



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

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**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Hopewell-Loudon Local School District
Seneca County
290 North County Road 7
P.O. Box 400
Bascom, Ohio 44809-0400

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Hopewell-Loudon Local School District (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion 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 opinion.

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03 (B) requires the District to prepare its financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, as described in Note 1, the District prepares its financial report on the basis of accounting formerly prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. The accompanying financial statements omit assets, liabilities, fund equities, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined cash, investments, and combined fund cash balances of the District as of June 30, 2003, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements and its combined budgeted and actual receipts and budgeted and actual disbursements and encumbrances, for the year then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 2.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 18, 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 grants. 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.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Education, and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by 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

February 18, 2005

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND
FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL FUND TYPES
AS OF JUNE 30, 2003

Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 2,844,136</u>
Governmental Fund Types:	
General Fund	\$ 1,805,223
Special Revenue Funds	259,148
Debt Service Fund	243,977
Capital Projects Funds	180,000
Proprietary Fund Types:	
Enterprise Funds	54,848
Internal Service Fund	218,263
Fiduciary Fund Types:	
Expendable Trust Funds	36,584
Agency Funds	46,093
	<hr/>
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 2,844,136</u>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS,
AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

	Governmental Fund Types	
	General	Special Revenue
Cash Receipts:		
Local Sources:		
Taxes	\$ 2,355,333	
Tuition	477,232	
Earnings on Investment	33,180	
Miscellaneous Receipts	68,047	\$ 17,716
Extracurricular Activities		138,608
Classroom Materials and Fees	35,660	
Intergovernmental - State	2,444,619	59,242
Intergovernmental - Federal		226,299
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	5,414,071	441,865
Cash Disbursements:		
Instruction:		
Regular	2,869,400	66,596
Special	298,144	206,832
Vocational Education	64,776	
Adult/Continuing		3,352
Other		525
Support Services:		
Pupils	316,457	13,651
Instructional Staff	89,856	30,648
Board of Education	19,649	
Administration	437,910	1,654
Fiscal Services	215,188	
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	438,856	3,573
Pupil Transportation	259,254	11,497
Community Service		4,188
Extracurricular Activities	193,720	138,369
Interest and Fiscal Charges		
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	5,203,210	480,885
<i>Excess of Cash Receipts Over (Under) Cash Disbursements</i>	210,861	(39,020)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)		
Advance-in		11,051
Transfer-in	4,627	171,933
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	41	
Transfer-out	(351,933)	(4,359)
Advance-out	(11,051)	
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	(358,316)	178,625
<i>Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Disbursements and Other Financing Uses</i>	(147,455)	139,605
Fund Cash Balances at July 1, 2002	1,952,678	119,543
<i>Fund Cash Balances at June 30, 2003</i>	\$ 1,805,223	\$ 259,148

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>		<u>Fiduciary Fund Type</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Capital Projects</u>	<u>Expendable Trust</u>	
\$ 121,293			\$ 2,476,626
			\$477,232
		\$ 491	33,671
		4,235	89,998
		365	138,973
			35,660
12,411			2,516,272
			226,299
<u>133,704</u>		<u>5,091</u>	<u>5,994,731</u>
			2,935,996
			504,976
			64,776
			3,352
			525
			330,108
	\$ 12,832		133,336
			19,649
		500	440,064
2,874			218,062
			442,429
			270,751
			4,188
		2,649	334,738
<u>123,650</u>			<u>123,650</u>
<u>126,524</u>	<u>12,832</u>	<u>3,149</u>	<u>5,826,600</u>
<u>7,180</u>	<u>(12,832)</u>	<u>1,942</u>	<u>168,131</u>
			11,051
	180,000		356,560
			41
			(356,292)
			(11,051)
	<u>180,000</u>		<u>309</u>
7,180	167,168	1,942	168,440
236,797	12,832	34,642	2,356,492
<u>\$ 243,977</u>	<u>\$ 180,000</u>	<u>\$ 36,584</u>	<u>\$ 2,524,932</u>

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN
FUND CASH BALANCES - ALL PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

	<u>Proprietary Fund Types</u>		<u>Fiduciary Fund</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Internal Service</u>	<u>Agency</u>	
Operating Receipts:				
Extracurricular Activities	\$ 175		\$ 192,141	\$ 192,316
Food Services	194,990			194,990
Classroom Materials and Fees	10,563			10,563
<i>Total Operating Cash Receipts</i>	<u>205,728</u>		<u>192,141</u>	<u>397,869</u>
Operating Expenses:				
Employees Salaries and Wages	81,112		36	81,148
Employees Retirement and Insurance	26,532	\$ 20,293	5	46,830
Purchased Services	1,706	162,291	37,049	201,046
Supplies and Materials	119,399		138,491	257,890
Capital Outlay	75			75
Other Objects	495		15,932	16,427
<i>Total Operating Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>229,319</u>	<u>182,584</u>	<u>191,513</u>	<u>603,416</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	<u>(23,591)</u>	<u>(182,584)</u>	<u>628</u>	<u>(205,547)</u>
Nonoperating Receipts				
Earnings on Investments	269	846		1,115
State Sources	11,273			11,273
Federal Sources	55,700			55,700
Miscellaneous	490	368,619		369,109
<i>Total Nonoperating Cash Receipts</i>	<u>67,732</u>	<u>369,465</u>		<u>437,197</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over Disbursements Before Interfund Transfers</i>	44,141	186,881	628	231,650
Transfer-out			(268)	(268)
<i>Net Receipts Over Disbursements</i>	44,141	186,881	360	231,382
Fund Cash Balances at July 1, 2002	10,707	31,382	45,733	87,822
<i>Fund Cash Balances at June 30, 2003</i>	<u><u>\$ 54,848</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 218,263</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 46,093</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 319,204</u></u>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

COMBINED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS
BUDGET AND ACTUAL COMPARISON
ALL GOVERNMENTAL, PROPRIETARY, AND FIDUCIARY TRUST FUND TYPES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

	Budget	Actual	Variance: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Governmental Fund Types:			
General Fund	\$ 5,331,779	\$ 5,418,739	\$ 86,960
Special Revenue Funds	460,496	613,798	153,302
Debt Service Fund	127,659	133,704	6,045
Capital Projects Funds	180,000	180,000	-
Proprietary Fund Types:			
Enterprise Funds	266,860	273,460	6,600
Internal Service Fund	533,061	369,465	(163,596)
Fiduciary Fund Types:			
Trust and Agency Funds	192,715	197,232	4,517
<i>Total</i>	\$ 7,092,570	\$ 7,186,398	\$ 93,828

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

COMBINED STATEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS AND
ENCUMBRANCES COMPARED WITH EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY
ALL GOVERNMENTAL, PROPRIETARY, AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

	<u>Prior Year Carryover Appropriations</u>	<u>2003 Appropriations</u>	<u>Total</u>
Governmental Fund Types:			
General Fund	\$ 65,393	\$ 6,159,488	\$ 6,224,881
Special Revenue Funds	30,309	551,221	581,530
Debt Service Fund		135,000	135,000
Capital Projects Funds		37,832	37,832
Proprietary Fund Types:			
Enterprise Funds	88	252,647	252,735
Internal Service Funds	5,964	256,130	262,094
Fiduciary Fund Types:			
Trust and Agency Funds	50	205,383	205,433
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 101,804</u>	<u>\$ 7,597,701</u>	<u>\$ 7,699,505</u>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

<u>Actual 2003 Disbursements</u>	<u>Encumbrances Outstanding at 6/30/03</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Variance: Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
\$ 5,555,143	\$ 122,434	\$ 5,677,577	\$ 547,304
485,244	14,474	499,718	81,812
126,524		126,524	8,476
12,832		12,832	25,000
229,319	558	229,877	22,858
182,584		182,584	79,510
194,930	4,793	199,723	5,710
<u>\$ 6,786,576</u>	<u>\$ 142,259</u>	<u>\$ 6,928,835</u>	<u>\$ 770,670</u>

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**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY

Hopewell-Loudon Local School District (the District) is a local school district as defined by § 3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under an elected Board of Education and is responsible for providing public education to the residents of the District.

The District operates one instructional facility and provides educational services to students from grades 1 through 12.

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

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03 (B) to prepare its financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the District chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for governmental entities that are not required to prepare reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This basis of accounting is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosures of material matters, as formerly prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

A. Basis of Presentation – Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain District functions or activities. For financial statement presentation purposes, the various funds of the District are grouped into the following generic fund types under the broad fund categories governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary.

GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES

Government funds are those through which most governmental functions of the District are financed. The following are the District's governmental fund types:

General Fund

The general fund is the operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Special Revenue Funds

Special revenue funds account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than capital projects or trust funds) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

Debt Service Fund

The debt service fund accounts for financial resources to be used for the repayment of debt issued by the District.

Capital Projects Funds

Capital project funds account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by proprietary funds or trust funds).

PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES

Proprietary funds are used to account for the District's ongoing activities which are similar to those found in the private sector.

Enterprise Funds

Enterprise funds account for operations which are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises and for which the District intends to support a material portion of the operating costs with user charges.

Internal Service Funds

Internal service funds account for operations of the self insurance health, life, vision, and dental program.

FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES

Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held by the District in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units, and/or other funds. The District's fiduciary funds included expendable trust and agency funds.

B. Budgetary Process

1. Budget

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 appropriation 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 legal level of budgetary control is at the function level within each fund. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

Advances in and Advances out are not required to be budgeted since they represent a temporary cash flow resource and are intended to be repaid.

2. Tax Budget

Prior to January 15, the Superintendent and Treasurer submit to the Board of Education a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing for all funds. Public hearings are publicized and conducted to obtain taxpayers' comments. The express purpose of this budget document is to reflect the need for existing or increased tax rates. By no later than January 20, the Board-adopted budget is filed with the County Budget Commission for rate determination.

3. Estimated Resources

By April 1, the Board of Education accepts, by formal resolution, the tax rates as determined by the Budget Commission and receives the commission's certificate of estimated resources which states the projected revenue of each fund. Prior to June 30, the District must revise its budget so that total contemplated expenditures from any fund during the ensuing year will not exceed the amount stated in the certificate of estimated resources. The revised budget then serves as the basis for the appropriation measure. On or about July 1, the certificate is amended to include any unencumbered cash balances from the preceding year. The certificate may be further amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the District Treasurer.

Estimated receipts reported in the budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the final amended certificate issued during fiscal year 2002 and do not include the unencumbered fund balances as of July 1, 2002. However, those fund balances are available for appropriations.

4. Appropriations

Upon receipt from the County Auditor of an amended certificate of estimated resources based on final assessed values and tax rates or a certificate saying no new certificate is necessary, the annual appropriation resolution must be legally enacted by the Board of Education at the fund, level of expenditures, which is the legal level of budgetary control. Prior to the passage of the annual appropriation measure, the Board may pass a temporary appropriation measure to meet the ordinary expenses of the District. The appropriation resolution, by fund, must be within the estimated resources as certified by the County Budget Commission.

5. Encumbrances

As part of formal budgetary control, purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded as the equivalent of expenditures on the budgetary basis in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance. Encumbrances plus expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the legal level of control. In the budgetary financial statements, encumbrances are included in budgetary expenditures. The budgetary fund balance is cash minus outstanding encumbrances.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

6. Lapsing of Appropriations

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

C. Property, Plant, and Equipment

Acquisition of property, plant, and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

D. Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the basis of accounting used by the District.

E. Cash and Investments

During fiscal year 2003, investments were limited to the State Treasury Assets Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio) and certificates of deposit. Investments are stated at cost. Investment earnings are allocated as authorized by State Statute and Board resolution. All investments had a maturity of two years or less.

F. Total Columns on Financial Statements

Total columns on the financial statements are captioned "Total-(Memorandum Only)" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. This data is not comparable to a consolidation.

3. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Board of Education has identified as not required for use within the current two 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 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.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

Protection of District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), 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.

State Statute permits interim monies to be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the federal national mortgage association, federal home loan bank, federal farm credit bank, federal home loan mortgage corporation, government national mortgage association, and student loan marketing association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least 2 percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty days in an amount not to exceed 25 percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any one time; and,
8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest rating classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

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

A. Cash on Hand

Cash on hand consists of \$30 in undeposited cash which is included on the Combined Statement of Cash and Cash Equivalents and Fund Cash Balances as part of "Cash and Cash Equivalents."

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

B. Deposits and Investments

The District maintains a cash and investments pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of cash and investments at June 30 was as follows:

	Carrying Amount
Demand deposits	\$ 1,026,318
Certificate of Deposits	200,000
<i>Total deposits</i>	1,226,318
STAR Ohio	1,617,788
<i>Total investments</i>	1,617,788
Total deposits and investments	\$ 2,844,106

Deposits

At year-end, the carrying amount of the District's deposits, including nonnegotiable certificates of deposit was \$1,226,318. The bank balance was \$1,177,484. Of the bank balance:

1. \$200,000 was covered by federal depository insurance.
2. \$977,484 was covered by collateral held by third party trustee pursuant to § 135.181, Revised Code, in collateralized pools securing all public funds on deposits with specific depository institutions.

Investments

Investments in STAR Ohio funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form. At year-end, the investments amount was \$1,617,788.

4. PROPERTY TAX

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 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, are 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.

Public utility property taxes are assessed on tangible personal property at 88 percent of true value (with certain exceptions) and on real property at thirty-five 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 twenty-five 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

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established. Tangible personal property taxes paid by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20.

The District receives property taxes from Seneca County. The Seneca County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of the District. The Seneca County Auditor periodically remits to the District its portion of the taxes collected. These tax "advances" are based on statutory cash flow collection rates. Final "settlements" are made each February and August.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

5. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

A. School Employees Retirement System

The 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, disability, survivor, and health care benefits based on eligible service credit to members and beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for SERS. That report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For fiscal year 2003, plan members contributed 9 percent of their annual-covered salary and the District contributed 14 percent. The District has paid all contributions required through June 30, 2003.

B. State Teachers Retirement System

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

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For fiscal year 2003, members of STRS contributed 9.3 percent of their wages to the STRS. The District contributed an amount equal to 14 percent of their wages. The District has paid all contributions required through June 30, 2003.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

A. The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

- Comprehensive property and general liability;
- Vehicles; and
- Errors and omissions.

B. Self Insurance

The District was self insured for dental and vision benefits to employees. The District established a Self Insurance internal service fund to account for and finance the dental and vision benefits program. Under the program, the Self Insurance fund provides coverage up to a maximum of \$1,000 per individual, per year for dental insurance and various limits of coverage per individual, per year for vision insurance based on the service provided. The District reimburses the individuals for dental and vision services received up to their maximum limits.

A comparison of Self Insurance Fund cash and investments to the actuary-measured liability as of December 31, 2003 follows:

	2003
Cash and investments	\$ 36,943
Actuarial liabilities	4,030

C. Health and Life Insurance Programs

The District entered into an agreement with the Ohio Mid Eastern Regional Education Service Agency (OME-RESA) for its self insured medical and life programs. OME-RESA provides jointly administrated benefit programs for schools. OME-RESA has designated Self Funded Plans, Inc. of Cleveland as their claims payor. Interfund rates are charged based on claims approved by the claims administrator.

A comparison of Self Insurance Fund cash and investments to the actuary-measured liability as of December 31, 2003 follows:

	2003
Cash and investments	\$ 181,195
Actuarial liabilities	32,531

7. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

Workers' Compensation

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

8. STATE SCHOOL FUNDING DECISION

On December 11, 2003, 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.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

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.

9. NONCOMPLIANCE

The debt covenant for the Ohio Energy Conservation Financing Program requires the District to prepare, and an independent Ohio registered architect or engineer to certify, an annual report documenting the reduction in energy consumption and cost savings attributed to energy conservation measures. The District did not prepare this report.

10. SET-ASIDE CALCULATIONS AND FUND RESERVES

The District is required by State statute to annually set aside in the general fund an amount based on a statutory formula for the purchase of textbooks and other instructional materials and an equal amount for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. The amount set-aside may be reduced by offset credits, which are monies received and restricted for the same specific purpose. 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.

The following cash basis information describes the change in the year-end set-aside amounts for textbooks, capital maintenance, and budget stabilization. Disclosure of this information is required by State statute.

	Textbooks	Capital Acquisitions	Budget Stabilization
Set Aside Cash balance as of June 30, 2002			\$ 92,894
Current Year Set-aside Requirement	\$ 114,647	\$ 114,647	
Qualifying Disbursement	(142,616)	(161,364)	
Total	\$ (27,969)	\$ (46,717)	\$ 92,894
Cash Balance Carried Forward to Fiscal Year 2004	\$ (27,969)	\$ (46,717)	\$ 92,894

The District has qualifying disbursements during the year that reduced the set-aside requirements below zero. Actual cash balances in excess of required set-asides for textbooks and capital acquisitions may be carried forward to offset the set-aside requirements of future years.

11. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The District had the following long term debt obligations at June 30, 2003:

FY 1987 School Building Addition Bonds

On July 1, 1986, the District issued \$1,800,000 in voted general obligation bonds for constructing a building addition. The bonds were issued under the authority of Ohio Revised Code section 133.09 for a twenty-two year period, with final maturity in fiscal year 2009. The bonds are being retired through the debt service fund.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2003
(Continued)

FY 2001 Energy Conservation Loan

On November 1, 2000, the District obtained a loan, in the amount of \$200,000, from Fifth Third Bank to provide energy conservation measures for the District. The loan was issued under the authority of H.B. 264 amended, Ohio Revised Code section 133.06G and 3313.372-373 for a ten year period, with final maturity in fiscal year 2011.

The following is a description of the District's general obligation debt outstanding as of June 30, 2003:

	Interest Rate	Outstanding 7/1/02	Retired	Outstanding 6/30/03
G.O. Bonds Payable	8.25%	\$ 560,000	\$ (80,000)	\$ 480,000
Energy Conservation Loan	6.65%	177,772	(16,068)	161,704
Total		<u>\$ 737,772</u>	<u>\$ (96,068)</u>	<u>\$ 641,704</u>

The following is a summary of the District's future annual debt service requirements to maturity for the general obligation debt:

Fiscal Year Ending	Principal	Interest	Total
2004	\$ 97,152	\$ 46,807	\$ 143,959
2005	98,364	38,994	137,358
2006	99,634	31,124	130,758
2007	100,992	23,166	124,158
2008	102,431	15,128	117,559
2009-2011	143,131	9,312	152,443
Total	<u>\$ 641,704</u>	<u>\$ 164,531</u>	<u>\$ 806,235</u>



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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

Hopewell-Loudon Local School District
Seneca County
290 North County Road 7
P.O. Box 400
Bascom, Ohio 44809-0400

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the financial statements of Hopewell-Loudon Local School District (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated February 18, 2005, in which we noted that the District prepares its financial report on a basis of accounting formally prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. 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.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2003-001 and 2003-002. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated February 18, 2005.

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 for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted a certain matter involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the District's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with management's assertions in the financial statements. A reportable condition is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2003-003.

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www.auditor.state.oh.us

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we do not believe the reportable condition described above is a material weakness. We noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report that we have reported to the District's management in a separate letter dated February 18, 2005.

This report is intended for the information and use of management and the Board of Education, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

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

Betty Montgomery
Auditor of State

February 18, 2005

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2003

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
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FINDING NUMBER 2003-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 provides that each public office shall file a financial report for each fiscal year. The Auditor of State may prescribe forms by rule or may issue guidelines, or both, for such reports. If the Auditor of State has not prescribed a rule regarding the form for the report, the public office shall submit its report on the form utilized by the public office. Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03 further clarifies the requirements of the Ohio Revised Code § 117.38.

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. However, the District prepares its financial statements in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for governmental entities not required to prepare annual reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit assets, liabilities, fund equity, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. Pursuant the Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 the District may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report.

We recommend the District take the necessary steps to ensure that the annual financial report is prepared on a generally accepted accounting principles basis.

FINDING NUMBER 2003-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Energy Conservation Financing Program (HB 264-1985), see also Ohio Revised Code §§ 133.06 and 3313.372 includes a debt covenant requiring the District to prepare and maintain an annual report documenting the reduction in energy consumption and cost savings attributed to the above program. This report must be reviewed and certified by an independent Ohio registered architect or engineer.

The District failed to prepare the aforementioned annual report. We recommend the District prepare and submit the required report.

FINDING NUMBER 2003-003

Reportable Condition - Student Activity Records

Sales Project Potential forms were not prepared for thirty percent of fundraising activities tested during the audit period. This weakness reduces the controls and accountability over student activities and can result in loss of revenue. To improve controls over student activities, we recommend Sales Project Potential forms be completed for all fundraising activities. District management and personnel involved with student activity accounting should review the Auditor of State's *Guidelines for Developing Policies for Student Activity Programs*, available under Publications at www.auditor.state.oh.us.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA COUNTY**

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2003

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain:</i>
2002-10574-001	Finding for Recovery	Yes	Finding was repaid
2002-10574-002	OAC 117-2-03(B) District did not report on GAAP basis.	No	Not corrected. Repeated as Finding 2003-001.
2001-10574-003	ORC § 5705.41(D) – Failure of fiscal officer to certify expenditures.	No	Partially corrected. Reported in the management letter.
2002-10574-004	ORC § 5705.36 – Failure to increase or decrease estimated resources.	No	Partially corrected. Reported in the management letter.
2002-10574-005	ORC § 9.833 – Failure to calculate care benefits liabilities and annual report.	Yes	
2002-10574-006	Ohio Energy Conservation Financing Program. Failure to submit annual report.	No	Not corrected. Repeated as Finding 2003-002.



**Auditor of State
Betty Montgomery**

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**HOPEWELL-LOUDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SENECA 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
APRIL 12, 2005**