



**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2025**

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HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2025

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Hillsdale Local School District
Ashland County
479 Township Road 1902
Jeromesville, Ohio 44840

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 Hillsdale Local School District, Ashland County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Hillsdale Local School District, Ashland County, Ohio as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position thereof 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 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.

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 District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

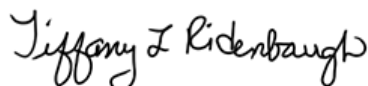
Required Supplementary Information

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.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 15, 2026, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



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

April 15, 2026

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**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

The management's discussion and analysis of the Hillsdale Local School District's (the "District") financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District'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 District's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2025 are as follows:

- In total, net position of governmental activities increased \$12,132,479 which represents a 21.72% increase from 2024's restated net position.
- General revenues accounted for \$28,840,880 in revenue or 93.10% of all revenues. Program specific revenues, in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$2,139,003 or 6.90% of total revenues of \$30,979,883.
- The District had \$18,847,404 in expenses related to governmental activities; only \$2,139,003 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues supporting governmental activities (primarily taxes and unrestricted grants and entitlements) of \$28,840,880 were adequate to provide for these programs.
- The District's major governmental funds are the general fund and permanent improvement fund. The general fund had \$19,625,556 in revenues. The general fund also had \$19,346,627 in expenditures and other financing uses. During fiscal year 2025 the general fund's fund balance increased \$278,929 from a balance of \$9,593,085 to \$9,872,014.
- The permanent improvement fund had \$6,875,834 in revenues and other financing sources and \$6,151,051 in expenditures. During fiscal year 2025, the fund balance of the permanent improvement fund increased \$724,783 from a balance of \$6,409,695 to \$7,134,478.

Using the Basic Financial Statements (BFS)

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 District as a financial whole, an entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

The *statement of net position* and *statement of activities* provide information about the activities of the whole District, presenting both an aggregate view of the 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 District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. In the case of the District, the general fund and permanent improvement fund are the most significant funds, and the only governmental funds reported as major funds.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Reporting the District as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the District to provide programs and activities, the view of the District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during 2025?" The statement of net position and the statement of activities answer this question. These statements include *all assets, liabilities, deferred inflows, deferred outflows, revenues and expenses* using the *accrual basis of accounting* similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting will take into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the District's *net position* and changes in that position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the District as a whole, the *financial position* of the District has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, the governmental activities include the District's programs and services, including instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant, pupil transportation, extracurricular activities, and food service operations.

Reporting the District's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

The analysis of the District's major governmental funds begins on page 12. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the District's major funds. The District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the District's most significant funds. The District's major governmental funds are the general fund and permanent improvement fund.

Governmental Funds

Most of the 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* than can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed *short-term* view of the 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 Funds

The District maintains a proprietary fund. Internal service funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the District's various functions. The District's internal service fund accounts for employee benefits self-insurance.

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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Required Supplementary Information

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

The District as a Whole

The table below shows the change in net position for fiscal years 2025 and 2024. For the table below, amounts for fiscal year 2025 have been presented in accordance with provisions of GASB Statement No. 101 (see Note 3) while amounts for fiscal year 2024 have been presented in accordance with previous guidance.

	Net Position	
	Governmental Activities 2025	Governmental Activities 2024
<u>Assets</u>		
Current and other assets	\$ 77,803,752	\$ 68,155,408
Capital assets, net	<u>78,445,097</u>	<u>80,449,864</u>
Total assets	<u>156,248,849</u>	<u>148,605,272</u>
<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>		
Pension	2,245,828	2,079,975
OPEB	<u>318,103</u>	<u>359,186</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>2,563,931</u>	<u>2,439,161</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current liabilities	1,896,865	1,449,389
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	4,202,855	4,033,733
Due in more than one year:		
Net pension liability	9,195,142	9,778,805
Net OPEB liability	362,268	598,832
Other amounts	<u>56,497,428</u>	<u>60,053,020</u>
Total liabilities	<u>72,154,558</u>	<u>75,913,779</u>
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>		
Property taxes levied for next year	16,404,003	16,562,463
Pension	1,171,218	780,003
OPEB	<u>1,095,622</u>	<u>1,064,461</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>18,670,843</u>	<u>18,406,927</u>
<u>Net Position</u>		
Net investment in capital assets	20,283,126	17,787,846
Restricted	4,569,848	4,669,898
Unrestricted	<u>43,134,405</u>	<u>34,265,983</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 67,987,379</u>	<u>\$ 56,723,727</u>

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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 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*. 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 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 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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

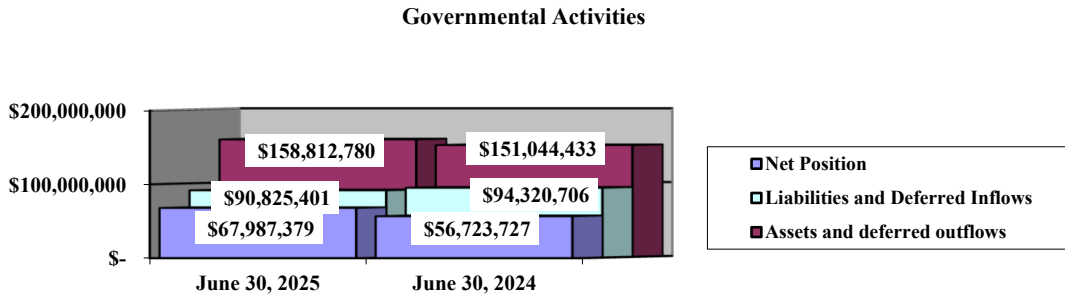
In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the District's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability and net OPEB liability, respectively, not accounted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

Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2025, the District's assets and deferred outflows exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$67,987,379.

At year-end, capital assets represented 50.21% of total assets. Capital assets include land, buildings, improvements, machinery and equipment, and intangible right to use assets. The District's net investment in capital assets at June 30, 2025, was \$20,283,126. These capital assets are used to provide services to the students and are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

A portion of the District's net position, \$4,569,848, represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they may be used. In the governmental activities, the remaining balance of unrestricted net position is \$43,134,405.

The graph below reports the District's governmental activities assets and deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows, and net position at June 30, 2025 and 2024.



The table below shows the change in net position for fiscal years 2025 and 2024. During fiscal year 2025, the District implemented GASB Statement No. 101 (see Note 3). For the table below, the implementation has been reported as a change in accounting principle.

	Change in Net Position	
	Governmental Activities 2025	Governmental Activities 2024
<u>Revenues</u>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 1,033,522	\$ 984,078
Operating grants and contributions	1,105,481	1,493,711
General revenues:		
Property taxes	21,331,258	20,722,039
Income taxes	2,310,822	2,296,539
Grants and entitlements	4,277,067	4,177,225
Investment earnings / change in fair value	880,308	1,171,883
Other	41,425	17,051
Total revenues	<u>30,979,883</u>	<u>30,862,526</u>

-Continued

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	Change in Net Position (Continued)	
	Governmental Activities <u>2025</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Program expenses:		
Instruction:		
Regular	\$ 5,078,719	\$ 4,958,706
Special	1,830,643	1,686,730
Vocational	318,746	217,057
Other	12,626	7,553
Support services:		
Pupil	1,405,314	1,299,133
Instructional staff	586,195	565,231
Board of education	118,488	302,038
Administration	1,365,856	1,075,739
Fiscal	605,980	526,555
Operations and maintenance	3,343,560	4,283,172
Pupil transportation	1,127,885	-
Central	182,352	93,552
Operation of non-instructional services:		
Food service operations	555,437	461,233
Other non-instructional services	14,286	6,879
Extracurricular activities	805,767	751,967
Interest	<u>1,495,550</u>	<u>1,654,765</u>
Total expenses	<u>18,847,404</u>	<u>17,890,310</u>
Change in net position	12,132,479	12,972,216
Net position as previously reported	56,723,727	43,751,511
Restatement - change in accounting principle	<u>(868,827)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net position at beginning of year (restated)	<u>55,854,900</u>	<u>43,751,511</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ 67,987,379</u>	<u>\$ 56,723,727</u>

Governmental Activities

Net position of the District's governmental activities increased \$12,132,479. Total governmental expenses of \$18,847,404 were offset by program revenues of \$2,139,003 and general revenues of \$28,840,880. Program revenues supported 11.35% of the total governmental expenses.

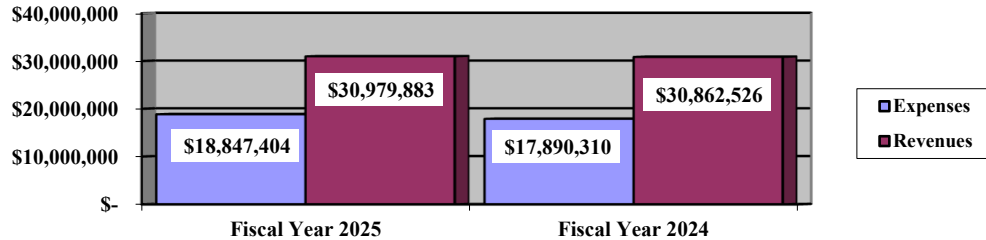
The largest expense of the District is for support services. Support service expenses totaled \$8,735,630 or 46.05% of total governmental expenses for fiscal year 2025.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

The graph below presents the District's governmental activities revenue and expenses for fiscal year 2025 and 2024.

Governmental Activities - Revenues and Expenses



The statement of activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. The following table shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and unrestricted State grants and entitlements.

Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services 2025	Net Cost of Services 2025	Total Cost of Services 2024	Net Cost of Services 2024
Program expenses				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 5,078,719	\$ 4,843,664	\$ 4,958,706	\$ 4,675,132
Special	1,830,643	1,231,690	1,686,730	902,635
Vocational	318,746	293,401	217,057	186,690
Other	12,626	12,626	7,553	7,553
Support services:				
Pupil	1,405,314	1,091,511	1,299,133	960,962
Instructional staff	586,195	558,859	565,231	364,463
Board of education	118,488	118,047	302,038	302,038
Administration	1,365,856	1,365,856	1,075,739	1,075,435
Fiscal	605,980	605,980	526,555	526,555
Operations and maintenance	3,343,560	3,325,143	4,283,172	4,229,891
Pupil transportation	1,127,885	1,066,355	-	-
Central	182,352	182,233	93,552	87,607
Food service operations	555,437	24,648	461,233	(26,107)
Operations of non-instructional services	14,286	7,000	6,879	3,183
Extracurricular activities	805,767	485,838	751,967	461,719
Interest	1,495,550	1,495,550	1,654,765	1,654,765
Total expenses	\$ 18,847,404	\$ 16,708,401	\$ 17,890,310	\$ 15,412,521

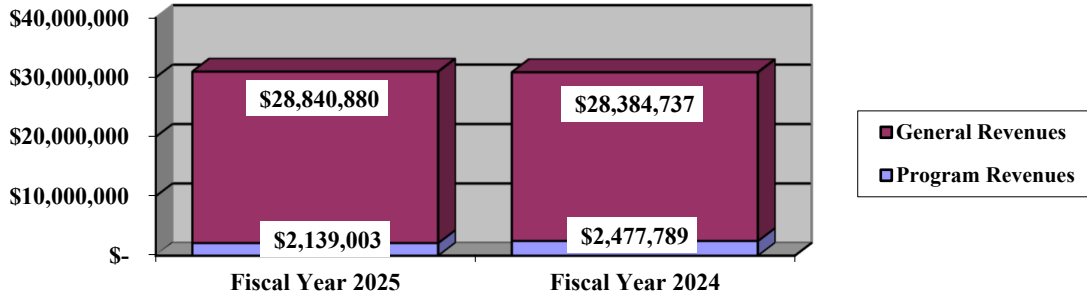
The dependence upon tax and other general revenues for governmental activities is apparent, 88.13% of instruction activities are supported through taxes and other general revenues. For all governmental activities, general revenue support is 88.65%. The District's taxpayers and unrestricted grants and entitlements from the State of Ohio are the primary support for District's students.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

The graph below presents the District's governmental activities revenue for fiscal year 2025 and 2024.

Governmental Activities - General and Program Revenues



The District's Funds

The District's governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$21,192,610 which is more than last year's total of \$20,262,307. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance as of June 30, 2025 and 2024.

	Fund Balance <u>June 30, 2025</u>	Fund Balances, Adjusted <u>June 30, 2024</u>	Adjustment Changes in <u>Major Funds</u>	Fund Balance as Previously Reported <u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>Change</u>
General	\$ 9,872,014	\$ 9,593,085	\$ -	\$ 9,593,085	\$ 278,929
Permanent Improvement	7,134,478	6,409,695	-	6,409,695	724,783
Building	-	-	(3,870,333)	3,870,333	-
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	<u>4,186,118</u>	<u>4,259,527</u>	<u>3,870,333</u>	<u>389,194</u>	<u>(73,409)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 21,192,610</u>	<u>\$ 20,262,307</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 20,262,307</u>	<u>\$ 930,303</u>

General Fund

The District's general fund's fund balance increased by \$278,929. The table that follows assists in illustrating the financial activities and fund balance of the general fund.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>2025</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>
<u>Revenues</u>			
Property taxes	\$ 11,696,027	\$ 11,523,101	1.50 %
Income taxes	2,311,400	2,276,729	1.52 %
Tuition	477,764	464,558	2.84 %
Earnings on investments	524,417	506,348	3.57 %
Intergovernmental	4,528,292	4,461,275	1.50 %
Other revenues	<u>87,656</u>	<u>58,524</u>	49.78 %
Total	<u>\$ 19,625,556</u>	<u>\$ 19,290,535</u>	1.74 %
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Instruction	\$ 7,011,875	\$ 6,234,511	12.47 %
Support services	5,743,923	5,216,451	10.11 %
Operation of non-instructional services	6,998	2,069	238.23 %
Extracurricular activities	542,831	457,416	18.67 %
Debt service	<u>-</u>	<u>6,229</u>	(100.00) %
Total	<u>\$ 13,305,627</u>	<u>\$ 11,916,676</u>	11.66 %

The overall increase in general fund revenues was 1.74%. This increase in earnings on investments was due to an increase in interest rates on District investments. Property taxes increased 1.50% due to an increase in property taxes related to the Rover Pipeline.

The overall increase in general fund expenditures was 11.66%. Instruction disbursements increased due to fluctuations in personnel costs.

Permanent Improvement Fund

The permanent improvement fund had \$6,875,834 in revenues and other financing sources and \$6,151,051 in expenditures. During fiscal year 2025, the fund balance of the permanent improvement fund increased \$724,783 from a balance of \$6,409,695 to \$7,134,478.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The 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 most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

During the course of fiscal year 2025, the District amended its general fund budget. For the general fund, original budgeted revenues and other financing sources were \$18,624,094 and final budgeted revenues and other financing sources were \$19,471,799. Actual revenues and other financing sources for fiscal 2025 were \$19,510,868 which was \$39,069 more than the final budgeted revenues.

General fund original budgeted appropriations and other financing uses were \$19,218,925. The final budgeted appropriations and other financing uses were \$19,805,191. The actual budget basis expenditures and other financing uses for fiscal year 2025 totaled \$19,465,992 which was \$339,199 less than the final budget appropriations.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2025, the District had \$78,445,097 invested in land, buildings, improvements, machinery and equipment, and intangible right to use assets. The entire amount is reported in governmental activities. The following table shows June 30, 2025 balances compared to June 30, 2024.

**Capital Assets at June 30
(Net of Depreciation/Amortization)**

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Land	\$ 48,770	\$ 51,970
Buildings	1,672,257	1,796,179
Improvements	74,251,798	75,750,399
Machinery and equipment	2,466,481	2,835,160
Intangible right to use: software	<u>5,791</u>	<u>16,156</u>
Total	<u>\$ 78,445,097</u>	<u>\$ 80,449,864</u>

Total additions to capital assets for 2025 were \$209,595. Depreciation/amortization expense for fiscal 2025 was \$2,205,462. Overall, capital assets of the District decreased \$2,004,767. See Note 9 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the District's capital assets.

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2025, the District had \$49,605,000 in certificates of participation outstanding. Of this total, \$3,870,000 is due within one year and \$45,735,000 is due in greater than one year.

The following table summarizes the debt outstanding.

Outstanding Debt, at Year End

	<u>Governmental Activities 2025</u>	<u>Governmental Activities 2024</u>
Certificates of participation	<u>\$ 49,605,000</u>	<u>\$ 53,550,000</u>

See Note 10 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the District's debt administration.

Current Financial Related Activities

The Supreme Court of Ohio has issued its opinion affirming the Board of Tax Appeals' decision in the Rover case. Rover had challenged the Ohio Tax Commissioner's valuation methodology. Although the case focused on Rover's 2019 valuation, it is seminal for subsequent years, as it establishes the method for determining value and annual depreciation.

In the interim, Rover has been paying taxes on approximately 48% of its total valuation in Ashland and Wayne Counties. The Department of Taxation and affected County Auditors must now reconcile those partial payments with the amounts properly owed, including statutory interest.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

For Hillsdale, the Public Utility Personal Property Tax (PUPP) remains the District's most significant revenue source. In fiscal year 2024, PUPP generated \$7,287,183.45, or 50.4% of total tax collections. In fiscal year 2025, PUPP revenue increased to \$7,340,620.00, representing 53% of total collections.

The timing of any repayment is uncertain. Substantial reconciliation is required at both the state and county levels, and unlike the Nexus litigation, there is no settlement agreement to expedite payment. Accordingly, it may be some time before local governments see additional revenue.

Contacting the District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Treasurer at 479 TR 1902, Jeromesville, Ohio, 419-368-8503.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 19,292,999
Cash with fiscal agent	460,268
Receivables:	
Property taxes	56,089,394
Income taxes	913,577
Accounts	48,998
Accrued interest	28,072
Intergovernmental	61,513
Prepayments	176,723
Inventory held for resale	2,770
Net OPEB asset	729,438
Capital assets:	
Nondepreciable/nonamortizable capital assets	48,770
Depreciable/amortizable capital assets, net	78,396,327
Capital assets, net	78,445,097
Total assets	156,248,849
Deferred outflows of resources:	
Pension	2,245,828
OPEB	318,103
Total deferred outflows of resources	2,563,931
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources:	158,812,780
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	26,833
Accrued wages and benefits payable	947,700
Matured compensated absences payable	44,529
Intergovernmental payable	123,770
Pension and postemployment benefits payable	196,156
Accrued interest payable	157,218
Unearned revenue	7,484
Claims payable	393,175
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	4,202,855
Due in more than one year:	
Net pension liability	9,195,142
Net OPEB liability	362,268
Other amounts due in more than one year	56,497,428
Total liabilities	72,154,558
Deferred inflows of resources:	
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	16,404,003
Pension	1,171,218
OPEB	1,095,622
Total deferred inflows of resources	18,670,843
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	90,825,401
Net position:	
Net investment in capital assets	20,283,126
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	3,697,915
OPEB	729,438
Extracurricular activities	109,669
Other purposes	32,826
Unrestricted	43,134,405
Total net position	\$ 67,987,379

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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	\$ 5,078,719	\$ 184,998	\$ 50,057	\$ (4,843,664)
Special	1,830,643	302,347	296,606	(1,231,690)
Vocational	318,746	-	25,345	(293,401)
Other	12,626	-	-	(12,626)
Support services:				
Pupil	1,405,314	-	313,803	(1,091,511)
Instructional staff	586,195	-	27,336	(558,859)
Board of education	118,488	-	441	(118,047)
Administration	1,365,856	-	-	(1,365,856)
Fiscal	605,980	-	-	(605,980)
Operations and maintenance	3,343,560	420	17,997	(3,325,143)
Pupil transportation	1,127,885	-	61,530	(1,066,355)
Central	182,352	-	119	(182,233)
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	555,437	247,374	283,415	(24,648)
Other non-instructional services	14,286	-	7,286	(7,000)
Extracurricular activities	805,767	298,383	21,546	(485,838)
Interest	1,495,550	-	-	(1,495,550)
Totals	\$ 18,847,404	\$ 1,033,522	\$ 1,105,481	(16,708,401)

General revenues:

Property taxes levied for:	
General purposes	20,207,063
Capital outlay	1,124,195
Income taxes levied for:	
General purposes	2,310,822
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs	4,277,067
Investment earnings	880,308
Miscellaneous	41,425
Total general revenues	<u>28,840,880</u>

Change in net position 12,132,479

Net position as previously reported 56,723,727

Restatement - change in accounting principle (868,827)

Net position at beginning of year (restated) 55,854,900

Net position at end of year \$ 67,987,379

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2025

	General	Permanent Improvement	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,024,007	\$ 7,018,025	\$ 4,250,967	\$ 19,292,999
Receivables:				
Property taxes	53,218,659	2,870,735	-	56,089,394
Income taxes	913,577	-	-	913,577
Accounts	48,641	-	357	48,998
Accrued interest	28,072	-	-	28,072
Intergovernmental	56,788	-	4,725	61,513
Prepayments	172,970	-	3,753	176,723
Inventory held for resale	-	-	2,770	2,770
Total assets	<u>\$ 62,462,714</u>	<u>\$ 9,888,760</u>	<u>\$ 4,262,572</u>	<u>\$ 76,614,046</u>
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 2,224	\$ -	\$ 24,609	\$ 26,833
Accrued wages and benefits payable	913,292	-	34,408	947,700
Matured compensated absences payable	44,529	-	-	44,529
Intergovernmental payable	123,183	-	587	123,770
Pension and postemployment benefits payable	188,511	-	7,645	196,156
Unearned revenue	800	-	6,684	7,484
Total liabilities	<u>1,272,539</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,933</u>	<u>1,346,472</u>
Deferred inflows of resources:				
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	15,542,530	861,473	-	16,404,003
Delinquent property tax revenue not available	35,579,551	1,892,809	-	37,472,360
Income tax revenue not available	180,293	-	-	180,293
Intergovernmental revenue not available	-	-	2,521	2,521
Accrued interest not available	15,787	-	-	15,787
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>51,318,161</u>	<u>2,754,282</u>	<u>2,521</u>	<u>54,074,964</u>
Fund balances:				
Nonspendable:				
Prepays	172,970	-	3,753	176,723
Restricted:				
Capital improvements	-	1,134,478	3,697,915	4,832,393
Extracurricular activities	-	-	109,669	109,669
Other purposes	-	-	32,826	32,826
Committed:				
Capital improvements	-	-	361,367	361,367
Termination benefits	51,527	-	-	51,527
Debt service	-	6,000,000	-	6,000,000
Assigned:				
Student instruction	21,496	-	-	21,496
Student and staff support	104,896	-	-	104,896
Subsequent year's appropriations	703,049	-	-	703,049
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>8,818,076</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(19,412)</u>	<u>8,798,664</u>
Total fund balances	<u>9,872,014</u>	<u>7,134,478</u>	<u>4,186,118</u>	<u>21,192,610</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balances	<u>\$ 62,462,714</u>	<u>\$ 9,888,760</u>	<u>\$ 4,262,572</u>	<u>\$ 76,614,046</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

Total governmental fund balances		\$ 21,192,610
<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.		78,445,097
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred inflows in the funds.		
Property taxes receivable	\$ 37,472,360	
Income taxes receivable	180,293	
Accrued interest receivable	15,787	
Intergovernmental receivable	2,521	
Total		37,670,961
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.		67,093
Unamortized premiums on bonds issued are not recognized in the funds.		(8,556,971)
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and therefore is not reported in the funds.		(157,218)
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	2,245,828	
Deferred inflows - pension	(1,171,218)	
Net pension liability	(9,195,142)	
Deferred outflows - OPEB	318,103	
Deferred inflows - OPEB	(1,095,622)	
Net OPEB asset	729,438	
Net OPEB liability	(362,268)	
Total		(8,530,881)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
Compensated absences	(2,538,312)	
Certificates of participation	(49,605,000)	
Total		(52,143,312)
Net position of governmental activities		<u><u>\$ 67,987,379</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	General	Permanent Improvement	<i>(Formerly Major)</i> Building	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:					
From local sources:					
Property taxes	\$ 11,696,027	\$ 670,936		\$ -	\$ 12,366,963
Income taxes	2,311,400	-		-	2,311,400
Intergovernmental	4,528,292	41,339		766,356	5,335,987
Investment earnings	524,417	163,559		163,886	851,862
Tuition and fees	477,764	-		-	477,764
Extracurricular	28,286	-		257,320	285,606
Rental income	420	-		12,777	13,197
Charges for services	-	-		247,374	247,374
Contributions and donations	1,500	-		30,516	32,016
Miscellaneous	57,450	-		18,002	75,452
Total revenues	<u>19,625,556</u>	<u>875,834</u>		<u>1,496,231</u>	<u>21,997,621</u>
Expenditures:					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular	5,066,249	-		39,686	5,105,935
Special	1,637,016	-		168,416	1,805,432
Vocational	299,437	-		2,479	301,916
Other	9,173	-		-	9,173
Support services:					
Pupil	1,180,434	14,600		231,576	1,426,610
Instructional staff	541,327	-		27,369	568,696
Board of education	116,623	-		2,421	119,044
Administration	1,257,805	-		-	1,257,805
Fiscal	571,114	11,916		-	583,030
Operations and maintenance	1,041,253	61,675		17,997	1,120,925
Pupil transportation	861,165	44,336		-	905,501
Central	174,202	-		654	174,856
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	-	-		533,270	533,270
Other non-instructional services	6,998	-		7,288	14,286
Extracurricular activities	542,831	1,256		258,559	802,646
Facilities acquisition and construction	-	9,168		320,925	330,093
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	-	3,945,000		-	3,945,000
Interest	-	2,063,100		-	2,063,100
Total expenditures	<u>13,305,627</u>	<u>6,151,051</u>		<u>1,610,640</u>	<u>21,067,318</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>6,319,929</u>	<u>(5,275,217)</u>		<u>(114,409)</u>	<u>930,303</u>
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers in	-	6,000,000		41,000	6,041,000
Transfers (out)	(6,041,000)	-		-	(6,041,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(6,041,000)</u>	<u>6,000,000</u>		<u>41,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	278,929	724,783		(73,409)	930,303
Fund balances at beginning of year, as previously reported	9,593,085	6,409,695	3,870,333	389,194	20,262,307
Adjustment - changes in major fund to nonmajor fund	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,870,333)</u>	<u>3,870,333</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balances at beginning of year, as adjusted	9,593,085	6,409,695		4,259,527	20,262,307
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 9,872,014</u>	<u>\$ 7,134,478</u>		<u>\$ 4,186,118</u>	<u>\$ 21,192,610</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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	\$	930,303
<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	\$ 209,595	
Current year depreciation/amortization	(2,205,462)	
Total		(1,995,867)
The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, disposals, trade-ins, and donations) is to decrease net position.		(8,900)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.		
Property taxes	8,964,295	
Income taxes	(578)	
Earnings on investments	4,198	
Miscellaneous	(11,803)	
Intergovernmental	1,700	
Total		8,957,812
Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the statement of net position.		3,945,000
In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding debt, 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:		
Decrease in accrued interest payable	12,503	
Amortization of debt premiums	555,047	
Total		567,550
Contractually required contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows.		
Pension	968,851	
OPEB	26,184	
Total		995,035
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	(610,550)	
OPEB	161,188	
Total		(449,362)
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.		
		(317,863)
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.		
		(491,229)
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$	12,132,479

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUND
JUNE 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Assets:	
Cash with fiscal agent	\$ 460,268
Total assets	460,268
Liabilities:	
Claims payable	393,175
Total liabilities	393,175
Net position:	
Unrestricted	67,093
Total net position	\$ 67,093

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Operating revenues:	
Sales/charges for services	\$ 4,189,752
Total operating revenues	<u>4,189,752</u>
Operating expenses:	
Purchased services	1,021,700
Claims	<u>3,683,731</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>4,705,431</u>
Operating loss	<u>(515,679)</u>
Nonoperating revenues:	
Interest revenue	<u>24,450</u>
Total nonoperating revenues	<u>24,450</u>
Change in net position	(491,229)
Net position at beginning of year	<u>558,322</u>
Net position at end of year	<u><u>\$ 67,093</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
PROPRIETARY FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

	Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund
Cash flows from operating activities:	
Cash received from other operations	\$ 4,189,752
Cash payments for purchased services	(1,021,700)
Cash payments for claims	(3,490,112)
	<u>(322,060)</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(322,060)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:	
Interest received	<u>24,450</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>24,450</u>
Net change in cash with fical agent	(297,610)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>757,878</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u><u>\$ 460,268</u></u>
Reconciliation of operating loss to net cash used in operating activities:	
Operating loss	\$ (515,679)
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Claims payable	<u>193,619</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u><u>\$ (322,060)</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Hillsdale Local School District (the “District”) was established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is a local school district as defined by Section 3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under an elected Board of Education, consisting of five members and is responsible for providing public education to residents of the District.

The District employs 63 non-certified and 85 certified full-time and part-time employees to provide services to 834 students.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic financial statements of the 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 District’s significant accounting policies are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

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

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

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**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

The following organizations are described due to their relationship to the District.

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Tri-County Computer Service Association

The Tri-County Computer Service Association (TCCSA) is a jointly governed organization comprised of 17 school districts. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic technology for administrative and instructional functions for member school districts. Member districts support TCCSA based on a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. The TCCSA assembly consists of a superintendent (or designated representative) from each participating school district and a representative from the fiscal agent. TCCSA is governed by a Board of Directors elected from the Assembly, which includes a representative of the fiscal agent, the chairman of each operating committee, and at least an assembly member from each county from which participating school districts are located. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the treasurer at TCCSA, which serves as fiscal agent, located in Wooster, Ohio. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the District paid \$118,819 to TCCSA.

Heartland Technical Education Center

Formerly known as the Ashland County–West Holmes Career Center, the Heartland Technical Education Center is a jointly governed organization established under the Ohio Revised Code to provide vocational services to its five-member school districts. Governance is exercised by a nine-member board of education appointed by the participating districts. The Board controls the organization's financial activity and reports to the Ohio Department of Education and the Auditor of State. The Board also possesses independent budgetary and taxing authority. Financial information may be obtained by contacting the Treasurer, Julie Smith.

INSURANCE PURCHASING POOLS

Jefferson Health Plan

The Hillsdale District participates with several other school districts and public entities in an insurance purchasing pool operated by the Jefferson Health Plan. The Jefferson Health Plan is organized for the purpose of providing group health insurance at a competitive group rate. The Jefferson Health Plan is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of the Superintendents and Treasurers of the member school districts. The degree of control exercised by the district is limited to the rates based on the Self-Insurance Fund individual school balance with the revenue and expense cost analysis performed yearly. Jefferson Health Plan extends to the District the ability to choose types of coverage and providers of coverage based on an approved listing.

SEDGWICK MANAGED CARE OHIO INC

The District works with Sedgwick Managed Care Ohio Inc.. Sedgwick partners with BWC (Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation) and Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. Sedgwick manages all BWC Injured Employee and Unemployment claims for the District. They ensure that claims are researched and processed properly.

Ohio School Plan

The District participates in the Ohio School Plan (OSP), an insurance purchasing pool. Ohio School Plan was formed to provide affordable, comprehensive and stable coverage to public schools. The OSP is created and organized pursuant to and as authorized by Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. The OSP is an unincorporated, non-profit association that is instrumental in enabling members to purchase products through the joint insurance purchasing program to maintain adequate insurance protection, risk management programs and other administrative services. The OSP's business and affairs are conducted by a fifteen-member Board of Directors consisting of school district superintendents, treasurers, business managers and Board of Education members. Ohio Plan partners with the Hylant Group, Inc. Hylant Group, Inc. is the Administrator of the OSP and is responsible for processing claims.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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 District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. There are two categories of funds: governmental and proprietary.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable 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 and liabilities and deferred inflows is reported as fund balance. The following are the District's major governmental funds:

General fund - The general fund is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Permanent improvement fund - The permanent improvement fund is used to account for all transactions related to the acquiring, constructing, or improving of such permanent improvements.

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 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.

PROPRIETARY FUND

Proprietary funds are used to account for the District's ongoing activities which are similar to those often found in the private sector. The District has no enterprise funds. The following is a description of the District's internal service fund:

Internal service fund - The internal service fund is used to account for the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the District, or to other governments, on a cost-reimbursement basis. The only internal service fund of the District accounts for a self-insurance program which provides medical benefits to employees.

C. Basis of Presentation and Measurement Focus

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. Internal service fund operating activity is eliminated to avoid overstatement of revenues and expenses.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the governmental activities of the District. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include amounts paid by the recipient of goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the District.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows and all liabilities and deferred inflows associated with the operation of the District are included on the statement of net position.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column. The internal service fund is presented in a single column on the face of the proprietary fund statements.

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current deferred outflows and current liabilities and current deferred inflows 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, the internal service fund is accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows and all liabilities and deferred inflows associated with the operation of this fund are included on the statement of fund net position. The statement of changes in fund net position presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net position. The statement of cash flows provides information about how the District finances and meets the cash flow needs of its proprietary activity.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operation. The principal operating revenue of the District's internal service fund is charges for services. Operating expenses for the internal service fund includes claims and administrative expenses. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

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.

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. Available means that the resources will be collected 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 District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal year end.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Nonexchange transactions, in which the District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, income 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) and revenue from income taxes is recognized in the year in which the income is earned (See Note 8).

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 year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange 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 as an advance, income taxes, interest, tuition, grants, student fees and rentals.

Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources - In addition to assets, the government-wide statement of net position will 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/expenditure) until then. See Notes 12 and 13 for deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability/asset and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively.

In addition to liabilities, both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements report 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 as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Deferred inflows of resources include property taxes and unavailable revenue. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2025, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2026 operations. These amounts have been recorded as a deferred inflow of resources on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. Unavailable revenue includes, but is not limited to, delinquent property taxes and intergovernmental grants. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available.

See Notes 12 and 13 for deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability/asset and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively. These deferred inflows of resources are only reported on the government-wide statement of net position.

Expenses/Expenditures - On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred. The entitlement value of donated commodities used during the fiscal year is reported in the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances as an expenditure with a like amount reported as intergovernmental revenue.

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 governmental funds.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

E. Budgets

All funds, other than 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, 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 the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures at a level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of budgetary control has been established by the Board of Education at the fund level for all funds. The treasurer has been given the authority to allocate Board appropriations to the function and object levels within each fund. The legal level of budgetary control was established at the fund level of expenditures.

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

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the 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 years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts in the budgetary statements reflect the final appropriations passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

F. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the District's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the basic financial statements.

During fiscal year 2025, investments were limited to investments in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio), negotiable certificates of deposit (negotiable CD's), and money market mutual funds. Except for nonparticipating investment contracts, investments are reported at fair value, which is based on quoted market prices.

The 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 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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Under existing Ohio statutes, all investment earnings are assigned to the general fund, unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund or by Board resolution. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2025 amounted to \$524,417 which includes \$163,597 assigned from other District funds.

For presentation on the basic financial statements, investments of the cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the District are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

An analysis of the District's investment account at year end is provided in Note 4.

G. Inventory

On government-wide and fund financial statements, purchased inventories are presented at the lower of cost or market and donated commodities are presented at their entitlement value. Inventories are recorded on a first-in, first-out basis and are expensed when used. Inventories are accounted for using the consumption method.

Inventory consists of expendable supplies held for consumption. Inventory held for resale consists of donated food and purchased food.

H. Capital Assets

General capital assets are those assets not specifically related to activities reported in the proprietary fund. 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.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The District maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. 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. Interest incurred during the construction of proprietary fund capital assets is also 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. 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	5 - 50 years
Buildings and improvements	5 - 50 years
Furniture, equipment, vehicles, and textbooks	5 - 20 years
Intangible right to use	5 years
Infrastructure	5 - 50 years

The District is reporting intangible right to use assets related to leased equipment and software. The intangible assets are being amortized in a systematic and rational manner of the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

I. Interfund Balances

On fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as “interfund loans receivables/payables”. These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities column on the statement of net position. The District had zero interfund balances at fiscal year end.

J. Compensated Absences

The 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, two types of leave qualify for liability recognition for compensated absences – vacation and sick leave. 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 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.

Sick Leave

The District's policy permits employees to accumulate earned but unused sick leave. All sick leave lapses when employees leave the employ of the 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.

K. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements, and all payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations payable from the internal service fund are reported on the proprietary fund 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, claims and judgments and 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 year. Bonds and notes are recognized as a liability on the fund financial statements when due. 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.

L. Fund Balance

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

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

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

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

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted 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 District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

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 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 assets and deferred outflows and liabilities and deferred inflows. The net position component "net investment in capital assets," consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets or related debt also should be included in this component of net position. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

The District applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

N. Prepayments

Certain payments to vendors reflect the costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements. These items are reported as assets on the net position statement/balance sheet using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amounts is recorded at the time of the purchase and the expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

O. Estimates

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

P. Interfund Activity

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. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds and after nonoperating revenues/expenses in the proprietary fund. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the basic financial statements.

Q. Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations on their use change the normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments or imposed by enabling legislation. The District had no restricted assets at June 30, 2025.

R. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, net OPEB asset, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related pensions/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.

S. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board of Education and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during fiscal year 2025.

T. Fair Value

The 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.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

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

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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. 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. See Note 3D for the impact on the financial statements of the District.

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 District.

B. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2025 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor governmental funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Food service	\$ 13,138
Title I	2,521

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

C. Change within the Financial Reporting Entity

For fiscal year 2025, the District's building fund presentation was adjusted from major to nonmajor due to no longer meeting the quantitative 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 District into three categories.

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

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

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

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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 Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the fair value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio; and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items (1) and (2) above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio); and
8. Certain bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

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 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 District had \$600 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the District as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

B. Cash with Fiscal Agent

The District is self-insured through a fiscal agent (See Note 11.D.). The money held by the fiscal agent cannot be identified as an investment or deposit, since it is held in a pool made up of numerous participants. The amount held by the fiscal agent at June 30, 2025 was \$460,268. This represents the balance of the District's employee benefit self-insurance fund. This amount is not included in the "deposits" or "investments" reported below.

C. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2025, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$889,239 and the bank balance of all District deposits was \$1,142,143. Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the District or collateralized through 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.

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's 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 rate set by the Treasurer of State. For 2025, the District's financial institutions were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 102 percent through the OPCS. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

D. Investments

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

Measurement/ <u>Investment type</u>	Measurement <u>Value</u>	Investment Maturities			
		6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	Greater than 24 months
<i>Fair value:</i>					
Negotiable CD's	\$ 2,703,527	\$ 734,739	\$ 247,052	\$ 730,995	\$ 990,741
US Government Money Market	3,278,562	3,278,562	-	-	-
<i>Amortized Cost:</i>					
STAR Ohio	12,421,071	12,421,071	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 18,403,160</u>	<u>\$ 16,434,372</u>	<u>\$ 247,052</u>	<u>\$ 730,995</u>	<u>\$ 990,741</u>

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.21 years.

The District's investments in US Government Money Market mutual funds are valued using quoted market prices in active markets (Level 1 inputs)

The District's investments in Negotiable CDs are measured at fair value are valued using quoted market prices that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs).

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Interest Rate Risk: As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the District's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Credit Risk: Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The District has no investment policy dealing with investment credit risk beyond the requirements in State statutes. The following table summarizes the ratings assigned to the District's investments by Standard & Poor's:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Negotiable CDs	Not rated
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 District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The 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 Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
<i>Fair value:</i>		
Negotiable CD's	\$ 2,703,527	14.69%
US Government Money Market	3,278,562	17.82%
<i>Amortized Cost:</i>		
STAR Ohio	12,421,071	67.49%
Total	<u>\$ 18,403,160</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

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

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

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 889,239
Investments	18,403,160
Cash with fiscal agent	460,268
Cash on hand	<u>600</u>
Total	<u>\$ 19,753,267</u>

<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 19,753,267</u>
Total	<u>\$ 19,753,267</u>

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

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

<u>Transfer from the General fund to:</u>	
Permanent improvement fund	\$ 6,000,000
Nonmajor governmental funds	41,000
Total	<u>\$ 6,041,000</u>

All transfers were made in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16.

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis while the District fiscal year runs from July through June. First half tax collections are received by the District in the second half of the fiscal year. 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 fair value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established. Public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2025 represent the collection of calendar year 2024 taxes. Public utility real and personal property taxes received in calendar year 2025 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 District receives property taxes from Ashland County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 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	\$ 2,096,578	\$ 2,006,673
Permanent improvement fund	116,453	111,515

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 of resources.

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 of resources.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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	\$ 235,272,680	45.26	\$ 236,818,210	45.61
Public utility personal	<u>284,576,130</u>	<u>54.74</u>	<u>282,381,880</u>	<u>54.39</u>
Total	<u>\$ 519,848,810</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 519,200,090</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$49.40		\$49.40	

NOTE 7 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2025 consisted of property taxes, income taxes, accounts, accrued interest, and intergovernmental grants and entitlements. 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 year guarantee of federal funds. A list of the receivables on the statement of net position follows:

Governmental activities:

Property taxes	\$ 56,089,394
Income taxes	913,577
Accounts	48,998
Accrued interest	28,072
Intergovernmental	<u>61,513</u>
Total	<u>\$ 57,141,554</u>

Receivables have been disaggregated on the face of the basic financial statements. All receivables are expected to be collected within the subsequent year.

NOTE 8 - INCOME TAXES

On the November 2013 ballot, the residents of the District approved a 1.25% Earned Income Tax Levy, which was renewed in May 2023 with an effective period January 2024 through December 2033. The voted income tax will apply to earned income on residents and estates. These funds will be used for general operations of the District. Employers of District residents are required to withhold income tax on employee compensation and remit that income tax to the State of Ohio. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State of Ohio makes quarterly distribution payments to the District after withholding administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue is credited to the general fund in the amount of \$2,311,400 for fiscal year 2025.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - CAPITAL ASSETS

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

	Balance <u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	Balance <u>June 30, 2025</u>
Governmental activities:				
<i>Capital assets, not being depreciated/amortization:</i>				
Land	\$ 51,970	\$ -	\$ (3,200)	\$ 48,770
Total capital assets, not being depreciated/amortized	<u>51,970</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,200)</u>	<u>48,770</u>
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated/amortized:</i>				
Buildings	1,836,476	-	-	1,836,476
Improvements	77,036,010	44,950	-	77,080,960
Machinery and equipment	3,879,167	164,645	(49,153)	3,994,659
Intangible right to use: software	31,527	-	-	31,527
Total capital assets, being depreciated/amortized	<u>82,783,180</u>	<u>209,595</u>	<u>(49,153)</u>	<u>82,943,622</u>
<i>Less: accumulated depreciation/amortiation:</i>				
Buildings	(40,297)	(123,922)	-	(164,219)
Improvements	(1,285,611)	(1,543,551)	-	(2,829,162)
Machinery and equipment	(1,044,007)	(527,624)	43,453	(1,528,178)
Intangible right to use: software	(15,371)	(10,365)	-	(25,736)
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	<u>(2,385,286)</u>	<u>(2,205,462)</u>	<u>43,453</u>	<u>(4,547,295)</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 80,449,864</u>	<u>\$ (1,995,867)</u>	<u>\$ (8,900)</u>	<u>\$ 78,445,097</u>

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

Instruction:

Regular	\$ 42,484
Special	1,139
Vocational	22,940

Support services:

Pupil	532
Instructional staff	5,005
Administration	223
Operations and maintenance	1,916,963
Pupil transportation	177,633
Food service operations	12,498
Extracurricular activities	<u>26,045</u>
Total depreciation expense	<u>\$ 2,205,462</u>

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

- A. 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 June 30, 2024	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2025	Amounts Due in One Year
Governmental activities:					
Certificates of participation	\$ 53,550,000	\$ -	\$ (3,945,000)	\$ 49,605,000	\$ 3,870,000
Net pension liability	9,778,805	-	(583,663)	9,195,142	-
Net OPEB liability	598,832	-	(236,564)	362,268	-
Compensated absences*	<u>2,220,449</u>	<u>317,863</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,538,312</u>	<u>332,855</u>
Total governmental activities long term liabilities	<u>\$ 66,148,086</u>	<u>\$ 317,863</u>	<u>\$ (4,765,227)</u>	<u>\$ 61,700,722</u>	<u>\$ 4,202,855</u>
Add: unamortized premium				<u>8,556,971</u>	
Total on statement of net position				<u>\$ 70,257,693</u>	

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

The District's net pension liability is described in Note 12. The District pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service.

The District's net OPEB liability/asset is described in Note 13. The District pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service.

The series 2020 certificates of participation (COPs) were issued in fiscal year 2021 in the amount of \$75,000,000 for the purpose of constructing, improving, equipping and furnishing school facilities and improvements. The COPs bear an interest rate of 4.0% and the final stated maturity in December 1, 2041. Payments of principal and interest began in fiscal year 2021 and will be paid from the permanent improvement fund.

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Certificates of Participation		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2026	\$ 3,870,000	\$ 1,906,800	\$ 5,776,800
2027	3,780,000	1,753,800	5,533,800
2028	3,695,000	1,604,300	5,299,300
2029	3,605,000	1,458,300	5,063,300
2030	3,505,000	1,316,100	4,821,100
2031 - 2035	15,985,000	4,587,900	20,572,900
2036 - 2040	12,980,000	1,682,000	14,662,000
2041	<u>2,185,000</u>	<u>43,700</u>	<u>2,228,700</u>
Total	<u>\$ 49,605,000</u>	<u>\$ 14,352,900</u>	<u>\$ 63,957,900</u>

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

B. Legal Debt Margin

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530 which became effective March 30, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2025, are a voted debt margin of \$46,728,008 and an unvoted debt margin of \$519,200.

NOTE 11 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Comprehensive

The 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 District contracted for the following insurance coverage.

Coverage provided by the Ohio School Plan/Hylant Administrative Services as follows:

General Liability	\$5,000,000
General Aggregate Limit	\$7,000,000
Blanket Property (\$1,000 deductible)	\$98,602,678
Vehicle Liability	\$5,000,000
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorists	\$1,000,000

For fiscal year 2025, the District participated in the Ohio School Plan ("the Plan"), an insurance purchasing pool. Each participant enters into an individual agreement with the Plan for insurance coverage and pays annual premiums to the Plan based on the types and limits of coverage and deductibles selected by the participant. The coverage for fiscal year 2025 cost the district \$96,588.

B. Employee Dishonesty Policy

The Board, Superintendent, and Treasurer are covered under the District's employee dishonesty coverage with a \$150,000 limit, with a \$100 deductible, which is separate from the property policy.

C. Workers' Compensation

The District pays the State Bureau of Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. For fiscal year 2025, the District participated in the Ohio School Boards Assoc Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the 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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 11 - RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Sedgwick Claims Management Services provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

D. Employee Health Insurance -

Medical/surgical, prescription, vision and dental insurance is offered to employees through a self-insurance program. The District has established a self-insurance internal service fund to account for this activity. The District is a member of the Jefferson Health Plan, a partially self-insured consortium of public employers in Ohio. The consortium has over 180 member organizations participating. Monthly accruals are paid to a custodian bank, U.S. Bank, acting as trustee on behalf of the fiscal agent. The trustees disburse payments to vendors for services rendered and to satisfy claim reimbursements for covered plan participants. The Jefferson County ESC acts in the role of fiscal agent for the consortium.

The claims liability of \$393,175 reported in the internal service fund at June 30, 2025 is based on an estimate provided by the third party administrator and 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 Financing Omnibus", which requires that a liability for unpaid claim costs, including estimates of costs relating to incurred, but not reported claims, be accrued at the estimated ultimate cost of settling the claims. Changes in claims activity for the past two fiscal years are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Balance at Beginning of Year</u>	<u>Current Year Claims</u>	<u>Claim Payments</u>	<u>Balance at End of Year</u>
2025	\$ 199,556	\$ 3,683,731	\$ (3,490,112)	\$ 393,175
2024	207,887	1,855,127	(1,863,458)	199,556

NOTE 12 - 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 District's proportionate share of each pension/OPEB plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

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

**HILLSDALE 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 PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 13 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 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.

**HILLSDALE 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 PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14.00% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 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 District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$207,995 for fiscal year 2025. Of this amount, \$37,444 is reported as pension and postemployment benefits payable.

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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12% of the 14% member rate 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.

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 District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$760,856 for fiscal year 2025. Of this amount, \$126,824 is reported as 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 District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

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

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.03542080%	0.03632063%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.03510000%</u>	<u>0.03845607%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00032080%</u>	<u>0.00213544%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,795,573	\$ 7,399,569	\$ 9,195,142
Pension expense	\$ 163,404	\$ 447,146	\$ 610,550

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 68,553	\$ 465,980	\$ 534,533
Changes of assumptions	16,064	341,012	357,076
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	-	385,368	385,368
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>207,995</u>	<u>760,856</u>	<u>968,851</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u><u>\$ 292,612</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,953,216</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,245,828</u></u>
	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 4,052	\$ 4,052
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	112,312	636,211	748,523
Changes of assumptions	-	256,683	256,683
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>70,988</u>	<u>90,972</u>	<u>161,960</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u><u>\$ 183,300</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 987,918</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,171,218</u></u>

\$968,851 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from 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:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2026	\$ (117,558)	\$ (361,013)	\$ (478,571)
2027	84,285	748,209	832,494
2028	(32,385)	(118,780)	(151,165)
2029	<u>(33,025)</u>	<u>(63,974)</u>	<u>(96,999)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ (98,683)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 204,442</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 105,759</u></u>

**HILLSDALE 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 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.

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

NOTE 12 - 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%.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the 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.

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

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,746,980	\$ 1,795,573	\$ 994,542

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.

**HILLSDALE 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 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	<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.

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 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	\$ 11,936,802	\$ 7,399,569	\$ 3,561,850

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.

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

NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 12 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. 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 District's surcharge obligation was \$26,184.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$26,814 for fiscal year 2025. Of this amount, \$26,184 is reported as pension and postemployment benefits payable.

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

NOTE 13 - 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 District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net OPEB			
liability/asset prior measurement date	0.036349100%	0.036320630%	
Proportion of the net OPEB			
liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.035568900%</u>	<u>0.038456070%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000780200%</u>	<u>0.002135440%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net			
OPEB liability	\$ 362,268	\$ -	\$ 362,268
Proportionate share of the net			
OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (729,438)	\$ (729,438)
OPEB expense	\$ (26,098)	\$ (135,090)	\$ (161,188)

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

At June 30, 2025, the 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	\$ -	\$ 31,710	\$ 31,710
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	1,766	-	1,766
Changes of assumptions	155,486	89,787	245,273
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	10,482	2,688	13,170
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>26,184</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,184</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 193,918</u>	<u>\$ 124,185</u>	<u>\$ 318,103</u>
	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 390,620	\$ 78,613	\$ 469,233
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	-	31,318	31,318
Changes of assumptions	166,414	328,971	495,385
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>56,078</u>	<u>43,608</u>	<u>99,686</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 613,112</u>	<u>\$ 482,510</u>	<u>\$ 1,095,622</u>

\$26,184 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from 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	\$ (107,086)	\$ (116,271)	\$ (223,357)
2027	(77,565)	(55,213)	(132,778)
2028	(59,892)	(68,746)	(128,638)
2029	(51,902)	(64,465)	(116,367)
2030	(51,371)	(53,335)	(104,706)
Thereafter	<u>(97,562)</u>	<u>(295)</u>	<u>(97,857)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (445,378)</u>	<u>\$ (358,325)</u>	<u>\$ (803,703)</u>

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 13 - 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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 13 - 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>	

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 13 - 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 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	\$ 483,071	\$ 362,268	\$ 266,273

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 244,879	\$ 362,268	\$ 516,565

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%

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 13 - 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	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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 13 - 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 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	\$ 593,081	\$ 729,438	\$ 848,098

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 856,114	\$ 729,438	\$ 577,094

NOTE 14 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The District receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, State and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement 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 could become a liability of the District. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the District.

B. Litigation

The District is not involved in material litigation as either plaintiff or defendant at June 30, 2025.

NOTE 15 - SET-ASIDES

The District is required by State law to annually set-aside certain general fund revenue amounts, as defined by statutory formula, for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. This amount must be carried forward to be used for the same purpose in future years. Expenditures exceeding the set-aside requirement may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 15 - SET-ASIDES – (Continued)

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

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2024	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	195,671
Current year offsets	<u>(707,337)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (511,666)</u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2026	<u>\$ -</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2025	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

NOTE 16 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

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

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Year- End Encumbrances</u>
General fund	\$ 55,356
Permanent Improvement	139,261
Other governmental	<u>44,487</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 239,104</u></u>

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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	\$ 18,624,094	\$ 19,471,799	\$ 19,510,868	\$ 39,069
Budgetary expenditures and other financing uses	19,218,925	19,805,191	19,465,992	(339,199)
Net change in fund balance	(594,831)	(333,392)	44,876	378,268
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	7,486,125	7,486,125	7,486,125	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	198,031	198,031	198,031	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 7,089,325</u>	<u>\$ 7,350,764</u>	<u>\$ 7,729,032</u>	<u>\$ 378,268</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1)	District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	District's Covered Payroll	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	0.03510000%	\$ 1,795,573	\$ 1,085,586	165.40%	78.52%
2024	0.03542080%	1,957,180	1,302,786	150.23%	76.06%
2023	0.03588630%	1,941,010	1,724,700	112.54%	75.82%
2022	0.03504210%	1,292,952	1,354,500	95.46%	82.86%
2021	0.03418900%	2,261,332	1,246,621	181.40%	68.55%
2020	0.03445470%	2,061,485	1,294,030	159.31%	70.85%
2019	0.03414520%	1,955,559	1,124,674	173.88%	71.36%
2018	0.03522250%	2,104,467	1,188,921	177.01%	69.50%
2017	0.03553300%	2,600,688	1,167,864	222.69%	62.98%
2016	0.03358790%	1,916,558	1,011,168	189.54%	69.16%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2025	\$ 207,995	\$ (207,995)	\$ -	\$ 1,485,679	14.00%
2024	151,982	(151,982)	-	1,085,586	14.00%
2023	182,390	(182,390)	-	1,302,786	14.00%
2022	241,458	(241,458)	-	1,724,700	14.00%
2021	189,630	(189,630)	-	1,354,500	14.00%
2020	174,527	(174,527)	-	1,246,621	14.00%
2019	174,694	(174,694)	-	1,294,030	13.50%
2018	151,831	(151,831)	-	1,124,674	13.50%
2017	166,449	(166,449)	-	1,188,921	14.00%
2016	163,501	(163,501)	-	1,167,864	14.00%

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

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1)	District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	District's Covered Payroll	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	0.03845607%	\$ 7,399,569	\$ 5,466,107	135.37%	82.55%
2024	0.03632063%	7,821,625	4,950,850	157.99%	80.02%
2023	0.03644631%	8,102,061	4,696,736	172.50%	78.88%
2022	0.03741123%	4,783,362	4,694,329	101.90%	87.78%
2021	0.03615644%	8,748,572	4,425,029	197.71%	75.48%
2020	0.03699264%	8,180,700	4,321,593	189.30%	77.40%
2019	0.03563042%	7,834,329	4,096,350	191.25%	77.31%
2018	0.03672179%	8,723,341	4,023,371	216.82%	75.30%
2017	0.03763765%	12,598,459	4,001,721	314.83%	66.80%
2016	0.03656234%	10,104,761	3,861,236	261.70%	72.10%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2025	\$ 760,856	\$ (760,856)	\$ -	\$ 5,434,686	14.00%
2024	765,255	(765,255)	-	5,466,107	14.00%
2023	693,119	(693,119)	-	4,950,850	14.00%
2022	657,543	(657,543)	-	4,696,736	14.00%
2021	657,206	(657,206)	-	4,694,329	14.00%
2020	619,504	(619,504)	-	4,425,029	14.00%
2019	605,023	(605,023)	-	4,321,593	14.00%
2018	573,489	(573,489)	-	4,096,350	14.00%
2017	563,272	(563,272)	-	4,023,371	14.00%
2016	560,241	(560,241)	-	4,001,721	14.00%

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

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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

LAST NINE AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1) (2)	District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	District's Covered Payroll	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	0.03556890%	\$ 362,268	\$ 1,085,586	33.37%	44.50%
2024	0.03634910%	598,832	1,302,786	45.97%	30.02%
2023	0.03664480%	514,497	1,724,700	29.83%	30.34%
2022	0.03608680%	682,972	1,354,500	50.42%	24.08%
2021	0.03556390%	772,920	1,246,621	62.00%	18.17%
2020	0.03533790%	888,674	1,294,030	68.67%	15.57%
2019	0.03476130%	964,372	1,124,674	85.75%	13.57%
2018	0.03564330%	956,573	1,188,921	80.46%	12.46%
2017	0.03583869%	1,021,535	1,167,864	87.47%	11.49%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2025	\$ 26,184	\$ (26,184)	\$ -	\$ 1,485,679	1.76%
2024	24,432	(24,432)	-	1,085,586	2.25%
2023	26,038	(26,038)	-	1,302,786	2.00%
2022	23,679	(23,679)	-	1,724,700	1.37%
2021	22,969	(22,969)	-	1,354,500	1.70%
2020	23,254	(23,254)	-	1,246,621	1.87%
2019	28,173	(28,173)	-	1,294,030	2.18%
2018	24,940	(24,940)	-	1,124,674	2.22%
2017	86,816	(86,816)	-	1,188,921	7.30%
2016	17,405	(17,405)	-	1,167,864	1.49%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the 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

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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

LAST NINE AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1) (2)	District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	District's Covered Payroll	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	0.03845607%	\$ (729,438)	\$ 5,466,107	13.34%	158.01%
2024	0.03632063%	(706,386)	4,950,850	14.27%	168.52%
2023	0.03644631%	(943,716)	4,686,736	20.14%	230.73%
2022	0.03741123%	(788,785)	4,694,329	16.80%	174.73%
2021	0.03615644%	(635,449)	4,425,029	14.36%	182.10%
2020	0.03699264%	(612,687)	4,321,593	14.18%	174.74%
2019	0.03563042%	(572,544)	4,096,350	13.98%	176.00%
2018	0.03672179%	1,432,749	4,023,371	35.61%	47.10%
2017	0.03763765%	2,012,871	4,001,721	50.30%	37.30%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,434,686	0.00%
2024	-	-	-	5,466,107	0.00%
2023	-	-	-	4,950,850	0.00%
2022	-	-	-	4,696,736	0.00%
2021	-	-	-	4,694,329	0.00%
2020	-	-	-	4,425,029	0.00%
2019	-	-	-	4,321,593	0.00%
2018	-	-	-	4,096,350	0.00%
2017	-	-	-	4,023,371	0.00%
2016	-	-	-	4,001,721	0.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the 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

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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 statement of revenue, 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	\$ 44,876
Net adjustment for revenue and other financing sources accruals	61,770
Net adjustment for expenditure and other financing uses accruals	16,612
Funds budgeted elsewhere	26,106
Adjustments for encumbrances	<u>129,565</u>
GAAP Basis	<u>\$ 278,929</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 uniform school supplies fund, public school support fund, and severance benefits fund.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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%.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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.

**HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHLAND 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.

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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Columbus, Ohio 43215
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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

Hillsdale Local School District
Ashland County
479 Township Road 1902
Jeromesville, Ohio 44840

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Hillsdale Local School District, Ashland County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 15, 2026.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. 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 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 District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



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

April 15, 2026

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

JUNE 30, 2025

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2024-001	Material Weakness – Service Organization Accountability Deficiencies	Fully Corrected	

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



HILLSDALE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

ASHLAND 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 5/7/2026

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