



**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**



**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY**

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## Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Aurora City School District  
Portage County  
102 East Garfield Road  
Aurora, Ohio 44202

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Aurora City School District, Portage County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. 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 opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Aurora City School District, Portage County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2004, and the respective changes in financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 7, 2005, 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. While we do not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the extent of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Management's Discussion and Analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information the Governmental Accounting Standards Board requires. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

We conducted our audit to opine on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Federal Awards Expenditures is required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements. We subjected the Schedule of Federal Awards Expenditures to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements. In our opinion, this information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

March 7, 2005

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2004  
UNAUDITED**

This discussion and analysis of Aurora City School District's (School District) financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

**Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for 2004 are as follows:

- Net assets of governmental activities decreased \$1,034,383, representing a 21 percent decrease from 2003.
- General revenues accounted for \$24,465,666 in revenue or 94 percent of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services, operating grants, contributions and interest, and capital grants and contributions accounted for \$1,675,776 or 6 percent of total revenues of \$26,141,442.
- The School District had \$27,175,825 in expenses related to governmental activities; only \$1,675,776 of these expenses was offset by program specific charges for services, grants, contributions and interest. General revenues of \$24,465,666 were inadequate to provide for these programs.

**Using this Annual Financial Report**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand Aurora City School 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 assets and statement of activities provide information about the activities of the whole School District, presenting both an aggregate view of the School District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements present how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the School District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. In the case of Aurora City School District, the general fund is by far the most significant fund.

**Reporting the School District as a Whole**

*Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities*

While these statements contain information about a large number of funds used by the School District to provide programs and activities, the view of the School District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and helps answer the question, "How did we do financially during 2004?" These statements include all non-fiduciary assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting, takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

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

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2004  
UNAUDITED**

In the statement of net assets and the statement of activities, the School Districts' activities are considered to be all Governmental Activities:

Governmental Activities - Most of the School District's programs and services are reported here including instruction, support services, operation of non-instructional services, extracurricular activities and food service operations.

***Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds***

*Fund Financial Statements*

The analysis of the School District's major funds begins on page 13. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. The School District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the School District's most significant funds. The School District's only major governmental fund is the general fund.

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

**The School District as a Whole**

Recall that the statement of net assets provides the perspective of the School District as a whole. A comparative analysis is presented below.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2004  
UNAUDITED**

Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net assets for 2004:

Table 1 Net Assets		<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	
<b>Assets:</b>			
Current and other assets	\$ 29,958,762	\$ 25,984,776	
Capital assets, net of depreciation	18,435,806	21,097,064	
Total assets	48,394,568	47,081,840	
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Other liabilities	22,122,548	20,018,458	
Long-term liabilities:			
Due within one year	1,297,571	727,299	
Due in more than one year	21,192,595	21,519,846	
Total liabilities	44,612,714	42,265,603	
<b>Net Assets:</b>			
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	(658,761)	236,470	
Restricted	2,090,995	2,323,609	
Unrestricted	2,349,620	2,256,158	
Total net assets	\$ 3,781,854	\$ 4,816,237	

Over time, net assets can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2004, the School District's assets exceeded liabilities by \$3,781,854.

Capital assets, net of depreciation reported on the government-wide statements represents a deficit portion of the School District's total net assets. Capital assets include land and land improvements, buildings, equipment and vehicles used to provide services to students and are not available for future spending. Although the School 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 School District's net assets, \$2,090,995 or 55 percent, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how the funds may be used. Of the total restricted assets, \$648,482 or 31 percent is restricted for debt service payment; \$1,338,207, or 64 percent, is restricted for capital projects; and another small amount, \$104,306 or 5 percent, is restricted for other purposes. The remaining balance of government-wide unrestricted net assets of \$2,349,620 may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to students and staff.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2004  
UNAUDITED**

Table 2 shows the changes in net assets for fiscal year 2004 as compared to fiscal year 2003.

Table 2  
Changes in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities	
	2004	2003
<b>Revenues</b>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 770,342	\$ 649,900
Operating grants, contributions and interest	891,458	603,381
Capital grants and contributions	13,976	32,654
General revenues:		
Property taxes	18,642,761	17,224,815
Grants and entitlements	5,539,015	5,026,474
Investment earnings	85,755	142,579
Miscellaneous	198,135	221,737
Total revenues	<u>26,141,442</u>	<u>23,901,540</u>
<b>Program Expenses</b>		
Instruction:		
Regular	11,598,844	10,124,926
Special	1,350,716	999,244
Vocational	122,623	104,309
Other	578,588	432,636
Support services:		
Pupils	1,157,138	1,129,196
Instructional staff	1,315,888	1,132,760
Board of education	135,254	163,679
Administration	2,304,813	1,704,296
Fiscal	786,178	690,254
Business	337,176	330,348
Operation and maintenance of plant	2,749,018	2,703,736
Pupil transportation	1,345,117	1,300,126
Central	70,067	69,291
Operation non-instructional services:		
Food service operations	721,756	694,769
Extracurricular activities	652,390	601,192
Interest and fiscal charges	1,950,259	1,441,966
Total expenses	<u>27,175,825</u>	<u>23,622,728</u>
Change in net assts before extraordinary item	(1,034,383)	278,812
Extraordinary item - refund of real estate appraisal fees	-	267,906
Increase (decrease) in net assets	<u>\$ (1,034,383)</u>	<u>\$ 546,718</u>

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2004  
UNAUDITED**

**Governmental Activities**

Several revenue sources fund our governmental activities with property tax and State foundation revenues being the largest contributors. Property tax levies generated over \$18.6 million in 2004. General revenues from grants and entitlements, such as the school foundation program, generated over \$5.5 million. With the combination of taxes and intergovernmental funding comprising approximately 93 percent of all revenues, the School District monitors both of these revenue sources very closely for fluctuations.

Costs directly related to the instruction of students comprised 50 percent of governmental program expenses.

The statement of activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table 3 shows, for government 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 entitlements.

Table 3  
Governmental Activities

	<u>Total Cost of Services 2004</u>	<u>Total Cost of Services 2003</u>	<u>Net Cost of Services 2004</u>	<u>Net Cost of Services 2003</u>
<b>Program Expenses</b>				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 11,598,844	\$ 10,124,926	\$ (11,323,911)	\$ (9,880,427)
Special	1,350,716	999,244	(1,078,649)	(937,083)
Vocational	122,623	104,309	(122,571)	(104,309)
Other	578,588	432,636	(578,588)	(432,636)
Support services:				
Pupils	1,157,138	1,129,196	(1,137,230)	(1,092,070)
Instructional staff	1,315,888	1,132,760	(1,128,673)	(1,013,309)
Board of education	135,254	163,679	(135,254)	(163,679)
Administration	2,304,813	1,704,296	(2,245,395)	(1,666,687)
Fiscal	786,178	690,254	(786,178)	(690,254)
Business	337,176	330,348	(337,176)	(330,348)
Operation and maintenance of plant	2,749,018	2,703,736	(2,749,018)	(2,703,736)
Pupil transportation	1,345,117	1,300,126	(1,331,141)	(1,267,472)
Central	70,067	69,291	(44,583)	(59,336)
Operation non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	721,756	694,769	(50,074)	(103,604)
Extracurricular activities	652,390	601,192	(501,349)	(449,877)
Interest and fiscal charges	1,950,259	1,441,966	(1,950,259)	(1,441,966)
Total expenses	<u>\$ 27,175,825</u>	<u>\$ 23,622,728</u>	<u>\$ (25,500,049)</u>	<u>\$ (22,336,793)</u>

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2004  
UNAUDITED**

**The School District's Funds**

The School District's governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The total revenues for governmental funds were \$25,993,735 and total expenditures were \$26,586,492. Although the total governmental fund balance decreased by (\$349,417), the School District continues to be financially stable with a total governmental fund balance of \$5,515,980 at year-end. The net decrease in fund balance for the year was significant in the nonmajor governmental funds, amounting to (\$435,484). Net change in the general fund amounted to \$81,064 increase. The decreases in fund balances in the nonmajor governmental funds can be attributed to significant interfund loans made from the general fund to other governmental funds. The general fund loaned \$579,351 to several other funds to provide funding for federal programs and \$300,000 to the permanent improvements capital projects fund.

***General Fund Budgeting Highlights***

The School District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

During fiscal year 2004, the School District amended its general fund budget several times, however none were significant. Budget revisions are presented to the Board of Education for approval.

For the general fund, the final budget basis revenue estimate was \$22,705,176, which was higher than the original budget estimate of \$21,931,360. Much of this \$773,816 difference was due to conservative estimates for grant awards and other intergovernmental sources, the exact amounts of which are unknown during the original budgeting process. Those estimates must be increased during the year as the awards are finalized.

The original expenditures estimate of \$26,127,721 was revised significantly over the fiscal year. Actual expenditures were \$23,940,365, or \$2,187,356 more than originally anticipated. The 9.1 percent increase from the original budget was due mainly from non-routine purchases including capital items used for instruction.

**Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

***Capital Assets***

At the end of fiscal year 2004, the School District had \$20,461,356 invested in land and land improvements, buildings, equipment, and vehicles. Table 4 shows fiscal year 2004 balances compared to fiscal year 2003:

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2004  
UNAUDITED**

Table 4  
Capital Assets, at Fiscal Year End  
(Net of Depreciation)

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Land	\$ 2,025,550	\$ 2,025,550
Land improvements	192,210	203,100
Buildings	16,342,666	16,933,836
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	918,851	961,556
Vehicles	982,079	973,022
Total capital assets	<u>\$ 20,461,356</u>	<u>\$ 21,097,064</u>

Total capital assets decreased \$635,708 during the year. This decrease was caused by accumulated depreciation exceeding capital acquisitions in the other asset classes. See Note 6 to the basic financial statements for detail on the School District's capital assets.

**Debt**

At June 30, 2004 the School District had \$21,120,117 in bonds outstanding with \$1,085,000 due within one year. This balance reflected an increase of \$259,523, or 1 percent, from the previous year's balance of \$20,860,594. Table 5 summarizes the bonds outstanding:

Table 5  
Outstanding Debt, at Fiscal Year End

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
School Improvement Bonds	\$ 10,130,117	\$ 9,590,594
Certificates of Participation	10,990,000	11,270,000
Total outstanding debt	<u>\$ 21,120,117</u>	<u>\$ 20,860,594</u>

During fiscal year 1995, the School District issued \$12,268,180 in bonds, the proceeds of which were used to renovate, remodel, furnish and otherwise improve the Aurora High School. During fiscal year 2000, the School District issued Certificates of Participation in the amount of \$12,000,000 and simultaneously entered into a trust and lease agreement to make payments on the Certificates. The proceeds of this issue were used mainly for the construction of a new elementary school. During the fiscal year 2004, the School District issued \$8,309,992 in bonds, the proceeds of which were used to refund previously issued debt to take advantage of lower interest rates. The School District has budgeted to meet all of the School District's debt requirements. See Note 10 to the basic financial statements for additional information regarding the School District's debt.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENTS DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2004  
UNAUDITED**

**Current Issues Affecting Financial Condition**

The Board of Education and administration closely monitor its revenues and expenditures in accordance with its financial forecast. The financial future of the School District is not without its challenges though. These challenges stem from issues that are local and at the State level. The local challenges will continue to exist, as the School District must rely heavily on property taxes to fund its operations. State level challenges continue to evolve as the State of Ohio determines the outcome of the Ohio Supreme Court case dealing with the unconstitutionality of the State's educational funding system. Although the School District relies heavily on its property taxpayers to support its operations, the community support for the schools is quite strong.

The State of Ohio was found by the Ohio Supreme Court in March 1997 to be operating an unconstitutional educational funding system, one that was neither 'adequate' nor 'equitable'. Since 1997, the State has directed its additional financial support toward School Districts with little property tax wealth. In May 2001, the Ohio Supreme Court again, ruled that, while the State had made some progress, the current funding system for schools is far too dependent on property taxes, which are inherently not 'equitable' nor 'adequate'. The court directed the Governor and the legislature to address the fundamental issue creating the inequities. See Note 13 to the basic financial statements for more on this contingent matter.

Due to the unsettled issues in the school funding, management is required to plan carefully and prudently to provide the resources to meet student needs over the next several years.

In conclusion, the School District's system of budgeting and internal controls is well regarded. All of the School District's financial abilities will be needed to meet the challenges of the future.

**Contacting the School District's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions or need additional financial information, contact Bill Volosin, Treasurer, at Aurora City School District, 102 East Garfield Road, Aurora OH, 44202.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

	Governmental Activities
<u>Assets:</u>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,048,249
Cash and cash equivalents:	
In segregated accounts	513,401
Receivables:	
Taxes	20,198,708
Accounts	925
Intergovernmental	151,646
Due from agency fund	5,897
Inventory held for resale	13,452
Materials and supplies inventory	934
Capital assets:	
Land	2,025,550
Depreciable capital assets, net	18,435,806
Total capital assets	20,461,356
Total assets	48,394,568
<u>Liabilities:</u>	
Accounts payable	448,618
Accrued wages	1,652,752
Intergovernmental payable	760,627
Accrued interest payable	84,180
Deferred revenue	19,176,371
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	1,297,571
Due in more than one year	21,192,595
Total liabilities	44,612,714
<u>Net assets:</u>	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	(658,761)
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	1,338,207
Debt service	648,482
Other purposes	104,306
Unrestricted	2,349,620
Total net assets	\$ 3,781,854

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004**

	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense)
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest	Capital Grants, Contributions and Interest	Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 11,598,844	\$ 205,220	\$ 69,713	\$ -	\$ (11,323,911)
Special	1,350,716	-	272,067	-	(1,078,649)
Vocational	122,623	-	52	-	(122,571)
Other	578,588	-	-	-	(578,588)
Support services:					
Pupils	1,157,138	-	19,908	-	(1,137,230)
Instructional staff	1,315,888	925	186,290	-	(1,128,673)
Board of education	135,254	-	-	-	(135,254)
Administration	2,304,813	-	59,418	-	(2,245,395)
Fiscal	786,178	-	-	-	(786,178)
Business	337,176	-	-	-	(337,176)
Operation and maintenance of plant	2,749,018	-	-	-	(2,749,018)
Pupil transportation	1,345,117	-	-	13,976	(1,331,141)
Central	70,067	-	25,484	-	(44,583)
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	721,756	433,706	237,976	-	(50,074)
Extracurricular activities	652,390	130,491	20,550	-	(501,349)
Interest and fiscal charges	1,950,259	-	-	-	(1,950,259)
<b>Totals</b>	<u>27,175,825</u>	<u>770,342</u>	<u>891,458</u>	<u>13,976</u>	<u>(25,500,049)</u>

General Revenues:

Property taxes levied for:

General purposes	17,085,194
Debt service	926,619
Capital outlay	630,948
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs	5,539,015
Investment earnings	85,755
Miscellaneous	198,135
<b>Total general revenues</b>	<u>24,465,666</u>
 Change in net assets	 (1,034,383)
 Net assets beginning of year	 <u>4,816,237</u>
<b>Net assets end of year</b>	<u><u>\$ 3,781,854</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets:</b>			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,035,482	\$ 2,092,204	\$ 6,127,686
Cash and cash equivalents:			
In segregated accounts	-	513,401	513,401
Receivables:			
Taxes	18,596,297	1,602,411	20,198,708
Accounts	925	-	925
Intergovernmental	4,854	146,792	151,646
Interfund	579,351	-	579,351
Inventory held for resale	-	13,452	13,452
Materials and supplies inventory	-	934	934
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents (restricted)	920,563	-	920,563
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>24,137,472</b>	<b>4,369,194</b>	<b>28,506,666</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 364,341	\$ 84,277	\$ 448,618
Accrued wages	1,616,502	36,250	1,652,752
Interfund payable	-	573,454	573,454
Intergovernmental payable	531,313	8,418	539,731
Deferred revenue	18,086,644	1,689,487	19,776,131
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>20,598,800</b>	<b>2,391,886</b>	<b>22,990,686</b>
<b>Fund balances:</b>			
Reserved:			
Reserved for encumbrances	1,321,004	449,801	1,770,805
Reserved for textbooks and instructional materials	368,562	-	368,562
Reserved for bus purchases	186,170	-	186,170
Reserved for property taxes	514,507	48,923	563,430
Unreserved,			
Designated for budget stabilization	365,831	-	365,831
Undesignated, reported in:			
General fund	782,598	-	782,598
Special revenue funds	-	(93,979)	(93,979)
Debt service fund	-	645,170	645,170
Capital projects fund	-	927,393	927,393
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<b>3,538,672</b>	<b>1,977,308</b>	<b>5,515,980</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 24,137,472</b>	<b>\$ 4,369,194</b>	<b>\$ 28,506,666</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO  
NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES  
JUNE 30, 2004**

Total governmental funds balances		\$	5,515,980
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:			
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.			20,461,356
Other long-term assets that are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds:			
Property taxes	\$	458,907	
Intergovernmental		140,853	
Total		599,760	599,760
Intergovernmental payable includes contractually required pension contributions not expected to be paid with expendable available financial resources and are therefore not reported in the funds.			(220,896)
Long-term liabilities that are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:			
General obligation bonds	\$	(21,120,117)	
Compensated absences		(1,370,049)	
Accrued interest payable		(84,180)	
Total		(22,574,346)	(22,574,346)
Net assets of governmental activities		\$	3,781,854

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**GOVERNEMENTAL FUNDS**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004**

	General	All Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Taxes	\$ 17,014,266	\$ 1,554,964	\$ 18,569,230
Intergovernmental	5,358,577	940,981	6,299,558
Interest	72,340	13,661	86,001
Tuition and fees	181,243	8,376	189,619
Extracurricular activities	-	147,016	147,016
Gifts and donations	-	47,679	47,679
Charges for services	-	433,706	433,706
Rent	29,245	-	29,245
Miscellaneous	180,529	11,152	191,681
Total revenues	<u>22,836,200</u>	<u>3,157,535</u>	<u>25,993,735</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	11,215,619	93,931	11,309,550
Special	1,042,270	279,299	1,321,569
Vocational	127,814	-	127,814
Other	578,588	-	578,588
Support services:			
Pupils	1,130,110	20,161	1,150,271
Instructional staff	977,794	192,818	1,170,612
Board of education	134,181	1,218	135,399
Administration	2,155,407	52,160	2,207,567
Fiscal	736,229	48,389	784,618
Business	317,892	-	317,892
Operation and maintenance of plant	2,442,315	142,123	2,584,438
Pupil transportation	1,196,822	-	1,196,822
Central	-	70,067	70,067
Operation of non-instructional services:			
Operation of food services	-	689,700	689,700
Extracurricular activities	429,202	136,849	566,051
Capital outlay	217,734	191,482	409,216
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	-	515,593	515,593
Interest and fiscal charges	-	1,450,725	1,450,725
Total expenditures	<u>22,701,977</u>	<u>3,884,515</u>	<u>26,586,492</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>134,223</u>	<u>(726,980)</u>	<u>(592,757)</u>
<u>Other financing sources (uses):</u>			
Refunding bonds issued	-	8,309,992	8,309,992
Premium on debt issuance	-	862,483	862,483
Payment to refunded bond escrow agent	-	(8,934,138)	(8,934,138)
Transfers in	-	53,159	53,159
Transfers out	(53,159)	-	(53,159)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(53,159)</u>	<u>291,496</u>	<u>238,337</u>
Net change in fund balances	81,064	(435,484)	(354,420)
Fund balances beginning of year	3,457,608	2,412,792	5,870,400
Fund balances end of year	<u>\$ 3,538,672</u>	<u>\$ 1,977,308</u>	<u>\$ 5,515,980</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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, 2004**

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds \$ (354,420)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of capital assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.

In the current period, these amounts are:

Capital asset additions	\$ 404,213	
Depreciation expense	(1,039,921)	
Excess of capital asset additions over depreciation expense		(635,708)

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds. These activities consist of:

Property taxes	\$ 73,531	
Intergovernmental	107,804	
Miscellaneous	(11,638)	
Net change in deferred revenues during the year		169,697

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets. 515,593

Some items reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. These activities consist of:

Decrease in compensated absences	\$ 16,502	
Increase in pension obligation	(8,176)	
Bond accretion	(5,618)	
Premium amortization	92,976	
Decrease in accrued interest	37,245	
Total additional expenditures		<u>132,929</u>

The issuance of refunding bonds results in expenditures and other financing sources and uses in the governmental funds, but these transactions are reflected in the statement of net assets as long-term assets and liabilities.

Payment to refunded bond escrow agent	\$ 8,934,138	
Proceeds of refunding bonds	(8,309,992)	
Interest payment on refunding bonds	(624,137)	
Premium on refunding bonds issued	(862,483)	
Net change caused by the issuance and refunding of bonds		(862,474)

Change in net assets of governmental activities \$ (1,034,383)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE-**  
**BUDGET (NON GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**  
**GENERAL FUND**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004**

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Taxes	\$ 16,930,758	\$ 16,930,758	\$ 16,930,758	\$ -
Intergovernmental	4,608,559	5,358,577	5,358,577	-
Interest	72,340	72,340	72,340	-
Tuition and fees	157,445	181,243	181,243	-
Rent	29,245	29,245	29,245	-
Miscellaneous	133,013	133,013	133,013	-
Total revenues	<u>21,931,360</u>	<u>22,705,176</u>	<u>22,705,176</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	12,342,045	11,221,520	11,221,520	-
Special	1,022,752	1,020,000	1,020,000	-
Vocational	93,290	122,815	122,815	-
Other	685,642	1,180,116	1,180,116	-
Support services:				
Pupils	1,336,764	1,132,927	1,132,927	-
Instructional staff	1,384,361	1,309,518	1,309,518	-
Board of education	238,507	227,068	227,068	-
Administration	2,378,959	2,267,358	2,267,358	-
Fiscal	802,112	769,721	769,721	-
Business	438,537	339,147	339,147	-
Operation and maintenance of plant	3,106,321	2,501,801	2,501,801	-
Pupil transportation	1,775,520	1,383,878	1,383,878	-
Extracurricular activities	522,911	464,496	464,496	-
Total expenditures	<u>26,127,721</u>	<u>23,940,365</u>	<u>23,940,365</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(4,196,361)</u>	<u>(1,235,189)</u>	<u>(1,235,189)</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Other financing sources (uses):</u>				
Proceeds from the sale of capital assets	-	57,073	364	(56,709)
Refund of prior year expenditures	61,791	61,791	61,791	-
Advances in	155,073	178,513	178,513	-
Advances out	-	(579,351)	(579,351)	-
Transfers in	57,073	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	(106,806)	(53,523)	53,283
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>273,937</u>	<u>(388,780)</u>	<u>(392,206)</u>	<u>(3,426)</u>
Net change in fund balance	(3,922,424)	(1,623,969)	(1,627,395)	(3,426)
Fund balances at beginning of year	3,710,373	3,710,373	3,710,373	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	1,187,798	1,187,798	1,187,798	-
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 975,747</u>	<u>\$ 3,274,202</u>	<u>\$ 3,270,776</u>	<u>\$ (3,426)</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS  
FIDUCIARY FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

	Private Purpose Trusts	Agency
<u>Assets:</u>		
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,889	\$ 113,906
Total assets	15,889	\$ 113,906
 <u>Liabilities:</u>		
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 131
Interfund payable	-	5,897
Due to students	-	107,878
Total liabilities	-	\$ 113,906
 <u>Net assets:</u>		
Held in trust for scholarships	15,889	
Total net assets	\$ 15,889	

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS  
PRIVATE PURPOSE TRUST FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004**

	Private Purpose Trusts
<u>Additions:</u>	
Gifts and Contributions	\$ 5,469
Interest	146
Total additions	5,615
 <u>Deductions:</u>	
Payments in accordance with trust agreements	500
Change in net assets	5,115
Net assets, beginning of year	10,774
Net assets, end of year	\$ 15,889

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

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**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

**NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements of the School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting entity for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The School District also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board Statements and Interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its government-wide activities provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The School District's significant accounting policies are described below:

**A. Reporting Entity**

The Aurora City School District (the School District) operates under the direction of a locally elected five-member Board of Education as Ohio state law prescribes. The School District provides educational services as authorized by its charter or further mandated by state and/or federal agencies. The board controls the School District's four instructional/support facilities, which are staffed by 118 non-certificated employees and 192 certificated full-time teaching employees which includes 9 administrative employees. These personnel provide services to approximately 2,848 students and other community members.

The predecessor to the Aurora City School District was established in 1898 when a system of neighborhood one-room schoolhouses in the then-agrarian community was consolidated into a unified school district, which approximately encompasses the boundaries of what now is the city of Aurora. Historical records indicate that a system of public education in Aurora dates back as far as 1804. Members of the Board of Education are elected at large and serve staggered four-year terms and are required to be registered voters of the district under Ohio law.

The Aurora City School District serves a geographic area of approximately twenty-five square miles. It encompasses all of the City of Aurora in northwestern Portage County and a small portion of Summit County within the Village of Reminderville. The School District operates two elementary schools, one middle school and one comprehensive high school. The School District also provides a variety of vocational educational programs for high-school students through a regional vocational education consortium.

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 School District are not misleading. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For Aurora City School District, this includes general operations, food service, preschool and student related activities of the School District.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organizations' governing board and (1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organizations' resources; the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of or provide financial support to, the organization; or the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves their budget, the issuance of their debt or the levying of their taxes.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

**Aurora City School District Leasing Corporation** During fiscal year 2000, Aurora City School District Leasing Corporation was formed to issue Certificates of Participation for the purpose of constructing a new elementary school in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3313.375. The School District will make lease payments to the Corporation for the life of the issuance, after which time it will take ownership of the building. The Leasing Corporation is governed by a three member board appointed by the School District. Although the Leasing Corporation is a separate legal entity, the School District's financial statements include activity pertaining to the Certificates of Participation as a blended component unit of the School District since the debt was issued on behalf of the School District. The Leasing Corporation has assigned its duties to a Trustee to handle the finances.

Within the boundaries of the Aurora City School District, Valley Christian Academy is operated as a private school. State legislation provides funding to this private school. The School District receives the money and then disburses the money as directed by the private school. The accounting for the monies is reflected in a special revenue fund of the School District.

The School District is associated with the Stark Portage Area Computer Consortium and the Portage County School Consortium which are defined as jointly governed organizations. Jointly governed organizations are governed by representatives from each of the governments that create the organizations, but there is no ongoing financial interest or responsibility by the participating governments. Information regarding these organizations is presented in Note 12.

**B. Basis of Presentation**

The School District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a statement of net assets and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**Government-wide Financial Statements**

The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The statement of net assets presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the School District at year-end. The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function program of the School District's governmental activities of the School 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 charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the School District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School District.

**Fund Financial Statements**

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

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

**C. Fund Accounting**

The School District uses funds 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 School District 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 regulation, restrictions or limitations.

For financial statement presentation purposes, the various funds of the School District are grouped into the following generic fund types under the broad fund categories governmental and fiduciary.

**Governmental Fund Types:**

Governmental funds focus 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 liabilities is reported as fund balance. The general fund is the School District's only major fund:

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

**Fiduciary Fund Types:**

Fiduciary funds reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The fiduciary fund category is split into four categories: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds, and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the School District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the School District's own programs. The School District's only trust fund is a private purpose trust fund, which accounts for several scholarship programs for students. The School District's two agency funds are used to report resources held for student managed activities, and resources held for student cafeteria purchases.

**D. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting**

Government-wide Financial Statements The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All non-fiduciary assets and liabilities associated with the operation of the School District are included on the statement of net assets.

Fund Financial 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 liabilities 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 the governmental funds.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

The private purpose trust fund is reported using the economic resources measurement focus.

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. The private purpose trust fund and the agency fund also use the accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred revenue and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

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 School District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of year-end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. 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 School District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: property taxes available as an advance, interest, tuition, grants, student fees and rentals.

Deferred revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. Property taxes (should not include delinquent) for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2004, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2005 operations, have been recorded as deferred revenue. Grants and entitlements received before the eligibility requirements are met are also recorded as deferred revenue.

On the governmental fund financial statements, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenue.

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred. The fair value of donated commodities used during the year is reported on the operating statement as an expenditure and a like amount as intergovernmental revenue. In addition these amounts are reported on the statement of activities as an expense with a like amount reported within the "Operating Grants and Contributions" program revenue account. Unused donated commodities are reported in the account "Inventory held for resale" within the basic financial statements.

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.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

**D. Budgetary Data**

The budgetary process is prescribed by provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable. The major documents prepared are the Tax Budget, the Certificate of Estimated Resources, and the Appropriation Resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The Certificate of Estimated Resources and the Appropriations Resolution are subject to amendment throughout the year with the legal restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources, as certified. All funds, other than agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The primary level of budgetary control is at the fund level. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education.

The Certificate of Estimated Resources and the Appropriations Resolution are subject to amendment throughout the year with the legal restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources, as certified. The amounts reported as the original budget revenue in the budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the certificate when original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted revenue budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the final amended certificate issued during fiscal year 2004. The amounts reported as the original budgeted expenditures 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 expenditures represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board of Education during the year.

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.

**E. Cash and Investments**

To improve cash management, all cash received by the School District is pooled in a central corporate bank account in which individual fund balance integrity is maintained through School District records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented on the basic financial statements in the account, "Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents". All deposits into the corporate bank account are invested in repurchase agreements of government-backed securities under terms of the School District's corporate account management agreement with the custodian bank. The corporate account itself always is maintained at a zero balance. As checks are presented to the bank for payment, the exact amount of each check is withdrawn from the repurchase agreement to honor the checks presented to the bank. The purpose of this method of short-term cash management is to maximize the School District's short-term investment earnings.

Cash not required to meet the immediate financial obligations of the district is invested in an investment pool operated under the auspices of the Treasurer of the State of Ohio as provided for by Ohio law so that the district can maximize its investment earnings. Under existing Ohio statutes, all investment earnings accrue to the general fund except those specifically related to certain trust funds or federal grants, unless the Board specifically allows the interest to be recorded in other funds. The Board of Education has passed a resolution to allow interest to also be recorded in the building capital projects fund and the bond retirement debt service fund.

The District invested funds in STAR Ohio during fiscal year 2004. 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 Securities Exchange Commission 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, 2004.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

**F. Inventory**

On the government-wide financial statements, inventories are presented at cost on a first-in, first-out basis and are expensed when used.

Inventory of the food service special revenue fund is stated at cost, which is determined on first in, first out basis. Inventories in the food service fund consist of donated food, purchased food, and supplies held for resale. Inventories reported on the fund financial statements are expensed when used.

**G. Capital Assets and Depreciation**

General capital assets are those assets resulting from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net assets but are not reported on the fund financial statements.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and reductions during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The School District maintains a capitalization threshold of two thousand dollars. The School District does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized. It is the policy of the School District to not capitalize interest costs incurred as part of construction.

All reported capital assets, other than land, are depreciated. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Asset description</u>	<u>Estimated lives</u>
Land improvements	20 years
Buildings and improvements	10 - 50 years
Furniture and equipment	5 - 20 years
Vehicles	10 years

**H. Restricted Assets**

Restricted assets in the general fund represent cash and cash equivalents whose use is limited by legal requirements. Restricted assets include amounts required by statute to be set-aside by the School District for the purchase of textbooks, for the purchase of school buses, and to create a designation for budget stabilization. The set aside amounts for budget stabilization is now optional as determined by the School District. See Note 14 for the calculation of the year-end restricted asset balance and the corresponding fund balance reserves and designations.

**I. Short-term Interfund Assets/Liabilities**

On fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund receivables/payables." These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities columns of the statement of net assets.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

**J. Compensated Absences**

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the School District 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 that it is probable that the benefits will result in termination payments. The liability is based on the School District's past experience of making termination payments.

The entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements.

For governmental fund financial statements, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount that is normally expected to be paid using expendable available financial resources. These amounts are recorded in the account "compensated absences payable" in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated leave are paid.

The School District records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service.

**K. Accrued Liabilities and Long-term Obligations**

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements.

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that once incurred are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources, are reported as obligations of the funds. However, claims and judgments, compensated absences, special termination benefits and contractually required pension contributions that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current fiscal year. Long-term loans are recognized as a liability on the governmental fund financial statements when due.

**L. Interfund Transactions**

Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses for governmental funds in the fund financial statements. All transfers between governmental funds have been eliminated within the governmental activities column of the statements of net assets.

**M. Fund Balance Reserves and Designations**

The School District records reservations for portions of fund equity which are legally segregated for specific future use or which do not represent available expendable resources and therefore are not available for appropriations for expenditures. Unreserved fund balance indicates that portion of fund balance that is available for appropriation in future periods. Fund equity balance reserves are established for encumbrances, property taxes, textbooks and instructional materials.

Designated fund balance represents planned actions for monies set-aside by the School District for budget stabilization and purchase of school buses.

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**N. Net Assets**

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws, or regulations of other governments.

The School District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

**O. Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP 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.

**NOTE 2 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

While the School District is reporting financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance/retained earnings on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law and described above is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual 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 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 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 (GAAP basis).

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The following tables summarize the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP and budgetary basis statements for the general fund.

Net Change in Fund Balance

	<u>General</u>
GAAP Basis	\$ 81,064
Revenue accruals	109,644
Expenditure accruals	(132,834)
Encumbrances (Budget Basis) outstanding at year end	(1,685,269)
Budget Basis	\$ (1,627,395)

**NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

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

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

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

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts including pass book accounts. Interim deposits may be invested in the following obligations provided they mature or are redeemable within five years from the date of settlement:

1. United States Treasury bills, notes, bonds, or any 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 other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements for a period not to exceed thirty days in securities listed above that mature within five years from the date of settlement;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in item (1) or (2) above 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); and

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7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time.

Protection of the School District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as 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.

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.

**Deposits:**

The carrying value of the School District's deposits and petty cash of \$200 totaled (\$91,009) and the bank balances of the deposits totaled \$268. Of the bank balance, \$268 was covered by federal depository insurance. The School District maintains a "zero balance" account for each of their checking accounts. Money is credited to their checking account from a repurchase account that is linked to those accounts as checks are presented.

**Investments:**

GASB Statement No. 3 "Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments and Reverse Repurchase Agreements" requires that the School District's investments be classified in categories of risk. Category 1 includes investments that are insured or registered or for which the securities are held by the School District or its agent in the School District's name. Category 2 includes uninsured and unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the School District'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 School District's name.

The School District's investment in STAR Ohio is an unclassified investment since it is not evidence by securities that exist in physical or book entry form.

All interest is legally required to be placed in the general fund, the building capital projects fund, the bond retirement debt service fund, the food service special revenue fund, and the scholarship private purpose trust fund. Due to these provisions, interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2004 amounted to \$72,340, which includes \$15,807 assigned from other funds.

	<u>Category 3</u>	<u>Fair value</u>
<u>Categorized investments</u>		
Repurchase agreements	\$ <u>3,956,973</u>	3,956,973
 <u>Noncategorized investments</u>		
State Treasurer's Pool		<u>3,825,481</u>
Total investments		<u>\$ 7,782,454</u>

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**NOTE 4 - PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis. Second half distributions occur in a new fiscal year. Property taxes include amounts levied against all real, public utility and tangible personal (used in business) property located in the School District. Real property taxes are levied after April 1 on the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1, the lien date. Public utility property taxes attached as a lien on December 31 of the prior year, were levied April 1 and are collected with real property taxes. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. All property is required to be revalued every six years. The last revaluation was completed in 2000 for the following tax year. Public utility property taxes are assessed on tangible personal property at 88 percent of true value (with certain exceptions) and on real property at 35 percent of true value. Tangible personal property taxes are levied after April 1 on the value listed as of December 31 of the current year. Tangible personal property assessments are 25 percent of true value.

Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, state statute permits earlier or later payment dates to be established.

Tangible personal property taxes are levied after April 1 on the value listed as of December 31 of the current year. Tangible personal property is currently assessed at 25 percent of true value. Amounts paid by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20.

The School District receives property taxes from Portage and Summit Counties. The County Auditor and Fiscal Officer periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the county by June 30 are available to finance current year operations. The School District, by resolution, authorizes the Treasurer to request advances from the County Auditor and Fiscal Officer during the year and to make these funds available for appropriation.

Accrued property taxes receivable represents delinquent taxes outstanding and real property, public utility property, and tangible personal property taxes which were measurable as of June 30 and for which there is an enforceable legal claim. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, amounts to be received during the available period are not subject to reasonable estimation at June 30, nor were they levied to finance fiscal year 2004 operations. For the governmental fund financial statements, the receivable is therefore offset by a credit to deferred revenue for that portion not intended to finance current year operations. The amount available as an advance at June 30 was \$514,507 in the general fund, \$29,975 in the permanent improvement capital projects fund, and \$19,249 in the bond retirement debt service fund and is recognized as revenue.

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There were no new levies passed during the current fiscal year. The assessed values upon which the current fiscal year taxes were collected are:

<u>Property Category</u>	2003 <u>Second Half Corrections</u>	2004 <u>First Half Corrections</u>
<u>Real Property</u>		
Residential and Agricultural	\$ 410,569,680	\$ 378,379,900
Commercial and Industrial	92,792,210	87,469,010
Public Utilities	28,910	26,380
<u>Tangible Personal Property</u>		
General	39,345,874	44,850,462
Public Utilities	<u>10,940,970</u>	<u>11,868,980</u>
Total	<u>\$ 553,677,644</u>	<u>\$ 522,594,732</u>

**NOTE 5 - RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at year-end consisted of taxes, accounts (tuition), 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. The intergovernmental receivable at June 30, consisted of:

<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General fund	\$ 4,854
Special revenue funds:	
Food Service	8,755
Summer Intervention	37,021
Miscellaneous State Grants	733
Title VIB	44,318
Title I	40,724
Title II	1,605
Drug Free Schools	4,332
Preschool Grant for the Handicapped	577
Title II-A	4,974
Miscellaneous Federal Grants	<u>3,753</u>
	<u>\$ 151,646</u>

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**NOTE 6 - CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004 was as follows:

<u>Governmental activities</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2003</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>Balance June 30, 2004</u>
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 2,025,550	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,025,550
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Land improvements	217,804	-	-	217,804
Buildings	32,611,234	107,322	-	32,718,556
Furniture and equipment	2,194,241	122,969	(95,845)	2,221,365
Vehicles	1,992,407	173,922	(101,699)	2,064,630
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>37,015,686</u>	<u>404,213</u>	<u>(197,544)</u>	<u>37,222,355</u>
Less: Accumulated depreciation				
Land improvements	(14,704)	(10,890)	-	(25,594)
Buildings	(15,677,398)	(698,492)	-	(16,375,890)
Furniture and equipment	(1,232,685)	(165,674)	95,845	(1,302,514)
Vehicles	(1,019,385)	(164,865)	101,699	(1,082,551)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(17,944,172)</u>	<u>(1,039,921)</u>	<u>197,544</u>	<u>(18,786,549)</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>19,071,514</u>	<u>(635,708)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,435,806</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 21,097,064</u>	<u>\$ (635,708)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 20,461,356</u>

Depreciation expense charged to governmental functions for the year ending June 30, 2004 is as follows:

Instruction:	
Regular	\$ 344,974
Special	17,600
Vocational	6,763
Support services:	
Pupils	4,477
Instructional staff	130,801
Administration	58,333
Fiscal	2,411
Business	15,822
Operation and maintenance of plant	158,578
Pupil transportation	149,085
Food service operations	59,440
Extracurricular activities	91,637
	<u>\$ 1,039,921</u>

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**NOTE 7 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. General liability is insured up to \$1,000,000 per occurrence to \$3,000,000 in the aggregate, with deductibles up to \$2,500. Property is insured from \$1,000,000 to \$63,928,400 with deductibles up to \$500. Public officials bonds are \$50,000 for the Treasurer and \$20,000 for board members. There have been no settlements paid in excess of insurance nor has insurance coverage been significantly reduced in the past three years,

The School District has joined the Portage County School Consortium for property and general liability insurance and for health insurance of the School District's employees. The Portage County School Consortium was established in 1981 so that thirteen educational-service providers in Portage County could manage risk exposures and purchase necessary insurance coverages as a group. The consortium has organized into two distinct entities to facilitate its risk management operations; the two entities are the Property and Casualty Insurance Pool and the Health and Welfare Trust. The Property and Casualty Insurance Pool functions to manage the member districts' physical property and liability risks and the Health and Welfare Trust is to facilitate the management of risks associated with providing employee benefits, coverages such as health and accident insurance, disability insurance and life insurance. The School District participates in both insurance pools. The consortium, to facilitate the operation of the Health and Welfare Trust, retains a third-party administrator. The School District pays all insurance premiums directly to the consortium. Although the School District does not participate in the day-to-day management of the consortium, one administrator serves as a trustee of the consortium's governing board as provided in the consortium's enabling authority. The School District recognizes that it retains a contingent liability to provide insurance coverage should the assets of the consortium become depleted, it is the opinion of management that the assets of the consortium are sufficient to meet its claims.

The School District pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

**A. School Employees Retirement System**

The School District 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, annual cost-of-living adjustments, 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, stand alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for SERS. The report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746 or by calling (614) 222-5853.

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Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 14% of annual covered payroll. A portion of the School's contribution is used to fund pension obligations with the remainder being used to fund health care benefits; for fiscal year 2004, 9.09% of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For the fiscal year 2003, 8.17% was used to fund pension obligations. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to a statutory maximum amount, by the SERS Retirement Board. The School District's required contributions for pension obligations to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2004, 2003, and 2002 were \$330,731, \$277,621, and \$165,947, respectively; 40% has been contributed for fiscal year 2004 and 100% for the fiscal years 2003 and 2002. \$198,546, representing the unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2004, is recorded as an intergovernmental payable.

**B. State Teachers Retirement System**

The School District contributes to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, disability, and death and survivor benefits to members and beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. STRS issues a publicly available, stand alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for STRS. The report may be obtained by writing to the State Teachers - Retirement System, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3371, by calling (614) 227 - 4090, or by visiting the STRS Ohio Web site at [www.strsoh.org](http://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 Plan. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary times a percentage that varies based on years of service, or an allowance based on member contributions and earned interest matched by STRS Ohio funds times an actuarially determined annuity factor.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5% of earned compensation into an investment account. Investment decisions are made by the member. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment.

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DC Plan and the DB Plan. In the Combined Plan, member contributions are invested by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan.

DC and Combined Plan members will transfer to the Defined Benefit Plan during their fifth year of membership unless they permanently select the DC or Combined Plan. Existing members with less than five years of service credit as of June 30, 2001, were given the option of making a one time irrevocable decision to transfer their account balances from the existing DB Plan into the DC Plan or the Combined Plan. This option expired on December 31, 2001.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years credited service who becomes disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible spouses and dependents of these active members who die before retirement may qualify for survivor benefits. Members in the DC Plan who became disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

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For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004 plan members were required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salaries. The School District was required to contribute 14%; 13% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For fiscal year 2003, 13% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. Contribution rates are established by STRS, upon recommendation of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10% for members and 14% for employers. Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

The School District's required contributions for pension obligations to the DB plan for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2004, 2003, and 2002 were \$1,479,504, \$1,392,062, and \$916,305, respectively; 83% has been contributed for fiscal year 2004 and 100% for the fiscal years 2003 and 2002. \$249,169, representing the unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2004, is recorded as an intergovernmental payable. Contributions to the DC and Combined plans for fiscal year 2004 were \$15,358 made by the School District and \$30,967 made by the plan members.

**NOTE 9-POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

The School District 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.

All STRS benefit recipients and sponsored dependents are eligible for health care coverage. The STRS 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 the health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. By law, the cost of coverage paid from STRS funds is included in the employer contribution rate, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004, the STRS Board allocated employer contributions equal to 1 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Reserve Fund. For the School District, this amount equaled \$113,808 for fiscal year 2004.

STRS pays health care benefits from the Health Care Reserve Fund. At June 30, 2004 the balance in the Fund was \$3.1 billion. For the year ended June 30, 2004, net health care costs paid by STRS were \$368,739,000 and STRS had 111,853 eligible benefit recipients.

For SERS, coverage is made available to service retirees with ten or more fiscal years of qualifying service credit, and to 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.

After the allocation for basic benefits, the remainder of the employer's 14 percent contribution is allocated to providing health care benefits. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004, employer contributions to fund health care benefits were 4.91 percent of covered payroll, a decrease of .92 percent from fiscal year 2003. 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. For fiscal year 2004, the minimum pay has been established as \$25,400. For the School District, the amount to fund health care benefits, including surcharge, during the 2004 fiscal year equaled \$280,853.

The surcharge, 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. The target level for the health care reserve is 150 percent of annual health care expenses. Expenses for health care for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004 were \$223,443,805 and the target level was \$335.2 million. At June 30, 2004, SERS had net assets available for payment of health care benefits of \$300.8 million. SERS has approximately 62,000 participants currently receiving health care benefits.

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**NOTE 10 LONG-TERM DEBT**

Changes in long-term obligations of the School District during fiscal year 2004 were as follows:

<u>Governmental activities</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1, 2003</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2004</u>	<u>Due in</u> <u>one year</u>
<u>General Obligations</u>					
School Improvement Bonds, 4.7-5.8% maturing on December 1, 2017	\$ 9,590,594	\$ -	\$ (8,545,594)	\$ 1,045,000	\$ 510,000
School Improvement Refunding Bonds, 1.10-4.08%, maturing on December 1, 2016:					
Serial Bonds	-	7,935,000	-	7,935,000	285,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds	-	374,992	-	374,992	-
Accretion on Bonds	-	5,618	-	5,618	-
Premium	-	862,483	(92,976)	769,507	-
Certificates of Participation 3.9-6.15% maturing on December 1, 2025	11,270,000	-	(280,000)	10,990,000	290,000
Total bonds	<u>20,860,594</u>	<u>9,178,093</u>	<u>(8,918,570)</u>	<u>21,120,117</u>	<u>1,085,000</u>
<u>Other obligations</u>					
Long-term compensated absences	<u>1,386,551</u>	<u>195,205</u>	<u>(211,707)</u>	<u>1,370,049</u>	<u>212,571</u>
Governmental activities long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 22,247,145</u>	<u>\$ 9,373,298</u>	<u>\$ (9,130,277)</u>	<u>\$ 22,490,166</u>	<u>\$ 1,297,571</u>

School Improvement Bonds - During the year ended June 30, 1995, the School District issued bonds for the principal amount of \$12,268,180 to pay the costs of renovating, remodeling, furnishing and improving the Aurora High School. The repayment of the debt is from property tax revenue received in the bond retirement debt service fund.

School Improvement Refunding Bonds - On May 12, 2004, the School District issued \$8.3 million in general obligation bonds which include serial and capital appreciation bonds with interest rates varying between 2.0-4.0% for the serial bonds and 30.380% (yield 3.02-3.39%) for the capital appreciation bonds. The bonds were used to refund \$8.3 million of outstanding School Improvement Bonds with an average interest rate of 5.8%. The final amount of the 2004 capital appreciation bonds will be \$1,550,000. The bond proceeds consisted of bond principal and \$862,483 of premium. The net proceeds of \$9.2 million (after payment of underwriting fees, insurance, and other issuance costs) was deposited in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide for future debt service payments of the portion of School Improvement Bonds refunded. As a result, the bonds are considered to be defeased and the liability is not reported by the School District. The difference between the reacquisition price and the net carrying amount of the old debt was not significant. The premium on the new debt was significant and is amortized over the life of the new bonds using the bonds outstanding method of amortization.

The School District advance refunded the School Improvement Bonds to reduce their total debt service payments over the next 12 years by \$580,720 and to obtain an economic gain (difference between the present values of the debt service payments on the old and new debt) of \$478,609.

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Certificates of Participation – During fiscal year 2000, the School District entered into a lease agreement for \$12,000,000 with the Aurora City School District Leasing Corporation for a new elementary school. The lease is an annual lease subject to renewal for twenty-five years through December 1, 2025

The Leasing Corporation entered an agreement with a trustee through which it assigned and transferred rights and interest under the lease to Huntington National Bank as Trustee. The Trustee issued Certificates of Participation in the lease agreement enabling holders of the Certificates to receive a portion of the semiannual lease payments. Proceeds from the issuance are mainly being used to construct a new elementary school. In addition, terms of the trust indenture require a portion of the proceeds to be set aside for current and future certificate payments. The current certificate payment account is used to account for resources accumulated for payment over the next twelve months. The reserve account is used solely to make rent payments if a deficiency exists in the current certificate payment account and, if all payments are current, to make payment of the last certificate payments.

The obligation of the School District under the lease and any subsequent lease renewal is subject to annual appropriation of the rental payments. Legal title to the facilities remains with the Leasing Corporation until all payments required under the lease have been made. At that time, title will transfer to the School District.

The liability for the Certificates is payable from resources from the debt service fund. The Certificates of Participation are not a general obligation of the School District but are payable only from appropriations by the School District for annual lease payments.

Compensated absences will be paid from the fund the person is paid from.

The annual requirements to amortize these debt obligations are as follows:

<u>Governmental Activities</u>			
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2005	1,085,000	959,949	2,044,949
2006	1,005,000	899,518	1,904,518
2007	1,055,000	860,374	1,915,374
2008	1,085,000	826,351	1,911,351
2009	568,838	1,360,538	1,929,376
2010-2014	5,456,154	4,083,853	9,540,007
2015-2019	5,515,000	2,012,813	7,527,813
2020-2024	3,695,000	865,295	4,560,295
2025	880,000	27,060	907,060
Total	<u>\$ 20,344,992</u>	<u>\$ 11,895,751</u>	<u>\$ 32,240,743</u>

**NOTE 11 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS**

Interfund balances at year end consist of the following individual fund receivables and payables:

<u>Receivable fund</u>	<u>Payable</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Nonmajor funds</u>	<u>Agency fund</u>	
General	<u>\$ 573,454</u>	<u>\$ 5,897</u>	<u>\$ 579,351</u>

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

All balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, or (3) payments between funds are made. As of June 30, 2004, all interfund loans outstanding are anticipated to be repaid in fiscal year 2005.

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

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2004, consisted of the following:

Transfers to	Transfers from General fund
Nonmajor funds	\$ 53,159

The School District transferred \$53,098 from the general fund to the management information system special revenue fund for additional technology services. \$61 was transferred from the general fund to the Preschool Grant for the Handicapped special revenue funds to cover liabilities.

**NOTE 12 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS**

Stark Portage Area Computer Consortium (SPARCC) is the computer service organization or Data Acquisition Site (DAS) used by the School District. SPARCC is an association of public school districts in a geographic area determined by the Ohio Department of Education. The Stark County Educational Service Center acts as the fiscal agent for the consortium. The purpose of the consortium is to develop and employ a computer system efficiently and effectively for the needs of the member Boards of Education. All School Districts in the consortium are required to pay fees, charges, and assessments as charged. A board made up of superintendents from all of the participating districts governs SPARCC. An elected Executive Board consisting of five members of the governing board is the managerial body of the consortium and meets on a monthly basis. The School District does not maintain an ongoing financial interest or an ongoing financial responsibility. Payments to SPARCC are made from the general fund and the management information system special revenue fund. During the fiscal year, the School District contributed \$42,189 to SPARCC.

Portage County School Consortium is an insurance group-purchasing consortium made up of 13 school districts in Portage County. All member districts pay an insurance premium directly to the consortium. The School District paid \$2,314,953 in the form of health care and life insurance premiums to the consortium for the current fiscal year.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

**NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits 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 School District at year end.

**B. Litigation**

The School District is not involved in any litigation at this time.

**C. School Funding**

On December 11, 2002, the Ohio Supreme Court issued its latest opinion regarding the State's school funding plan. The decision reaffirmed earlier decisions that Ohio's current school-funding plan is unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court relinquished jurisdiction over the case and directed "...the Ohio General Assembly to enact a school-funding scheme that is thorough and efficient..." The School District is currently unable to determine what effect, if any, this decision will have on its future State funding and its financial operations.

**NOTE 14- STATUTORY RESERVES**

The School District is required by State statute to annually set aside monies for the purchase of textbooks and other instructional materials, and an amount for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. The amounts set-aside may be reduced by offset credits, which are monies received and restricted for the same specific purpose. Although the School District had offsets and qualifying disbursements during the year that reduced the set-aside amounts, these extra amounts may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirements of future years. Negative amounts are therefore not presented as being carried forward to the next fiscal year. Amounts not spent by year-end or reduced by offset credits must be held in cash at year-end and carried forward to be used for the same purposes in future years.

Effective April 10, 2001, Senate Bill 345 amended Ohio Revised Code 5705.29 effectively eliminating the requirement for the School District to establish and maintain a budget stabilization reserve. Monies previously reported in the budget stabilization reserve are now reported as designated and reserved fund equity in the general fund. As of June 30, 2004, the Board had not acted on the Senate Bill to eliminate the reserve balance.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2004**

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004, the reserve activity was as follows:

	<u>Textbook reserve</u>	<u>Capital improvement reserve</u>	<u>Total</u>
Set-aside cash balance as of June 30, 2003	\$ 219,822	\$ -	\$ 219,822
Current year set-aside requirement	382,227	382,227	764,454
Current year offset	-	-	-
Qualifying disbursements	<u>(233,487)</u>	<u>(1,113,857)</u>	<u>(1,347,344)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 368,562</u>	<u>\$ (731,630)</u>	<u>\$ (363,068)</u>
Restricted cash	<u>\$ 368,562</u>		<u>\$ 368,562</u>

The School District has designated \$365,831 for textbooks and instructional materials and \$186,170 for school bus acquisitions in addition to the amount listed above.

**NOTE 15 - ACCOUNTABILITY**

As of June 30, 2004 several funds had deficit fund balances. These deficits were caused by the application of general accepted accounting principles. The general fund provides transfers to cover deficit balances in other funds; however, this is done when cash is needed rather than when accruals occur. The following fund had a deficit at year-end:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Special Revenue	
Food Service	\$ 141,042
Summer Intervention	36,961
Title VI-B	41,842
Title I	47,065
Title V	1,605
Drug Free School Grant	3,109
Preschool Grant for the Handicapped	577
Title II-A	5,007
Miscellaneous Federal Grants	3,753

**NOTE 16 - SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

The School District will place a five-year replacement levy for operating expenses on the May 3, 2005 ballot. The 5.61 mills levy is estimated to generate \$3,179,108.

AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 PORTAGE COUNTY  
 SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL AWARDS EXPENDITURES  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004

Federal Grantor/ Pass Through Grantor/ Program Title	Pass Through Entity Number	Federal CFDA Number	Receipts	Non-Cash Receipts	Disbursements	Non-Cash Disbursements
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>						
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:</i>						
<b>Child Nutrition Cluster:</b>						
Food Distribution Program		10.550		\$44,681		\$44,681
National School Lunch Program	LLP4-2003 LLP4-2004	10.555	\$16,840 48,004		\$16,840 48,843	
<b>Total U.S. Department of Agriculture - Child Nutrition Cluster</b>			<b>64,844</b>	<b>44,681</b>	<b>65,683</b>	<b>44,681</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>						
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:</i>						
<b>Special Education Cluster:</b>						
Special Education - Grants to States (IDEA, Part B)	6BSF-2003P 6BSF-2004P	84.027	24,049 213,701		36,393 254,070	
<b>Total Special Education - Grants to States (IDEA, Part B)</b>			<b>237,750</b>		<b>290,463</b>	
Special Education - Preschool Grants	PGS1-2003P PGS1-2004P	84.173	1,485 5,192		1,684 5,769	
<b>Total Special Education - Preschool Grants</b>			<b>6,677</b>		<b>7,453</b>	
<b>Total Special Education Cluster</b>			<b>244,427</b>		<b>297,916</b>	
Eisenhower Professional Development State Grant	MS1-2002	84.281	(327)			
Grants to Local Educational Agencies (Title I)	C1S1-2004	84.010	117,424		156,843	
Innovative Educational Program Strategies (Title VI)	C2S1-2003 C2S1-2004	84.298	1,541 14,389		1,541 15,995	
<b>Total Innovative Education Program Strategies (Title VI)</b>			<b>15,930</b>		<b>17,536</b>	
Safe and Drug Free Schools Grants	DRS1-2003 DRS1-2004	84.186	6,117 1,219		9,578 4,328	
<b>Total Safe and Drug Free Schools Grants</b>			<b>7,336</b>		<b>13,906</b>	
Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Grants (Title II-D)	TJS1-2004	84.318	625		4,377	
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants (Title II-A)	TRS1-2003 TRS1-2004	84.367	13,157 44,770 57,927		14,200 49,777 63,977	
<b>Total Department of Education</b>			<b>443,342</b>		<b>554,555</b>	
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$508,186</b>	<b>\$44,681</b>	<b>\$620,238</b>	<b>\$44,681</b>

The accompanying notes to this schedule are an integral part of this schedule.

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL AWARDS EXPENDITURES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004**

**NOTE A – SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accompanying Schedule of Federal Awards Expenditures (the Schedule) summarizes activity of the School District's federal award programs. The Schedule has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting.

**NOTE B – CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

Program regulations do not require the School District to maintain separate inventory records for purchased food and food received from the United States Department of Agriculture. This nonmonetary assistance (expenditures) is reported in the Schedule at the fair market value of the commodities received.

Cash receipts from the United States Department of Agriculture are commingled with State grants. It is assumed federal monies are expended first.

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## Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

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

Aurora City School District  
Portage County  
102 East Garfield Road  
Aurora, Ohio 44202

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Aurora City School District, Portage County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2004, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 7, 2005. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting to determine our auditing procedures in order to express our opinions on the financial statements and not to opine on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable 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 caused by error or fraud in amounts material to the financial statements we audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider material weaknesses. In a separate letter to the District's management dated March 7, 2005, we reported other matters involving internal control over financial reporting we did deem reportable conditions.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District's basic financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect 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 an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Aurora City School District  
Portage County  
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over  
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters  
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*  
Page 2

We intend this report solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Board of Education, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. It is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

March 7, 2005



## Auditor of State Betty Montgomery

### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Aurora City School District  
Portage County  
102 East Garfield Road  
Aurora, Ohio 44202

To the Board of Education:

#### Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the Aurora City School District, Portage County, Ohio, (the District) with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2004. The District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether noncompliance occurred with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could directly and materially affect a major federal program. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2004.

#### Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over compliance with requirements that could directly and materially affect a major federal program to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133. However, we noted a matter involving the internal control over federal compliance not requiring inclusion in this report, that we have reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated March 7, 2005.

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Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable 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 noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants caused by error or fraud that would be material in relation to a major federal program being audited may occur and not be timely detected by employees when performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

We intend this report is solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Board of Education, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. It is not intended for anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Betty Montgomery**  
Auditor of State

March 7, 2005

**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
OMB CIRCULAR A-133 § .505  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2004**

**1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

<b>(d)(1)(i)</b>	<b>Type of Financial Statement Opinion</b>	Unqualified
<b>(d)(1)(ii)</b>	<b>Were there any material control weakness conditions reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(ii)</b>	<b>Were there any other reportable control weakness conditions reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(iii)</b>	<b>Was there any reported material non-compliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(iv)</b>	<b>Were there any material internal control weakness conditions reported for major federal programs?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(iv)</b>	<b>Were there any other reportable internal control weakness conditions reported for major federal programs?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(v)</b>	<b>Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion</b>	Unqualified
<b>(d)(1)(vi)</b>	<b>Are there any reportable findings under § .510?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(vii)</b>	<b>Major Programs (list):</b>	Special Education Cluster: Education Grants to States (IDEA, Part B), CFDA No. 84.027 and Special Education Preschool Grants, CFDA No. 84.173
<b>(d)(1)(viii)</b>	<b>Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs</b>	Type A: > \$300,000 Type B: > All others
<b>(d)(1)(ix)</b>	<b>Low Risk Auditee?</b>	Yes

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

None

**3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS**

None





**Auditor of State  
Betty Montgomery**

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**AURORA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PORTAGE COUNTY**

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

*Susan Babbitt*

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU**

**CERTIFIED  
JUNE 21, 2005**