



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2025**

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HIGHLAND COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2025**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Fairfield Local School District
Highland County
11611 State Route 771
Leesburg, Ohio 45135

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, , each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fairfield Local School District, Highland County, Ohio (School District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fairfield Local School District, Highland County, Ohio as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 3 to the financial statements, during 2025, the School District adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

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

Supplementary information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic 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 in the audit of 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 Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 3, 2026, on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

March 3, 2026

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

Our discussion and analysis of the Fairfield Local School District's (the "School District") financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review notes to the basic financial statements and financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2025 are as follows:

- In total, governmental net position increased \$1,965,279.
- General revenues accounted for \$12,383,026, in revenue or 77.36% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales and operating grants and contributions accounted for \$3,623,834 or 22.64% of total revenues of \$16,006,860.
- The District had \$14,041,581 in expenses related to governmental activities; only \$3,623,834 of these expenses was offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues supporting governmental activities (primarily taxes and unrestricted grants and entitlements) of \$12,383,026 were adequate to provide for these programs.
- The District's major governmental funds are the General Fund and the Capital Projects Fund. The General Fund had \$13,144,398 in revenues and \$16,675,761 in expenditures and other financing uses. During fiscal year 2025, the General Fund's fund balance decreased \$3,531,363, from a beginning fund balance of \$8,503,355 to \$4,971,992.
- The Capital Projects Fund had \$4,551,781 in other financing sources and \$513,254 in expenditures. During fiscal year 2025, the Capital Projects Fund's fund balance increased \$4,038,527, from a beginning fund balance of \$1,406,454 to \$5,444,981.

Using these Basic Financial Statements

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the School District as a financial whole, an entire operating entity.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the whole School District, presenting both an aggregate view of the School District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the School District's major funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. The major funds of the School District are the General Fund and the Capital Projects Fund.

Reporting the School District as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, which appear first in the School District's financial statements, report information on the School District as a whole and its activities in a way that demonstrates how the School District did financially during fiscal year 2025. These statements include all assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current fiscal year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report net position and changes in net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School District as a whole, the financial position of the School District has improved or diminished. Some factors may be financial while others such as mandated educational programs are non-financial factors.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. The School District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the School District's major funds, which are the General Fund and the Capital Projects Fund.

Governmental Funds

Most of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called *modified accrual* accounting, which measures cash and all other *financial assets* that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed *short-term* view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental *activities* (reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities) and governmental *funds* is reconciled in the basic financial statements.

Proprietary Fund

The School District maintains proprietary funds. Internal service funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the School District's various functions. The School District's internal service funds account for health self-insurance. The proprietary funds use the accrual basis of accounting.

Fiduciary Funds

The School District's only fiduciary fund is a custodial fund. All of the School District's fiduciary activities are reported in separate statements of fiduciary net position and changes in fiduciary net position. We exclude these activities from the School District's other financial statements because the School District cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The School District is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information

The required supplementary information provides detailed information regarding the School District's budgetary information, proportionate share of the net pension liability, and the net OPEB liability/asset of the retirement systems. It also includes a ten-year schedule of the School District's contributions to the retirement systems to fund pension and OPEB obligations.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

The School District as a Whole

The statement of net position provides the perspective of the School District as a whole. The following table provides a summary of the School District's net position at June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

	Net Position	
	Governmental Activities <u>2025</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Current and other assets	\$ 17,698,285	\$ 16,276,722
Net OPEB Asset	649,169	664,978
Capital assets, net	<u>15,418,960</u>	<u>14,965,628</u>
Total assets	<u>33,766,414</u>	<u>31,907,328</u>
<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>		
Pension	1,843,115	2,094,521
OPEB	<u>387,563</u>	<u>466,637</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>2,230,678</u>	<u>2,561,158</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current liabilities	1,167,415	1,001,167
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	556,202	192,931
Due in more than one year:		
Net pension liability	8,811,863	9,795,510
Net OPEB liability	451,142	742,535
Other amounts	<u>4,790,555</u>	<u>4,008,252</u>
Total liabilities	<u>15,777,177</u>	<u>15,740,395</u>
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>		
Property taxes	2,946,946	2,589,240
Deferred Gain on Refunding	87,790	92,690
Pension and OPEB	<u>2,547,317</u>	<u>2,174,047</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>5,582,053</u>	<u>4,855,977</u>
<u>Net Position</u>		
Net investment in capital assets	11,598,195	11,038,754
Restricted	2,676,028	2,701,975
Unrestricted	<u>363,639</u>	<u>131,385</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 14,637,862</u>	<u>\$ 13,872,114</u>

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

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability* or *net OPEB liability*.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

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

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

GASB notes that pension and OPEB obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange" – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the School District is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e. sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability or the net OPEB liability. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability are satisfied, these liabilities are separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

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

Overall, an increase of \$1,859,086 occurred within total assets when compared to the prior fiscal year. Current and other assets increased \$1,421,563 due to an increase in cash and cash equivalents and property taxes. This increase is due to an increased amount of collections in property taxes compared to the previous year.

Total liabilities increased \$36,782 for fiscal year 2025, mostly due to increases in compensated absences.

Unrestricted net position for governmental activities increased \$232,254 mainly due to changes in assumptions and benefits associated with the Statewide pension systems. Restricted net position decreased due to a decrease in restricted for OPEB compared to the prior fiscal year.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

The following table shows the highlights of the School District's revenues and expenses. These two main components are subtracted to yield the change in net position. This table uses the full accrual method of accounting.

Revenue is further divided into two major components: Program Revenues and General Revenues. Program Revenues are defined as charges for services and sales and operating grants, contributions, and interest. General Revenues include property taxes, unrestricted grants, such as State foundation support, investment earnings and miscellaneous revenues.

Expenses are shown in programs that are easily identifiable utilizing the current Uniform School Accounting System (USAS) coding structure.

The following table shows the change in net position for fiscal years 2025 and 2024. The net position as of June 30, 2024, was restated as described in Note 3.

Change in Net Position

	Governmental Activities <u>2025</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>
<u>Revenues</u>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 553,320	\$ 601,315
Operating grants, contributions, and investments	3,070,514	2,530,661
General revenues:		
Property taxes	2,918,812	2,453,952
Grants and entitlements	8,730,005	8,586,817
Investment earnings	663,104	620,045
Miscellaneous	<u>71,105</u>	<u>35,735</u>
Total revenues	<u>16,006,860</u>	<u>14,828,525</u>

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

Change in Net Position (Continued)

	Governmental Activities <u>2025</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Program expenses:		
Instruction:		
Regular	\$ 5,217,717	\$ 5,279,031
Special	1,657,409	1,940,456
Vocational	208,163	232,126
Other	91,225	-
Support services:		
Pupils	869,846	866,381
Instructional staff	735,426	779,192
Board of education	81,085	67,852
Administration	1,194,347	1,195,831
Fiscal	453,547	419,374
Business	9,661	8,407
Operations and maintenance	1,464,631	1,252,191
Pupil transportation	812,029	851,493
Central	71,592	119,880
Operation of non-instructional services		
Food service operations	570,171	613,022
Other non-instructional services	12,713	17,577
Extracurricular activities	498,234	465,284
Interest	<u>93,785</u>	<u>96,513</u>
Total expenses	<u>14,041,581</u>	<u>14,204,610</u>
Change in net position	1,965,279	623,615
Net position as previously reported	13,872,114	13,248,499
Restatement - change in accounting principle	(1,199,531)	-
Net position at beginning of year	<u>12,672,583</u>	<u>13,248,499</u>
Net position at end of year	<u><u>\$ 14,637,862</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 13,872,114</u></u>

Overall, revenues increased \$1,178,335. Property taxes increased due to an increased amount of property tax collections compared to the previous year. Grants and entitlements increased due to a change in the state foundation formula.

Expenses for the School District decreased \$163,029 from the prior fiscal year. The main factor was the result of a decrease in special program expenses compared to the previous fiscal year.

The School District's Funds

The School District's funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues and other financing sources of \$20,522,326 and expenditures and other financing uses of \$19,756,915.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

The fund balance in the General Fund decreased \$3,531,363 due to total expenditures and other financing uses exceeding revenues during the fiscal year. The School District transferred more money out to be used on future capital projects than it had in the past.

The fund balance in the Capital Projects Fund increased \$4,038,527 due to a large transfer for future capital projects.

Overall, governmental fund revenues exceeded expenditures by \$765,411 during the fiscal year due to the School District monitoring spending.

General Fund - Budget Highlights

The School District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The School District's most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund. The General Fund is budgeted at the fund level. Original budgeted expenditures were \$4,807,179 less than final budgeted expenditures. This was primarily due to an increase in instruction expenses as well as by increases in all other expenditures. Original budgeted revenues were \$231,475 less than final budgeted revenues, which is mainly due to an increase in intergovernmental revenue.

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2025, the School District had \$15,418,960 in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation/amortization). This investment in capital assets includes land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment, intangible right-to-use assets, vehicles and textbooks. Net capital assets increased \$453,332 from the prior fiscal year. This was due to additions for the current fiscal year exceeding depreciation/amortization expense and net disposals. For further information regarding the School District's capital assets, refer to Note 8 to the basic financial statements.

Debt

At June 30, 2025, the School District had outstanding general obligation bonds in the amount of \$3,395,000, for the purpose of paying for new construction, improvements and renovations to school facilities. In addition, the School District's long-term obligations include a lease in the amount of \$53,317.

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$9,903,655 with an unvoted debt margin of \$147,763 at June 30, 2025.

For further information regarding the School District's long-term obligations, refer to Note 9 to the basic financial statements.

Contacting the School District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, contact Grant Amyx, Treasurer, Fairfield Local School District, 11611 S.R. 771, Leesburg, Ohio, 45135.

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 14,328,564
Receivables:	
Property taxes	3,151,874
Accounts	1,075
Accrued interest	24,975
Intergovernmental	153,193
Prepayments	21,701
Materials and supplies inventory	1,918
Inventory held for resale	14,985
Net OPEB asset	649,169
Capital assets:	
Nondepreciable capital assets	1,255,644
Depreciable capital assets, net	14,163,316
Capital assets, net	<u>15,418,960</u>
Total assets	<u>33,766,414</u>
Deferred outflows of resources:	
Pension	1,843,115
OPEB	387,563
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>2,230,678</u>
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	76,442
Contracts payable	61,433
Retainage payable	33,384
Accrued wages and benefits payable	765,982
Intergovernmental payable	62,921
Pension and postemployment benefits payable	158,972
Accrued interest payable	8,281
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	556,202
Due in more than one year:	
Net pension liability	8,811,863
Net OPEB liability	451,142
Other amounts due in more than one year	4,790,555
Total liabilities	<u>15,777,177</u>
Deferred inflows of resources:	
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	2,946,946
Deferred gains on refunding	87,790
Pension	1,388,127
OPEB	1,159,190
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>5,582,053</u>
Net position:	
Net investment in capital assets	11,598,195
Restricted for:	
Endowment:	
Expendable	2,744
Nonexpendable	45,420
Classroom facilities maintenance	83,282
Debt service	1,433,051
OPEB	649,169
State funded programs	43,946
Food service operations	227,278
Student activities	165,339
Other purposes	25,799
Unrestricted	363,639
Total net position	<u>\$ 14,637,862</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

		Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 5,217,717	\$ 56,788	\$ 18,820	\$ (5,142,109)
Special	1,657,409	138,409	836,681	(682,319)
Vocational	208,163	-	115,216	(92,947)
Other	91,225	-	69,795	(21,430)
Support services:				
Pupil	869,846	-	293,795	(576,051)
Instructional staff	735,426	-	168,614	(566,812)
Board of education	81,085	-	-	(81,085)
Administration	1,194,347	-	1,610	(1,192,737)
Fiscal	453,547	-	-	(453,547)
Business	9,661	-	-	(9,661)
Operations and maintenance	1,464,631	-	1,006,425	(458,206)
Pupil transportation	812,029	15,557	114,014	(682,458)
Central	71,592	-	5,973	(65,619)
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	570,171	151,105	368,166	(50,900)
Other non-instructional services	12,713	-	2,880	(9,833)
Extracurricular activities	498,234	191,461	68,525	(238,248)
Interest	93,785	-	-	(93,785)
Totals	<u>\$ 14,041,581</u>	<u>\$ 553,320</u>	<u>\$ 3,070,514</u>	<u>(10,417,747)</u>
General revenues:				
Property taxes levied for:				
General purposes				2,385,710
Debt service				262,240
Capital projects				270,862
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs				8,730,005
Investment earnings				663,104
Miscellaneous				71,105
Total general revenues				<u>12,383,026</u>
Change in net position				1,965,279
Net position at beginning of year, as previously reported				13,872,114
Restatement - change in accounting principle				(1,199,531)
Net position at beginning of year, restated				<u>12,672,583</u>
Net position at end of year				<u><u>\$ 14,637,862</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2025

	<u>General</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,776,566	\$ 5,450,812	\$ 2,956,946	\$ 14,184,324
Receivables:				
Property taxes	2,664,083	-	487,791	3,151,874
Accounts	25	-	1,050	1,075
Accrued interest	24,975	-	-	24,975
Intergovernmental	8,222	-	144,971	153,193
Prepayments	18,837	-	2,864	21,701
Materials and supplies inventory	-	-	1,918	1,918
Inventory held for resale	-	-	14,985	14,985
Due from other funds	21,605	-	-	21,605
Total assets	<u>\$ 8,514,313</u>	<u>\$ 5,450,812</u>	<u>\$ 3,610,525</u>	<u>\$ 17,575,650</u>
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 44,996	\$ 5,831	\$ 25,615	\$ 76,442
Contracts payable	-	-	61,433	61,433
Retainage payable	-	-	33,384	33,384
Accrued wages and benefits payable	718,759	-	47,223	765,982
Intergovernmental payable	62,311	-	610	62,921
Pension and other postemployment benefits payable	150,319	-	8,653	158,972
Due to other funds	-	-	21,605	21,605
Total liabilities	<u>976,385</u>	<u>5,831</u>	<u>198,523</u>	<u>1,180,739</u>
Deferred inflows of resources:				
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	2,498,708	-	448,238	2,946,946
Delinquent property tax revenue not available	58,435	-	10,489	68,924
Intergovernmental revenue not available	-	-	25,311	25,311
Accrued interest not available	8,793	-	-	8,793
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>2,565,936</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>484,038</u>	<u>3,049,974</u>
Fund balances:				
Nonspendable:				
Materials and supplies inventory	-	-	1,918	1,918
Prepays	18,837	-	2,864	21,701
Endowment	-	-	45,420	45,420
Restricted:				
Debt service	-	-	1,437,312	1,437,312
Classroom facilities maintenance	-	-	83,282	83,282
Food service operations	-	-	239,911	239,911
State funded programs	-	-	43,946	43,946
Extracurricular	-	-	162,637	162,637
Endowment	-	-	2,744	2,744
Other purposes	-	-	25,799	25,799
Committed:				
Capital projects	-	5,444,981	829,176	6,274,157
Assigned:				
Student instruction	20,392	-	-	20,392
Student and staff support	223,440	-	-	223,440
Operation of non-instructional	1,038	-	-	1,038
Extracurricular activities	16,167	-	-	16,167
Capital projects	-	-	78,266	78,266
Unassigned (deficit)	4,692,118	-	(25,311)	4,666,807
Total fund balances	<u>4,971,992</u>	<u>5,444,981</u>	<u>2,927,964</u>	<u>13,344,937</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balances	<u>\$ 8,514,313</u>	<u>\$ 5,450,812</u>	<u>\$ 3,610,525</u>	<u>\$ 17,575,650</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
JUNE 30, 2025

Total governmental fund balances		\$ 13,344,937
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities on the statement of net position are different because:</i>		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.		15,418,960
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred inflows in the funds.		
Property taxes receivable	\$ 68,924	
Accrued interest receivable	8,793	
Intergovernmental receivable	25,311	
Total		103,028
An internal service fund is used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service fund are included in governmental activities on the statement of net position.		144,240
Unamortized premiums on bonds issued are not recognized in the funds.		(189,841)
Unamortized amounts on refundings are not recognized in the funds.		(87,790)
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and therefore is not reported in the funds.		(8,281)
The net pension/OPEB assets & liabilities are not due and payable in the current period; therefore, the assets, liabilities and related deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds.		
Deferred outflows - pension	1,843,115	
Deferred inflows - pension	(1,388,127)	
Net pension liability	(8,811,863)	
Deferred outflows - OPEB	387,563	
Deferred inflows - OPEB	(1,159,190)	
Net OPEB asset	649,169	
Net OPEB liability	(451,142)	
Total		(8,930,475)
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
General obligation bonds	(3,395,000)	
Leases payable	(53,317)	
Compensated absences	(1,708,599)	
Total		(5,156,916)
Net position of governmental activities		<u><u>\$ 14,637,862</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	General	(Formerly Major) Debt Service	(Formerly Non- Major) Capital Projects	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:					
Property taxes	\$ 2,373,972	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 537,160	\$ 2,911,132
Intergovernmental	9,802,164	-	-	1,888,873	11,691,037
Investment earnings	657,485	-	-	17,861	675,346
Tuition and fees	210,540	-	-	-	210,540
Extracurricular	29,132	-	-	162,543	191,675
Charges for services	-	-	-	151,105	151,105
Contributions and donations	17,738	-	-	38,587	56,325
Miscellaneous	53,367	-	-	30,018	83,385
Total revenues	<u>13,144,398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,826,147</u>	<u>15,970,545</u>
Expenditures:					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular	4,658,522	-	303,358	17,180	4,979,060
Special	1,594,216	-	-	200,532	1,794,748
Vocational	207,105	-	-	-	207,105
Other	13,438	-	-	69,795	83,233
Support services:					
Pupil	883,769	-	-	-	883,769
Instructional staff	768,880	-	-	128,535	897,415
Board of education	81,826	-	-	-	81,826
Administration	1,233,627	-	-	1,610	1,235,237
Fiscal	449,149	-	-	15,382	464,531
Business	9,661	-	-	-	9,661
Operations and maintenance	1,071,629	-	114,080	252,410	1,438,119
Pupil transportation	757,463	-	88,660	258	846,381
Central	65,619	-	-	5,973	71,592
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	126	-	-	574,290	574,416
Other non-instructional services	7,251	-	-	5,462	12,713
Extracurricular activities	301,013	-	-	200,934	501,947
Facilities acquisition and construction	2,732	-	7,156	858,626	868,514
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	15,160	-	-	130,000	145,160
Interest	2,794	-	-	106,913	109,707
Total expenditures	<u>12,123,980</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>513,254</u>	<u>2,567,900</u>	<u>15,205,134</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>1,020,418</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(513,254)</u>	<u>258,247</u>	<u>765,411</u>
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers in	-	-	4,551,781	-	4,551,781
Transfers (out)	(4,551,781)	-	-	-	(4,551,781)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(4,551,781)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,551,781</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	(3,531,363)	-	4,038,527	258,247	765,411
Fund balance at beginning of year as previously reported	8,503,355	1,407,379	-	2,668,792	12,579,526
Adjustment - changes from nonmajor to major			1,406,454	(1,406,454)	-
Adjustment - changes from major to nonmajor	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,407,379)</u>		<u>1,407,379</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balances at beginning of year, as adjusted	8,503,355	-	1,406,454	2,669,717	12,579,526
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 4,971,992</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,444,981</u>	<u>\$ 2,927,964</u>	<u>\$ 13,344,937</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 765,411
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:</i>	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation/amortization expense.	
Capital asset additions	\$ 1,452,592
Current year depreciation/amortization	<u>(959,932)</u>
Total	492,660
The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, disposals, trade-ins, and donations) is to decrease net position.	(39,328)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.	
Property taxes	7,680
Earnings on investments	3,324
Intergovernmental	<u>25,311</u>
Total	36,315
Repayment of long-term obligation principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the statement of net position.	145,160
In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding bonds, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due. The following items resulted in less interest being reported in the statement of activities:	
Change in accrued interest payable	475
Amortization of bond premiums	10,547
Amortization of deferred gains	<u>4,900</u>
Total	15,922
Contractually required contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows.	
Pension	917,646
OPEB	32,526
Except for amounts reported as deferred inflows/outflows, changes in the net pension/OPEB liability/asset are reported as pension/OPEB expense in the statement of activities.	
Pension	(548,751)
OPEB	154,060
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities, such as compensated absences, do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.	
	(101,750)
An internal service fund used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds is not reported in the district-wide statement of activities. Governmental fund expenditures and the related internal service fund revenues are eliminated. The net revenue (expense) of the internal service fund is allocated among the governmental activities.	
	<u>95,408</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$ 1,965,279

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND
JUNE 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 144,240</u>
Net position:	
Unrestricted	<u><u>\$ 144,240</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND
CHANGES IN NET POSITION
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Operating revenues:	
Sales/charges for services	\$ 69,072
Total operating revenues	<u>69,072</u>
Operating expenses:	
Claims	<u>(26,336)</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>(26,336)</u>
Change in net position	95,408
Net position at beginning of year	<u>48,832</u>
Net position at end of year	<u><u>\$ 144,240</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Cash flows from operating activities:	
Cash received from sales/charges for services	\$ 69,072
Cash payments for claims	(101,823)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(32,751)</u>
 Net change in cash and cash cash equivalents	 (32,751)
 Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	 176,991
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 144,240</u>
 Reconciliation of operating income to net cash used in operating activities:	
 Operating income	 \$ 95,408
 Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Claims payable	<u>(128,159)</u>
 Net cash used in operating activities	 <u><u>\$ (32,751)</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2025

	<u>Custodial</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 23,451
Net position:	
Restricted for individuals, organizations and other governments	<u>\$ 23,451</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	<u>Custodial</u>
Additions:	
Contributions and donations	\$ 15,266
Deductions:	
Scholarships awarded	<u>15,998</u>
Change in net position	(732)
Net position at beginning of year	<u>24,183</u>
Net position at end of year	<u><u>\$ 23,451</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

The Fairfield Local School District was established in 1962. The School District serves an area of approximately 60 square miles. It is located in Highland and Clinton Counties and includes all of the Villages of Leesburg and Highland, all of Fairfield Township, portions of Penn and Liberty Townships and a portion of Wayne Township in Clinton County. The School District currently operates one instructional building and one bus garage.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

A. Reporting Entity

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

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

The School District participates in two jointly governed organizations and one insurance purchasing pool. These organizations are presented in Note 16 of the basic financial statements.

These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Miami Valley Educational Computer Association
Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development

Insurance Purchasing Pool:

Ohio School Boards Association Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

B. Fund Accounting

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

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the School District are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is reported as fund balance. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

Capital Projects Fund - The Capital Projects Fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Other governmental funds of the District are used to account for:

Nonmajor special revenue funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

Nonmajor debt service funds - Debt service funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest.

Nonmajor capital projects funds - Capital projects funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Nonmajor permanent funds - Permanent funds are used to account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs - that is, for the benefit of the government or its citizenry.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

Proprietary fund reporting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position and cash flows. Proprietary funds are classified as enterprise or internal service; the School District has no enterprise funds. The School District has one internal service fund for the operation of its health self-insurance.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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 benefits) trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that has certain characteristics. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The School District has two custodial funds which are used to account for scholarships.

C. Basis of Presentation and Measurement Focus

The School District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a Statement of Net Position and a Statement of Activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the School District, except for fiduciary funds. The government-wide financial statements usually distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental and those that are considered business-type activities; however, the School District has no business-type activities.

The Statement of Net Position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the School District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the School District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School District.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the School District are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Activities presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total net position.

Fund Financial Statements

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and deferred outflows of resources and current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources generally are included on the balance sheet. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Like the government-wide statements, all proprietary and fiduciary funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of these funds are included on the statement of fund net position. In fiduciary funds, a liability to the beneficiaries of fiduciary activity is recognized when an event has occurred that compels the government to disburse fiduciary resources. Fiduciary fund liabilities other than those to beneficiaries are recognized using the economic resources measurement focus.

Fiduciary funds present a statement of changes in fiduciary net position which reports additions to and deductions from custodial funds.

D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred inflows/outflows of resources, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

Revenues - Exchange and Nonexchange Transactions - Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. "Measurable" means that the amount of the transaction can be determined, and "available" means that the resources are collectible within the current fiscal year, or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the School District, "available" means expected to be received within 60 days of fiscal year-end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied (See Note 6). Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the fiscal year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the School District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: property taxes available for advance and grants.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources - In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the School District, deferred outflows of resources are reported in the government-wide statement of net position for pension and OPEB plans. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Note 11 and 12.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized until that time. For the School District, deferred inflows of resources included deferred gain on refunding, property taxes, pension and OPEB plans, and unavailable revenue. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2024, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2025 operations. These amounts have been recorded as a deferred inflow on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental fund balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. For the School District, unavailable revenue includes delinquent property taxes and intergovernmental. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. The details of these unavailable revenues are identified on the Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balance to Net Position of Governmental Activities. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are reported on the government-wide statement of net position (See Note 11 and 12).

Expenses/Expenditures - On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in the governmental funds.

E. Budgets

All funds, except for custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriation resolution and the certificate of estimated resources, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amounts that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the fund level.

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

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

F. Cash and Investments

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

The School District's investments were limited to nonnegotiable certificates of deposit, commercial paper, Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB) securities, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC) securities, Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) securities, Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA) securities, negotiable certificates of deposit, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Government money market accounts and STAR Ohio. Investments, except for STAR Ohio, are reported at fair value which is based on quoted market prices. For investments in open-end mutual funds, the fair value is determined by the fund's current share price. The School District's commercial paper is measured at amortized cost as it is a highly liquid debt instrument with a remaining maturity at the time of purchase less than one year.

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

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.

Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earnings are assigned to the general fund unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund. Investment earnings credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2025 amounted to \$657,485 which includes \$302,440 assigned from other School District 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 School District are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents.

G. Inventory

Materials and supplies inventory is reported at cost, while inventory held for resale is presented at the lower of cost or market value, and donated commodities are presented at their entitlement value. Inventories are presented at cost on a first-in, first-out basis and are expended/expensed when used. Inventories consist of materials and supplies held for consumption and donated and purchased food held for resale.

H. Capital Assets

All capital assets of the School District are general capital assets that are associated with governmental activities. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide Statement of Net Position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

Capital assets (except for intangible right-to-use lease assets which are discussed below) are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the fiscal year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The School District maintains a capitalization threshold of \$1,000. The School District does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized. In addition, assets having an estimated useful life of more than one year that are below the capitalization threshold and not considered repair or maintenance costs are collectively capitalized on the financial statements when the aggregate of those assets are considered significant.

All reported capital assets, except land and construction in progress, are depreciated/amortized. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Governmental Activities Estimated Lives</u>
Land improvements	20 - 40 years
Buildings and improvements	20 - 40 years
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	8 - 20 years
Vehicles	10 years

The School District is reporting intangible right-to-use assets related to equipment and Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs). The asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the liability, adjusted for payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain initial direct costs. Subsequently, these intangible assets are being amortized in a systematic and rational manner over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset/subscription.

I. Interfund Balances

On fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund loans receivable/payable". Receivables and payables resulting from negative cash are classified as "due to/due from other funds". Interfund balances are eliminated in the Statement of Net Position.

J. Compensated Absences

The School District recognizes a liability for compensated absences for leave time that (1) has been earned for services previously rendered by employees, (2) accumulates and is allowed to be carried over to subsequent years, and (3) is more likely than not to be used as time off or settled (for example paid in cash to the employee or payment to an employee flex spending account) during or upon separation from employment. Based on the criteria listed, three types of leave qualify for liability recognition for compensated absences - vacation, sick leave and personal time. The liability for compensated absences is reported as incurred in the government-wide financial statements. A liability for compensated absences is recorded in the governmental funds only if the liability has matured because of employee resignations or retirements. The liability for compensated absences includes salary-related benefits, where applicable.

Vacation

The School District's policy permits employees to accumulate earned but unused vacation benefits, which are eligible for payment at the employee's current pay rate upon separation from employment.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

Sick Leave

The School District's policy permits employees to accumulate earned but unused sick leave. All sick leave lapses when employees leave the employ of the School District and, upon separation from service, the employee receives compensation in accordance with the severance policy. A liability for estimated value of sick leave that will be used by employees as time off and at separation is included in the liability for compensated absences.

Personal Time

The School District's policy permits employees to accumulate earned but unused personal time, which are eligible for payment at the employee's current pay rate upon separation from employment.

K. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements. In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources, are reported as obligations of the funds. However, compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current fiscal year. Net pension/OPEB liability should be recognized in the governmental funds to the extent that benefit payments are due and payable and the pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits. Bonds and leases are recognized as a liability in the governmental fund financial statements when due.

L. Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable - The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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

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

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

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

The School District applies restricted resources first when expenditures 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 represents the difference between all other elements in a statement of financial position. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

The School District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available. Restricted Net Position for Pension and OPEB plans represent the corresponding restricted asset amounts after considering the related deferred outflows and deferred inflows.

N. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported on the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

O. Interfund Activity

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the Statement of Activities. Interfund payments for services provided and used are not eliminated.

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

P. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

Q. Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2025, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the fiscal year in which services are consumed.

R. Bond Premiums

For governmental activities, bond premiums are deferred and amortized over the term of the bonds using the straight-line method since the results are not significantly different from the effective interest method. Bond premiums are presented as an addition to the face amount of the bonds payable.

On the governmental fund financial statements, bond premiums are recognized in the period in which the bonds were issued. Under Ohio law, premiums on the original issuance of debt are to be deposited to the bond retirement fund to be used for debt retirement and are precluded from being applied to the project fund. Ohio law does allow premiums on refunding debt to be used as part of the payment to the bond escrow agent.

S. Leases Payable

The School District serves as both lessee and lessor in various noncancellable leases which are accounted for as follows:

Lessee - At the commencement of a lease, the School District initially measures the lease liability at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease liability is reduced by the principal portion of lease payments made. The lease asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain initial direct costs. Subsequently, the lease asset is amortized on a straight-line basis over its useful life. Lease assets are reported with other capital assets and lease liabilities are reported with long-term debt on the statement of net position.

T. Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the proprietary fund. For the School District, these revenues are charges for services for the self- insurance programs. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of the fund. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are classified as non-operating.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2025, the School District has implemented GASB Statement No. 101, "Compensated Absences" and GASB Statement No. 102, "Certain Risk Disclosures".

GASB Statement No. 101 is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE – (Continued)

GASB Statement No. 102 improves financial reporting by providing users with timely information regarding certain concentrations or constraints and related events that have occurred or have begun to occur that make a government vulnerable to a substantial impact. As a result, users will have better information with which to understand and anticipate certain risks to a government's financial condition. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 102 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

B. Deficit Fund Balance

Fund balance at June 30, 2025 included the following individual fund deficit:

<u>Nonmajor governmental funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Miscellaneous Federal Grants	\$ 25,311

The general fund is liable for any deficit in this fund and provides transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur. The deficit fund balance resulted from adjustments for accrued liabilities.

C. Change within the Financial Reporting Entity

For fiscal year 2025, the School District's debt service fund presentation was adjusted from major to nonmajor due to no longer meeting the qualitative threshold for a major fund. This change is separately displayed in the financial statements.

For fiscal year 2025, the School District's capital projects fund presentation was adjusted from nonmajor to major due to now meeting the qualitative threshold for a major fund. This change is separately displayed in the financial statements.

D. Restatement of Net Position

During fiscal year 2025, there was a change in accounting principle related to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 101, "*Compensated Absences*". The effect of changing the accounting principle is to decrease net position as previously reported. This is displayed where applicable in the financial statements as "restatement - change in accounting principle".

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (Continued)

Interim monies 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;
2. 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 that the fair value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in 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;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio); and,
8. Certain banker's acceptance 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.

Protection of the 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.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Cash On Hand

At fiscal year end, the School District had \$30 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the School District as part of "equity in pooled cash and investments".

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (Continued)

B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2025, the carrying amount of all District deposits, including \$1,767,203 in nonnegotiable certificates of deposit, was \$2,426,333. As of June 30, 2025, \$1,778,842 of the District's bank balance of \$2,778,842 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below, while \$1,000,000 was covered by the FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a reduced rate set by the Treasurer of State. Financial institutions which have received an extension (the "grace period") from the Ohio Treasurer of State to participate in the OPCS beyond June 30, 2024 may also pledge a single pool of eligible securities to secure the repayment of all public moneys deposited in the institution and not otherwise secured pursuant to law, provided that at all times the total fair value of the securities so pledged is at least equal to 105% of the total amount of all public deposits to be secured by the pooled securities that are not covered by any federal deposit insurance.

C. Investments

As of June 30, 2025, the School District had the following investments and maturities:

Measurement/ <u>Investment type</u>	Measurement <u>Value</u>	Investment Maturities				
		6 months or <u>less</u>	7 to 12 <u>months</u>	13 to 18 <u>months</u>	19 to 24 <u>months</u>	Greater than <u>24 months</u>
<i>Fair value:</i>						
Commercial paper	\$ 749,007	\$ 749,007	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FFCB	203,055	-	-	-	-	203,055
FHLMC	24,582	24,582	-	-	-	-
FNMA	99,873	-	-	-	-	99,873
FHLB	79,780	-	-	-	-	79,780
Negotiable CDs	4,006,985	750,393	1,250,731	500,818	1,004,432	500,611
US Treasury notes	405,353	-	-	100,521	-	304,832
US Government money market	581,681	581,681	-	-	-	-
<i>NAV per share:</i>						
STAR Ohio	<u>5,775,336</u>	<u>5,775,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	\$ 11,925,652	\$ 7,880,999	\$ 1,250,731	\$ 601,339	\$ 1,004,432	\$ 1,188,151

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.66 years.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (Continued)

The School District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The above chart identifies the School District's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2025. The Money Market Mutual Fund is measured at fair value and is valued using quoted market prices (Level 1 inputs). The School District's remaining investments measured at fair value are valued using methodologies that incorporate market inputs such as benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data including market research publications. Market indicators and industry and economic events are also monitored, which could require the need to acquire further market data. (Level 2 inputs).

Interest Rate Risk: The School District's investment policy follows State statute, which requires that an investment mature within five years of the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Credit Risk: The Standard and Poor's or Moody's rating of the School District's investments is listed in the table below. STAR Ohio is permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 135.45. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service and that the money market mutual funds be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized rating service. The negotiable certificates of deposit are in denominations of under \$250,000 each, in separate banks, and are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). The negotiable certificates of deposit are, therefore, not subject to credit risk. The Discount Commercial Paper investments are rated P1/A1 to A1+ by Moody's and Standard and Poor's. The School District has no investment policy that addresses credit risk.

The following table summarizes the ratings assigned to the School District's investments by Standard & Poor's:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Commercial paper	A-1
Federal agency securities	AA+
Negotiable CDs	Not rated
U.S. Treasury bills	A-1+
U.S. Treasury notes	AA+
U.S. Government Money Market Funds	Not rated
STAR Ohio	AAAm

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. All of the School District's investments are either insured and registered in the name of the School District or at least registered in the name of the School District. The School District does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (Continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk: The District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the District at June 30, 2025:

<u>Measurement/Investment type</u>	<u>Measurement</u>	
	<u>Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
<i>Fair value:</i>		
Commercial paper	\$ 749,007	6.28%
FFCB	203,055	1.70%
FHLMC	24,582	0.21%
FNMA	99,873	0.84%
FHLB	79,780	0.67%
Negotiable CDs	4,006,985	33.60%
US Treasury notes	405,353	3.40%
US Government money market	581,681	4.88%
<i>NAV per share:</i>		
STAR Ohio	<u>5,775,336</u>	<u>48.42%</u>
Total	<u>\$ 11,925,652</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

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

The following is a reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as reported in the note above to cash and cash equivalents as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2025:

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 2,426,333
Investments	11,925,652
Cash on hand	<u>30</u>
Total	<u>\$ 14,352,015</u>
<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	\$ 14,328,564
Custodial funds	<u>23,451</u>
Total	<u>\$ 14,352,015</u>

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

A. Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2025, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund statements:

	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Transfers from general fund to:</u>	
Capital Projects Fund	<u>\$4,551,781</u>

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS - (Continued)

B. Due to/from other funds consisted of the following at June 30, 2025, as reported on the fund statement:

<u>Receivable fund</u>	<u>Payable fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	<u>\$ 21,605</u>

The primary purpose of the amount due to the general fund from the nonmajor governmental fund was to eliminate negative cash balances due to outstanding project requests. The amount will be repaid once cash is received.

Amounts due to/from between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide statements.

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property. Real property tax revenues received in calendar year 2025 represent the collection of calendar year 2024 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2025 were levied after April 1, 2024, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2024, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established. Public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2025 represent the collection of calendar year 2024 taxes. Public utility real and personal property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien on December 31, 2023, were levied after April 1, 2024, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Highland and Clinton Counties. The County Auditors periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2025, are available to finance fiscal year 2025 operations. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2025 and 2024 were:

	<u>June 30, 2025</u>	<u>June 30, 2024</u>
Major governmental funds:		
General fund	\$ 106,940	\$ 42,785
Nonmajor governmental funds:		
Bond retirement fund	16,819	30,010
Permanent improvement fund	12,245	4,899

The amount of second-half real property taxes available for advance at fiscal year-end can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

Accrued property taxes receivable includes real property, public utility property and delinquent tangible personal property taxes which are measurable as of June 30, 2025 and for which there is an enforceable legal claim. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, only the amount of real property taxes available as an advance at June 30 was levied to finance current fiscal year operations and is reported as revenue at fiscal year-end. The portion of the receivable not levied to finance current fiscal year operations is offset by a credit to deferred inflows.

On the accrual basis of accounting, collectible delinquent property taxes have been recorded as a receivable and revenue, while on a modified accrual basis of accounting the revenue has been reported as a deferred inflow.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES - (Continued)

The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2025 taxes were collected are:

	2024 Second Half Collections		2025 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 103,969,450	96.17	\$ 143,175,800	96.90
Public utility personal	<u>4,135,770</u>	<u>3.83</u>	<u>4,587,030</u>	<u>3.10</u>
Total	<u>\$ 108,105,220</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 147,762,830</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$30.44		\$27.80	

NOTE 7 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2025 consisted of property taxes, accounts, accrued interest and intergovernmental grants. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the ability to foreclose for the nonpayment of taxes, the stable condition of State programs, and the current fiscal year guarantee of federal funds. All receivables except delinquent property taxes are expected to be collected within one year. Property taxes, although ultimately collectible, include some portion of delinquents that will not be collected within one year.

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 8 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for governmental activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, was as follows:

	Balance 06/30/24	Additions	Disposals	Balance 06/30/25
Governmental activities:				
<i>Capital assets, not being depreciated/amortized:</i>				
Land	\$ 399,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 399,200
Construction in progress	-	856,444	-	856,444
Total capital assets, not being depreciated/amortized	399,200	856,444	-	1,255,644
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated/amortized:</i>				
Land improvements	2,306,442	-	-	2,306,442
Buildings and improvements	23,905,491	-	-	23,905,491
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	2,597,069	312,881	(196,019)	2,713,931
Vehicles	1,308,026	92,319	-	1,400,345
Intangible right to use assets:				
Equipment	80,881	-	-	80,881
SBITAs	26,533	190,948	(6,597)	210,884
Textbooks	970,875	-	-	970,875
Total capital assets, being depreciated/amortized	31,195,317	596,148	(202,616)	31,588,849
<i>Less: accumulated depreciation/amortization</i>				
Land improvements	(974,923)	(60,320)	-	(1,035,243)
Buildings and improvements	(11,920,207)	(611,966)	-	(12,532,173)
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	(1,940,123)	(134,566)	156,691	(1,917,998)
Vehicles	(800,067)	(85,395)	-	(885,462)
Intangible right to use assets:				
Equipment	(13,709)	(16,450)	-	(30,159)
SBITAs	(8,985)	(51,235)	6,597	(53,623)
Textbooks	(970,875)	-	-	(970,875)
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	(16,628,889)	(959,932)	163,288	(17,425,533)
Governmental activities capital assets, net	\$ 14,965,628	\$ 492,660	\$ (39,328)	\$ 15,418,960

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 8 - CAPITAL ASSETS – (Continued)

Depreciation/amortization expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:

Regular	\$ 636,687
Special	6,438
Vocational	5,453

Support services:

Instructional staff	56,766
Administration	272
Fiscal	103
Operations and maintenance	144,059
Pupil transportation	84,685
Food service operations	14,586
Extracurricular activities	<u>10,883</u>
Total depreciation/amortization expense	<u><u>\$ 959,932</u></u>

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 101 (See Note 3 for detail), the District has restated compensated absences as of June 30, 2024 which is reflected in the schedule below. During fiscal year 2025, the following activity occurred in governmental activities long-term obligations:

	Restated Balance <u>6/30/24</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	Balance <u>6/30/25</u>	Due Within <u>One Year</u>
<i>General obligation bonds:</i>					
Direct Placement:					
2020 School Improvement					
Refunding Bonds:					
Serial and Term Bonds 1.50% to 4.00%	\$ 3,525,000	\$ -	\$ (130,000)	\$ 3,395,000	\$ 140,000
Premium on Debt Issuance	<u>200,388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,547)</u>	<u>189,841</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Direct Placement	<u>3,725,388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(140,547)</u>	<u>3,584,841</u>	<u>140,000</u>
Net Pension Liability	9,795,510	-	(983,647)	8,811,863	-
Net OPEB Liability	742,535	-	(291,393)	451,142	-
Leases Payable	68,477	-	(15,160)	53,317	15,936
Compensated Absences*	<u>1,606,849</u>	<u>101,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,708,599</u>	<u>400,266</u>
Total Governmental Activities					
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>\$ 15,938,759</u>	<u>\$ 101,750</u>	<u>\$ (1,430,747)</u>	<u>14,609,762</u>	<u>\$ 556,202</u>

*The change in compensated absences liability is presented as a net change.

School Improvement General Obligation Bonds 2020

On March 3, 2020, the School District issued \$4,010,000 in School Improvement Refunding Bonds for the purpose of refunding the 2015 School Improvement General Obligation Bonds, in order to take advantage of lower interest rates. Of these bonds, \$1,205,000 were serial bonds and \$2,805,000 are term bonds. These bonds are paid from the Debt Service Funds and will mature in June 2043. At June 30, 2025, \$3,395,000 of the refunded bonds were still outstanding.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS – (Continued)

Principal and interest requirements to retire general obligation debt outstanding at June 30, 2025, are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	<u>School Improvement General Obligation Bonds 2020</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2026	\$ 140,000	\$ 101,712	\$ 241,712
2027	145,000	96,112	241,112
2028	150,000	90,312	240,312
2029	155,000	84,312	239,312
2030	165,000	78,112	243,112
2031 - 2035	910,000	290,524	1,200,524
2036 - 2040	1,045,000	163,726	1,208,726
2041 - 2043	685,000	34,502	719,502
Total	<u>\$ 3,395,000</u>	<u>\$ 939,312</u>	<u>\$ 4,334,312</u>

Leases Payable:

The School District has entered into lease agreements for the use of intangible right-to-use equipment. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 87, the School District will report an intangible capital asset and corresponding liability for the future scheduled payments under the leases. The lease payments will be paid from the general fund.

The School District has entered into lease agreements for copier machines with multiple companies at varying years and terms as follows:

<u>Lease</u>	<u>Lease Commencement Date (fiscal year)</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Lease End Date (fiscal year)</u>	<u>Payment Method</u>
Copier Lease	2024	5	2029	Monthly

Lease payments will be paid from the general fund. The following is a schedule of future lease payments under the lease agreements:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2026	\$ 15,936	\$ 2,304	\$ 18,240
2027	16,751	1,489	18,240
2028	17,609	631	18,240
2029	3,021	19	3,040
Total	<u>\$ 53,317</u>	<u>\$ 4,443</u>	<u>\$ 57,760</u>

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS – (Continued)

The School District pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension/OPEB liabilities. However, employer pension/OPEB contributions are made from the following funds: General Fund, Food Service, Title VI-B, and Title I Special Revenue Funds. For additional information related to the net pension/OPEB liabilities see Note 11 and 12.

B. Legal Debt Margin

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$9,903,655 with an unvoted debt margin of \$147,763 at June 30, 2025.

NOTE 10 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2025, the School District contracted through Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SWPEC), the property insurance coverage was with Affiliated FM Insurance Company.

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

B. Employee Health Care Benefits

The School District was partially self-insured for employee health care benefits for all of its employees. The health care benefits program was administered by Medical Mutual. During October 2024, the District was no longer self-insured for these benefits.

The liability for unpaid claims of \$0 reported in the Health Self-Insurance Fund at June 30, 2025, is based on the requirements of GASB Statement No. 10, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Insurance Issues," as amended by GASB Statement No. 30, "Risk Management Omnibus," which requires that a liability for unpaid claims costs, including estimates of costs relating to incurred but not reported claims, be reported. Estimates were calculated based upon an independent actuarial evaluation of claims payable. The estimate was not affected by incremental claims adjustment expenses and does not include other allocated or unallocated claims adjustment expenses.

Employees choosing Medical Mutual have an unlimited lifetime benefit with the health reimbursement account covering 75 percent of the deductible. The School District has a preferred provider organization insurance plan that covers all expenses above the employee out-of-pocket maximum.

Changes in claims activity for employee health care benefits for the fiscal year is as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Claims Incurred</u>	<u>Claims Payments</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
2025	\$ 128,159	\$ (26,336)	\$ (101,823)	\$ -
2024	130,973	231,009	(233,823)	128,159

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 10 - RISK MANAGEMENT – (Continued)

C. Workers' Compensation

For fiscal year 2025, the School District participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group-Retrospective Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 16). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Sedwick Managed Care Ohio provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP. Each fiscal year, the School District pays an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

Pensions and OPEB are a component of exchange transactions - between an employer and its employees - of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions/OPEB are provided to an employee - on a deferred-payment basis - as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represent the School District's proportionate share of each pension/OPEB plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

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

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension/OPEB liability (asset)* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in pension and postemployment benefits payable on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description - The School District's non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits, 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 before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially reduced benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit; 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. New benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. The COLA is indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0%. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The Retirement Board approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for calendar year 2024.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14.00% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00%. For fiscal year 2025, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$271,469 for fiscal year 2025. Of this amount, \$18,776 is reported as pension and postemployment benefits payable.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - Licensed teachers and other faculty members 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. The calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of credited service. Effective August 1, 2023, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 34 years of services credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 65. Effective June 1, 2025 - July 1, 2027, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 33 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 65. Effective on or after August 1, 2027, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 34 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 65.

In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, an ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2023, a permanent 1 percent COLA of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2024 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2019.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits effective Aug. 1, 2023, can retire with 29 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 60. Effective June 1, 2025 - July 1, 2027, retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 28 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 60. Effective on or after Aug. 1, 2027, retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 29 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 60.

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 11.09% 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. The remaining 2.91% 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 is deposited into the member's DC account 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 at age 50 and after termination of employment.

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NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The fiscal year 2025 employer and employee contribution rate of 14% was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2025, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$646,177 for fiscal year 2025. Of this amount, \$107,670 is reported pension and postemployment benefits payable.

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

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

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

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.044021000%	0.034191530%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.043525000%</u>	<u>0.034224250%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000496000%</u>	<u>0.000032720%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,226,564	\$ 6,585,299	\$ 8,811,863
Pension expense	\$ 184,943	\$ 363,808	\$ 548,751

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

At June 30, 2025, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 85,008	\$ 414,700	\$ 499,708
Changes of assumptions	19,918	303,486	323,404
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	-	102,357	102,357
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>271,469</u>	<u>646,177</u>	<u>917,646</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 376,395</u>	<u>\$ 1,466,720</u>	<u>\$ 1,843,115</u>
	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 3,606	\$ 3,606
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	139,274	566,199	705,473
Changes of assumptions	-	228,439	228,439
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>42,593</u>	<u>408,016</u>	<u>450,609</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 181,867</u>	<u>\$ 1,206,260</u>	<u>\$ 1,388,127</u>

\$917,646 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2026	\$ (127,016)	\$ (408,324)	\$ (535,340)
2027	121,238	468,909	590,147
2028	(30,210)	(302,670)	(332,880)
2029	<u>(40,953)</u>	<u>(143,632)</u>	<u>(184,585)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (76,941)</u>	<u>\$ (385,717)</u>	<u>\$ (462,658)</u>

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment 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. Future benefits for all current plan members were projected through 2137.

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023, are presented below:

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Inflation	2.40%	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%	3.25% to 13.58%
COLA or ad hoc COLA	2.00% on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for 3 years following commencement	2.00% on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for 3 years following commencement
Investment rate of return	7.00% net of system expenses	7.00% net of system expenses
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)	Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

In 2024, mortality rates were based on the following:

Service Retirement: 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. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

Disabled Retirement: 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.

Contingent Survivor: PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. Ohio Revised Code Section 3309.15 and the Board-adopted Investment Policy govern investment activity at SERS. 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.

As of June 30, 2024:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (geometric)
Cash	3.00 %	0.97 %
US Equity	22.00	4.68
Non-US Equity Developed	12.00	4.96
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.00	5.66
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	18.00	2.38
Private Equity	14.00	7.10
Real Estate	13.00	3.64
Infrastructure	7.00	4.80
Private Debt/Private Credit	5.00	5.86
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate - Total pension liability for 2024 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. The discount rate determination did not use a municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 20-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarially determined contribution rate for fiscal year 2024 was 14%. 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. The annual money-weighted rate of return, calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, for fiscal year 2024 was 9.31%.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

- Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 3,406,334	\$ 2,226,564	\$ 1,233,260

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023, actuarial valuations are presented below:

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.00%
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%, effective July 1, 2017	0.00%, effective July 1, 2017

For the June 30, 2024 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 Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For the prior measurement date, 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 Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2024 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.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.90 %
International Equity	22.00	7.70
Alternatives	19.00	9.10
Fixed Income	22.00	4.50
Real Estate	10.00	5.10
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	2.40
Total	100.00 %	

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.40% and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2024. 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' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2024. 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, 2024.

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 10,623,241	\$ 6,585,299	\$ 3,169,893

Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate remained at 7.00% for June 30, 2024 valuation.

Retirement rates were extended to younger ages intended to ensure that the ranges in retirement eligibility impacted participants at such ages.

Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981, do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

The Health Care program is financed through a combination of employer contributions, recipient premiums, investment returns, and any funds received on behalf of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. The System's goal is to maintain a health care reserve account with a 20-year solvency period in order to ensure that fluctuations in the cost of health care do not cause an interruption in the program. However, during any period in which the 20-year solvency period is not achieved, the System shall manage the Health Care Fund on a pay-as-you-go basis.

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, 2025, 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 2025, this amount was \$30,000. 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 2025, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$32,526.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$32,526 for fiscal year 2025. Of this amount, \$32,526 is reported pension and postemployment benefits payable.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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. Health care premiums were reduced by a Medicare Part B premium credit beginning in 2023. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Medicare Part D is a federal program to help cover the costs of prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries. This program allows STRS Ohio to recover part of the cost for providing prescription coverage since all eligible STRS Ohio health care plans include creditable prescription drug coverage.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Net OPEB Liabilities/Assets, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

The net OPEB liability/asset was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability/asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the School District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net OPEB			
liability/asset prior measurement date	0.045071900%	0.034191530%	
Proportion of the net OPEB			
liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.044295000%</u>	<u>0.034224250%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000776900%</u>	<u>0.000032720%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net			
OPEB liability	\$ 451,142	\$ -	\$ 451,142
Proportionate share of the net			
OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (649,169)	\$ (649,169)
OPEB expense	\$ (16,244)	\$ (137,816)	\$ (154,060)

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

At June 30, 2025, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 28,222	\$ 28,222
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	2,204	-	2,204
Changes of assumptions	193,626	79,903	273,529
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	39,049	12,033	51,082
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>32,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,526</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 267,405</u>	<u>\$ 120,158</u>	<u>\$ 387,563</u>
	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 486,449	\$ 69,962	\$ 556,411
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	-	27,874	27,874
Changes of assumptions	207,239	292,775	500,014
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>73,618</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>74,891</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 767,306</u>	<u>\$ 391,884</u>	<u>\$ 1,159,190</u>

\$32,526 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability/asset in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2026	\$ (122,257)	\$ (97,323)	\$ (219,580)
2027	(87,308)	(41,881)	(129,189)
2028	(70,675)	(54,234)	(124,909)
2029	(67,047)	(50,364)	(117,411)
2030	(66,385)	(40,453)	(106,838)
Thereafter	<u>(118,755)</u>	<u>12,529</u>	<u>(106,226)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (532,427)</u>	<u>\$ (271,726)</u>	<u>\$ (804,153)</u>

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

The total OPEB liability is determined by SERS' actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment terminations). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023 are presented below:

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Inflation	2.40%	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%	3.25% to 13.58%
Investment rate of return	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Fiduciary net position is projected to be depleted	2059	2048
Municipal bond index rate	3.93%	3.86%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	4.88%	4.27%
Medical trend assumption	7.00 to 4.40%	6.75 to 4.40%

In 2024, the following mortality assumptions were used:

Healthy Retirees - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females.

Disabled Retirees - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females.

Contingent Survivors - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females.

Actives - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Mortality Projection - Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

In the prior measurement date, the following mortality assumptions were used:

Healthy Retirees - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females.

Disabled Retirees - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females.

Contingent Survivors - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females.

Actives - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

Mortality Projection - Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

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

The long-term expected rate on plan assets of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent five-year experience study was performed for the period covering fiscal years 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 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 (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) 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 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 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.

As of June 30, 2024:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (geometric)</u>
Cash	3.00 %	0.97 %
US Equity	22.00	4.68
Non-US Equity Developed	12.00	4.96
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.00	5.66
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	18.00	2.38
Private Equity	14.00	7.10
Real Estate	13.00	3.64
Infrastructure	7.00	4.80
Private Debt/Private Credit	5.00	5.86
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2024, was 4.88%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2024, was 4.27%. 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 is projected to be depleted in 2059 by SERS' actuaries. The Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate was used in the determination of the single equivalent interest rate for both the June 30, 2023 and the June 30, 2024 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 was 3.93% at June 30, 2024 and 3.86% at June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates - The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, what the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.88%) and higher (5.88%) than the current discount rate (4.88%). Also shown is what the proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.40%).

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 601,582	\$ 451,142	\$ 331,598

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 304,955	\$ 451,142	\$ 643,294

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation, compared with June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, are presented below:

	June 30, 2024		June 30, 2023	
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%		Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.00%	
Health care cost trends				
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	3.94%	7.50%	4.14%
Medicare	-112.22%	3.94%	-10.94%	4.14%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	8.00%	3.94%	-11.95%	4.14%
Medicare	-15.14%	3.94%	1.33%	4.14%

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

For the June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For the prior measurement date, for healthy retirees the 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.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2024 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, 2024 valuation.

Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience as well as benefit changes effective January 1, 2025. The larger Medicare trends for Years 2027 and 2028 reflect the assumed impact of the expiration of current Medicare Advantage contract on December 31, 2028.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.90 %
International Equity	22.00	7.70
Alternatives	19.00	9.10
Fixed Income	22.00	4.50
Real Estate	10.00	5.10
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	2.40
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.40% and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2024. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS 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, 2024. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2024.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate - The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2024, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the proportionate share of 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 proportionate share of the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 527,817	\$ 649,169	\$ 754,771
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 761,904	\$ 649,169	\$ 513,589

NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits should become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2024, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

B. Litigation

The School District is of the opinion that the ultimate disposition of any legal proceedings will not have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the School District.

C. Foundation Funding

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Traditional School Districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the School District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODEW has not finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2025 Foundation funding for the School District; therefore, the financial statement impact is not determinable at this time. ODEW and management believe this will result in either a receivable to or liability of the School District.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 14 - SET-ASIDES

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

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

	Capital <u>Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2024	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	210,892
Current year offsets	<u>(298,339)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (87,447)</u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2026	<u>\$ -</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2025	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

Amounts of offsets and qualifying expenditures presented in the table for the capital acquisition set-asides were limited to those necessary to reduce the year-end balance to zero. Although the School District may have had additional offsets and qualifying expenditures for capital acquisitions, these amounts may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirements of future fiscal years and therefore is not presented as being carried forward to the next fiscal year.

NOTE 15 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

A. Encumbrances

Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At fiscal year-end, the amount of encumbrances expected to be honored upon performance by the vendor in the next fiscal year were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	Year-End <u>Encumbrances</u>
General	\$ 139,305
Capital Projects Fund	113,965
Nonmajor governmental funds	<u>1,875,079</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 2,128,349</u></u>

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 15 - OTHER COMMITMENTS - (Continued)

B. Contractual Commitments

As of June 30, 2025, the District had the following contractual commitments outstanding:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Total Contract</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Remaining Commitment June 30, 2025</u>
Equity Construction Solutions	\$ 2,286,986	\$ (1,032,419)	\$ 1,254,567
SHP Leading Design	300,404	(270,585)	29,819
Total	<u>\$ 2,587,390</u>	<u>\$ (1,303,004)</u>	<u>\$ 1,284,386</u>

NOTE 16 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS AND INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL

Miami Valley Educational Computer Association

The School District is a participant in the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA), which is a computer consortium. MVECA is an association of public schools within the boundaries of Clark, Clinton, Fayette, Greene, Highland, Madison, Montgomery and Ross 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 districts.

The governing board of MVECA consists of five Superintendents and two Treasurers of member school districts, with four of the five Superintendents and both Treasurers elected by a majority vote of all member school districts, except the Greene County Career Center. The fifth Superintendent is from the Greene County Career Center. The Board exercises total control over the operations of the association including budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. Each participant's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Board. The School District paid MVECA \$47,358 for services provided during fiscal year 2025. Financial information can be obtained from Liz Dunn, who serves as Treasurer, at 888 Dayton Street, Suite 102, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development

The Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development, a jointly governed organization, is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board, consisting of one representative from each of the participating school districts' elected boards, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development was formed for the purpose of providing vocational education opportunities to the students of the school district including students of Fairfield Local School District. The School District has no ongoing financial interest in, nor responsibility for the Institute. The School District made no contributions during the fiscal year. The Board exercises total control over the operations of the Institute including budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. Each School District's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Board. Complete financial statements for Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development can be obtained from the Chief Financial Officer at 3254 East Kemper Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241.

Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The School District participates in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect and the Immediate Past President of the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA). The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the program. Each fiscal year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 17 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. The classified employees working 12 months of the year earn 10 to 20 days of vacation per fiscal year, depending upon length of service. Accumulated, unused vacation time is paid to classified employees and the Treasurer upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month.

B. Insurance Benefits

For fiscal year 2025, medical/surgical and prescription drug insurance is offered to employees through Medical Mutual of Ohio. The employees share the cost of the monthly premium with the Board. The premium varies with the employee, depending on the terms of the contract.

For the period July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024, the School District elected to provide dental insurance through Delta Dental. For the period October 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, the School District has elected to provide dental insurance through Superior Dental Care. The School District provides vision insurance to all employees through Vision Service Plan.

C. Retirement Incentive

An employee, covered by the master contract, who retires between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2027, will receive a retirement incentive bonus using the following formula:

One-half percent (.005) of the employee's average total compensation for the last three full years of his/her employment in the School District.

The average is then multiplied by (X), where (X) equals the number of complete fiscal years of service in the Fairfield Local School District.

The following restrictions apply to this incentive:

1. The employee must be eligible for and taking initial regular retirement under either STRS or SERS. (Persons previously retired under STRS or SERS are ineligible.)
2. Effective June 30, 2009, this incentive applies to only those employees who retire with less than 31 years of service credit under either STRS or SERS.
3. The employee must give the Board of Education a minimum of 90 days written notice of his/her intent to retire.
4. An employee who retires during the school year receives no partial credit for that year in terms of bonus calculation; the bonus will be based on the last three complete fiscal years of service.
5. Compensation upon which the bonus is calculated includes all payments made to the employee from whichever retirement that has been withheld.

The retirement incentive bonus is paid within 30 days of the actual retirement date, provided written evidence of actual retirement (such as a copy of a retirement check or its stub) has been provided to the Treasurer.

Three employees accepted the retirement incentive bonus during fiscal year 2025.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 18 - ENDOWMENTS

The School District's permanent funds include donor-restricted endowments. The Net Position- Non-Expendable amounts of \$45,420 represent the principal portion of the endowments. The Net Position – Expendable amount of \$2,744 represents the interest earnings on donor-restricted investments and is available for expenditure by the governing board, for purposes consistent with the endowment's intent. State law permits the governing board to appropriate, for purposes consistent with the endowment's intent, net appreciation, realized and unrealized, unless the endowment terms specify otherwise.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis	Variance with Final Budget - over (under) Actual Amounts
	Original	Final		
Budgetary revenues and other financing sources	\$ 12,912,268	\$ 13,143,743	\$ 13,165,881	\$ 22,138
Budgetary expenditures and other financing uses	12,361,659	17,168,838	16,616,877	(551,961)
Net change in fund balance	550,609	(4,025,095)	(3,450,996)	574,099
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	8,712,529	8,712,529	8,712,529	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	184,142	184,142	184,142	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 9,447,280</u>	<u>\$ 4,871,576</u>	<u>\$ 5,445,675</u>	<u>\$ 574,099</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND
SCHOOL DISTRICT PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1)	School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	School District's Covered Payroll	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2025	0.043525000%	\$ 2,226,564	\$ 1,711,543	130.09%	78.52%
2024	0.044021000%	2,432,385	1,754,957	138.60%	76.06%
2023	0.044485300%	2,406,112	1,625,693	148.01%	75.82%
2022	0.044149100%	1,628,973	1,535,964	106.06%	82.86%
2021	0.040692800%	2,691,508	1,410,900	190.77%	68.55%
2020	0.041026300%	2,454,676	1,512,593	162.28%	70.85%
2019	0.039987300%	2,290,147	1,345,793	170.17%	71.36%
2018	0.039543900%	2,362,662	1,228,600	192.31%	69.50%
2017	0.037942900%	2,777,071	1,224,564	226.78%	62.98%
2016	0.037501300%	2,139,859	1,134,400	188.63%	69.16%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	School District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2025	\$ 271,469	\$ (271,469)	\$ -	\$ 1,939,064	14.00%
2024	239,616	(239,616)	-	1,711,543	14.00%
2023	245,694	(245,694)	-	1,754,957	14.00%
2022	228,597	(228,597)	-	1,632,836	14.00%
2021	215,035	(215,035)	-	1,535,964	14.00%
2020	197,526	(197,526)	-	1,410,900	14.00%
2019	204,200	(204,200)	-	1,512,593	13.50%
2018	181,682	(181,682)	-	1,345,793	13.50%
2017	172,004	(172,004)	-	1,228,600	14.00%
2016	171,439	(171,439)	-	1,224,564	14.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the School District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND
SCHOOL DISTRICT PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1)	School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	School District's Covered Payroll	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2025	0.034224250%	\$ 6,585,299	\$ 4,492,929	146.57%	82.55%
2024	0.034191530%	7,363,125	4,649,364	158.37%	80.02%
2023	0.036965640%	8,217,508	4,764,193	172.48%	78.88%
2022	0.035030541%	4,478,969	4,511,943	99.27%	87.78%
2021	0.034624810%	8,377,974	4,181,157	200.37%	75.48%
2020	0.034037120%	7,527,105	4,262,000	176.61%	77.40%
2019	0.033977900%	7,814,033	3,777,936	206.83%	77.31%
2018	0.032893970%	7,814,033	3,811,514	205.01%	75.30%
2017	0.031891570%	10,675,070	3,603,471	296.24%	66.80%
2016	0.030061110%	8,308,013	3,132,371	265.23%	72.10%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	School District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2025	\$ 646,177	\$ (646,177)	\$ -	\$ 4,615,550	14.00%
2024	629,010	(629,010)	-	4,492,929	14.00%
2023	650,911	(650,911)	-	4,649,364	14.00%
2022	666,987	(666,987)	-	4,764,193	14.00%
2021	631,672	(631,672)	-	4,511,943	14.00%
2020	585,362	(585,362)	-	4,181,157	14.00%
2019	596,680	(596,680)	-	4,262,000	14.00%
2018	528,911	(528,911)	-	3,777,936	14.00%
2017	533,612	(533,612)	-	3,811,514	14.00%
2016	504,486	(504,486)	-	3,603,471	14.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the School District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY AND
SCHOOL DISTRICT OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST NINE AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1) (2)	School District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	School District's Covered Payroll	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability
2025	0.044295000%	\$ 451,142	\$ 1,711,543	26.36%	44.50%
2024	0.045071900%	742,535	1,754,957	42.31%	30.02%
2023	0.045312000%	636,185	1,625,693	39.13%	30.34%
2022	0.045547100%	862,017	1,535,964	56.12%	24.08%
2021	0.042291700%	919,138	1,410,900	65.15%	18.17%
2020	0.042020700%	1,056,733	1,512,593	69.86%	15.57%
2019	0.040458500%	1,122,428	1,345,793	83.40%	13.57%
2018	0.039788500%	1,067,819	1,228,600	86.91%	12.46%
2017	0.037965900%	1,082,169	1,224,564	88.37%	11.49%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	School District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2025	\$ 32,526	\$ (32,526)	\$ -	\$ 1,939,064	2.00%
2024	31,517	(31,517)	-	1,711,543	1.84%
2023	31,730	(31,730)	-	1,754,957	1.81%
2022	28,698	(28,698)	-	1,632,836	1.76%
2021	29,369	(29,369)	-	1,535,964	1.91%
2020	27,476	(27,476)	-	1,410,900	1.95%
2019	33,102	(33,102)	-	1,512,593	2.19%
2018	28,104	(28,104)	-	1,345,793	2.09%
2017	20,116	(20,116)	-	1,228,600	1.64%
2016	17,130	(17,130)	-	1,224,564	1.40%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the School District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY/(ASSET) AND
SCHOOL DISTRICT OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST NINE AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1) (2)	School District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	School District's Covered Payroll	School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability/(Asset)
2025	0.034224250%	\$ (649,169)	\$ 4,492,929	14.45%	158.01%
2024	0.034191530%	(664,978)	4,649,364	14.30%	168.52%
2023	0.036965640%	(957,163)	4,764,193	20.09%	230.73%
2022	0.035030541%	(738,589)	4,511,943	16.37%	174.73%
2021	0.034624810%	(608,530)	4,181,157	14.55%	182.10%
2020	0.034037120%	(563,737)	4,262,000	13.23%	174.74%
2019	0.033973790%	(545,924)	3,777,936	-14.45%	176.00%
2018	0.032893970%	1,283,401	3,811,514	33.67%	47.10%
2017	0.031891570%	1,705,569	3,603,471	47.33%	37.30%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	School District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2025	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,615,550	0.00%
2024	-	-	-	4,492,929	0.00%
2023	-	-	-	4,649,364	0.00%
2022	-	-	-	4,764,193	0.00%
2021	-	-	-	4,511,943	0.00%
2020	-	-	-	4,181,157	0.00%
2019	-	-	-	4,262,000	0.00%
2018	-	-	-	3,777,936	0.00%
2017	-	-	-	3,811,514	0.00%
2016	-	-	-	3,603,471	0.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the School District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts and disbursements.

The schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance - budget and actual (non-GAAP budgetary basis) presented for the general fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are that:

- (a) Revenues and other financing sources are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
- (b) Expenditures and other financing uses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);
- (c) In order to determine compliance with Ohio law, and to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, total outstanding encumbrances (budget basis) are recorded as the equivalent of an expenditure, as opposed to assigned or committed fund balance for that portion of outstanding encumbrances not already recognized as an account payable (GAAP basis); and
- (d) Some funds are included in the general fund (GAAP basis), but have separate legally adopted budgets (budget basis).

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

Net Change in Fund Balance	
	<u>General fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ (3,450,996)
Net adjustment for revenue accruals	122,399
Net adjustment for expenditure accruals	(229,674)
Net adjustment for other sources/uses	(200,002)
Funds budgeted elsewhere	8,647
Adjustments for encumbrances	<u>218,263</u>
GAAP Basis	<u><u>\$ (3,531,363)</u></u>

As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting", certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund. This includes the public school support fund.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

PENSION

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, SERS changed from a fixed 3% annual increase to a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), with a cap of 2.5% and a floor of 0%.
- For fiscal year 2019, with the authority granted the Board under Senate Bill 8, the Board has enacted a three year COLA delay for future benefit recipients commencing benefits on or after April 1, 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, SERS changed from a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 2.5% to 2.0%.
- For fiscal year 2023, SERS changed from a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 2.0% to 2.5%.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2025.

Change in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement and (h) the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50% - 18.20% to 3.25% - 13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2025.

STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS decreased the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to zero.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2025.

Changes in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (b) the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, (c) the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%, (d) total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25% due to lower inflation, (e) the healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016 and (f) rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: the projected salary increases went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2025.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2025.

Change in assumptions:

- For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to the following: RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to the following: RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement, (h) the municipal bond index rate increased from 2.92% to 3.56% and (i) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 2.98% to 3.63%.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate increased from 3.63% to 3.70%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.50% - 5.00% to a range of 5.375% - 4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.50% - 5.00% to a range of 7.25% - 4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate increased from 3.56% to 3.62% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 3.63% to 3.70%.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

- For fiscal year 2020, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.375% - 4.75% to a range of 5.25% - 4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.25% - 4.75% to a range of 7.00% - 4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.62% to 3.13% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%.
- For fiscal year 2021, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.22% to 2.63% and (b) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.13% to 2.45%, and (c) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.22% to 2.63%.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50% - 18.20% to 3.25% - 13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 1.92% to 3.69%, (b) single equivalent interest rate when from 2.27% to 4.08% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 5.125% to 4.40% Medicare and 6.75% to 4.40% Pre-Medicare to 7.00% to 4.40%.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumptions affect the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 3.69% to 3.86%, (b) single equivalent interest rate when from 4.08% to 4.27% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 7.00% to 4.40% to 6.75% to 4.40%.
- For fiscal year 2025, the following changes of assumptions affect the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 3.86% to 3.93%, (b) single equivalent interest rate when from 4.27% to 4.88% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 6.75% to 4.40% to 7.00% to 4.40%.

STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS reduced the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.
- For fiscal year 2019, STRS increased the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 1.9% to 1.944% per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.
- For fiscal year 2020, STRS increased the non-Medicare subsidy percentage from 1.944% to 1.984% effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.
- For fiscal year 2021, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

- For fiscal year 2022, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022 from 2.055% to 2.100%. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in CY2022. The Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2025.

Change in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, "Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB)," (b) the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (c) valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified, (d) the percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased and (e) the assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability/asset since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13% to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, "Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB)" and (b) decrease in health care cost trend rates from 6.00% - 11.00% initial; 4.50% ultimate down to Medical Pre-Medicare 6.00% and Medicare 5.00% initial; 4.00% ultimate and Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare 8.00% and Medicare (5.23%) initial; 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2020, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 6.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 8.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate; and prescription drug Medicare from (5.23%) initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2021, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to - 6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%, (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (c) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical Medicare from - 6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to - 16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) projected salary increase went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by services from 2.50% to 8.50% and (b) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate; medical Medicare from - 16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate to - 68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate; Medicare from 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate to - 5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical Pre-Medicare from 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 4.14% ultimate; medical Medicare from - 68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate to - 10.94% initial - 4.14% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate to - 11.95% initial - 4.14% ultimate; and prescription drug Medicare from - 5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 1.33% initial - 4.14% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2025, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical Pre-Medicare from 7.50% initial - 4.14% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate; medical Medicare from - 10.94% initial - 4.14% ultimate to - 112.22% initial - 3.94% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from - 11.95% initial - 4.14% ultimate to 8.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate; and prescription drug Medicare from 1.33% initial - 4.14% ultimate to - 15.14% initial - 3.94% ultimate.

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
<u>Child Nutrition Cluster:</u>		
Cash Assistance		
School Breakfast Program	10.553	101,911
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)		
National School Lunch Program - Food Donations	10.555	42,285
Cash Assistance		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	200,260
Total National School Lunch Program		242,545
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		344,456
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		344,456
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Office of Budget and Management</i>		
COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - Appalachian Community Grant Program	21.027	761,627
COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - School Safety	21.027	9,940
Total COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds		771,567
Total U.S. Department of the Treasury		771,567
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Development</i>		
State Energy Program	81.041	200,000
Total U.S. Department of Energy		200,000
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies: Improving Basic Programs FY24	84.010A	15,464
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies: Improving Basic Programs FY25	84.010A	149,381
Total Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies		164,845
<u>Special Education Cluster:</u>		
Special Education Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) FY24	84.027A	16,229
Special Education Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) FY25	84.027A	183,363
Total Special Education Grants to States		199,592
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173A	3,774
Total Special Education Cluster		203,366
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	23,855
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program FY24	84.424A	1,610
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program FY25	84.424A	15,063
Total Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	16,673
Education Stabilization Fund		
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund FY24	84.425U	23,134
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER Homeless Grant) Fund	84.425W	4,997
Total Education Stabilization Fund		28,131
Total U.S. Department of Education		436,870
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		\$1,752,893

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

NOTE 1 - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Fairfield Local School District (the School District) programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2025. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the School District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the School District.

NOTE 2 - 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 3 - INDIRECT COST RATE

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

NOTE 4 - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE 5 - FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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



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

Fairfield Local School District
Highland County
11611 State Route 771
Leesburg, Ohio 45135

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fairfield Local School District, Highland County, Ohio (the School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 3, 2026, wherein we noted the School District implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 101 *Compensated Absences*.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of This Report

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

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

March 3, 2026



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

Fairfield Local School District
Highland County
11611 State Route 771
Leesburg, Ohio 45135

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We have audited Fairfield Local School District's, Highland County, Ohio (the School District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on Fairfield Local School District's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2025. Fairfield Local School District's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Fairfield Local School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2025.

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

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

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

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

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

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
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

March 3, 2026

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2025**

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)?	No
(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)?	No
(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):	AL# 21.027 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds
(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?	Yes

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

None

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HIGHLAND COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 3/19/2026

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This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
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