

**MEDINA COUNTY SCHOOLS' EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
MEDINA COUNTY**

**REGULAR AUDIT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1998**

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS**

Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center  
Medina County  
124 West Washington Street  
Medina, Ohio 44256

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Medina County Schools' Education Service Center, Medina County, Ohio, (the Center) as of and for the year ended June 30, 1998, as listed in the Table of Contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Center's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Center, as of June 30, 1998, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its nonexpendable trust fund for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 15, 1999 on our consideration of the Center's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.



**JIM PETRO**  
Auditor of State

November 15, 1999

**Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center**  
*Combined Balanced Sheet*  
*All Fund Types and Account Groups*  
*June 30, 1998*

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Fiduciary Fund Type</u>
	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>	<u>Trust</u>
<b><i>Assets and Other Debit</i></b>			
<b>Assets</b>			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,016,539	\$57,217	\$94,400
Receivables:			
Accrued Interest	9,313	0	0
Intergovernmental	28,640	0	0
Fixed Assets	0	0	0
<b>Other Debit</b>			
Amount to be Provided from General Government Resources	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b><i>Total Assets and Other Debit</i></b>	<b><u>\$1,054,492</u></b>	<b><u>\$57,217</u></b>	<b><u>\$94,400</u></b>
<b><i>Liabilities and Other Credits</i></b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable	\$18,857	\$2,855	\$0
Accrued Wages	26,386	0	0
Intergovernmental Payable	124,949	10,580	0
Compensated Absences Payable	<u>33,003</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b><i>Total Liabilities</i></b>	<b><u>203,195</u></b>	<b><u>13,435</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>
<b>Fund Balance and Other Credits</b>			
Investment in General Fixed Assets	0	0	0
Fund Balance:			
Reserved for Encumbrances	124,202	7,111	0
Reserved for Principal	0	0	89,122
Reserved for Scholarships	0	0	5,278
Unreserved, Undesignated	<u>727,095</u>	<u>36,671</u>	<u>0</u>
<b><i>Total Fund Balance and Other Credits</i></b>	<b><u>851,297</u></b>	<b><u>43,782</u></b>	<b><u>94,400</u></b>
<b><i>Total Liabilities, Fund Balance and Other Credits</i></b>	<b><u>\$1,054,492</u></b>	<b><u>\$57,217</u></b>	<b><u>\$94,400</u></b>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

<u>Account Groups</u>		
<u>General Fixed Assets</u>	<u>General Long-Term Obligations</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
\$0	\$0	\$1,168,156
0	0	9,313
0	0	28,640
429,273	0	429,273
<u>0</u>	<u>111,539</u>	<u>111,539</u>
<u>\$429,273</u>	<u>\$111,539</u>	<u>\$1,746,921</u>
\$0	\$0	\$21,712
0	0	26,386
0	2,758	138,287
0	108,781	141,784
<u>0</u>	<u>111,539</u>	<u>328,169</u>
429,273	0	429,273
0	0	131,313
0	0	89,122
0	0	5,278
0	0	763,766
<u>429,273</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,418,752</u>
<u>\$429,273</u>	<u>\$111,539</u>	<u>\$1,746,921</u>

NOTE: This sheet is left blank intentionally.

**Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center**

*Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures*

*and Changes in Fund Balances*

*All Governmental Fund Types*

*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1998*

	Governmental Fund Types		Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	
<b>Revenues</b>			
Intergovernmental	\$1,540,813	\$173,556	\$1,714,369
Customer Services	857,044	29,105	886,149
Interest	58,378	0	58,378
Miscellaneous	1,863	0	1,863
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>2,458,098</u>	<u>202,661</u>	<u>2,660,759</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	0	4,868	4,868
Special	19,193	481	19,674
Adult/Continuing	0	93,275	93,275
Support Services:			
Pupils	143,177	23,238	166,415
Instructional Staff	1,702,118	114,098	1,816,216
Board of Education	10,867	0	10,867
Administration	175,071	0	175,071
Fiscal	95,121	0	95,121
Business	269,670	0	269,670
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,029	0	1,029
Pupil Transportation	3,618	0	3,618
Central	39,360	0	39,360
Extracurricular Activities	113,066	0	113,066
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>2,572,290</u>	<u>235,960</u>	<u>2,808,250</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	(114,192)	(33,299)	(147,491)
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	<u>965,489</u>	<u>77,081</u>	<u>1,042,570</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u>\$851,297</u>	<u>\$43,782</u>	<u>\$895,079</u>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

**Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center**

*Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and  
Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual (Budget Basis)*

*All Governmental Fund Types*

*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1998*

	General Fund		
	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>Revenues</b>			
Intergovernmental	\$1,567,603	\$1,567,603	\$0
Customer Services	841,515	841,515	0
Interest	58,378	58,378	0
Miscellaneous	1,863	1,863	0
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>2,469,359</u>	<u>2,469,359</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	0	0	0
Special	0	0	0
Adult/Continuing	0	0	0
Support Services:			
Pupils	168,150	168,150	0
Instructional Staff	1,828,496	1,828,496	0
Board of Education	10,898	10,898	0
Administration	176,498	176,498	0
Fiscal	97,060	97,060	0
Business	315,685	315,685	0
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,029	1,029	0
Pupil Transportation	3,618	3,618	0
Central	29,435	29,435	0
Extracurricular Activities:	125,616	125,616	0
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>2,756,485</u>	<u>2,756,485</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	<u>(287,126)</u>	<u>(287,126)</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	<u>1,060,738</u>	<u>1,060,738</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	<u>99,326</u>	<u>99,326</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u>\$872,938</u>	<u>\$872,938</u>	<u>\$0</u>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose statements

Special Revenue Funds			Totals (Memorandum Only)		
Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
\$173,556	\$173,556	\$0	\$1,741,159	\$1,741,159	\$0
29,105	29,105	0	87,483	87,483	0
0	0	0	841,515	841,515	0
0	0	0	1,863	1,863	0
<u>202,661</u>	<u>202,661</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,672,020</u>	<u>2,672,020</u>	<u>0</u>
4,884	4,884	0	4,884	4,884	0
481	481	0	481	481	0
93,343	93,343	0	93,343	93,343	0
23,539	23,539	0	191,689	191,689	0
126,786	126,786	0	1,955,282	1,955,282	0
0	0	0	10,898	10,898	0
0	0	0	176,498	176,498	0
0	0	0	97,060	97,060	0
0	0	0	315,685	315,685	0
0	0	0	1,029	1,029	0
0	0	0	3,618	3,618	0
0	0	0	29,435	29,435	0
0	0	0	125,616	125,616	0
<u>249,033</u>	<u>249,033</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,005,518</u>	<u>3,005,518</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>(46,372)</u>	<u>(46,372)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(333,498)</u>	<u>(333,498)</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>71,097</u>	<u>71,097</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,131,835</u>	<u>1,131,835</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>20,058</u>	<u>20,058</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>119,384</u>	<u>119,384</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>\$44,783</u>	<u>\$44,783</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$917,721</u>	<u>\$917,721</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center**

*Statement of Revenues,  
Expenses and Changes in Fund Balance  
Non-Expendable Trust Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1998*

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	Non-Expendable Trust
<b>Operating Revenues</b>	
Interest	\$5,242
Contributions and Donations	<u>7,239</u>
<i>Total Operating Revenues</i>	<u>12,481</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
Other	<u>5,091</u>
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<u>5,091</u>
<i>Net Income</i>	7,390
<i>Fund Balance at Beginning of Year</i>	<u>87,010</u>
<i>Fund Balance at End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$94,400</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

**Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center**  
*Statement of Revenues, Expenses*  
*and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Budget Basis)*  
*Non-Expendable Trust Fund*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1998*

	Non-Expendable Trust		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
	Revised Budget	Actual	
<b>Revenues</b>			
Interest	\$5,242	\$5,242	\$0
Contributions and Donations	7,239	7,239	0
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>12,481</u>	<u>12,481</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Other	10,370	10,370	0
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<u>10,370</u>	<u>10,370</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Under Expenses</i>	2,111	2,111	0
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	82,161	82,161	0
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	4,850	4,850	0
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$89,122</u>	<u>\$89,122</u>	<u>\$0</u>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

**Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center**

*Statement of Cash Flows*

*Non-Expendable Trust Fund*

*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1998*

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	Non-Expendable Trust
<b>INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	
Cash Received from Donations	\$7,239
Cash Payments for Other Operating Expenses	(5,091)
	<hr/>
<i>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</i>	2,148
	<hr/>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	
Interest on Investments	5,242
	<hr/>
<i>Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities</i>	5,242
	<hr/>
<i>Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents</i>	7,390
	<hr/>
<i>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year</i>	87,010
	<hr/>
<i>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year</i>	\$94,400
	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Reconciliation of Net Income to Net</b>	
<b>Cash Provided by Operating Activities:</b>	
<i>Net Income</i>	\$7,390
	<hr/>
<b>Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income</b>	
<b>to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:</b>	
Interest	(5,242)
	<hr/>
<i>Total Adjustments</i>	(5,242)
	<hr/>
<i>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</i>	\$2,148
	<hr/> <hr/>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

**Medina County Schools'**  
**Educational Service Center**  
*Notes to the General Purpose Financial Statement*  
*June 30, 1998*

**Note 1 - Description of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center**

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center and Governing Board (Medina County School District and Board of Education) were established in 1914. The first regular meeting of the Governing Board was July 18, 1914. On June 20, 1989, the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center was chartered by the State Board of Education. The Educational Service Center supplies supervisory, administrative, technological, and other needed services to all the schools in Medina County.

The Educational Service Center operates under a locally elected five-member Board form of government and provides educational services as mandated by state or federal agencies. The Board controls the Educational Service Center's instructional/support facilities staffed by 24 noncertificated, 16 certificated teaching personnel, and 3 administrators who provide services to 27,038 students throughout the school districts in Medina County.

The reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements of the Educational Service Center are not misleading. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the Educational Service Center. The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center provides necessary services to all school districts in Medina County.

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

The Educational Service Center is associated with the Lake Erie Educational Computer Association (LEECA) which is defined as a Jointly Governed Organization, the Ohio School Boards Association's Worker's Compensation Group Rating Program which is defined as an Insurance Purchasing Pool, and the Stark County Schools Council which is defined as a Risk Sharing Pool. Each of these is presented in Note 8 to the general purpose financial statements.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The significant accounting policies followed in the preparation of these financial statements are summarized below. These policies conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for local governmental units prescribed in the statements issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board and other recognized authoritative sources. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The Educational Service Center also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) statements, and interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant of these accounting policies are described below:

**Medina County Schools'**  
**Educational Service Center**  
*Notes to the General Purpose Financial Statement*  
*June 30, 1998*

A. *Basis Of Presentation - Fund Accounting*

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center uses funds and account groups to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center functions or activities.

A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and other financial resources, together with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances, and changes therein, which are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions or limitations. An account group is a financial reporting device designed to provide accountability for certain assets and liabilities that are not recorded in the funds because they do not directly affect net expendable available financial resources.

For financial statement presentation purposes, the various funds of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center are grouped into the following generic fund types under the broad fund categories governmental and fiduciary.

Governmental Fund Types:

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center are financed. The acquisition, use and balances of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's expendable financial resources and the related current liabilities (except those accounted for in trust funds) are accounted for through governmental funds. The following are the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's governmental fund types:

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

Special Revenue Funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than expendable trusts or for major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditure for specified purposes.

Fiduciary Fund Types:

Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held by the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units and/or other funds. This includes the non-expendable trust fund. The non-expendable trust fund accounts for trust principal that may not be expended. Only interest earned on the principal may be used for trust operations. This fund is accounted for in essentially the same manner as proprietary funds.

**Medina County Schools'**  
**Educational Service Center**  
*Notes to the General Purpose Financial Statement*  
*June 30, 1998*

Account Groups:

To make a clear distinction between fixed assets related to specific funds and those of general government, and between long-term liabilities related to specific funds and those of a general nature, the following account groups are used:

General Fixed Assets Account Group - This account group is established to account for all fixed assets of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center, other than those accounted for in the trust funds.

General Long-Term Obligations Account Group - This account group is established to account for all long-term obligations of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center except those accounted for in the trust funds.

*B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting*

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental fund types are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is followed for the governmental funds. Under this basis, revenues are recognized in the accounting period when they become both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current fiscal year or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. The available period for the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center is sixty days after year end.

In applying the susceptible to accrual concept under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are deemed both measurable and available: interest, tuition, grants, and customer services.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in the governmental funds. The accrual basis of accounting is authorized for reporting purposes by the non-expendable trust fund. Revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they are earned, and expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

**Medina County Schools'**  
**Educational Service Center**  
*Notes to the General Purpose Financial Statement*  
*June 30, 1998*

C. *Budgetary Data*

Provisions of the Ohio Revised Code prescribe the budgetary process. Annually, on or before a date designated by the State Board of Education, each Educational Service Center prepares a budget of operating expenses for the ensuing year on forms prepared and furnished by the State Board of Education and certifies the budget to the State Board of Education, together with such other information as the Board may require. The budget consists of two parts. Part (A) includes the cost of the salaries, employer's retirement contributions, and travel expenses of supervisory teachers approved by the State Board of Education. Part (B) includes the cost of all other lawful expenditures of the Educational Service Center. The State Board of Education reviews the budget.

Appropriations:

The annual appropriation resolution must be legally enacted by the Medina County Schools' Governing Board at the fund, function, and object level of expenditures, which are the legal levels of budgetary control. Prior to the passage of the annual appropriation measure, the Governing Board may pass a temporary appropriation measure to meet the ordinary expenses of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center. The appropriation resolution, by fund, must be within the estimated resources and the total of expenditures and encumbrances may not exceed the appropriation totals at any level of control. The Governing Board must approve any revisions that alter the total of any fund appropriation or alter total function appropriations within a fund, or alter object appropriations within functions. The Governing Board may pass supplemental fund appropriations so long as the total appropriations by fund do not exceed the amounts set forth in the budget approved by the State Board of Education. During the year, several supplemental appropriations were legally enacted; however, none of these amendments were significant. The budget figures that appear in the statements of budgetary comparisons represent the final appropriation amounts, including all supplemental appropriations. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all funds, other than agency funds, consistent with statutory provisions.

Encumbrances:

As part of formal budgetary control, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded as the equivalent of expenditures on the non-GAAP budgetary basis in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance. On the GAAP basis, encumbrances outstanding at year end are reported as a reservation of fund balance for subsequent-year expenditures for governmental fund types.

Lapsing of Appropriations:

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

D. *Cash and Cash Equivalents*

To improve cash management, all cash received by the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center is pooled in a central bank account. Monies for all funds are maintained in this account or temporarily used to purchase short term investments. Individual fund integrity is maintained through

**Medina County Schools'**  
**Educational Service Center**  
*Notes to the General Purpose Financial Statement*  
*June 30, 1998*

Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center records. Each fund's interest in the pooled bank account is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents" on the balance sheet.

During fiscal year 1998, investments were limited to U. S. Treasury Notes, and STAR Ohio, the State Treasurer's Investment Pool. Except for investment contracts and money market investments that had a remaining maturity of on year or less at the time of purchase, investments are reported at fair market value which is based on quoted market prices. Investment contracts and money market investments that had a remaining maturity of one year or less at the time of purchase are reported at cost or amortized cost.

The Educational Service Center invested funds in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio ("STAR Ohio") during fiscal year 1998. STAR 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 does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAR Ohio are valued at STAR Ohio's share price, which is the price the investment could be sold for on June 30, 1998.

Under existing Ohio statutes, the Governing Board may, by resolution, identify the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. During fiscal year 1998, the general fund and the nonexpendable trust funds received interest allocations. Interest revenue earned in 1998 totaled \$63,620 (GAAP Basis).

*E. Inventory*

Inventories are stated at cost. For all funds, cost is determined on a first-in, first-out basis. Inventory consists of expendable supplies held for consumption. The cost of inventory items is recorded as an expenditure when purchased. Reported material and supplies inventory is equally offset by a fund balance reserve which indicates that it does not constitute available spendable resources even though it is a component of net current assets. There was no inventory balance as of June 30, 1998.

*F. Fixed Assets and Depreciation*

General fixed assets are not capitalized in the funds used to acquire or construct them. Instead, capital acquisition and construction costs are reflected as expenditures in governmental funds, and related assets are reported in the general fixed assets account group. All fixed assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated fixed assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center maintains a capitalization threshold of five hundred dollars. The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center does not possess any infrastructure.

Improvements, other than 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 capitalized. Assets in the general fixed assets account group are not depreciated.

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*G. Intergovernmental Revenues*

Intergovernmental revenues, such as entitlements and grants awarded on a non-reimbursement basis, are recorded as receivables and revenues when measurable and available. Reimbursement type grants are recorded as receivables and revenues when the related expenditures are incurred.

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center currently participates in several State and Federal programs, categorized as follows:

Entitlements

General Fund

State Foundation Program

Special Revenue Fund

Bus Driver Training Program

Non-Reimbursable Grants

Special Revenue Funds

MEO-SERRC Satellite Center

Entry Year

TOPS

Gifted Model Project

Educational Management Information System (EMIS)

Natural Resources

School - to - Work

Grants and entitlements amounted to 65 percent of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's operating revenue during the 1998 fiscal year.

*H. Compensated Absences*

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center reports compensated absences in accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 16, "Accounting for Compensated Absences". Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributed to services already rendered and it is probable that the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the termination method. An accrual for earned sick leave is made to the extent it is probable that benefits will result in termination payments. The liability is based on an estimate of the amount accumulated sick leave that will probably be paid as a termination benefit.

For governmental funds, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount expected to be paid using expendable available resources. These amounts are recorded in the account "compensated absences payable" in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated unpaid leave are paid. The remainder is reported in the general long-term obligations account group.

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*I. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations*

In general, governmental payables and accrued liabilities are reported as claims and judgments of the funds regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current resources. However, compensated absences, contractually required pension contributions, and special termination benefits that will be paid from government funds are reported as a liability in the general long-term obligations account group to the extent that they will not be paid with current expendable available financial resources.

*J. Interfund Transactions*

Quasi-external transactions are accounted for as revenues, expenditures or expenses. Transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures/expenses initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund are recorded as expenditures/expenses in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures/expenses in the fund that is reimbursed.

Nonrecurring or nonroutine permanent transfers of equity are reported as residual equity transfers. All other interfund transfers are reported as operating transfers. There were no Interfund Transactions as of June 30, 1998.

*K. Fund Balance Reserves*

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center records reservations for portions of fund equity which are legally segregated for specific future use or which do not represent available spendable resources and therefore are not available for appropriations for expenditures. Reserved fund balance indicates that portion of fund equity that is available for appropriation in future periods. Fund equity reserves are established for encumbrances and contributions to the non-expendable trust funds that must be kept intact.

*L. Estimates*

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

*M. Total Columns on General Purpose Financial Statements*

Total columns on the general purpose financial statements are captioned (Memorandum Only) to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position, results of operations, or cash flows in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

**Note 3 – Changes in Accounting Principles**

The educational service center implemented GASB Statement No.31. "Accounting and Financial Reporting Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools." This statement establishes accounting and reporting guidelines for government investments and investment pools. Certain investments, which were reported at cost in previous years, are now reported at market value. However, this implementation had no effect on fund balance as it was previously reported, since the Educational Service Center did not own any investments that carried a market value that differed materially from the original cost.

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**Note 4 – Budgetary Basis of Accounting**

While the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center is 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, disbursements and encumbrances. The Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual (Budget Basis), All Governmental Fund Types are presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP basis are that:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures/expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures for all funds (budget basis) rather than as a reservation of fund balance for governmental fund types.

The following tables summarize the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP and budgetary basis statements by fund type:

Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources  
Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses  
All Governmental Fund Types

	<u>General</u>	<u>Special Revenue</u>
<i>GAAP Basis</i>	(\$114,192)	(\$33,299)
Net Adjustments for Revenue Accruals	11,261	0
Net Adjustment for Expenditure Accruals	(40,594)	(639)
Adjustment for Encumbrances	<u>(143,601)</u>	<u>(12,434)</u>
<i>Budget Basis</i>	<u>(\$287,126)</u>	<u>(\$46,372)</u>

For the GAAP to budget reconciliation, the non-expendable trust fund had an Adjustment for Encumbrances of (\$5,279), which changed the GAAP Basis net income of \$7,390 to \$2,111 for the Budget Basis excess of Revenues Over Expenses.

**Note 5 - Deposits and Investments**

State statutes require the classification of monies held by the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center into three categories.

Category 1 consists of "active" monies, those monies required to be kept in a "cash" or "near-cash" status for immediate use by the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center. Such monies must be maintained

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either as cash in the Center's treasury, in depository accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Category 2 consists of "inactive" monies, those monies not required for use within the current two year period of designation of depositories. Inactive monies must be deposited or invested as certificates of deposit, maturing no later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or as savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

Category 3 consists of "interim" monies, 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 monies must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit, or by savings or deposit accounts (including passbook accounts).

Protection of Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as a security for repayment, by surety company bonds deposited with the treasurer by the financial institution or by a single collateral pool established by the financial institution to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited with the institution.

Interim monies are to be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or other obligations 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, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing 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 market 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 does not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds or other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division(1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any one time; and

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8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest rating classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

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. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Center, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made 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.

Deposits:

At fiscal year end, the carrying amount of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's deposits was \$14,395 and the bank balance was \$193,188. \$100,000 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$93,188 was uninsured and uncollateralized. Although the securities serving as collateral were held by the pledging financial institution's trust department in the Educational Service Center's name and all State statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, non-compliance with federal requirements would potentially subject the Educational Service Center to successful claim by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Investments:

GASB Statement No. 3 "Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments (including Repurchase Agreements), and Reverse Repurchase Agreements" requires the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center to categorize investments to give an indication of the level of custodial credit risk assumed by the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center at year-end. Category 1 includes investments that are insured or registered or for which the securities are held by the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center or its agent in the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's name. Category 2 includes uninsured and unregistered investments which are held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's name. Category 3 includes uninsured and unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's name. The investment in STAR Ohio is not classified by degree of credit risk since these investments are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. At year end the carrying value and market value of the investment in STAR Ohio was \$658,002.

	Category			Carrying Value	Fair Value
	1	2	3		
Treasury Notes	\$0	\$0	\$495,759	\$495,759	\$500,344
STAR Ohio				658,002	658,002
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$495,759</b>	<b>\$1,153,761</b>	<b>\$1,158,346</b>

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The classification of cash and cash equivalents, and investments on the combined financial statements is based on criteria set forth in GASB Statement No. 9. A reconciliation between the classifications of cash and investments on the combined financial statements and the classification per GASB Statement No. 3 is as follows:

	<u>Cash and Cash Equivalents/Deposits</u>	<u>Investments</u>
<i>GASB Statement No. 9</i>	\$1,168,156	\$0
Investments which are part of a Cash Management pool:		
Treasury Notes	(495,759)	495,759
STAR Ohio	<u>(658,002)</u>	<u>658,002</u>
<i>GASB Statement No. 3</i>	<u>\$14,395</u>	<u>\$1,153,761</u>

**Note 6 - Receivables**

At June 30, 1998 the General Fund had \$28,640 of intergovernmental receivables due from other school districts.

**Note 7 - State Funding**

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center is funded by the State Board of Education from State funds for the cost of Part (A) of the budget. (For an explanation of the budget, see Note 2 - Budgetary Data.)

Part (B) of the budget is funded in the following way: six dollars and fifty cents times the ADM (Total number of pupils under the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's supervision) is apportioned by the State Board of Education among the school districts to which the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center provides services from payments made under the State's foundation program. Simultaneously, thirty-two dollars times the sum of the ADM is paid by the State Board of Education from State funds of the County Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center.

If additional funding is required and if a majority of the boards of education of the local school districts approve, the cost of Part (B) of the budget that is in excess of \$38.50 times the ADM approved by the State Board of Education is apportioned to the local school districts through reductions in their state foundation payments. The State Board of Education initiates and supervises the procedure by which the local boards approve or disapprove the apportionment.

**Note 8 - Jointly Governed Organization and Public Entity Risk Pools**

*A. Jointly Governed Organization*

The Lake Erie Educational Computer Association (LEECA) is a not-for profit computer organization owned and operated by thirty-one class "C" sites in the Ohio counties of Cuyahoga, Lorain, Erie, Huron, and Medina. These "C" sites are comprised of various public school districts and educational service centers in the counties previously mentioned. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member districts. LEECA is organized under Chapter 167 and 3313 of the

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Ohio Revised Code. LEECA is governed by an assembly that consists of a superintendent or designated representative from each participating member. LEECA has a Board of Directors chosen from the general membership of the LEECA Assembly which consists of a representative from the fiscal agent, chairmen of various committees, and a least one member from each participating county. The assembly exercises total control over the operation of the consortium including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. All the consortium revenues are generated from charges for services and State funding.

*B. Insurance Purchasing Pool*

The Medina County School's Educational Service Center participates in a group rating plan for workers' compensation as established under section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (WCGRP) was established through the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) as an insurance purchasing pool.

The WCGRP'S business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect, and the Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the program. Each year, the participating districts pay an enrollment fee to the WCGRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

*C. Risk Sharing Pool*

The Stark County Schools Council is a risk sharing pool created pursuant to State statute for the purpose of carrying out a cooperative program for the provision and administration of health care benefits. The Assembly is the legislative decision-making body of the Council. The Assembly is comprised of the superintendents or executive officers of the members, who have been appointed by the respective governing body of each member.

The intent of the insurance pool is to achieve a reduced, stable and competitive rate for the Educational Service Center by the grouping with other members of the Health Benefits Program. The experience of all participating districts are calculated as one and a common premium rate is applied to all member districts. New members must maintain a reserve amount equal to 30 percent of claims paid for the preceding twelve month period.

**Note 9 - Fixed Assets**

A summary of the changes in general fixed assets during fiscal year 1998 follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1, 1997</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 1998</u>
Furniture and Equipment	\$361,777	\$117,675	(\$50,179)	\$429,273

There was no significant construction in progress at June 30, 1998.

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**Note 10 - Risk Management**

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 1998, the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center contracted with Westfield Companies for a Commercial Package Policy. This policy covers furniture and equipment that is located in our Technology Department at the Medina County Career Center. All other furniture and equipment is covered by insurance provided by the Medina County Commissioners.

Professional liability is protected by the Nationwide Insurance Company with a \$5,000,000 annual aggregate/\$2,000,000 single occurrence limit and no deductible. Vehicles are covered by The Cincinnati Insurance Company and hold a \$100 deductible for comprehensive and a \$250 deductible for collision. Policy includes coverage for Hired and Nonowned Automobiles. Automobile liability has a \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past fifteen years.

For fiscal year 1998, the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program, an insurance purchasing pool (Note 8B). The Program is intended to reduce premiums for the participants. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the Program. Each participant pays its rate. Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings of the program. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "equity pooling fund". This "equity pooling fund" arrangement insures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the program. Participation in the programs limited to districts that can meet the program's selection criteria. The Districts apply for participation each year. The firm of Gates McDonald and Co. provides administrative, cost control, and actuarial services to the program. Each year the Educational Service Center pays an enrollment fee to the program to cover the costs of administration.

**Note 11 - Defined Benefit Pension Plan**

*A. School Employees Retirement System*

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system administered by the School Employees Retirement Board. SERS provides basic retirement benefits, disability, survivor, and health care benefits based on eligible service credit to members and beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for SERS. That report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 45 North Fourth Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3634.

Plan members are required to contribute 9 percent of their annual covered salary and the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center is required to contribute an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll. For fiscal year 1998, 9.79 percent was the portion to fund pension obligations. The contribution rates of plan members and employees are established and may be amended, up to statutory maximum amounts by the SERS Retirement Board. The Educational Service Center's required contributions to SERS for the years ending June 30, 1998, 1997, and 1996 were \$97,920, \$70,009, and \$55,093, respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal years 1998, 1997, and 1996.

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*B. State Teachers Retirement System*

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center contributes to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system administered by the State Teachers Retirement Board. STRS provides basic retirement benefits, disability, survivor, and health care benefits based on eligible service credit to members and beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. STRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for STRS. That report may be obtained by writing to the State Teachers Retirement System, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771.

Plan members are required to contribute 9.3 percent of their annual covered salary and the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center is required to contribute 14 percent; 10.5 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. Prior to July 1, 1997, the portion to fund pension obligations was 12 percent. Contribution rates are established by STRS, upon recommendation of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10 percent for members and 14 percent for employers. The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center's required contributions to STRS for the years ending June 30, 1998, 1997, and 1996 were \$126,234, \$114,484, and \$102,124, respectively. The full amounts have been contributed for fiscal years 1997 and 1996. Nothing has been contributed for fiscal year 1998. \$126,234 represents the unpaid contribution for fiscal year 1998 and is recorded as a liability within the respective funds.

*C. Social Security System*

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the School Employees Retirement System or the State Teachers Retirement System have an option to choose social security or the School Employees Retirement System/State Teachers Retirement System. As of June 30, 1998, three of the Governing Board members have elected social security. The board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

**Note 12 - Postemployment Benefits**

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center provides comprehensive health care benefits to retired teachers and their dependents through the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), and to retired non-certificated employees and their dependents through the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare premiums. Benefit provisions and the obligations to contribute are established by the Systems based on authority granted by State statute. Both systems are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis.

The State Retirement Board has statutory authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Most benefit recipients pay a portion of health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. By Ohio Law, the cost of coverage paid from STRS funds shall be included in the employer contribution rate, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. Through June 30, 1997, the board allocated employer contributions equal to two percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Reserve Fund. Beginning July 1, 1997, this allocation was increased to 3.5 percent. For the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center, this amount equaled \$31,534 during the 1998 fiscal year.

STRS pays health care benefits from the Health Care Reserve Fund. The balance in the Fund was \$1,860 million at June 30, 1997. For the year ended June 30, 1997, net health care costs paid by STRS were \$193,077,000 and STRS had 88,718 eligible benefit recipients.

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For SERS, coverage is made available to service retirees with ten or more years of qualifying service credit, disability and survivor benefit recipients. Members retiring on or after August 1, 1989, with less than twenty-five years of service credit must pay a portion of their premium for health care. The portion is based on years of service up to a maximum of 75 percent of the premium.

For this fiscal year, employer contributions to fund health care benefits were 4.21 percent of covered payroll, an increase from 3.5 percent for fiscal year 1997. In addition, SERS levies a surcharge to fund health care benefits equal to 14 percent of the difference between a minimum pay and the member's pay, pro-rated for partial service credit. The surcharge rate added to the unallocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate provides for maintenance of the asset target level for the health care fund. For fiscal year 1998, the minimum pay has been established at \$12,400.

The target level for the health care reserves is 125 percent of annual health care expenses. Expenses for health care at June 30, 1997, were \$97,429,197 and the target level was \$121.8 million. At June 30, 1997, SERS had net assets available for payment of health care benefits of \$146.4 million. SERS has approximately 48,200 participating currently receiving health care benefits. For the Educational Service Center, the amount to fund health care benefits, including surcharge, equaled \$32,204, during the 1998 fiscal year.

**Note 13 - Other Employee Benefits**

*A. Compensated Absences*

Certified and Classified employees earn five to twenty days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Accumulated unused vacation time is paid to classified employees upon termination of employment. Administrators, supervisors, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to 240 days. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fourth of the total sick leave accumulation, up to a maximum accumulation of 240 days.

*B. Life Insurance*

The Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center provides \$50,000 life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to most employees through UNUM Life Insurance Co. of America.

**Note 14 - Long Term Obligations**

Changes in long-term obligations of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center from June 30, 1997 to June 30, 1998, were as follows:

	<u>June 30, 1997</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>June 30, 1998</u>
Intergovernmental Payable	\$2,383	\$2,758	(\$2,383)	\$2,758
Compensated Absences	79,987	28,794	0	108,781
<i>Total General Long Term Obligations</i>	<u>\$82,370</u>	<u>\$31,552</u>	<u>(\$2,383)</u>	<u>\$111,539</u>

Compensated absences and intergovernmental payables will be paid from the fund from which the person is paid.

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**Note 15 - Contingencies**

*A. Grants*

The Medina County Schools’ Educational Service Center received financial assistance from federal and state 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 is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the Medina County Schools’ Educational Service Center at June 30, 1998.

*B. Litigation*

The Medina County Schools’ Educational Service Center is not a party to any legal proceedings.

**Note 16 – School Funding Issue**

On March 24, 1997, the Ohio Supreme Court rendered a decision declaring certain portions of the Ohio school funding plan unconstitutional. The Court stayed the effect of its ruling for one year to allow the State's legislature to design a plan to remedy the perceived defects in that system. Declared unconstitutional was the State's "school foundation program", which provides significant amounts of monetary support to this Educational Service Center. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1998, the Medina County Schools’ Educational Service Center received \$1,514,137 of school foundation support, all of it for its general fund. As of the date of these financial statements, the District is unable to determine what effect, if any, this decision will have on its future state funding under this Program.

Since the Supreme Court ruling, numerous pieces of legislation have been passed by the State legislature in an attempt to address the issues identified by the Court. The Court of Common Pleas in Perry County has reviewed the new laws and, in a decision issued on February 26, 1999, determined they are not sufficiently responsive to the constitutional issues raised under the “thorough and efficient” clause of the Ohio Constitution. The State has appealed the decision made by the Court of Common Pleas to the Ohio Supreme Court. As of November 15, 1999, The Ohio Supreme Court has not rendered an opinion on this issue. The decision of the Court of Common Pleas in Perry County has been stayed by the Ohio Supreme Court, and, as such, school districts are still operating under the laws that the Common Pleas Court declared unconstitutional.

As of November 15, 1999, the Medina County Schools’ is unable to determine what effect, if any, this ongoing litigation will have on its future State funding under this program and on its financial operations.

**Note 17 – Year 2000**

The year 2000 issue is the result of shortcomings in many electronic data processing systems and other equipment that may adversely affect the government’s operations.

Medina County Schools’ Educational Service Center has completed an inventory of mission-critical computer and other equipment necessary to conduct operations and has identified such systems as being financial reporting, payroll and employee benefits.

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The Educational Service Center uses the Ohio Educational Computer Network (OECN) through Lorain County Educational Service Center to provide the identified services. The OECN reports that the payroll processing software supported and the accounting software with OECN State Software are believed compliant with the Year 2000.

The State of Ohio distributes a substantial sum of money to the District in the form of "Foundation" and federal and state grant payments. Further, the State processes a significant amount of financial and nonfinancial information about the School District through EMIS. The State is responsible for remediating these systems.

In addition, the Medina County Schools' has taken the following actions. It has inventoried all Center Computer Hardware and Software. It has assessed the hardware and software for Y2K compliance by obtaining documentation from vendors, or by using Y2K testing software to assess compliance. It has implemented a remediation plan making appropriate changes and modifications to software and equipment not found to be compliant. Finally, it has tested the software and equipment to ensure that the changes and modifications have solved the problem. As of November 15, 1999, all known changes and modifications have been made and are functioning correctly. Center technology personnel will continue to monitor all center computer hardware and software

Because of the unprecedented nature of the Year 2000 issue, its effects and the success of related remediation efforts will not be fully determinable until the year 2000 and thereafter. Management cannot assure that the Center is or will be Year 2000 ready, that the Center's remediation efforts will be successful in whole or in part, or that parties with whom the Center does business will be year 2000 ready.



STATE OF OHIO  
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR  
JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS ON COMPLIANCE AND ON  
INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Medina County School's Educational Service Center  
Medina County  
124 West Washington Street  
Medina, Ohio 44256

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center, Medina County, Ohio, (the Center) as of and for the year ended June 30, 1998, and have issued our report thereon dated November 15, 1999. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

**Compliance**

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

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Center's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the Center in a separate letter dated November 15, 1999.

Medina County Schools' Educational Service Center  
Medina County  
*Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on  
Internal Control Required by Government Auditing Standards*  
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This report is intended for the information and use of management and the Board of Education, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Petro", written in a cursive style.

**JIM PETRO**  
Auditor of State

November 15, 1999

