

HEART OF OHIO CLASSICAL ACADEMY

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Initial Audit

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025





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Columbus, Ohio 43215
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Board of Directors
Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
4650 Lakehurst Court
Dublin, Ohio 43016

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Heart of Ohio Classical Academy, Franklin County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Heart of Ohio Classical Academy is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State

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

May 04, 2026

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**HEART OF OHIO CLASSICAL ACADEMY
FRANKLIN COUNTY
INITIAL AUDIT
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County
4650 Lakehurst Court
Dublin, Ohio 43016

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Heart of Ohio Classical Academy, Franklin County, Ohio (the Academy), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy'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 financial position of the Academy as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

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 Academy, 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 opinion.

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 Academy'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 opinion. 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 Academy'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 Academy's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

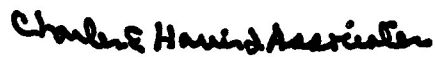
We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and pension and other postemployment benefit contributions listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, 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.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 23, 2025, on our consideration of the Academy'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 Academy'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 Academy's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles E. Harris".

Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
December 23, 2025

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Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025
(Unaudited)

The management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) of Heart of Ohio Classical Academy (the School) financial performance provides an overall review of the School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School's financial performance.

Because this is the first year of financial reporting for the School, comparative information does not exist. Subsequent reports will include comparative information.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for the School for the fiscal year 2025 are as follows:

- Fiscal year 2025 was the first year of operations for the School.
- Total Net Position was a deficit \$919,212 in 2025.
- Total assets were \$10,287,828 and total liabilities were \$11,359,031 during 2025.

Using this Financial Report

This report consists of the financial statements, notes to the financial statements and required supplementary information. The financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows.

Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position answers the question of how well the School performed financially during 2025. This statement includes all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and net position, both financial and capital and current and long-term, using the accrual basis of accounting, which is the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues earned and expenses incurred during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or expended.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025
(Unaudited)

Table 1 provides a summary of the School's Net Position for fiscal year 2025. Comparative information is not available as fiscal year 2025 is the first year of operations for the School.

(Table 1)
Statement of Net Position

	<u>2025</u>
Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 62,841
Capital Assets, net	<u>10,224,987</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>10,287,828</u>
 Deferred Outflows of Resources	 <u>151,991</u>
 Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	1,193,043
Long Term Liabilities	<u>10,165,988</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>11,359,031</u>
 Net Position	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(898,971)
Unrestricted	<u>(20,241)</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ (919,212)</u>

Current assets represent cash and receivables. Capital assets are from a building lease, leasehold improvements and furniture and equipment. Total liabilities constitute accounts payable, accrued wages and benefits, pension and lease payables. Deferred outflows represent contributions to SERS and STRS that are subsequent to the measurement date (see Notes 7 and 8).

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Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025
(Unaudited)

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position

Table 2 shows the change in Net Position at June 30, 2025. In fiscal year 2026 there will be a comparison to fiscal year 2025.

(Table 2)
Change in Net Position

	<u>2025</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 1,742,582
Non-Operating Revenue	<u>1,257,415</u>
Total Revenue	<u>2,999,997</u>
Operating Expenses	3,619,148
Non-Operating Expenses	<u>691,672</u>
Total Expenses	<u>4,310,820</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$ (1,310,823)</u>

The School's operating revenues are based on the School's full-time equivalent (FTE), while non-operating revenue consists primarily of federal and state grants and contributions. The School's most significant expenses were salaries and wages and purchased services. Depreciation and amortization on the School's capital assets were also a significant expense during the fiscal year.

Capital Assets

The School's capital asset balance was \$10,224,987 in 2025. For more information see Note 5.

Long Term Obligations

As of fiscal year-end, the School's long-term obligations consisted of a lease payable for the School's building. See Note 6 for more information.

Contacting the School's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our readers with a general overview of the School's finances and to show the School's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the Fiscal Officer at 4650 Lakehurst Court, Dublin, Ohio 43016.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2025

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 53,079
State Aid Receivable	7,446
Grant Funding Receivable	2,316
<i>Total Current Assets</i>	<u>62,841</u>

Noncurrent Assets

Capital Assets, Net	<u>10,224,987</u>
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Total Assets	<u>10,287,828</u>
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DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Pension	148,809
Opeb	3,182
Total Deferred Outflows Of Resources	<u>151,991</u>

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	90,932
Accrued Wages And Benefits	64,777
Pension Payable	23,003
Lease Payable	957,970
Interest Payable	56,361
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	<u>1,193,043</u>

Long-Term Liabilities

Lease Payable	<u>10,165,988</u>
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Total Liabilities	<u>11,359,031</u>
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NET POSITION

Net Investment In Capital Assets	(898,971)
Unrestricted	(20,241)
Total Net Position	<u>\$ (919,212)</u>

See accompanying notes to basic financial statements.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

OPERATING REVENUES

Foundation Basic	\$ 1,714,817
Other	21,564
Casino Revenue	6,201
Total Operating Revenues	1,742,582

OPERATING EXPENSES

Salaries And Wages	1,159,994
Fringe Benefits	146,083
Purchased Services	883,549
Supplies And Materials	129,763
Depreciation/Amortization	1,138,600
Other	161,159
Total Operating Expenses	3,619,148
Operating Income (Loss)	(1,876,566)

NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)

Federal And State Grants	443,719
Interest Expense	(691,672)
Contributions And Donations	813,696
Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	565,743
Change In Net Position	(1,310,823)
Net Position Beginning Of Year - See Note 14	391,611
Net Position End Of Year	\$ (919,212)

See accompanying notes to basic financial statements.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Flows
June 30, 2025

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Cash Received From State Aid	\$ 1,713,572
Cash Received Other Operating Sources	21,564
Cash Payments for Wages and Fringe Benefits	(1,370,288)
Cash Payments To Suppliers For Goods And Services	(922,380)
Other Cash Payments	(161,159)
Net Cash Used For Operating Activities	<u>(718,691)</u>

CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Cash Payments For Capital Acquisitions	(70,988)
Cash Payments for Principal	(168,641)
Cash Payments for Interest	(635,311)
Net Cash Used for Capital Financing Activities	<u>(874,940)</u>

CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Cash Received From Grant Programs	441,403
Cash Received From Contributions and Donations	813,696
Net Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities	<u>1,255,099</u>

Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents (338,532)

Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year - See Note 14 391,611

Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year \$ 53,079

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH USED FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Operating Income (Loss) \$ (1,876,566)

ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH USED FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Depreciation/Amortization	1,138,600
Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Deferred Outflows/Inflows:	
State Aid Receivable	(7,446)
Deferred Outflows of Resources	(151,991)
Accounts Payable	90,932
Pension Payable	23,003
Accrued Wages and Benefits	64,777
Total Adjustments	<u>1,157,875</u>
Net Cash Used For Operating Activities	<u>\$ (718,691)</u>

NON-CASH FINANCING ACTIVITIES

The School entered into a building lease that increased capital assets and liabilities \$11,292,599 in fiscal year 2025.

See accompanying notes to basic financial statements.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL AND REPORTING ENTITY

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy (the "School") is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 1702 and 3314 to provide an environment of academic excellence for students in grades K-7. The School is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices and all other operations. The School may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation for the School.

The School was authorized by the Ohio Department of Education beginning in April 2024. The School entered a contract with St. Aloysius as its sponsor through June 30, 2030.

The School operates under the direction of a self-appointed, five-member Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for carrying out provisions of the contract which include, but are not limited to, State-mandated provisions regarding student populations, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admission standards, and qualifications of teachers.

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

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the School have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental nonprofit organizations. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the School's accounting policies are described below.

Basis of Presentation

The School's financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows. Enterprise fund reporting focuses on the determination of the change in net position, financial position and cash flows.

Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent is that the costs (expenses) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and deferred outflows of resources as well as all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position. Operating statements present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in Net Position. The accrual basis of accounting is utilized for reporting purposes. Revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

Budgetary Process

Community schools are statutorily required to adopt a budget by Ohio Revised Code 3314.032(C). However, unlike traditional public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the specific budgetary process and limits set forth in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided in the contract between the School and its Sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor does not require the School to follow the provisions Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705; therefore, no budgetary information is presented in the basic financial statements.

Cash

The School considers all highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. This includes funds held in demand deposit and savings accounts at federally insured financial institutions. The School maintains a demand deposit.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are capitalized at cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value as of the date received. The School maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. Assets or certain asset groups not meeting the capitalization threshold are not capitalized. Improvements are capitalized, and the cost 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. All recorded capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives.

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Useful Life</u>
Leasehold Improvements	5-10 years
Furniture and Equipment	5 years

The School is also reporting an intangible right-to-use asset related to a leased building. This intangible asset is being amortized in a systematic and rational manner over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset.

Use of Estimates

In preparing the financial statements, management is sometimes required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent deferred outflows and deferred inflows at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

Intergovernmental Revenues

The School currently participates in the State Foundation Program and casino tax distributions which are reflected under “Operating revenues” on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. Revenues received from these programs are recognized as operating revenue in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School receives value without directly giving equal value in return, includes grants. Grants are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. For the School, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the statement of net position for pension and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Notes 7 and 8.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net 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, deferred inflows of resources may include pension and OPEB; however, none reported during fiscal year 2025. (See Notes 7 and 8).

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction, or improvements of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. There was no net position restricted for enabling legislation at fiscal year-end. The School applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the School. For the School, these revenues are primarily foundation payments. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of the School. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

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

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS

The School's deposits are fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

NOTE 4 – RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2025, consisted of state aid receivable for reconciling enrollment adjustments after June 30 and grant funding receivable arising from state and federal grants. All receivables are considered collectible in full.

NOTE 5 – CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION/AMORTIZATION

As of June 30, 2025, the School has the following in capital assets.

	Balance*			Balance
	6/30/2024	Additions	Deletions	6/30/2025
Capital Assets Being Depreciated/Amortized				
Leasehold Improvements	\$ -	\$ 50,548	\$ -	\$ 50,548
Furniture and Equipment	-	20,440	-	20,440
Intangible Right-to-Use Asset - Building	11,292,599	-	-	11,292,599
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated/Amortized	11,292,599	70,988	-	11,363,587
Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization:				
Leasehold Improvements	-	(6,883)	-	(6,883)
Furniture and Equipment	-	(2,457)	-	(2,457)
Intangible Right-to-Use Asset - Building	-	(1,129,260)	-	(1,129,260)
Total Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization	-	(1,138,600)	-	(1,138,600)
Total Capital Assets, Net	\$ 11,292,599	\$ (1,067,612)	\$ -	\$ 10,224,987

*Although fiscal year 2025 is the first year of operations for the School, certain transactions took place before July 1, 2024, and are therefore being reflected as beginning balances. See Note 14 for additional details.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

During the fiscal year, the following activity occurred in long-term obligations:

	Balance* 6/30/2024	Additions	Reductions	Balance 6/30/2025	Due Within One Year
Lease Payable - Building	\$ 11,292,599	\$ -	\$ (168,641)	\$ 11,123,958	\$ 957,970

*Although fiscal year 2025 is the first year of operations for the School, certain transactions took place before July 1, 2024, and are therefore being reflected as beginning balances. See Note 14 for additional details.

The School has an outstanding agreement to lease building space. The future lease payments were discounted based on the interest rate implicit in the lease or using the School's incremental borrowing rate. This discount is being amortized over the life of the lease. A summary of the principal and interest amounts for the remaining lease is as follows:

	Lease Payments	
Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest
2026	\$ 957,970	\$ 649,934
2027	1,017,866	590,038
2028	1,081,506	526,398
2029	1,149,125	458,779
2030	1,220,972	386,932
2031-2035	5,696,520	735,095
	<u>\$ 11,123,958</u>	<u>\$ 3,347,175</u>

NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

Pensions and OPEB are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions/OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period.

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represent the School'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,

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

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

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

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension/OPEB liability*. Any liability for the contractually required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *pension payable*.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 8 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description – School 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:

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially Reduced Benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit

* Members with 25 years of service credit as of August 1, 2017, will be included in this plan.

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. New benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. The COLA is indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5 percent and with a floor of 0 percent. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The Retirement Board approved a 2.5 percent COLA for calendar year 2024.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. For fiscal year 2025, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$25,114 for fiscal year 2025.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. 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 August 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 August 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 their member contributions and 11.09 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. The remaining 2.91 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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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 2025 employer and employee contribution rate of 14 percent was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For 2025, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$123,695 for fiscal year 2025.

Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions

Pension liabilities, pension expense, and deferred outflows of resources (with the exception of deferred outflows of resources related to School contributions subsequent to the measurement date), and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions are not applicable to the School at June 30, 2025, due to the School not being in operation during the measurement period.

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
School Contributions Subsequent to the			
Measurement Date	\$ 25,114	\$ 123,695	\$ 148,809
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 25,114</u>	<u>\$ 123,695</u>	<u>\$ 148,809</u>

\$148,809 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School 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.

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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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, are presented below:

Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of System expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.5 percent, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement

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

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*. ORC 3309.15 and the SERS Board-adopted Investment Policy govern investment activity. 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:

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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	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2024, actuarial valuation are presented below:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary Increases	From 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent, based on service
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.00 percent, effective July 1, 2017

Post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent 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 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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.

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:

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<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation *</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Rate of Return **</u>
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 2.25 percent 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.*

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

See Note 7 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School 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.

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Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. 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 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2025, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2025, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2025, the School's surcharge obligation was \$3,182. The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was equal to the surcharge amount for fiscal year 2025.

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 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

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Deferred Outflows Related to OPEB

OPEB liabilities, OPEB expense, and deferred outflows of resources (with the exception of deferred outflows of resources related to School contributions subsequent to the measurement date), and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB are not applicable to the School at June 30, 2025, due to the School not being in operation during the measurement period.

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
School Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	\$ 3,182	\$ -	\$ 3,182
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 3,182</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,182</u>

\$3,182 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction/addition to the net OPEB liability/asset in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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

	June 30, 2024
Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including Inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investment expense
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted	2059
Municipal Bond Index Rate	
Measurement Date	3.93 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.86 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate	
Measurement Date	4.88 percent
Prior Measurement Date	4.27 percent
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	
Medical Trend Assumption	
Measurement Date	7.00 to 4.40 percent
Prior Measurement Date	6.75 to 4.40 percent

Mortality rates among healthy retirees were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table. 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 of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers 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 percent, 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.

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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 %	

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2024, actuarial valuation compared to the prior year are presented below:

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent	3 percent
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	7.00 percent
Health Care Cost Trends		
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	7.50 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	7.50 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate
Medicare	-112.22 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	-10.94 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	8.00 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	-11.95 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate
Medicare	-15.14 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	1.33 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate

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

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Healthy retirees post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent 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 percent 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.

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:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation *</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Rate of Return **</u>
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 2.25 percent 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*

NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Property and Liability

The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft or damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The School contracted with a commercial insurance company for property and general liability insurance. Settled claims have not exceeded insurance coverage in the fiscal year.

Workers' Compensation

The School pays the State Worker's Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

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NOTE 10 – SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

The School contracted with St. Aloysius as its sponsor. Sponsorship fees are calculated as three percent of all funds received by the School from the State of Ohio in exchange for monitoring, oversight and technical assistance as required by law.

NOTE 11 – CONTINGENCIES

Grants

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of the School, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the School.

Litigation

The School is not a party to legal proceedings that, in the opinion of management, would have a material adverse effect on the financial statements.

NOTE 12 – FEDERAL TAX-EXEMPT STATUS

The School is a nonprofit corporation that has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from federal income taxes as a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

NOTE 13 – PURCHASED SERVICES

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, purchased service expenses were as follows:

<u>Purchased Services</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Professional and Technical Services	\$ 318,640
Property Services	162,577
Food Service	9,375
Utilities	205,360
Sponsor Fees	51,221
Advertising	136,376
Total	<u>\$ 883,549</u>

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NOTE 14 – TRANSACTION PRIOR TO BEGINNING OPERATIONS

The School began operations in fiscal year 2025. Certain transactions took place before July 1, 2024, to support start-up and operational costs. These transactions include issuing a loan for \$650,000 and paying off the loan including interest in the amount of \$698,125; entering into a lease agreement for the right to use a building; receiving contributions and donations and incurring start-up and operational expenses. The net of this activity is reflected in the beginning net position balance of \$391,611. See Note 5 (capital assets) and Note 6 (long-term obligations) for additional details of the lease agreement.

NOTE 15 – SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On July 1, 2025, the School entered into a management agreement with Blue Learning to provide comprehensive academic, operational, and administrative support services through June 30, 2032.

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Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of School Contributions
Last Fiscal Year (3)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contractually Required Contribution - Pension (1)</u>	<u>Contractually Required Contribution - OPEB (1)(2)</u>	<u>School's Covered Payroll</u>	<u>Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</u>	<u>OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (2)</u>
<i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i>					
2025	\$ 25,114	\$ 3,182	\$ 179,386	14.00%	0.00%
<i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i>					
2025	\$ 123,695	\$ -	\$ 883,536	14.00%	0.00%

(1) The contributions in relation to the contractually required contributions are equal to the contractually required contributions, resulting in zero contribution deficiency/excess.

(2) SERS contributions include surcharge

(3) Information prior to 2025 is not available.

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

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy
Franklin County
4650 Lakehurst Court
Dublin, Ohio 43016

To the Board of Directors:

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, the financial statements of the Heart of Ohio Classical Academy, Franklin County, Ohio (the Academy), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 23, 2025.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Academy's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy'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 Academy'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 have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Academy'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 determination of financial statement amounts. 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*.

Heart of Ohio Classical Academy

Franklin County

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on

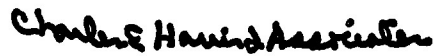
Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements

Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

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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 Academy'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 Academy's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles E. Harris".

Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.

December 23, 2025

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



HEART OF OHIO CLASSICAL ACADEMY

FRANKLIN COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 5/14/2026

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

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