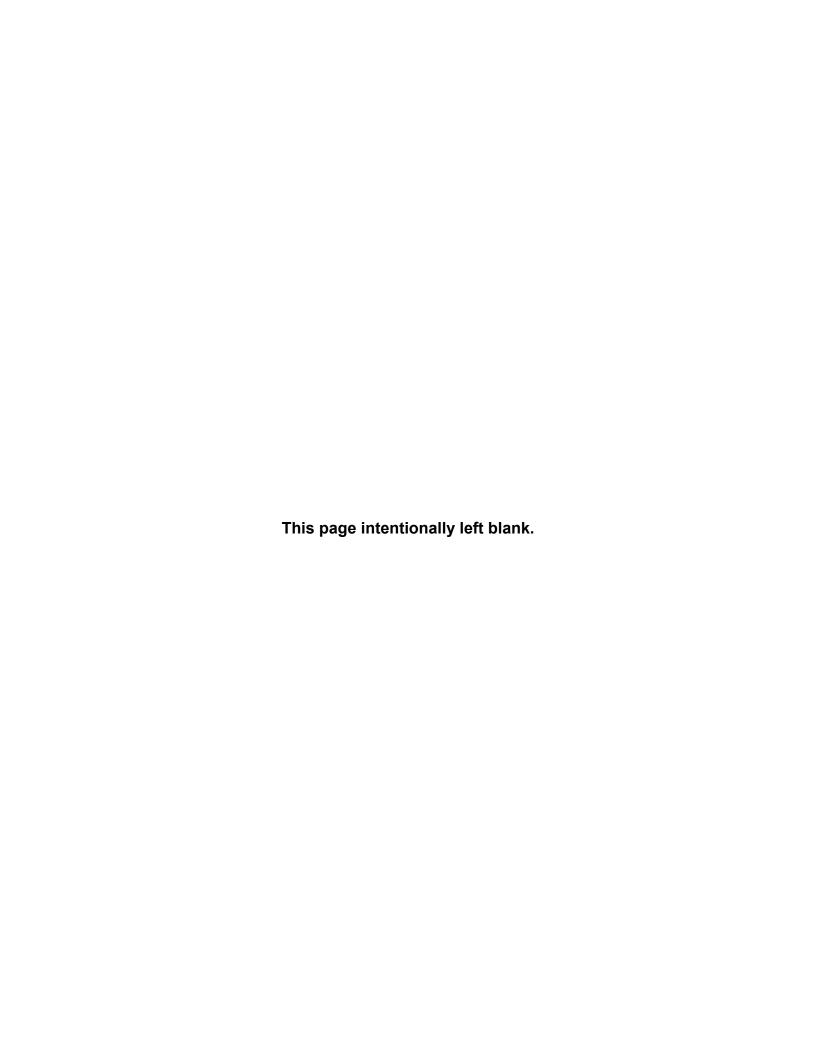




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

North Central Local School District Wayne County 350 South Main Street Creston, Ohio 44217

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of North Central Local School District, Wayne County, Ohio, (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 Section 117-2-03 (B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, as discussed in Note 1, the accompanying financial statements and notes have been prepared on a basis of accounting in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for governmental entities that are not required to prepare annual reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This basis of accounting is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. The accompanying financial statements and notes 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 fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of the North Central Local School District, Wayne County as of June 30, 2003, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the year then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 15, 2003 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.

111 Second St., NW / Fourth Floor / Canton, OH 44702 Telephone: (330) 438-0617 (800) 443-9272 Fax: (330) 471-0001 North Central Local School District Wayne County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

The accompanying Schedule of Receipts and Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for additional analysis as required by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the financial statements. We subjected this information to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, in our opinion, it is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Audit Committee, the Board of Education, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities 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.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

October 15, 2003

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 F	Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type	Total
	General	Special Revenue	Debt	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	(Memorandum) Only)
	Contra	Hovelide		110,000	11401	<u> </u>
CASH RECEIPTS Taxes	\$2,547,238		\$0	\$96,537		\$2,643,775
Intergovernmental	5,625,648	\$596,305	ΨΟ	10,357		6,232,310
Tuition	216,546				***	216,546
Investment Earnings Extracurricular Activities	72,830	115,420			\$264	73,094 115,420
Classroom Materials and Fees	23,631	115,420				23,631
Miscellaneous	49,287	28,370		220,000	4,277	301,934
Total Cash Receipts	8,535,180	740,095	0	326,894	4,541	9,606,710
CASH DISBURSEMENTS						
Instruction:	0.040.770	47.045		00.070		0.700.500
Regular Special	3,642,776 689,941	47,945 303,727		39,872		3,730,593 993,668
Vocational Education	202,320	303,727				202,320
Other	569,607					569,607
Support Services:						
Pupils	294,931	116,345			400	411,676
Instructional Staff	242,585	169,945				412,530
Board of Education School Administration	18,461 717,607	26.096				18,461 744,593
Fiscal	229.007	26,986		1,854		230,861
Operations and Maintenance	551,598	2,391		1,004		553,989
Student Transportation	551,492	2,858				554,350
Central	37,182	19,000				56,182
Extracurricular Activities:						
Academic and Subject Oriented	11,993	14,087				26,080
Sports Oriented	144,011	64,177				208,188
Co-Curricular	13,890					13,890
Facilities Acquisition and Construction Services: Building Improvement	57,748					57,748
Other Facilities Construction	07,710			71,606		71,606
Debt Service:				,		,
Principal Payments			205,000			205,000
Interest Payments			23,267			23,267
Total Cash Disbursements	7,975,149	767,461	228,267	113,332	400	9,084,609
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	560,031	(27,366)	(228,267)	213,562	4,141	522,101
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Sale of Assets	80					80
Transfers-In			81,860			81,860
Advances-In	(400)	106				106
Advances-Out Transfers-Out	(106) (97,646)					(106) (97,646)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(97,672)	106	81,860	0	0	(15,706)
5 (0.15) (1.10) 5						
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Sources Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and						
Other Financing Uses	462,359	(27,260)	(146,407)	213,562	4,141	506,395
Fund Cash Balances, July 1, 2002 (Restated)	2,134,407	86,462	146,407	113,713	6,597	2,487,586
Fund Cash Balances, June 30, 2003	\$2,596,766	\$59,202	\$0	\$327,275	\$10,738	\$2,993,981
, ,		. ,				
Reserves for Encumbrances	\$117,750	\$4,541	\$0	\$323,947	\$0	\$446,238

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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

	Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fur	nd Types	Total	
	Enterprise	Non-Expendable Trust	Agonov	(Memorandum) Only)	
	Litterprise	ITUSt	Agency	Only)	
OPERATING CASH RECEIPTS					
Food Service Classroom Materials and Fees Extracurricular Activities Earnings on Investments Miscellaneous	\$215,188 48,383	\$414 	\$116,188	\$215,188 48,383 116,188 414 379	
Total Operating Cash Receipts	263,571	793	116,188	380,552	
OPERATING CASH DISBURSEMENTS					
Personal Services-Salaries Employees' Retirement and Insurance Purchase Services Supplies and Materials Capital Outlay	128,177 65,164 4,368 189,378 165		747 116	128,924 65,280 4,368 189,378 165	
Other		550	131,548	132,098	
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	387,252	550	132,411	520,213	
Operating Income (Loss)	(123,681)	243	(16,223)	(139,661)	
NONOPERATING CASH RECEIPTS					
Intergovernmental Refund of Prior Year Expenditures Earnings on Investment Miscellaneous	98,767		69 10,677	98,767 69 21 10,677	
Total Nonoperating Cash Receipts	98,788	0	10,746	109,534	
Excess of Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(24,893)	243	(5,477)	(30,127)	
Transfers-In	15,786			15,786	
Net Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements	(9,107)	243	(5,477)	(14,341)	
Fund Cash Balances, July 1, 2002 (Restated)	39,172	16,844	33,376	89,392	
Fund Cash Balances, June 30, 2003	\$30,065	\$17,087	\$27,899	\$75,051	
Reserves for Encumbrances	\$2,143	\$0	\$2,122	\$4,265	

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2003

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

The North Central Local School District, Wayne County, (the District) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is a local school district as defined by Section 3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) and is responsible for providing public education to residents of the District as authorized by state statute and/or federal guidelines.

Average daily membership as of October 1, 2002 was 1,413. The District employed roughly 95 certificated employees and 63 non-certificated employees at that date.

The District's management believes the financial statements included in this report represent all of the funds over which the District has the ability to exercise direct operating control.

B. Reporting Entity

The District is associated with a jointly governed organization and a public entity risk pool. These organizations are the Tri-County Computer Services Association (TCCSA) and the Wayne County Schools Council for Health Care Benefit Program. These organizations are presented in Notes 14 and 15.

C. Basis of Accounting

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, 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 annual financial 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 they are 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 disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraph.

D. Cash and Investments

During fiscal year 2003, investments were limited to a Liquid Asset Management Account (LAM) and STAR Ohio.

Nonparticipating investment contracts, such as nonnegotiable certificates of deposit are reported at cost. Investments in the LAM account are reported at cost, but STAR Ohio are reported at fair market value which is based on quoted market prices.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Fund Accounting

The District maintains its accounting records in accordance with the principles of "fund" accounting. Fund accounting is a concept developed to meet the needs of governmental entities in which legal or other restraints require the specific recording of receipts and disbursements. The transactions of each fund are reflected in a self-balancing group of accounts, an accounting entity which stands separate from the activities reported in other funds. The restrictions associated with each type of fund are as follows:

1. General Fund

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

2. Special Revenue Fund

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditure for specific purposes.

3. Debt Service Fund

These funds are used to accumulate resources for the payment of bonds and note indebtedness.

4. Capital Project Funds

These funds are used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds).

5. Enterprise Funds

These funds are used to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises – where the intent of the governing body is that the costs of providing goods and services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability or other purpose.

6. Fiduciary Funds (Trust and Agency Funds)

Trust funds are used to account for resources restricted by legally binding trust agreements. If the agreement requires the District to maintain the corpus of the trust, the fund is classified as a nonexpendable trust fund. Other trust funds are classified as expendable.

Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by the District as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units, and/or other funds.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Budgetary Process

1. Budget

A budget of estimated cash receipts and disbursements is submitted to the County Auditor, as secretary of the County Budget Commission, by January 20 of each year, for the period July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

2. Estimated Resources

The County Budget Commission certifies its actions to the District by March 1. As part of this certification, the District receives the Official Certificate of Estimated Resources which states the projected receipts of each fund. On or about July 1, this certificate is amended to include any unencumbered balances from the preceding year. Prior to June 30, the District must revise its budget so that the total contemplated expenditures from a fund during the ensuing fiscal year will not exceed the amount stated in the Certificate of Estimated Resources. The revised budget then serves as the basis for the annual appropriation measure. Budgeted receipts as shown in Note 4 do not include July 1, 2002, unencumbered fund balances. However, those fund balances are available for appropriations.

3. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. A temporary appropriation measure to control cash disbursements may be passed on or about July 1 of each year for the period July 1 to September 30. An annual appropriation measure must be passed by October 1 of each year for the period July 1 to June 30. The appropriation measure may be amended or supplemented during the year as new information becomes available.

4. Encumbrances

The District is required to use the encumbrance method of accounting by virtue of Ohio law. Under this system, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve the portion of the applicable appropriation.

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

A summary of 2003 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

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

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

G. Property, Plant and Equipment

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

H. 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 cash basis of accounting used by the District.

I. Total Columns on Financial Statements

Total columns on the financial statements are captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. This data is not comparable to a consolidation. Interfund-type eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

2. CHANGE IN BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The District previously reported under generally accepted accounting principles. Effective July 1, 2002, the District is reporting under the method described in Note 1. Beginning balances were restated on the basis of accounting in Note 1, all revenue and expense adjustments do to the accrual basis of accounting were adjusted. The restatements to the opening fund balances are as follows:

Fund Type	Balance as Previously Stated at June 30, 2002	Adjustments	Restated Balance at July 1, 2002
General	\$1,628,245	\$506,162	\$2,134,407
Special Revenue	49,366	37,096	86,462
Debt Service	146,407	0	146,407
Capital Projects	82,078	31,635	113,713
Expendable Trust	1,526	5,071	6,597
Enterprise	57,935	(18,763)	39,172
Nonexpendable Trust	21,915	(5,071)	16,844
Agency	0	33,376	33,376

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.

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

3. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Inactive deposits are public deposits the Board of Education had 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 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 accounts, including passbook accounts.

Protection of the 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 money deposited with the institution.

Interim monies may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

- 1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal or interest by the United States;
- Bonds, noted, 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;
- 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 30 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);
- Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed 180 days from the purchase date in an amount not to exceed 25 percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any one time; and

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

3. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two higher 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 qualified trustee or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

Deposits: At June 30, 2003, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was \$65,764 and the bank balance was \$627,961. Deposits were either insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or by collateral held in the pledging bank's trust department in the District's name.

Investments

The District's investments are required to be categorized to give an indication of the level of custodial credit risk assumed by the District at year end. Category 1 includes investments that are insured or registered or for which the securities are held by the District or its agent in the 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 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 District's name. Fifth Third Liquid Asset Management Account (LAM) and STAR Ohio are unclassified investments since they are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form.

	Carrying Value
STAR Ohio	\$1,409,400
Fifth Third LAM	<u>1,593,868</u>
Total	<u>\$3,003,268</u>

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

4. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the year ending June 30, 2003 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted	Actual	
Fund Type	Receipts	Receipts	Variance
General	\$8,113,000	\$8,535,260	\$422,260
Special Revenue	901,500	740,201	(161,299)
Debt	94,600	81,860	(12,740)
Capital Projects	153,500	326,894	173,394
Enterprise	385,000	378,145	(6,855)
Fiduciary	132,600	132,268	(332)
Total	\$9,780,200	\$10,194,628	\$414,428

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	Appropriation	Budgetary	
Fund Type	Authority	Expenditures	Variance
General	\$8,903,778	\$8,190,651	\$713,127
Special Revenue	926,488	772,002	154,486
Debt	231,300	228,267	3,033
Capital Projects	211,185	437,279	(226,094)
Enterprise	409,700	389,395	20,305
Fiduciary	138,927	135,483	3,444
Total	\$10,821,378	\$10,153,077	\$668,301

Contrary to Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B), the District had certain funds in which expenditures plus outstanding encumbrances exceeded appropriations.

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes are levied on assessed values which equal 35% of appraised value. The County Auditor reappraises all real property every six years with a triennial update. The last reappraisal was completed for tax year 2002.

Real property taxes become a lien on all non-exempt real property located in the county on January 1. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20 of the following year. Under certain circumstances, state statute permits later payment dates to be established.

The full tax rate applied to real property for the tax (calendar) year 2002 was \$31.00 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. After adjustment of the rate for inflationary increases in property values, the effective tax rate was \$23.38 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for real property classified as residential/agricultural and \$23.29 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for all other real property.

Real property owners' tax bills are further reduced by homestead and rollback deductions, when applicable. The amount of these homestead and rollback reductions is reimbursed to the District by the State of Ohio.

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

5. PROPERTY TAX (Continued)

Owners of tangible personal property are required to file a list of such property including costs, by April 30 of each year. The property is assessed for tax purposes at varying statutory percentages of cost. The tax rate applied to tangible personal property for the tax (calendar) year 2002 was \$31.00 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

The Wayne County Treasurer collects property tax on behalf of all taxing districts within the county. The Wayne County Auditor periodically remits to the taxing districts their portions of the taxes collected.

6. INSURANCE

The District maintains comprehensive insurance coverage with Ohio School Risk Sharing Authority for real property, building contents and vehicles. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. Real property and building contents are 100% coinsured.

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

A. State Teachers Retirement System

The District participates in the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer public employee retirement system. STRS Ohio provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS Ohio issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to STRS Ohio, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3371 or by calling (614) 227-4090.

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 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. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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 become 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.

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

7. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

A. State Teachers Retirement System (Continued)

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2003, plan members are required to contribute 9.3 percent of their annual covered salaries. The District was required to contribute 14 percent; 9.5 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. Contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board, upon recommendations 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 for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2003, 2002, and 2001 were \$551,236, \$554,796, and \$529,326 respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal years 2003, 2002 and 2001.

B. School Employees Retirement System

The District contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. SERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by state statute per Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746.

Plan members are required to contribute 9 percent of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute an actuarially determined rate. The current District rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll. A portion of the District's contribution is used to fund pension obligations with the remainder being used to fund health care benefits; for fiscal year 2003, 5.46 percent of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The contribution requirements of plan members and employer are established and may be amended, up to a statutory maximum amounts, by the SERS Retirement Board. The District's required contributions for pension obligations to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2003, 2002, and 2001 were \$147,300, \$154,966, and \$153,624, respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal years 2003, 2002 and 2001.

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

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

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

8. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (Continued)

All STRS benefit recipients and sponsored dependents are eligible for health care coverage. The STRS Board has statutory authority over how much, in any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Most benefit recipients pay a portion of health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. By law, the cost of coverage paid from STRS funds shall be included in the employer contribution rate, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002, the STRS Board allocated employer contribution equal to 4.5 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Stabilization Fund. Effective July 1, 2002, 1% of covered payroll will be allocated to the fund. For the District, this amount equaled \$39,374 for fiscal year 2003.

STRS pays health care benefits from the Health Care Reserve Fund. At June 30, 2002 (the latest information available) the balance in the Fund was \$3.011 billion. For the year ended June 30, 2002 net health care costs by STRS were \$354,697,000 and STRS had 105,300 eligible benefit recipients.

For School Employees Retirement System (SERS), coverage is made available to service retirees with 10 or more years of qualifying service credit, and to disability and survivor benefit recipients. Members retiring on or after August 1, 1989, with less than 25 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 benefit, the remainder of the employer's 14 percent contribution is allocated to providing health care benefits. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002, employer contributions to fund health care benefits were 8.54 percent of covered payroll. 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 2003, the minimum pay was established at \$14,500. For the District, the amount of employer contributions used to fund health care including the surcharge equaled \$102,379.

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 the annual health care expenses. Expenses for health care for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002 (the latest information available), were \$182,946,777 and the target level was \$274.4 million. At June 30, 2002, SERS had net assets available for payment of health care benefits of \$335.2 million. SERS has approximately 50,000 participants currently receiving health care benefits.

9. HEALTH INSURANCE

The District participates in the Wayne County Schools Council Health Care Benefit Program, a shared risk pool (Note 15) to provide employee medical benefits. Rates are set through an annual calculation process. The District pays a monthly contribution which is placed in a common fund from which claim payments are made for all participating districts. The District provides dental insurance directly with a private carrier.

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

10. CONTINGENCIES

The District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and 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 District at June 30, 2003.

11. SET-ASIDES

The North Central Local School 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. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at year-end. These amounts must be carried forward to be used for the same purposes in future years. In prior years, the District was also required to set aside money for budget stabilization. At June 30, 2003, only the unspent portion of certain workers' compensation refunds continues to be set aside for budget stabilization.

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

	Textbooks	Capital Maintenance	BWC Refund
Set-Aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2002	(\$56,103)	\$0	\$38,389
Current Year Set-Aside Requirement	181,241	181,241	0
Current Year Offsets	0	(106,895)	0
Qualifying Disbursements	(183,086)	(183,463)	0
Totals	(\$57,948)	(\$109,117)	\$38,389
Set-Aside Balance Carried Forward to Future			
Fiscal Years	(\$57,948)	\$0	\$38,389
Set-Aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2003	\$0	\$0	\$38,389

The District had qualifying disbursements during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount to below zero for the textbook set-aside. This extra amount may be used to reduce the set-aside requirement of future years. Although, the District had qualifying disbursements and current year offsets during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount to below zero for the capital maintenance reserve, this amount may not be used to reduce the set aside requirement for future years. This negative balance is, therefore, not presented as being carried forward to future years. The budget reserve balance was \$38,389 which represents the Bureau of Workers' Compensation refunds received prior to April 10, 2001.

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

12. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The changes in the District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2003 were as follows:

	Principal Outstanding			Principal Outstanding
	7/1/02	<u>Additions</u>	Reductions	6/30/03
General Obligation Bonds:				
School Facilities 1987 6-1/8%	\$140,000	\$0	\$140,000	\$0
Energy Conservation 1996 - 5.7%	<u>370,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>65,000</u>	305,000
Total General Obligation Bonds	\$510,000	<u>\$0</u>	\$205,000	\$305,000

School Facilities General Obligation Bonds - On March 1, 1987, the District issued \$2,100,000 in voted general obligation bonds for the purpose of an addition and improvement to the elementary and middle school buildings. The bonds were issued for a 15 year period with final maturity at December 1, 2002. The bonds were retired from the debt service fund.

Energy Conservation General Obligation Bonds - On August 1, 1996, the District issued \$645,000 in unvoted general obligation bonds for the purpose of providing energy conservation measures for the District, under the authority of Ohio Revised Code sections 133.06(G) and 3313.372. The bonds were issued for a 10 year period with final maturity at December 1, 2006. The bonds will be retired from the debt service fund.

Principal and interest requirements to retire general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2003 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total	
2004	\$70,000	\$15,200	\$85,200	
2005	75,000	11,140	86,140	
2006	80,000	6,800	86,800	
2007	80,000	2,280	82,280	
			_	
Total	\$305,000	\$35,420	\$340,420	

13. STATE SCHOOL FUNDING DECISION

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 decision 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 District is currently unable to determine what effect, if any, this decision will have on its future State funding and on its financial operations.

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

14. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION

The Tri-County Computer Services Association (TCCSA) is a jointly governed organization comprised of 20 school districts. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions for member districts. Each of the governments of these districts support TCCSA based on a per-pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. The TCCSA assembly consists of a superintendent or designated representative from each participating district and a representative from the fiscal agent. TCSSA is governed by a board of directors chosen from the general membership of the TCCSA assembly. The board of directors consists of a representative from the fiscal agent, the chairman of each operating committee, and at least one assembly member from each county from which participating districts are located. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the treasurer at the Tri-County Educational Service Center which serves as the fiscal agent located in Wooster, Ohio. During the year ended June 30, 2003, the District paid approximately \$85,548 to TCCSA for basic service charges.

15. PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

The Wayne County Schools Council Health Care Benefit Program is a shared risk pool created pursuant to state statue for the purpose of administering health care benefits. The Council is governed by an assembly which consists of one representative from each participating school district (usually superintendent, treasurer or executive member of governing body). The Council elects officers to serve on the Board of Directors. The assembly exercises control over the operation of the Council. Council revenues are generated from charges for services received from participating school districts, based on the established premiums for the insurance plans. Each school district reserves the right to terminate the plan in whole or in part, at any time. If it is terminated, no further contributions will be made, but the benefits under the insurance contract shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the contract.

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SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

Federal Grantor/ Pass Through Grantor/ Program Title	Pass Through Entity Number	Federal CFDA Number	Receipts	Non-Cash Receipts	Expenditures	Non-Cash Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Passed Through Ohio Department of Education: Child Nutrition Cluster:						
Food Distribution Program	N/A	10.550		\$37,548		\$37,548
National School Lunch Program	N/A	10.555	\$83,565		\$83,565	
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			83,565	37,548	83,565	\$37,548
Child and Adult Care Food Program	N/A	10.558	12,250		12,250	
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			95,815	37,548	95,815	37,548
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:						
School Renovation Grants	AT-S2-2002	84.352A	2,928		2,928	
Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Grants	TJ-S1-2003	84.318	3,743		3,743	
Special Education Cluster: Special Education Grants to States	6B-SF-01P 6B-SF-02P	84.027	1,440		1,440 134,354	
Total Special Education Cluster	0B-3F-02P		134,354 135,794		135,794	
Improving Teacher Quality State Grants	TR-S1-2003	84.367	46,596		46,702	
Eisenhower Professional Development State Grant	MS-S1-2002	84.281	0		1,183	
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	C1-S1-2002	84.010	12,951		12,951	
Total Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	C1-S1-2003		136,701 149,652		136,701 149,652	
Innovative Education Program Strategies	C2-S1-2003	84.298	7,299		7,299	
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities: State Grants	DR-S1-2003	84.186	5,976		5,976	
Total Department of Education			351,988		353,277	
U.S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES Passed Through the Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Development	mental Disabilities					
Medical Assistance Program		93.778	4,981		4,981	
Totals			\$452,784	\$37,548	\$454,073	\$37,548

The Notes to the Schedule of Receipts and Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2003

NOTE A - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying Schedule of Receipts and Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) is a summary of the activity of the 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 District to maintain separate inventory records for purchased food and food received from the U.S. 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 U.S. Department of Agriculture are commingled with State grants. It is assumed federal monies are expended first.



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

North Central Local School District Wayne County 350 South Main Street Creston, Ohio 44217

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the North Central Local School District, Wayne County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated October 15, 2003, which noted the District prepares its financial statements on a basis of accounting other than that prescribed by Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (B). 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 performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2003-001 and 2003-002.

We also noted other immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated October 15, 2003.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated October 15, 2003.

111 Second St., NW / Fourth Floor / Canton, OH 44702 Telephone: (330) 438-0617 (800) 443-9272 Fax: (330) 471-0001 www.auditor.state.oh.us North Central Local School District Wayne County Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Audit Committee, the Board of Education, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Butty Montgomery

October 15, 2003



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

North Central Local School District Wayne County 350 South Main Street Creston, Ohio 44217

To the Board of Education:

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the North Central Local School District, Wayne 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 its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2003. The District's major federal program is 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 its major federal program 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 obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance occurred with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on 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 of 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 its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2003.

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 have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on the internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

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Wayne County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance with Requirements
Applicable to Its Major Federal Program and on Internal Control
Over Compliance In Accordance With OMB Circular A-133
Page 2

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 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 that would be material in relation to a major federal program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended for the information and use of management, the Audit Committee, the Board of Education, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

October 15, 2003

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS OMB CIRCULAR A -133 § .505 JUNE 30, 2003

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

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

North Central Local School District Wayne County Schedule of Findings Page 2

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

FINDING NUMBER 2003-001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 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 Admin. Code Section 117-2-03 further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38.

Ohio Admin. Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. 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 equities, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Section 117.38 the District may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report.

FINDING NUMBER 2003-002

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705.41(B) requires that no subdivision or taxing unit is to expend money unless it has been appropriated.

At June 30, 2003, the District had expenditures plus outstanding encumbrances in the Permanent Improvement Fund of \$397,408 which exceeded appropriations of \$121,716 by \$275,692. In addition, at October 31, 2002, the Permanent Improvement Fund had expenditures plus outstanding encumbrances of \$125,514 which exceeded appropriations of \$121,716 by \$3,798.

The Treasurer should frequently compare actual expenditures plus outstanding encumbrances to appropriations to avoid overspending.

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None.

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> :
2002-10985-001	Reportable condition recommending the District prepare an update GAAP conversion plan.	No	Not corrected. The District is not reporting on GAAP. See Finding Number 2003-001.





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NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT WAYNE 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.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED NOVEMBER 13, 2003