## PORTAGE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER PORTAGE COUNTY, OHIO

## $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS} \\ (AUDITED) \end{array}$

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Governing Board Portage County Educational Service Center 326 E. Main Street Ravenna, Ohio 44266

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Portage County Educational Service Center, Portage County, prepared by Julian & Grube, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Portage County Educational Service Center is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Mary Taylor

February 27, 2009



#### PORTAGE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

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## Julian & Grube, Inc.

Serving Ohio Local Governments

333 County Line Rd. West, Westerville, OH 43082 Phone: 614.846.1899 Fax: 614.846.2799

#### Independent Auditor's Report

Governing Board Portage County Educational Service Center 326 E. Main Street Ravenna, OH 44266

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Portage County Educational Service Center, Portage County, Ohio, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, which collectively comprise Portage County Educational Service Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Portage County Educational Service Center's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Portage County Educational Service Center, Portage County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2007, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the fiscal year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 29, 2008, on our consideration of Portage County Educational Service Center's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Independent Auditor's Report Portage County Educational Service Center Page 2

Julian & Sube, Ehre!

The management's discussion and analysis is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquires of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

For the budgetary comparison information and notes, we have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Julian & Grube, Inc.

December 29, 2008

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

The management's discussion and analysis of the Educational Service Center of Portage County's (Educational Service Center) financial performance provides an overall review of the Educational Service Center's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Educational Service Center's performance as a whole; readers should also review notes to the basic financial statements and the financial statements to enhance their understanding of Educational Service Center's financial performance.

#### Financial Highlights

Key Financial Highlights for June 30, 2007 are as follows:

- □ General Revenues accounted for \$.8 million in revenue or 9.5% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales and grants and contributions accounted for \$7.8 million, or 90.5% of total revenues of \$8.6 million.
- □ Total program expenses were \$8.8 million.
- ☐ In total, net assets decreased \$216,652 from 2006.

#### Reporting Educational Service Center as a Whole

Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the Educational Service Center to provide programs and activities, the view of the Educational Service Center as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during fiscal year 2007?" The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities answer this question. These statements include *all assets* and *liabilities* using the *accrual basis of accounting* similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Educational Service Center's *net assets* and *changes in those assets*. This change in net assets is important because it tells the reader that, for the Educational Service Center as a whole, the *financial position* of the Educational Service Center has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not.

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, the Educational Service Center activities are listed as Governmental:

☐ Governmental Activities - All of the Educational Service Center's programs and services are reported here, including instruction, support services, and operation and maintenance of plant.

The government-wide financial statements begin on page 10.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### Reporting the Educational Service Center's Most Significant Funds

#### Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Educational Service Center uses fund accounting to ensure compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The Educational Service Center uses many funds to account for financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the Educational Service Center's most significant funds. The Educational Service Center has two major governmental funds, the general fund and the other grant special revenue fund.

Governmental Funds - Most of the Educational Service Center's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Educational Service Center's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is reconciled in the financial statements.

Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the general fund and the other grants special revenue fund which are considered to be major funds. Data from the other governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation.

The Educational Service Center adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund and the other grant special revenue fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund and the other grant special revenue fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

The governmental fund financial statements begin on page 12.

**Fiduciary Funds** - These funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Educational Service Center's own programs. The accounting for the fiduciary funds is much like that used to report proprietary funds.

The fiduciary fund financial statements begin on page 16.

**Notes to the Financial Statements** - The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page 17.

**Supplementary Information** – The Educational Service Center has presented budgetary comparison schedules for the general fund and the other grant special revenue fund as supplementary information on pages 35 through 38 of this report.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### The Educational Service Center as a Whole

Recall that the Statement of Net Assets provides the perspective of the Educational Service Center as a whole.

Table 1 provides a summary of the Educational Service Center's net assets for fiscal year 2007 as compared to fiscal year 2006:

#### (Table 1) Net Assets

	Governmental Activities					
	2007	2006				
Assets Current and Other Assets	\$ 1,647,223	\$ 2,069,520				
Capital Assets	145,124	96,863				
Total Assets	1,792,347	2,166,383				
<b>Liabilities</b> Long-Term Liabilities	109,054	74,733				
Other Liabilities	1,034,072	1,225,777				
Total Liabilities	1,143,126	1,300,510				
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Debt	104,933	96,863				
Restricted	148,712	28,767				
Unrestricted	395,576	740,243				
Total Net Assets	\$ 649,221	\$ 865,873				

Total assets decreased by \$374,036. The decrease in current and other assets of \$422,297 was mainly due to a decrease in intergovernmental receivables. There was an increase in services to other school districts from the previous year. These services include but are not limited to Severe Behavioral Handicapped (SBH), Multiple Disabled (MD), Integrated Preschool, and Alternative School classes. The Educational Service Center also provides related services such as Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Adapted Physical Education, and Psychological services. The Educational Service Center also employs personnel and places them in specific school districts at their request. While the number of students did grow in MD units, there was a significant drop in students in the SBH units. However, due to state regulations of range of student ages in the classroom, a low ratio of student-to-employee had to be maintained. No more than a 10-to-1 ratio is allowed in these units. Total liabilities decreased by \$157,384 which was mainly caused by a decrease to intergovernmental payables.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Table 2 shows the changes in net assets for fiscal year 2007 as compared to fiscal year 2006.

#### (Table 2) Governmental Activities

	Governmental Activities						
		2007		2006			
Revenues							
Program Revenues:							
Charges for Services	\$	7,437,946	\$	, ,			
Operating Grants		343,906		140,471			
General Revenue: Grants and Entitlements, not restricted to							
specific programs		782,879		1,460,337			
Investment Earnings and Miscellaneous		31,319		50,014			
investment Larmings and imiscentineous		31,317		30,014			
Total Revenues		8,596,050		7,244,039			
Program Expenses							
Instruction		3,732,878		3,319,562			
Support Services		5,042,346		4,265,080			
Operation of Non-Instructional Services		0		6,601			
Food Service Operations		13,213		904			
Extracurricular Activities		22,129		15,755			
Interest and fiscal charges		2,136		0			
Total Expenses		8,812,702		7,607,902			
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets		(216,652)		(363,863)			
Net Assets Beginning of Year		865,873		1,229,736			
Net Assets End of Year	\$	649,221	\$	865,873			

Charges for services increased \$1.8 million over 2006 due to an increase in special education services provided to member districts. Operating grants increased \$203,435 over 2006. Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs decreased \$677,458 over 2006. Program expenses in governmental activities increased \$1.2 million.

#### **Governmental Activities**

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table 3 shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

for fiscal year 2007 compared to fiscal year 2006. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by charges for services and unrestricted grants and entitlements.

#### (Table 3) Governmental Activities

	20	007	2006			
	Total Cost	Net Cost	Total Cost	Net Cost		
	of Service	of Service	of Service	of Service		
Instruction	\$ 3,732,878	\$ (308,022)	\$ 3,319,562	\$ (490,378)		
Support Services:						
Pupil and Instructional Staff	3,997,353	(294,812)	3,465,869	(584,866)		
Board of Governors, Administration,						
Fiscal and Business	966,434	(312,827)	733,878	(719,870)		
Operation and Maintenance of						
Plant and Central	74,620	(74,510)	52,393	(52,393)		
Pupil Transportation	3,939	(3,519)	12,940	(3,447)		
Operation of Non-Instructional						
Services	0	0	6,601	(6,601)		
Food Service Operations	13,213	(12,895)	904	(904)		
Extracurricular Activities	22,129	(22,129)	15,755	(15,755)		
Interest and Fiscal Charges	2,136	(2,136)	0	0		
Total Expenses	\$ 8,812,702	\$ (1,030,850)	\$ 7,607,902	\$ (1,874,214)		

Instruction and Student Support Services comprise 88% of governmental program expenses. Pupil transportation and the operation/maintenance of facilities accounts for less than 1% of governmental program expenses.

The Educational Service Center is primarily funded through two sources: 1) State Foundation and 2) services provided to other school districts. The State of Ohio provides the Educational Service Center money by three calculations. First the State funds the Educational Service Center \$37.00 per ADM student of each school in Portage County. By law, the State provides this money for each student of a local school district and each city or exempted village if a city or county contract exists with the Educational Service Center. The Educational Service Center has a city or county contract with each city and exempted village district in Portage County. These city or county contracts are renewable every two years, with the current contracts effective until July 1, 2008. The State will also give an additional \$6.50 per student of each district. Again, this is according to individual school ADM. The last part of the State Foundation is for Supervisory Personnel. The Educational Service Center receives salary, retirement, and unit support for each certified, non-special education supervisory personnel. Each educational service center is limited to the number of funded supervisors that they can have based on ADM in the county. The amount received is based on the State Teachers Minimum Salary Schedule. It is important to note that the \$6.50/student and supervisory money funded to the Educational Service Center is deducted from each local, city, or exempted village foundation. The Educational Service Center also receives special education unit funding for Gifted units and Preschool classroom units.

The Educational Service Center is also funded through services provided to other school districts. These services include but are not limited to Severe Behavioral Handicapped, Multiple Disabled, Integrated Preschool, Itinerant, and Alternative School classes. We also provide related services such as Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech, Adapted Physical Education, and Psychological services. These programs are tuition based and billed after the services are provided.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### Financial Analysis of Government's Funds

The focus of the Educational Service Center's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Educational Service Center's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the Educational Service Center's net resources available for spending at the year-end.

Information about the Educational Service Center's major funds starts on page 12. These funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues of \$8.5 million and expenditures of \$8.9 million in fiscal year 2007. The net change in fund balance for fiscal year 2007 was most significant in the other grant special revenue fund, with a decrease of \$268,615 in fiscal year 2007.

#### General Fund

The general fund is the main operating fund of the Educational Service Center. At the end of fiscal year 2007, the balance in the general fund was \$85,126, which was a decrease of \$214,173 from fiscal year 2006 in which the fund balance in the general fund was \$299,299. This is due to increased budgeted expenditures.

#### Other Grant Special Revenue Fund

In fiscal year 2007, the other grant special revenue fund was a major fund. The other grant special revenue fund is the Educational Service Center fund that accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources, except for state and federal grants that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. At the end of fiscal year 2007, the deficit fund balance in the other grant special revenue fund was \$213,230, which is a decrease of \$268,615.

#### Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2007, the Educational Service Center had \$145,124 invested in furniture and equipment.

Table 4 shows comparisons between fiscal years 2007 and 2006.

(Table 4) Capital Assets at June 30 (Net of Depreciation)

Governmenta	al Activites
2007	2006
\$ 145,124	\$ 96,863
\$ 145,124	\$ 96,863
	2007 \$ 145,124

The \$48,261 increase in fiscal year 2007 in net capital assets was mainly attributable to additional purchases exceeding the current depreciation expense. See Note 7 for more information regarding capital assets.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### Debt

At year-end, the Educational Service Center had a capitalized lease as an outstanding long-term obligation. The lease obligation outstanding at year end totaled \$40,191. The lease balance consisted of telephone equipment scheduled to mature during the fiscal year 2011. See Note 13 to the basic financial statements for detail on the Educational Service Center's long-term obligations.

#### Current Issues

The Educational Service Center is primarily State funded. The Educational Service Center anticipates that the State will continue to fund at the \$37.00 per student level. That dollar amount has not changed for seven years and there is no anticipation for an increased amount. It is uncertain what its enrollment will be for future years. Electronic schools are becoming more popular as an alternative to traditional public education. As programs and course offerings are reduced, the Educational Service Center may lose more students through these alternative forms of education.

State funding is crucial to this district. A very important aspect of state revenue is not just the publicized increases to local, city and exempted villages, but how the increases are restricted and how much are unrestricted. When local valuation increases, state funding decreases more than local funding increases. Local increases are limited to the effective mills and new construction. GAAP aid decreases if additional levies are passed. If funding is cut or restricted to local, city, and exempted village school districts, it limits the amount of business that these districts can request from the Educational Service Center.

#### Contacting Educational Service Center's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Educational Service Center's finances and to show the Educational Service Center's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Tom Morehouse, Treasurer of the Educational Service Center of Portage County, 326 East Main Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266.

Statement of Net Assets June 30, 2007

	Governmental Activities		
Assets			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$	914,047	
Receivables:			
Intergovernmental		733,176	
Depreciable capital assets (net)		145,124	
Total Assets		1,792,347	
Liabilities			
Accounts payable		10,747	
Accrued wages and benefits		851,793	
Vacation benefits payable		22,754	
Intergovernmental payable		126,098	
Operating lease payable		22,680	
Long term liabilities:			
Due within one year		41,076	
Due in more than one year		67,978	
Total Liabilities		1,143,126	
Net Assets			
Invested in capital assets, Net of Debt		104,933	
Restricted for:			
Capital projects		47	
Other purposes		148,665	
Unrestricted		395,576	
Total Net Assets	\$	649,221	

Statement of Activities For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

				Program	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets			
	Expenses		Charges fo Services and Sales		Operating Grants and Contributions			Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental Activities</b>								
Current:								
Instruction:				40= ==0				
Regular		87,549	\$	187,730	\$	61,468	\$	61,649
Special	3,5	517,461		3,131,028		15,162		(371,271)
Adult continuing		3,617		0		7,366		3,749
Other		24,251		22,102		0		(2,149)
Support services:		100 500		1.240.052		2.212		(155.440)
Pupils		138,728		1,269,972		3,313		(165,443)
Instructional staff	2,5	558,625		2,185,612		243,644		(129,369)
Board of governors		64,802		59,060		0		(5,742)
Administration		666,237		582,124		12,423		(71,690)
Fiscal	2	203,096		0		0		(203,096)
Business		32,299		0		0		(32,299)
Operation and maintenance of plant		69,906		0		0		(69,906)
Pupil transportation		3,939		0		420		(3,519)
Central		4,714		0		110		(4,604)
Food service operations		13,213		318		0		(12,895)
Extracurricular activities		22,129		0		0		(22,129)
Interest and fiscal charges	-	2,136		0_				(2,136)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 8,8	312,702	\$	7,437,946	\$	343,906		(1,030,850)
	General Rev		40 44		c			782,879
			ts not i	estricted to speci	ne pro	grains		30,607
	Investment ea Miscellaneou							
	Miscenaneou	is						712
	Total general	revenue	s					814,198
	Change in ne	t assets						(216,652)
	Net assets be	ginning o	of year					865,873
	Net assets end	of year					\$	649,221

Balance Sheet Governmental Funds June 30, 2007

		General		Other Grant Special Revenue	G	Other overnmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds		
Assets Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents Receivables:	\$	716,391	\$	56,940	\$	140,716	\$	914,047	
Accounts Interfund Intergovernmental		0 6,300 698,776		0 0 21,600		0 0 12,800		0 6,300 733,176	
Total Assets	\$	1,421,467	\$	78,540	\$	153,516	\$	1,653,523	
Liabilities and Fund Balances									
Liabilities	\$	10,672	\$	0	\$	75	\$	10,747	
Accounts payable Accrued wages and benefits	Ф	590,420	ф	261,373	Þ	0	Ф	851,793	
Interfund payable		0		6,300		0		6,300	
Intergovernmental payable		101,261		23,297		1,540		126,098	
Operating lease payable		22,680		0		0		22,680	
Deferred revenue		611,308		800		0		612,108	
Total Liabilities		1,336,341		291,770		1,615		1,629,726	
Fund Balances									
Fund balance: Reserved for encumbrances Unreserved:		28,943		0		101,889		130,832	
Undesignated (deficit), reported in: General fund		56,183		0		0		56 102	
Special revenue funds		56,185 0		(213,230)		49,965		56,183 (163,265)	
Capital projects funds		0		(213,230)		49,903		(103,203)	
Capital projects funds				0		4/		47	
Total Fund Balances		85,126		(213,230)		151,901		23,797	
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	1,421,467	\$	78,540	\$	153,516	\$	1,653,523	

Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Assets Governmental Activities June 30, 2007

Total Governmental Fund Balances	\$	23,797
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore, are not reported in the funds.		145,124
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current- period expenditures and therefore, are deferred in the funds. Tuition		612,108
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore, are not reported in the funds.  Capital Lease Payable \$40,19 Compensated Absences 68,86 Vacation Benefits Payable 22,75	53	(131,808)
Net Assets of Governmental Activities	\$	649,221

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

		General		Other Grant Special Revenue		Other Governmental Funds		Total Governmental Funds	
Revenues:									
Intergovernmental	\$	1,254,595	\$	0	\$	356,912	\$	1,611,507	
Investment income		30,607		0		0		30,607	
Tuition and fees		252,306		0		0		252,306	
Charges for services		0		0		0		0	
Gifts and donations		800		0		0		800	
Contract services revenue		4,960,993		1,614,471		318		6,575,782	
Miscellaneous		117		0		595		712	
Total Revenues		6,499,418		1,614,471		357,825		8,471,714	
<b>Expenditures:</b>									
Current:									
Instruction:									
Regular		206,757		0		61,446		268,203	
Special		2,338,054		1,159,300		11,354		3,508,708	
Adult continuing		0		0		3,617		3,617	
Other		24,251		0		0		24,251	
Support services:									
Pupils		914,365		519,261		3,737		1,437,363	
Instructional staff		2,208,509		204,525		148,049		2,561,083	
Board of governors		64,802		0		0		64,802	
Administration		638,876		0		8,445		647,321	
Fiscal		211,124		0		0		211,124	
Business		32,299		0		0		32,299	
Operation and maintenance of plant		69,930		0		0		69,930	
Pupil transportation		3,465		0		474		3,939	
Central		4,615		0		99		4,714	
Food service operations		12,739		0		474		13,213	
Extracurricular activities		21,860		0		0		21,860	
Debt service:									
Principal retirement		8,915		0		0		8,915	
Interest and fiscal charges		2,136		0		0		2,136	
Total Expenditures		6,762,697		1,883,086		237,695		8,883,478	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures		(263,279)		(268,615)		120,130		(411,764)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses):									
Inception of capital lease		49,106		0		0		49,106	
		,						,	
Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)		49,106		0	-	0		49,106	
Net Change in Fund Balance		(214,173)		(268,615)		120,130		(362,658)	
Fund Balance (Deficit) at Beginning of Year		299,299		55,385		31,771		386,455	
Fund Balance (Deficit) at End of Year	\$	85,126	\$	(213,230)	\$	151,901	\$	23,797	

Reconciliation of the Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds	\$ (362,658)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures, However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay exceeded depreciation in the current period.  Capital Asset Additions  \$ 85,006 Current Year Depreciation  (33,378)	51,628
Net effect of transactions involving sale of capital assets are not reflected in the funds.	(3,367)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.	
Grants       (2,456)         Tuition       126,792	124,336
Repayment of leases is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	
Capital Leases	8,915
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not use the current financial resources and therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.	
Inception of Capital Lease (49,106)	
Compensated Absences 5,780	(25 505)
Vacation Benefits Payable 7,820	(35,506)
Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities	\$ (216,652)

Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities
Agency Funds
June 30, 2007

		Agency
Assets Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents Intergovernmental receivable	\$	8,907,630 236,867
Total Assets	\$	9,144,497
Liabilities Undistributed monies Claims payable	\$	7,565,302 1,579,195
Total Liabilities	_\$	9,144,497

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### Note 1 – Description of the Educational Service Center

The Educational Service Center of Portage County ("Educational Service Center") is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio.

The Educational Service Center makes up the Portage County Local School System. The Education Service Center is an administrative entity which operates under an elected Board of Governors (five members) as defined by Section 3311.05 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Board employs 111 certified and 98 noncertified employees.

#### Reporting Entity

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the Educational Service Center consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the Educational Service Center. For the Educational Service Center of Portage County, this includes the agencies and departments that provide the following services: general operations and related special education, supervisory, administrative and fiscal activities of the Educational Service Center.

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

The Educational Service Center participates in one jointly governed organization, the Stark Portage Area Computer Consortium (SPARCC), which is presented in Note 14 to the basic financial statements.

#### **Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The financial statements of the Educational Service Center have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles to its governmental activities provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The Educational Service Center also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statements and Interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its governmental activities unless those pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements.

The following are the most significant of the Educational Service Center's accounting policies.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### A. Basis of Presentation

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

Government-wide Financial Statements The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the Educational Service Center as a whole. The statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The statement of net assets presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the Educational Service Center at year end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the Educational Service Center's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the Educational Service Center, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental activity is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the Educational Service Center.

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

#### B. Fund Accounting

The Educational Service Center uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self balancing set of accounts. There are two categories of funds: governmental and fiduciary.

Governmental Funds Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. The following are the Educational Service Center's major governmental funds as of fiscal year 2007.

*General Fund* The general fund accounts for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund balance is available to the Educational Service Center for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Other Grant Special Revenue Fund The other grant special revenue fund accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources, except for state and federal grants that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

The other governmental funds of the Educational Service Center account for grants and other resources whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

**Proprietary Funds** Proprietary funds are used to account for ongoing activities which are similar to those often found in private sector. The Educational Service Center has no proprietary funds.

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the Educational Service Center under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the Educational Service Center's own programs. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The Educational Service Center's only fiduciary fund is an agency fund. The Educational Service Center's agency fund accounts for a local insurance consortium.

#### C. Measurement Focus

Government-wide Financial Statements The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the Educational Service Center are included on the statement of net assets. The statement of activities presents increases (i.e. revenues) and decreases (i.e. expenses) in total assets.

Fund Financial Statements All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore, include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the governmental-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Agency funds do not report a measurement focus as they do not report operations.

#### D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Proprietary and fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred revenue, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

**Revenues - Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions** Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the Educational Service Center, available means expected to be received within sixty days of the fiscal year-end.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Non-exchange transactions, in which the Educational Service Center receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. On the accrual basis, revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the Educational Service Center must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Educational Service Center on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: interest, tuition, grants, fees, customer services and charges for services.

**Deferred Revenue** Deferred revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. Grants and entitlements received before the eligibility requirements are met are also recorded as deferred revenue.

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

**Expenses/Expenditures** On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred. The fair value of donated commodities used during the year is reported in the fund financial statements as intergovernmental revenue and an expenditure of food service operations.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

#### E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

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

During the fiscal year 2007, investments were limited to STAROhio, (the State Treasurer's Investment Pool) and repurchase agreements.

Except for nonparticipating investment contracts, investments are reported at fair value which is based on quoted market prices.

STAROhio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAROhio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAROhio are valued at STAR Ohio's share price which is the price the investment could be sold for on June 30, 2007. Repurchase agreements are reported at cost.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Following Ohio statutes, the Board has, by resolution, identified the funds to receive an allocation of interest. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2007 amounted to \$30,607, which includes \$6,172 assigned from other Educational Service Center funds.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with a maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Educational Service Center are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an original maturity of more than three months that are not made from the pool are reported as investments.

#### F. Capital Assets

General capital assets are those assets not specifically related to activities reported in the proprietary funds. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net assets but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The Educational Service Center maintains a capitalization threshold of two hundred dollars. The Educational Service Center does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not.

All reported capital assets are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

	Governmental
	Activities
Description	Estimated Lives
Furniture and Equipment	5-20 Years

#### G. Interfund Balances

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

#### H. Compensated Absences

The Educational Service Center reports compensated absences in accordance with the provisions of GASB No. 16, "Accounting for Compensated Absences". Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the termination method. An accrual for earned sick leave is made to the extent that it is probable that benefits will result in termination payments. The liability is an estimate based on the Educational Service Center's past experience of making termination payments.

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

For the governmental fund financial statements, compensated absences are recognized as liabilities and expenditures to the extent payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirements. These amounts are recorded in the account "matured compensated absences payable" in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated leave are paid.

#### I. Accrued Liabilities and Long-term Obligations

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

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

#### J. Net Assets

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

The Educational Service Center applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available.

#### K. Fund Balance Reserves

The Educational Service Center reserves those portions of fund equity which are legally segregated for specific future use or which do not represent available expendable resources and therefore, are not available for appropriations for expenditures. Unreserved fund balance indicates that portion of fund equity, which is available for appropriation, in future periods. Fund balance reserves are established for encumbrances.

#### L. Interfund Activity

Transfers between governmental activities on the government-wide statements are eliminated.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

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

#### M. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board of Governors and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during fiscal year 2007.

#### N. Estimates

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

#### O. Budgetary Data

Although not legally required, the Educational Service Center adopts its budget for all funds, other than agency funds. The budget includes estimated resources and expenditures for each fund and consists of three parts; Part (A) includes entitlement funding from the State, Part (B) includes the cost of all other lawful expenditures of the Educational Service Center (which are apportioned by the State Department of Education to each local board of education under the supervision of the Center), and Part (C) includes the adopted appropriation resolution.

In fiscal year 2004, the Educational Service Center requirement to file budgetary information with the Ohio Department of Education was eliminated. Even though the budgetary process for the Educational Service Center was discretionary, the Educational Service Center continued to have its Board approve appropriations and estimated resources. The Educational Service Center's Board adopts an annual appropriation resolution, which is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level for all funds. The Treasurer has been authorized to allocate appropriations to the function and object level within all funds. Although the level of budgetary control was established at the fund level of expenditures, the Educational Service Center has elected to present the budgetary statement comparisons at the fund and function level. Budgetary information for the general fund and the other grant special revenue fund has been presented as supplementary information to the basic financial statements.

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 need not be reappropriated.

#### Note 3 – Fund Deficits

Fund balances at June 30, 2007 included the following individual fund deficits:

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

	2007			
		Deficit		
	Fund Balance			
Major Governmental Funds:				
Other Grant	\$	213,230		
Nonmajor Governmental Funds:				
IDEA Preschool Grant for the Handicapped		784		
Alternative Schools		756		

The deficits in the governmental funds resulted from adjustments for accrued liabilities. The general fund is liable for any deficit in these funds and will provide transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur.

#### **Note 4 - Deposits and Investments**

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

Protection of the Educational Service Center'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.

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:
- 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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

- 3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement 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 (STAROhio);
- 7. Certain banker's acceptance and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days from the purchase date in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time; and,
- 8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest 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 Educational Service Center, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made 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.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the government's deposits may not be returned to it. Protection of the Educational Service Center's cash and deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, as well as qualified securities pledged by the institution holding the assets. By law, financial institutions must collateralize all uninsured public deposits. The face value of the pooled collateral must equal at least 105 percent of uninsured public funds deposited. Collateral is held by trustees including the Federal Reserve Bank and designated third party trustees of the financial institutions.

*Cash on Hand* At fiscal year end 2007, the Educational Service Center had \$100 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the balance sheet of the Educational Service Center as part of equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents.

**Deposits** At fiscal year-end 2007, the carrying amount of the Educational Service Center's deposits was \$(392,713) and the bank balance was \$737,145. A liability was not recorded for the negative carrying amount of deposits at June 30, 2007 because there was no actual overdraft, due to the "zero-balance" nature of the Educational Service Center's bank accounts. The negative carrying amount of deposits is due to the sweeping of monies into overnight repurchase agreements which are reported as "investments." Of the bank balance:

1. \$200,000 of the bank balance was covered by depository insurance for fiscal year 2007; and

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

2. \$537,145 was uninsured and uncollateralized. Although the securities serving as collateral were held by the pledging institution in the pledging institution's name, and all State statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with federal requirements could potentially subject the Educational Service Center to a successful claim by the FDIC.

#### **Investments**

Investments are reported at fair value. As of June 30, 2007, the Educational Service Center had the following investments:

	2007						
			]	Investment			
	Maturitie						
	Fair			in months)			
	Value			0-6			
Bank One Repurchase Agreement	\$	894,615	\$	894,615			
Key Bank Repurchase Agreement		6,339,234		6,339,234			
STAROhio		2,980,441		2,980,441			
Totals	\$	10,214,290	\$	10,214,290			

**Interest Rate Risk:** The Ohio Revised Code generally limits security purchases to those that mature within five years of the settlement date. The Educational Service Center's policy indicates that the investments must mature within five years, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Educational Service Center.

**Credit Risk:** The Educational Service Center's investments at June 30, 2007 included sweep accounts, and STAROhio. STAROhio is rated AAA by Standard & Poor's. The sweep accounts (repurchase agreements) are not rated by Standard & Poor's or Moody's Investments Services. The federal agency securities that underlie the repurchase agreement were rated AAA and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The Educational Service Center places no limit on the amount the Educational Service Center may invest in any one issuer. More than 5 percent of the Educational Service Center's investments are in STAROhio. This investment is 29.2 percent for fiscal year 2007 of the Educational Service Center's total investments for the amounts listed above. More than 5 percent of the Educational Service Center's investments are in the repurchase agreements. This investment is 70.8 percent for fiscal year 2007.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of failure of the counterparty, the Educational Service Center will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Educational Service Center's \$7,233,849 investment in repurchase agreements is to be secured by the specific government securities upon which the repurchase agreements are based. These securities, held by the counterparty and not in the Educational Service Center's name, must be obligations of or guaranteed by the United States and mature or be redeemable within five years of the date of the related repurchase agreement. The Educational Service Center's policy is to invest money with financial institutions that are able to abide by the laws governing insurance and collateral of public funds.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### **Note 5 - Interfund Balances**

For fiscal year 2007, on the fund financial statements, the general fund reported an interfund receivable of \$6,300. This receivable is made up of the following: the other grant major special revenue fund had an interfund payable of \$6,300.

All balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, or (3) payments between funds are made. As of June 30, 2007 all interfund loans outstanding were repaid in fiscal year 2008.

#### Note 6 - Receivables

Receivables at June 30, 2007 consisted of intergovernmental entitlements and grants, and interfund. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the stable condition of State programs, and the current year guarantee of federal funds. A summary of the principal items of intergovernmental receivables follows:

	2007
	Amount
Major Governmental Funds	
General Fund	\$ 698,776
Other Grant Special Revnue	21,600
Total Major Governmental Funds	720,376
Nonmajor Governmental Funds Entry Year Programs	12,800
Agency Fund	
Employee Benefits	236,867
Total Intergovernmental Receivables	\$ 970,043

#### **Note 7 - Capital Assets**

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007 was as follows:

	Balance 6/30/2006	Additions	Deletions	Balance 6/30/2007
Governmental Activities  Capital Assets, being depreciated:  Furniture and Equipment	\$ 447,847	\$ 85,006	\$ (8,512)	\$ 524,341
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(350,984)	(33,378)	5,145	(379,217)
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 96,863	\$ 51,628	\$ (3,367)	\$ 145,124

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows for fiscal year 2007:

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

	2007		
Instruction:			
Regular	\$	1,759	
Special		8,657	
Support Services:			
Pupil		139	
Instructional Staff		2,614	
Administration		19,068	
Fiscal		900	
Extracurricular		241	
Total Depreciation	\$	33,378	

#### Note 8 - Risk Management

The Educational Service Center participates in the Portage County School Consortium which is a co-operative entity to facilitate effective risk management and to share the cost of providing various insurance coverage and employee benefits. There has not been a significant reduction in coverage from the prior year. There have been no settlements paid in excess of insurance in the past three years.

Portage County School Consortium The Portage County School Consortium was established in 1981 so that 12 educational-service providers in Portage County could manage risk exposures and purchase necessary insurance coverage as a group. The Health and Welfare Trust is organized under the provisions of Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code. Its purpose is to facilitate the management of risks associated with providing employee benefits coverage such as health insurance, disability insurance and life insurance. A third party administrator is retained by the consortium to facilitate the operation of the Health and Welfare Trust. The Educational Service Center pays all insurance premiums directly to the consortium. Also, the insurance agreement with Portage County School Consortium provides that the consortium will reinsure through commercial companies for claims over \$150,000 per employee. Although the Educational Service Center does not participate in the day-to-day management of the consortium, one of its administrators serves as a trustee of the consortium's governing board as provided in the consortium's enabling authority. Although the Educational Service Center recognizes that it retains a contingent liability to provide insurance coverage should the assets of the consortium become depleted, it is the opinion of management that the assets of the consortium are sufficient to meet its claims.

Effective January 1, 1998, the Educational Service Center of Portage County is the fiscal agent of the Consortium.

#### **Note 9 – Compensated Absences**

The criteria for determining vested vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements, Board policies, and State laws. Certified and classified employees that work 260 days per year earn ten to twenty days of vacation per year depending upon length of service. Vacation days are credited to classified employees on the anniversary of their employment and must be used within the next twelve months. Teachers and administrators (those not working 260 days) do not earn vacation time. All employees of the Educational Service Center earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Upon retirement, 25 percent of the accumulation of unused sick leave days up to 120 days will be awarded to an employee. The employee will also be awarded 10 percent of the days accumulated over 120 days up to the maximum allowable per labor agreement.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

The amount of accumulated vacation and sick leave of employees paid from governmental funds that meets the eligibility requirements has been recorded in the appropriate governmental fund as a current liability to the extent that the amounts are expected to be paid using expendable available financial resources.

#### **Note 10- Pension Plans**

#### A. School Employees Retirement System

The Educational Service Center 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 Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available, standalone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746 or by calling toll free (800) 878-5853. It is also posted on the SERS' Web site, www.ohsers.org, under Forms and Publications.

Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the Educational Service Center is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current Educational Service Center rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll. A portion of the Educational Service Center's contribution is used to fund pension obligations with the remainder being used to fund health care benefits; for fiscal year 2007, 10.00 percent of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For fiscal year ended 2006, the amount was 10.58 percent and for fiscal year ended 2005, the amount was 10.57 percent. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to a statutory maximum amount, by the SERS' Retirement Board. The Educational Service Center's required contributions to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2007, 2006, and 2005 were \$161,575, \$158,598, and \$125,112, respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal years 2007, 2006, and 2005.

#### B. State Teachers Retirement System

The Educational Service Center participates in the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. 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 (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS Ohio Web site at <a href="https://www.strsoh.org">www.strsoh.org</a>.

New members have a choice of three retirement plans, a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary times a percentage that varies based on years of service, or an allowance based on member contributions and earned interest matched by STRS Ohio funds times an actuarially determined annuity factor. The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5 percent of earned compensation among various investment accounts. 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 DB 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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

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.

For the fiscal years ended June 30, 2007, plan members were required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salaries. The Educational Service Center was required to contribute 14 percent; 13 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 percent for members and 14 percent for employers. Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

The Educational Service Center's required contributions for pension obligations to the DB Plan for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2007, 2006, and 2005 were \$568,693 \$499,305, and \$423,018, respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal years 2007, 2006 and 2005. Contributions to the DC and Combined Plans for fiscal year 2007 was \$6,316 made by the Educational Service Center and \$6,492 made by the plan members.

#### C. Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the School Employees Retirement System or the State Teachers Retirement System have an option to choose Social Security or the School Employees Retirement System/State Teachers Retirement System. The Board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

#### **Note 11 - Postemployment Benefits**

#### A. State Teachers Retirement System

The Educational Service Center contributes to the cost sharing multiple-employer defined benefit Health Plan administered by the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS Ohio. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The Plan is included in the report of STRS Ohio which may be obtained by visiting <a href="https://www.strs.org">www.strs.org</a> or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Ohio law authorized STRS Ohio to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS Ohio. Active employee members do not contribute to the Plan. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. Of the 14 percent employer contribution rate, 1 percent of covered payroll was allocated to Health Care Stabilization Fund for the years ended June 30, 2007, 2006 and 2005. The Educational Service Center's contributions for health care for

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

fiscal years ended June 30, 2007, 2006 and 2005 were \$43,746, \$38,408 and \$32,540, respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for fiscal years 2007, 2006, and 2005.

#### B. School Employees Retirement System

The Educational Service Center participates in two cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plans administered by SERS for non-certified retirees and their beneficiaries, a Health Care Plan and a Medicare Part B Plan. The Health Care Plan includes hospitalization and physicians' fees through several types of plans including HMO's, PPO's and traditional indemnity plans as well as a prescription drug program. The Medicare Part B Plan reimburses Medicare Part B premiums paid by eligible retirees and beneficiaries up to a statutory limit. Benefit provisions and the obligations to contribute are established by the System based on authority granted by State statute. The financial reports of SERS' Health Care and Medicare B plans are included in its *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*. The report can be obtained by contacting SERS, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746 or by calling toll free (800) 878-5853. It is also posted on SERS' website at <a href="https://www.ohsers.org">www.ohsers.org</a> under *Forms and Publications*.

The Health Care Fund was established under, and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code 401(h). Each year after the allocation for statutorily required benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer 14 percent contribution to the Health Care Fund. At June 30, 2007, the health care allocation was 3.32 percent, at June 30, 2006 the health care allocation was 3.42 percent and at June 30, 2005, the health care allocation was 4.91 percent. The Educational Service Center's contributions for the years ended June 30, 2007, 2006 and 2005 were \$53,643, \$51,267 and \$67,579, respectively; 100 percent has been contributed for the fiscal years 2007, 2006, and 2005.

An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated according to service credit earned. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2007 the minimum compensation level was established at \$35,800. For the Educational Service Center during fiscal year 2007 this amounted to \$19,857.

The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates a portion of the current employer contribution rate to the Medicare B Fund. For fiscal year 2007, the actuarially required allocation was .68 percent. The Educational Service Center's contributions for fiscal year 2007 were \$10,987.

#### Note 12 – Contingencies

#### A. Grants

The Educational Service Center received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and 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 Educational Service Center at June 30, 2007.

#### B. Litigation

The Educational Service Center is not currently a party to any legal proceedings.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### Note 13 - Long Term Obligations

The changes in the Educational Service Center's long-term obligations during the year consist of the following:

					2007		
	tstanding e 30, 2006	A	dditions	De	ductions	e 30, 2007	 e Within ne Year
Governmental Activities:							
Capital Lease	\$ 0	\$	49,106	\$	8,915	\$ 40,191	\$ 9,346
Compensated Absences	74,643		6,677		12,457	68,863	31,730
Total Governmental Activities							
Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 74,643	\$	55,783	\$	21,372	\$ 109,054	\$ 41,076

Compensated Absences will be paid from the fund in which the employee's wages are paid. In prior years, this has primarily been the general fund. Capital leases will be paid from the general fund.

#### Note 14 – Jointly Governed Organizations

The Stark Portage Area Computer Consortium (SPARCC) is a jointly governed organization comprised of 28 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 supports SPARCC based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. However, since the Educational Service Center is a county governmental entity, they are not required to pay any fees to SPARCC. The SPARCC assembly consists of a superintendent or designated representative from each participating district and a representative from the fiscal agent. SPARCC is governed by a board of directors chosen from the general membership of the SPARCC 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 in which participating districts are located. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the Treasurer at Stark County Education Service Center, which serves as fiscal agent, located at 2100 38th Street, NW, Canton, Ohio 44709.

#### Note 15 – Capitalized Leases

Capital lease obligations relate to telephone equipment which is leased under long-term agreements. This lease meets the criteria of a capital lease as defined by Statement of Financial Standard No. 13 "Accounting for Leases". \$49,106 of furniture and equipment has been recorded as capital assets relating to capital leases with \$4,911 of accumulated depreciation as of June 30, 2007. Capital lease payments in the general fund have been reclassified and are reflected as debt service in the basic financial statements for the general fund. These expenditures are reflected as program/function expenditures on a budgetary basis. The following schedule of future minimum lease payments required under the capital leases and the present value of the minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2007 is summarized below.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

Fiscal Year	Capital Lease					
Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total			
2008	\$ 9,346	\$ 1,704	\$11,050			
2009	9,800	1,250	11,050			
2010	10,274	776	11,050			
2011	10,771_	279_	11,050			
Total	\$40,191	\$4,009	\$44,200			

#### **Note 16 – Operating Leases**

The Educational Service Center (the "Lessee") has entered into an operating lease, for a five year period commencing on July 1, 2006. The lease is with David D. Y. Lan and Lily S. C. Lan (the "Lessor") for facilities to house the offices and functions of the Educational Service Center. Current year lease payments were \$30,600. Rental cost should be recognized on the straight-line basis over the term of the lease because no economic justification can be offered for the rental increases. Should the Lessee need to terminate the lease early due to a reduction or termination of funding, it shall notify the Lessor of its decision to terminate the lease early, in writing, ninety days in advance of the new termination date.

Supplementary Information

Educational Service Center of Portage County
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual
General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

		Budgeted	Amou			with	Variance with Final Budget	
	Ori	Original Final				Actual		Positive Negative)
Revenues:								
Intergovernmental	\$	1,231,126	\$	1,246,268	\$	1,254,595	\$	8,327
Investment income	•	25,000	-	25,000	-	30,607	Ť	5,607
Tuition and fees		168,855		171,248		170,589		(659)
Gifts and donations		0		0		800		800
Contract services revenue		5,658,752		5,741,610		5,699,496		(42,114)
Miscellaneous		0		0		117		117
Total Revenues		7,083,733		7,184,126		7,156,204		(27,922)
Expenditures:								
Current:								
Instruction:								
Regular		291,800		282,190		225,263		56,927
Special		2,676,500		2,639,159		2,251,835		387,324
Other		0		0		24,251		(24,251)
Support services:								
Pupils		928,000		924,440		932,125		(7,685)
Instructional staff		2,430,650		2,435,363		2,376,379		58,984
Board of governors		62,130		74,990		69,953		5,037
Administration		710,946		737,401		621,055		116,346
Fiscal		253,740		253,240		230,975		22,265
Business		25,980		26,392		34,186		(7,794)
Operation and maintenance of plant		56,600		61,735		73,866		(12,131)
Pupil transportation		3,300		3,425		5,873		(2,448)
Central		6,520		6,520		4,727		1,793
Food service operations		13,045		13,045		13,458		(413)
Extracurricular Activities	-	30,700		32,010		21,791		10,219
Total Expenditures		7,489,911		7,489,910		6,885,737		604,173
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures		(406,178)		(305,784)		270,467		576,251
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Refund of prior year expenditures		0		0		7,008		7,008
Advances out		(10,089)		(10,089)		(6,300)		3,789
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		(10,089)		(10,089)		708		10,797
Net Change in Fund Balance		(416,267)		(315,873)		271,175		587,048
Fund Balance (Deficit) at Beginning of Year		347,254		347,254		347,254		0
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated		69,013		69,013		69,013		0
Fund Balance (Deficit) at End of Year	\$	0	\$	100,394	\$	687,442	\$	587,048

Educational Service Center of Portage County
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual
Other Grant Special Revenue Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

	Budgeted Amounts						Variance with Final Budget Positive	
	(	Original		Final	Ac	tual	(Ne	egative)
Revenues:								
Contract services revenue	\$	1,100,000	\$	1,762,589	\$	1,766,988	\$	4,399
Total Revenues		1,100,000		1,762,589		1,766,988		4,399
Expenditures:								
Current:								
Instruction		723,915		1,154,566		1,108,734		45,832
Support services: Pupils		316,713		486,000		485,521		479
Instructional staff		119,492		188,443		182,213		6,230
								-,
Total Expenditures		1,160,120		1,829,009		1,776,468		52,541
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures		(60,120)		(66,420)		(9,480)		56,940
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Advances in		0		6,300		6,300		0
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		0		6,300		6,300		0
Net Change in Fund Balance		(60,120)		(60,120)		(3,180)		56,940
Fund Balance (Deficit) at Beginning of Year		59,900		59,900		59,900		0
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated		220		220		220		0
Fund Balance (Deficit) at End of Year	\$	0	\$	0	\$	56,940	\$	56,940

Notes to the Supplemental Information For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### **Note 1 - Budgetary Process**

The Educational Service Center is not required under State statute to file budgetary information with the State Department of Education. However, the Educational Service Center's Board does follow the budgetary process for control purposes.

The Educational Service Center's Board adopts an annual appropriation resolution, which is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures at the level of control selected by the Board. The level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level for all funds. The Treasurer has been authorized to allocate appropriations to the function and object level within all funds.

Throughout the fiscal year, appropriations may be amended or supplemented as circumstances warrant. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire fiscal year including amounts automatically carried forward from prior fiscal years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

#### Note 2 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting

While the Educational Service Center is reporting financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances.

The Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual, is presented for the general fund and other grant fund on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP basis are that:

- 1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP).
- 2. Expenditures/expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP).
- 3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures (budget) rather than as a reservation of fund balance (GAAP).
- 4. Advances in and advances out are operating transactions (budget) as opposed to balance sheet transactions (GAAP).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis statement to the budgetary basis schedule on a fund type basis for the general fund.

Notes to the Supplemental Information For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2007

#### Net Change in Fund Balance

	General			
GAAP Basis	\$	(214,173)		
Net Adjustment for Revenue Accruals		614,688		
Advance Out		(6,300)		
Net Adjustment for Expenditure Accruals		(94,097)		
Adjustment for Encumbrances		(28,943)		
Budget Basis	\$	271,175		

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis statement to the budgetary basis schedule on a fund type basis for the other grant fund.

#### **Net Change in Fund Balance**

	Other Grants Fund	
GAAP Basis	\$	(268,615)
Net Adjustment for Revenue Accruals		152,517
Advance In		6,300
Net Adjustment for Expenditure Accruals		106,618
Budget Basis	\$	(3,180)



## Julian & Grube, Inc.

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Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

Governing Board Portage County Educational Service Center 326 E. Main Street Ravenna, OH 44266

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Portage County Educational Service Center, Portage County, Ohio, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, which collectively comprise the Portage County Educational Service Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 29, 2008. 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.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Portage County Educational Service Center's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Portage County Educational Service Center's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Portage County Educational Service Center's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the Portage County Educational Service Center's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the Portage County Educational Service Center's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the Portage County Educational Service Center's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Portage County Educational Service Center's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Governing Board Portage County Educational Service Center

Julian & Sube Elec.

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

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

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management and the Governing Board of the Portage County Educational Service Center and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Julian & Grube, Inc. December 29, 2008



# Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

## PORTAGE COUNTY PORTAGE COUNTY

#### **CLERK'S CERTIFICATION**

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

**CLERK OF THE BUREAU** 

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED MARCH 12, 2009