exclude certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds. 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 Center'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 Center'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.

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conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that
raise substantial doubt about the Center'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 Center'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 and the Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual for the General and Community Learning Centers Funds are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are 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, the Schedules are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 22, 2024, on our consideration of the Center'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 Center'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 Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

May 22, 2024

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STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS JUNE 30, 2023

Acceptant	Governmental Activities		Business-type Activities		Total	
Assets: Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$	7,003,894	\$	106,765	\$	7,110,659
Total assets		7,003,894		106,765		7,110,659
Net position:						
Restricted for:						
Federally funded programs		11,174		-		11,174
Community learning centers		1,293,096		-		1,293,096
Other purposes		389,929		-		389,929
Unrestricted		5,309,695		106,765		5,416,460
Total net position	\$	7,003,894	\$	106,765	\$	7,110,659

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

				Prograi	n Receij	pts		
			- 0	Charges for	Ope	rating Grants	Go	vernmental
	Dis	bursements	Serv	ices and Sales	and Contributions		Activities	
Governmental activities:								
Instruction:								
Regular	\$	3,139,514	\$	1,923,761	\$	1,167,761	\$	(47,992)
Special		2,702,199		2,394,868		215,709		(91,622)
Other		83,015		44,185		33,591		(5,239)
Support services:								
Pupil		8,062,229		6,644,013		1,031,696		(386,520)
Instructional staff		243,350		148,239		90,099		(5,012)
Board of education		38,414		30,324		6,346		(1,744)
Administration		1,788,537		1,188,192		596,149		(4,196)
Fiscal		873,037		671,052		148,128		(53,857)
Operations and maintenance		171,458		139,496		32,393		431
Pupil transportation		7,810		4,867		2,364		(579)
Central		513,724		302,745		184,327		(26,652)
Other non-instructional services		110,226		26,582		82,289		(1,355)
Facilities acquisition and construction				1.769				
racinites acquisition and construction		1,875		1,769		4		(102)
Total governmental activities		17,735,388		13,520,093		3,590,856		(624,439)
Business-type activities:								
Credit recovery		28,545		36,020		_		_
Drug and alcohol prevention services and train		1,544		5,200		_		_
Drug and alcohol prevention services and train		1,544		3,200			-	
Total business-type activities		30,089		41,220				
Totals	\$	17,765,477	\$	13,561,313	\$	3,590,856		(624,439)
	Grant	ral receipts: s and entitlements	s not res	tricted				
		ecific programs						342,312
		tment earnings						181,753
	Misce	ellaneous						165,765
	Total	general receipts						689,830
	Trans	fers						(95,634)
		general receipts transfers						594,196
	Chang	ge in net position						(30,243)
	Net P	osition at Begin	ning of	Year (Restated)				7,034,137
	Net P	osition at End o	f Year				\$	7,003,894

Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position

Busine	ess-Type		
Acti	ivities		Total
\$	_	\$	(47,992)
	-		(91,622)
	-		(5,239)
	-		(386,520)
	-		(5,012)
	-		(1,744)
	-		(4,196)
	-		(53,857)
	-		431
	-		(579)
	-		(26,652)
	_		(1,355)
			(102)
			(624,439)
	7,475		7,475
	3,656		3,656
	11,131		11,131
		-	
	11,131		(613,308)
	-		342,312
	-		181,753
	-		165,765
	-		689,830
	95,634		-
	95,634		689,830
	106,765		76,522
	_		7,034,137
			,,00.,107
\$	106,765	\$	7,110,659

	General		Community Learning Centers		Nonmajor Governmental Funds		Total Governmental Funds	
Assets:								
Equity in pooled cash								
and cash equivalents	\$	5,309,695	\$	1,293,096	\$	401,103	\$	7,003,894
Total assets	\$	5,309,695	\$	1,293,096	\$	401,103	\$	7,003,894
Fund balances:								
Restricted:								
Federally funded programs		-		-		11,174		11,174
Community learning centers		-		1,293,096		-		1,293,096
Other purposes		-		-		389,929		389,929
Committed:								
Termination benefits		125,546		-		-		125,546
Assigned:								
Student instruction		1,050		-		-		1,050
Student and staff support		72,702		-		-		72,702
Extracurricular activities		3,963		-		-		3,963
Facilities acquisition and construction		903,445		-		-		903,445
Subsequent year's appropriations		2,690,933		-		-		2,690,933
Technology upgrades		292,357		-		-		292,357
Bureau of Workers' Compensation		113,864		-		-		113,864
Unassigned (deficit)		1,105,835						1,105,835
Total fund balances	\$	5,309,695	\$	1,293,096	\$	401,103	\$	7,003,894

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

	General	ommunity ning Centers	Nonmajor vernmental Funds	Go	Total overnmental Funds
Receipts:			 		
Intergovernmental	\$ 365,397	\$ 384,772	\$ 3,180,404	\$	3,930,573
Investment earnings	181,753	-	-		181,753
Tuition and fees	723,772	-	116,577		840,349
Rental income	7,975	-	-		7,975
Customer services	11,874,348	747,421	-		12,621,769
Contributions and donations	-	2,595	-		2,595
Miscellaneous	 165,765	 50,000	 		215,765
Total receipts	 13,319,010	 1,184,788	 3,296,981		17,800,779
Disbursements:					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular	1,400,249	722,090	1,017,175		3,139,514
Special	2,493,755		208,444		2,702,199
Other	-	70,900	12,115		83,015
Support services:					
Pupil	6,923,800	125,136	1,013,293		8,062,229
Instructional staff	152,951	6,131	84,268		243,350
Board of education	32,148	-	6,266		38,414
Administration	1,176,537	40,506	571,494		1,788,537
Fiscal	711,374	39,684	121,979		873,037
Operations and maintenance	139,430	-	32,028		171,458
Pupil transportation	-	7,810	-		7,810
Central	144,232	267,481	102,011		513,724
Operation of non-instructional services:	22.250		0 < 0 10		440.00
Other non-instructional services	23,278	-	86,948		110,226
Facilities acquisition and construction	 1,875	 	 		1,875
Total disbursements	 13,199,629	 1,279,738	 3,256,021		17,735,388
Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements	 119,381	 (94,950)	 40,960		65,391
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers (out)	-	-	(95,634)		(95,634)
Advances in	9,331	-	-		9,331
Advances (out)	 	 	 (9,331)		(9,331)
Total other financing sources (uses)	 9,331	 <u> </u>	 (104,965)	-	(95,634)
Net change in fund balances	128,712	(94,950)	(64,005)		(30,243)
Fund Balances at					
Beginning of Year (Restated)	5,180,983	 1,388,046	 465,108		7,034,137
Fund Balances at End of Year	\$ 5,309,695	\$ 1,293,096	\$ 401,103	\$	7,003,894

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

	Eı	onmajor nterprise Funds
Assets:		
Equity in pooled cash		
and cash equivalents	\$	106,765
Total assets		106,765
Net position:		
Unrestricted		106,765
Total net position	\$	106,765

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION - CASH BASIS PROPRIETARY FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Nonmajor Enterprise Funds		
Operating receipts:			
Tuition and fees	\$	33,725	
Other		7,495	
Total operating receipts		41,220	
Operating disbursements:			
Personal services		26,484	
Purchased services		2,861	
Materials and supplies		744	
Total operating disbursements		30,089	
Operating income		11,131	
Transfer in		95,634	
Change in net position		106,765	
Net position at beginning of year			
Net position at end of year	\$	106,765	

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - CASH BASIS CUSTODIAL FUNDS ${\tt JUNE~30,2023}$

Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash	
and cash equivalents	\$ 6,115
Total assets	 6,115
Net position:	
Restricted for individuals, organizations and other governments	 6,115
Total net position	\$ 6,115

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

Net position at end of year	\$ 6,115
Net position at beginning of year	46,391
Change in net position	(40,276)
Total deductions	216,571
Deductions: Distributions as fiscal agent	216,571
Total additions	176,283
Additions: Amounts received as fiscal agent	176,283

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

NOTE 1 - REPORTING ENTITY

The Wood County Educational Service Center (the "Educational Service Center") is located in Bowling Green, Ohio, the county seat. The Educational Service Center supplies supervisory, special education, administrative, and other services to the Eastwood, Elmwood, Lake, Northwood, North Baltimore, and Otsego Local School Districts; Perrysburg and Rossford Exempted Village School Districts; and Bowling Green City School District. The Educational Service Center furnishes leadership and consulting services designed to strengthen these school districts in areas they are unable to finance or staff independently.

The Wood County Educational Service Center operates under a locally-elected Board of Education consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The Educational Service Center has 7 administrators, 273 classified employees, and 109 certified employees who provide services to the local, exempted village, and city school districts.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in Note 2.B., these financial statements are presented on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In cases where these cash basis statements contain items that are the same as, or similar to, those items in financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP, similar informative disclosures are provided.

A. Reporting Entity

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity" as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, "Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units" and GASB Statement No. 61, "The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34". The reporting entity is composed of the primary government and component units. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the Educational Service Center. For the Educational Service Center, this includes general operations and student related activities of the Educational Service Center.

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

The Educational Service Center participates in four jointly governed organizations and two insurance pools. These organizations are the Penta Career Center, the Northwest Ohio Computer Association, the Northern Buckeye Education Council, the Ohio Schools Council, the Ohio School Plan, and the Wood County Schools Benefit Plan Association. These organizations are presented in Notes 12 and 13 to the basic financial statements.

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

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

B. Basis of Accounting

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with GAAP, the Educational Service Center chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraph.

C. Fund Accounting

The Educational Service Center 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 Educational Service Center's funds are reported in three categories, governmental, proprietary and fiduciary.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

The Educational Service Center classifies funds financed primarily from intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants) and other non-exchange transactions as governmental funds. The following is the Educational Service Center's major governmental funds:

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

<u>Community Learning Centers Fund</u> - The Community Learning Centers Fund is used to account for resources provided by the Wood County Department of Human Services and restricted to promote family literacy skills; to provide safe and supervised after-school, weekend, and summer activities for children grades PreK to 12; and to encourage formation and maintenance of strong families.

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

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

Proprietary funds are used to account for the Educational Service Center's ongoing activities which are similar to those often found in the private sector where the determination of net income is necessary or useful to sound financial administration.

<u>Enterprise funds</u> - The enterprise funds are used to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.

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

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

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds, and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that have certain characteristics. Custodial funds are used to report activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The Educational Service Center did not have any trust funds in fiscal year 2023. The Educational Service Center's custodial funds account for resources held on behalf of the operations of Northwest Ohio Educational Training, a technology and professional development center, and for the opiate task force, which raises public awareness of the opioid epidemic in Wood County.

D. Basis of Presentation

<u>Government-Wide Financial Statements</u> - The statement of net position - cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis display information about the Educational Service Center as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The government-wide statement of activities - cash basis compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the Educational Service Center's governmental and business-type activities. These disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the Educational Service Center. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing on the cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the Educational Service Center

<u>Governmental Fund Financial Statements</u> – Governmental fund financial statements report detailed information about the Educational Service Center. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

<u>Proprietary Fund Financial Statements</u> – Proprietary fund statements distinguish operating transactions from nonoperating transactions. Operating receipts generally result from exchange transactions such as charges for services directly related to the fund's principal services. Operating disbursements include costs of sales and services and administrative costs. The fund statements report all other receipts and disbursements as nonoperating.

E. Budgets

Educational service centers do not have the authority to adopt annual legally-adopted appropriation budgets. However, the Educational Service Center has chosen to adopt an appropriation resolution for internal control purposes. Therefore, even though a statement or schedule of budgetary results is not required to be presented, the Educational Service Center has chosen to present a budgetary schedule as supplementary information.

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

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

F. Cash and Investments

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

During fiscal year 2023, investments were limited to State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio ("STAR Ohio"), negotiable certificates of deposit, commercial paper and federal agency securities. Investments are reported at cost.

During fiscal year 2023, the Educational Service Center invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The Educational Service Center measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For fiscal year 2023, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

The Educational Service Center allocates interest according to State statutes. Interest revenue credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2023 was \$181,753, which includes \$47,452 assigned from other Educational Service Center funds.

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

G. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. Depreciation has not been reported for any capital assets.

H. Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave

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

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

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

I. Long-Term Obligations

The Educational Service Center'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.

J. Leases

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

K. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

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

L. Fund Balance

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

<u>Nonspendable</u> - The nonspendable fund 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.

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

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

<u>Assigned</u> - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Educational Service Center for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the Educational Service Center Board of Governors, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

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

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

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

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

M. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when enabling legislation or creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments have imposed limitations on its use. The Educational Service Center applies restricted resources first when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available. As of June 30, 2023, there was no net position restricted by enabling legislation.

N. Interfund Activity

Transfers between governmental and business-type activities on the government-wide financial statements are reported in the same manner as general receipts.

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

O. 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.

P. Extraordinary and Special Items

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

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

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

Q. Flow-Through Grants

The Educational Service Center is the primary recipient of grants which are passed through or spent on behalf of the local, exempted village, and city school districts. When the Educational Service Center has a financial or administrative role in the grants, the grants are reported as revenues and intergovernmental expenditures in a special revenue fund. For fiscal year 2023, these funds included the Preschool and Early Childhood Education special revenue funds.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2023, the Educational Service Center has implemented GASB Statement No. 91, "<u>Conduit Debt Obligations</u>", GASB Statement No. 94, "<u>Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements</u>", GASB Statement No. 96, "<u>Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements</u>", and certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "<u>Omnibus 2022</u>.

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 Educational Service Center.

GASB Statement No. 94 is to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public-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 Educational Service Center.

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 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 Educational Service Center.

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

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

B. Compliance

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

C. Restatement of Net Position/Fund Balances

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the Educational Service Center has presented for the first time its basic financial statements using the cash basis of accounting. In conjunction with this presentation, the Educational Service Center has converted its governmental funds from the modified accrual basis of accounting to the cash basis of accounting.

<u>Modified/Full Accrual Basis Adjustments</u> – The conversion of the governmental funds from the full accrual and modified accrual basis of accounting to the cash basis of accounting required certain adjustments to be recorded at June 30, 2022 to the fund cash balances as previously reported to reflect the prior year's effect of adopting these new accounting principles. There was no restatement to the fiduciary fund balance or business-type activities at June 30, 2022.

The restatement to the June 30, 2022 net position/fund balances for the governmental activities follows:

Governmental Activites

Net Position as previously reported	\$	(12,769,862)						
Full Accrual Adjustments	_	19,803,999						
Restated Net Position, at June 30, 2022	<u>\$</u>	7,034,137						
			C	ommunity				Total
			1	Learning		Other	Go	vernmental
		General		Centers	Gov	ernmental		Funds
Fund Balance as previously reported	\$	3,545,611	\$	1,374,669	\$	242,318	\$	5,162,598
Modified Accrual Basis Adjustments		1,635,372		13,377		222,790		1,871,539
Restated Fund Balance, at June 30, 2022	\$	5,180,983	\$	1,388,046	\$	465,108	\$	7,034,137

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Monies held by the Educational Service Center are classified by State statute into three categories.

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

Inactive deposits are public deposits the Board 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.

Protection of the Educational Service Center's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institutions 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.

Interim monies held by the Educational Service Center may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

- 1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
- Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, 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 the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least 2 percent and be marked to market daily, and 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 division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

- 7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio); and
- 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).

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 settlement, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Educational Service Center, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Educational Service Center will not be able to recover deposit or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. At fiscal year end, \$124,738 of the Educational Service Center's bank balance of \$2,019,854 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and uncollateralized. One of the Educational Service Center's financial institutions participated in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS) and were approved for a reduced collateral floor of 50 percent resulting in the uninsured and uncollateralized balance.

The Educational Service Center has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirement of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to the Educational Service Center and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured or by participation in the OPCS, a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

B. Investments

As of June 30, 2023, the Educational Service Center had the following investments and maturities:

		Investment Maturities					
	Carrying	6 months or		7 to 12		13 to 18	
Investment type	Value	_	less	mo	onths	_	months
Negotiable CD's	\$ 243,000	\$	-	\$	-	\$	243,000
Commercial Paper	1,451,611		1,209,377	24	12,234		-
Federal Home Loan Bank Notes	250,000		-	25	50,000		-
STAR Ohio	 3,545,662	_	3,545,662				
Total	\$ 5,490,273	\$	4,755,039	\$ 49	92,234	\$	243,000

The weighted average maturity of investments is 2.16 years.

Interest Rate Risk: Interest rate risk arises when potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to state law, the Educational Service Center's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Credit Risk: Standard & Poor's has assigned STAR Ohio an AAAm money market rating. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The federal agency securities are rated AA+ by Standard & Poor's. The investments in commercial paper are rated A1 or higher by Standard & Poor's. The negotiable certificate of deposit is covered by FDIC and/or SIPC insurance. The Educational Service Center has no investment policy dealing with investments credit risk beyond the requirements in State statues.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Educational Service Center will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Federal Home Loan Bank Notes are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the Educational Service Center's name. The Educational Service Center has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The Educational Service Center 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 Educational Service Center at June 30, 2023:

	Cash	
<u>Investment issuer</u>	Value	% of Investments
Negotiable CDs	\$ 243,00	00 4.43%
Commercial Paper	1,451,6	11 26.44%
Federal Home Loan Bank Notes	250,00	00 4.55%
Star Ohio	3,545,66	<u>64.58%</u>
Total	\$ 5,490,2	73 100.00%

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

C. 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 and investments as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2023:

Cash and investments per note

Carrying amount of deposits	\$	1,626,421
Cash on hand		80
Investments	_	5,490,273
Total	\$	7,116,774

Cash and investments per statement of net position

Governmental activities	\$ 7,003,894
Business-type activities	106,765
Custodial fund	6,115
Total	\$ 7,116,774

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

A. Interfund transfers during fiscal year 2023 consisted of the following, as reported on the fund financial statements:

Transfers from nonmajor special revenue funds to:	A	mount
Nonmajor enterprise funds	\$	95,634

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

This transfer of funds was used to move funds previously accounted for in WIOA and Prevention Education nonmajor special revenue funds to the nonmajor enterprise funds.

B. During fiscal year 2023, the nonmajor governmental funds repaid a prior year \$9,331 advance to the general fund.

Interfund advances between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements; therefore, no advances are reported on the statement of activities.

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

NOTE 6 - STATE FUNDING

The Educational Service Center, under State law, provides services to the local school districts within its territory. Each city, local, and exempted village school district that entered into an agreement with the Educational Service Center is considered to be provided services. The cost of the services is determined by formula under State law. The State Department of Education apportions the costs for all services among the Educational Service Center's city, local, and exempted school districts based on each school's total student count. The Department of Education deducts each school district's amount from their State Foundation Program settlements and remits the amount to the Educational Service Center. The Educational Service Center may provide additional services if the majority of local and client school districts agree to the services and the apportionment of the costs to all of the client school districts.

For fiscal year 2023, the Educational Service Center also receives funding from the State Department of Education using a new funding model which is based on student count. Any change in funding will be subject to a phase in percentage of 33.33 percent for fiscal year 2023. This amount is paid from State resources. The State Department of Education also deducts from the State Foundation Program settlement of each of the Educational Service Center's local and client school districts an amount equal to \$6.50 times the school district's total student count and remits this amount to the Educational Service Center.

The Educational Service Center may contract with city, local, exempted village, joint vocational, or cooperative education school districts to provide special education and related services or career-technical education services. The individual boards of education pay the costs for these services directly to the Educational Service Center.

NOTE 7 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Educational Service Center is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2023, the Educational Service Center contracted for the following insurance coverage.

Coverage provided by the Ohio School Plan:

General Liability

Per Occurrence	\$3,000,000
Aggregate	5,000,000
Comprehensive Auto Liability	1,000,000
Property	6,068,219
Cyber	1,000,000

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

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

The Educational Service Center participates in the Wood County Schools Benefit Plan Association (Association), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of six local school districts, two exempted village school districts, a city school district, a joint vocational school, and the Educational Service Center. The Educational Service Center pays monthly premiums to the Association for employee medical and dental benefits. The Association is responsible for the management and operations of the program and the payment of all claims. Upon withdrawal from the Association, a participant is responsible for the payment of all liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

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

NOTE 8 - COMMITMENTS

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

General fund	\$ 180,731
Community Learning Centers Fund	65,585
Other Governmental Funds	 150,102
Total	\$ 396,418

NOTE 9 - 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 Educational Service Center'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 Educational Service Center's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Educational Service Center cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the Educational Service Center does receive the benefit of employees' services in exchange for compensation including pension and OPEB.

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

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

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 10 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

Eligible to 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.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the Educational Service Center 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 Educational Service Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$908,433 for fiscal year 2023.

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans: a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined (CO) Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307.

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 9.53% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS Ohio. The remaining 4.47% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12% of the 14% member rate goes to the DC Plan and the remaining 2% is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity after termination of employment at age 50 and after termination of employment.

New members who choose the DC Plan or Combined Plan will have another opportunity to reselect a permanent plan during their fifth year of membership. Members may remain in the same plan or transfer to another STRS plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's Combined Plan account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS has therefore included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB 68 reporting purposes.

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

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. 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 Educational Service Center's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$745,480 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 Educational Service Center's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Educational Service Center's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension			
liability prior measurement date	0.153838600%	0.035441914%	
Proportion of the net pension			
liability current measurement date	0.152357500%	$\underline{0.036927420}\%$	
Change in proportionate share	- <u>0.001481100</u> %	0.001485506%	
Proportionate share of the net			
pension liability	\$ 8,240,679	\$ 8,209,013	\$ 16,449,692

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

Wage inflation:

Current measurement date 2.40%
Prior measurement date 2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

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

COLA or ad hoc COLA:

Current measurement date 2.00% Prior measurement date 2.00%

Investment rate of return:

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

Discount rate:

Current measurement date 7.00%
Prior measurement date 7.00%

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

In 2022, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

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

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

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

NOTE 9 - 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:

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

Discount Rate - The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00%). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	Current					
	1% Decrease		Discount Rate		1% Increase	
Educational Service Center's proportionate share						_
of the net pension liability	\$	12,129,886	\$	8,240,679	\$	4,964,075

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with the rates described previously. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS Ohio's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.

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

	Current						
	19	% Decrease	Dis	count Rate	1% Increase		
Educational Service Center's proportionate share							
of the net pension liability	\$	12,400,829	\$	8,209,013	\$	4,664,033	

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 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 9 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The Educational Service Center contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

NOTE 10 - 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 Educational Service Center's surcharge obligation was \$107,688.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The Educational Service Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$107,688 for fiscal year 2023.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net OPEB liability/asset was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability/asset used to calculate the net OPEB liability/asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Educational Service Center's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the Educational Service Center's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

		SERS		STRS	Total
Proportion of the net OPEB					
liability/asset prior measurement date	0.	157724800%	0.0	035441910%	
Proportion of the net OPEB					
liability/asset current measurement date	0.	156818600%	0.0	036927420%	
Change in proportionate share	-0.0	000906200%	0.0	001485510%	
Proportionate share of the net					
OPEB liability	\$	2,201,750	\$	-	\$ 2,201,750
Proportionate share of the net					
OPEB asset	\$	-	\$	(956,174)	\$ (956,174)

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.

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

NOTE 10 - 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:

** 7	
W/age	inflation:
wage	mmanon.

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%

In 2022, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

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

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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.

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

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2022, was 4.08%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2022, was 2.27%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50% of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination of the SEIR for both the June 30, 2022 and the June 30, 2021 total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is 3.69% at June 30, 2022 and 1.92% at June 30, 2021.

Sensitivity of the Educational Service Center'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%).

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

	Current								
		% Decrease	Discount Rate			1% Increase			
Educational Service Center's proportionate share									
of the net OPEB liability	\$	2,734,606	\$	2,201,750	\$	1,771,589			
				Current					
		% Decrease		Trend Rate		1% Increase			
Educational Service Center's proportionate share									
of the net OPEB liability	\$	1,697,944	\$	2,201,750	\$	2,859,801			

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	June 3	0, 2022	June 30, 2021			
Inflation	2.50%		2.50%			
Projected salary increases	Varies by servic	e from 2.50%	12.50% at age 20) to		
	to 8.50%		2.50% at age 65			
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of inverses, include		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						
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate		
Medical						
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	3.94%	5.00%	4.00%		
Medicare	-68.78%	3.94%	-16.18%	4.00%		
Prescription Drug						
Pre-Medicare	9.00%	3.94%	6.50%	4.00%		
Medicare	-5.47%	3.94%	29.98%	4.00%		

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

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

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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:

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

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the Educational Service Center'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.

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

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

	Current							
		Decrease	Dis	count Rate	1% Increase			
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$	883,958	\$	956,174	\$	1,018,033		
	1% Decrease		Current Trend Rate		1% Increase			
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$	991,785	\$	956,174	\$	911,224		

NOTE 11 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

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

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

B. Health Care Benefits

The Educational Service Center offers medical and dental benefits to full-time employees or medical insurance to all employees who work an average thirty hour work week through the Wood County Schools Benefit Plan Association. The Educational Service Center also offers life insurance to all employees through American United Life Insurance.

NOTE 12 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Penta Career Center

The Penta 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 nine board members appointed from participating School Districts or Educational Service Centers' elected Boards of Education. The Board consists of one representative from each exempted village and/or city school district: Bowling Green, Maumee, Perrysburg, and Rossford; one representative from each of these counties: Fulton, Ottawa, and Lucas; and two representatives from Wood County. The Board possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. Financial information can be obtained from the Penta Career Center, 9301 Buck Road, Perrysburg, Ohio 43551.

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

NOTE 12 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS - (Continued)

B. Northwest Ohio Computer Association

The Educational Service Center 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 a 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 Board. Financial information can be obtained from the Northwest Ohio Computer Association, 209 Nolan Parkway, P.O. Box 407, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

C. Northern Buckeye Education Council

The Northern Buckeye Education Council (NBEC) was established in 1979 to foster cooperation among 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. Financial information can be obtained from the Northern Buckeye Education Council, 209 Nolan Parkway, P.O. Box 407, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

D. Ohio Schools Council

The Ohio Schools Council Association (Council) is a jointly governed organization among school districts, educational service centers, joint vocational districts, and Developmental Disabilities Boards which was formed to purchase quality products and services at the lowest possible cost to participants. The Council is governed by a board consisting of nine superintendents from the participants. The degree of control exercised by any participant is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained from the Ohio Schools Council Association, 6393 Oak Tree Boulevard, Suite 377, Independence, Ohio 44131.

NOTE 13 - INSURANCE POOLS

A. Ohio School Plan

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

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

NOTE 13 - INSURANCE POOLS - (Continued)

B. Wood County Schools Benefit Plan Association

The Wood County Schools Benefit Plan Association (Association) is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of six local school districts, two exempted village school districts, a city school district, a joint vocational school, and the Educational Service Center. The Association is organized as a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical, dental, and other benefits to the employees of the participating entities. Each participating entity's superintendent is appointed to an Administrative Committee which advises the Trustee, Huntington Bank, concerning aspects of the administration of the Association.

Each entity decides which plans offered by the Administrative Committee will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Association is by written application subject to acceptance by the Administrative Committee and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information can be obtained from Huntington Retirement Plan Services, 519 Madison Avenue, 3rd Floor, Toledo, Ohio 43604.

NOTE 14 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

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

B. Litigation

There are currently no matters in litigation with the Educational Service Center as defendant.

NOTE 15 - MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES

During fiscal year 2023, the Educational Service Center's custodial funds received miscellaneous revenues related to the Northwest Ohio Educational Technology Foundation (NWOET) primarily consisting of membership fees, workshop revenue, and state membership funding, totaling \$176,295.

Additionally, during fiscal year 2023, the Educational Service Center's business type activity funds received miscellaneous revenues related to donations for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program, as well as reimbursements for Prevention Education training, totally \$7,495.

SCHEDULE 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

	Budgeted Amounts				Variance with Final Budget Positive		
	(Original		Final	Actual		gative)
Receipts:	-	8			 -		0 /
Intergovernmental	\$	630,932	\$	365,398	\$ 365,397	\$	(1)
Investment earnings		40,000		181,753	181,753		-
Tuition and fees		84,581		7,988	7,988		-
Rental income		7,500		7,975	7,975		-
Customer services		10,738,397		11,614,643	11,614,644		1
Contributions and donations		1,850		-	-		-
Miscellaneous		300,180		165,765	 165,765		
Total receipts		11,803,440		12,343,522	 12,343,522		
Disbursements:							
Current:							
Instruction:							
Regular		329,953		1,002,879	1,002,876		3
Special		970,526		2,278,270	2,277,156		1,114
Support services:							
Pupil		2,564,167		7,013,752	7,012,614		1,138
Instructional staff		68,867		153,286	153,286		-
Board of education		23,554		32,148	32,148		-
Administration		357,991		995,121	994,021		1,100
Fiscal		259,135		671,102	671,102		-
Operations and maintenance		64,085		140,342	140,342		-
Central		146,976		171,362	171,362		-
Other non-instructional services		8,760		26,727	26,727		-
Facilities acquisition and construction		10,268		6,875	 6,875		- 2255
Total disbursements		4,804,282		12,491,864	 12,488,509		3,355
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over							
(under) disbursements		6,999,158		(148,342)	 (144,987)		3,355
Other financing sources (uses):							
Refund of prior year's disbursements		12,000		88,802	88,802		-
Refund of prior year's receipts		(26,356)		-	-		-
Advances in		9,331		9,331	9,331		
Total other financing sources (uses)		(5,025)		98,133	 98,133		
Net change in fund balance		6,994,133		(50,209)	(46,854)		3,355
Fund balance at beginning of year (restated)		3,797,336		3,797,336	3,797,336		-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated		131,253		131,253	 131,253		
Fund balance at end of year	\$	10,922,722	\$	3,878,380	\$ 3,881,735	\$	3,355

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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

	Budgeted Amounts						Final	nce with Budget sitive
	0	riginal		Final		Actual	(Neg	gative)
Receipts:								
Intergovernmental	\$	386,995	\$	384,772	\$	384,772	\$	-
Customer services		585,000		747,421		747,421		-
Contributions and donations		4,000		2,595		2,595		-
Miscellaneous				50,000		50,000		
Total receipts		975,995		1,184,788		1,184,788		
Disbursements:								
Current:								
Instruction:								
Regular		765,919		741,290		740,296		994
Other		58,150		71,380		71,380		-
Support services:								-
Pupil		68,453		125,136		125,136		-
Instructional staff		2,200		8,131		8,131		-
Administration		39,834		40,506		40,506		-
Fiscal		69,434		77,827		77,827		-
Pupil transportation		-		12,623		12,623		-
Central		320,836		269,245		269,245		-
Total disbursements		1,324,826		1,346,138		1,345,144		994
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over								
(under) disbursements		(348,831)		(161,350)		(160,356)		994
Other financing sources (uses):								
Refund of prior year's disbursements		5,000		17		17		-
Refund of prior year's receipts		(400)		(196)		(196)		-
Other uses		(200,000)		-		-		-
Total other financing sources (uses)		(195,400)		(179)		(179)		-
Net change in fund balance		(544,231)		(161,529)		(160,535)		994
Fund balance at beginning of year		1,255,484		1,255,484		1,255,484		-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated		132,562		132,562		132,562		-
Fund balance at end of year	\$	843,815	\$	1,226,517	\$	1,227,511	\$	994

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

NOTE 1 – BUDGETARY PROCESS AND BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Educational Service Center has chosen to prepare its financial statements and notes on the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

The Educational Service Center also prepares its budget on the cash basis of accounting. The differences between the Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP budgetary basis) General Fund (the "schedule") and the Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances (the "statement") are the reclassification of various receipts and disbursements made on the statement and not made on the schedule. In addition, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund on the statement. This includes the termination benefits fund, the public school fund, the worker's compensation fund and the JDC/JRC fund.

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the cash basis statement to the budgetary basis schedule.

Community

Net Change in Fund Cash Balance

			Community	
	Ger	ieral Fund	Lear	ning Centers
Budget basis	\$	(46,854)	\$	(160,535)
Net adjustment for encumbrances		78,168		65,585
Funds budgeted elsewhere		97,398		
Cash basis	\$	128,712	\$	(94,950)

NOTE 2 – RESTATEMENT OF BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE

The beginning balance of the Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP budgetary basis) General Fund has been restated to exclude certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds. This includes the termination benefits fund, the public school fund, the worker's compensation fund and the JDC/JRC fund.

Restatement of Budgetary Fund Balance

	General Fund	
Budgetary Fund Balance, July 1 2022	\$	5,042,054
Reclassification of funds legally budgeted as Special Revenue		(1,244,718)
Restated Fund Balance, July 1, 2022	\$	3,797,336

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

FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education		
Child Nutrition Cluster:	40.550	044.750
School Breakfast Program	10.553	\$14,759
National School Lunch Program:		
Cash Assistance	10.555	50,461
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)	10.555	3,030
Total National School Lunch Program		53,491
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		68,250
COVID-19 Pandemic EBT Administrative Costs	10.649	628
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		68,878
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR		
Passed Through Wood County Department of Job and Family Services		
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Cluster:		
WIOA Youth Activities	17.259	29,614
Tatal Wallfares Innovation and Opportunity Act (IAUOA) Cluster		20.614
Total Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Cluster		29,614
Total U.S. Department of Labor		29,614
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education		
Consortium Amount Transferred from Consortium Members		
Title I Grant to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	164,718
Special Education Cluster:		
Special Education - Grants to States - Parent Mentor Project	84.027A	27,139
Consortium Amount Transferred from Consortium Members		,
Special Education - Preschool Grants	84.173A	20,589
Total Special Education Cluster		47,728
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	84.287A	650,916
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund - ESSER ESC Family Engagement Liaisons	84.425D	11,768
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund - Family & Community Partner Liaisons	84.425U	93,696
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund - GEER - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Grant	84.425C	100,821
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund - GEER II - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Grant	84.425C	56,240
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund - Extended Learning & Recovery Grant	84.425D	98,306
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund - ARP ESSER Extended Learning & Recovery Grant	84.425D	480,526
		841,357
Total U.S. Department of Education		1,704,719
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		
Direct Assistance		
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants	93.276	147,471
Passed Through Wood County Department of Job and Family Services	02 550	6 406
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	6,406
Passed Through Wood County Department of Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services		
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse	93.959	123,817
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		277,694
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		\$2,080,905

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

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

NOTE A - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Wood County Educational Service Center, Wood County, Ohio (the Center) 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 Center, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, or changes in net position of the Center.

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

NOTE E - FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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

NOTE F - MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

Certain Federal programs require the Center to contribute non-Federal funds (matching funds) to support the Federally-funded programs. The Center has met its matching requirements. The Schedule does not include the expenditure of non-Federal matching funds.

NOTE G – TRANSFER BETWEEN PROGRAM YEARS

Federal regulations require schools to obligate certain federal awards by June 30. However, with the Ohio Department of Education's consent, educational service centers can transfer unobligated amounts to the subsequent fiscal year's program. The Center transferred the following amounts from 2023 to 2024 programs:

Wood County Educational Service Center Wood County Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Page 49

Program Title	AL Number	<u>Amt.</u> <u>Transferred</u>
ARP Education Stabilization Fund - Extended Learning and Recovery	84.425D	\$444,143
Education Stabilization Fund - Family & Community Partner Liaisons	84.425U	120,197

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

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

Wood County Educational Service Center Wood County 1867 North Research Drive Bowling Green, Ohio 43402-8835

To the Board of Governors:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (Government Auditing Standards), the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Wood County Educational Service Center, Wood County, Ohio, (the Center) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 22, 2024, wherein we noted the Center began using a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles. We also noted the Center re-stated the beginning balance of the Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements, and changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) General Fund.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Center'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.

Wood County Educational Service Center
Wood County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by Government Auditing Standards
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Center'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.

Center's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Center's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The Center'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

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center'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 Center's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

May 22, 2024



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

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

Wood County Educational Service Center Wood County 1867 North Research Drive Bowling Green, Ohio 43402-8835

To the Board of Governors:

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We have audited Wood County Educational Service Center, Wood County, Ohio's (the Center) 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 Wood County Educational Service Center's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2023. Wood County Educational Service Center's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Wood County Educational Service Center complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

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

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

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Wood County Educational Service Center
Wood County
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements
Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control
Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance
Page 2

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

The Center'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 Center'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 Center'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 Center's compliance with the requirements of the major federal program as a whole.

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

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design
 and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a
 test basis, evidence regarding the Center'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 Center'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 Center'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.

Wood County Educational Service Center
Wood County
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements
Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control
Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance
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Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

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

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

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

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

May 22, 2024

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SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS 2 CFR § 200.515 JUNE 30, 2023

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	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?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	Education Stabilization Fund – AL #84.425
(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

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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 Center to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The Center 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 Center 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 Center's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the Center. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the Center 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 noted and required adjustments to the financial statements:

- Receipts for the Center's contracts for services provided to other Districts totaling \$1,771,085 were incorrectly reported as Tuition and Fees instead of as Customer Services in the General Fund.
- Receipts for the childcare services provided as part of the Center's Community Learning Centers totaling \$452,002 were incorrectly reported as Other Local Revenues instead of Customer Services in the Community Learning Centers Fund.

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These errors were the result of inadequate policies and procedures in reviewing the financial statements. Failure to complete accurate financial statements could lead to the Board making misinformed decisions. The accompanying financial statements have been adjusted to correct these errors.

In addition to the errors noted above, we noted an error in the amount of \$135,411, while not material, was posted to the financial statements, and errors totaling \$151,152 that were not material and were not posted to the financial statements.

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

Officials' Response:

See corrective action plan.

3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None.



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

Finding Number: 2023-001

Planned Corrective Action: The Board of Education discussed and directed the approval of the

change from GAAP statements to OCBOA statements at the May 23, 2023 board meeting. Their action was unanimous by a vote of 5-0 and taken as a cost savings measure, commencing with the FY23

statement.

Anticipated Completion Date: N/A

Responsible Contact Person: Brad McCracken, Treasurer

Finding Number: 2023-002

Planned Corrective Action: The ESC hired a CPA firm to assist in the compilation of the financial

statements. These reclassification entries will be corrected by the CPA firm in future reports, although it should be noted that these items do not impact the ESC's Statement of Net Position or Statement of Activities. The ESC will formally implement a review process to ensure all items identified in the audit are corrected and the final report

is approved by the Treasurer.

Anticipated Completion Date: August 2024

Responsible Contact Person: Brad McCracken, Treasurer



WOOD COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

WOOD 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 6/4/2024

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