



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2022**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Bluffton Exempted Village School District
Allen County
102 S. Jackson Street
Bluffton, Ohio 45817

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Bluffton Exempted Village School District, Allen County, Ohio (the School District), as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Bluffton Exempted Village School District, as of June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Efficient • Effective • Transparent

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 19 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing recovery measures may impact subsequent periods of the School District. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted to opine on the financial statements as a whole that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied to the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, this schedule is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

We applied no procedures to management's discussion and analysis, as listed in the table of contents. Accordingly, we express no opinion or any other assurance on it.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 20, 2023, on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 effectiveness of the School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 20, 2023

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**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022
UNAUDITED

The discussion and analysis of the Bluffton Exempted Village School District's (the "School District") financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2022, within the limitations of the School District's cash basis of accounting. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the cash-basis financial statements and the notes to the financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2022 are as follows:

- In total, net position increased \$470,254, or a 6 percent change from the prior fiscal year. The School District's general receipts are primarily property taxes and unrestricted state entitlements, which make up 73 percent of the total cash received. Dependence on these two revenue sources is significant.

Using the Basic Financial Statements

This annual report is presented in a format consistent with the presentation requirements of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, as applicable to the School District's cash basis of accounting.

The School District has elected to present its financial statements on a cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. Basis of accounting is a reference to when financial events are recorded, such as the timing for recognizing revenues, expenses and the related assets and liabilities. Under the School District's cash basis of accounting, receipts and disbursements are recorded when they result in cash transactions.

As a result of using the cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable) are not recorded in the financial statements. Therefore, when reviewing the financial information and discussion with this report, the reader must keep in mind the limitations resulting from the use of the cash basis of accounting.

The statement of net position and statement of activities provide information about the activities of the whole School District, presenting an aggregate view of the School District's cash basis finances.

Fund financial statements provide a greater level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the School District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. The School District's major funds for fiscal year 2022 were the General Fund and Debt Service Fund.

Reporting the School District as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

The statement of net position and the statement of activities reflect how the School District did financially during fiscal year 2022, within the limitations of cash basis accounting. The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares cash disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the School District is responsible.

Program receipts include charges paid by the receipt of the program's goods or services and grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts. The comparison of cash disbursements with program receipts identified how each governmental function draws from the School District's general receipts.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022
UNAUDITED

These statements report the School District's net position and changes in the net position on a cash basis. Factors which contribute to these changes may also include the School District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs, mandated federal and state programs and other factors.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, all of the School District's activities are presented as governmental activities. All of the School District's programs and services are reported here including instruction, support services, non-instructional services, food services, extracurricular activities, and capital outlay disbursements.

Reporting the School District'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 School District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The School District's only category of funds are governmental funds.

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. The School District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the School District's most significant funds. The School District's major governmental funds are the General and Debt Service Funds.

Governmental Funds

All of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using the cash basis of accounting. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed view of the School District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer cash basis financial resources that can be readily spent to finance various School District programs. Since the School District is reporting on the cash basis of accounting, there are no differences in the net assets and fund balances or changes in net assets and changes in fund balances. Therefore, no reconciliation is necessary between such financial statements.

The School District's budgetary process accounts for certain transactions on a cash basis. The budgetary statement for the General Fund is presented to demonstrate the School District's compliance with annually adopted budgets.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

Recall that the statement of net position provides the perspective of the School District as a whole. The financial statements were prepared on cash-basis utilizing the GASB Statement No. 34 format.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022
UNAUDITED

Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for fiscal years 2022 and 2021.

	Table 1 - Net Position	
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,919,128	\$ 8,448,874
<u>Net Position</u>		
Restricted	\$ 1,064,570	\$ 1,036,156
Unrestricted	<u>7,854,558</u>	<u>7,412,718</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 8,919,128</u>	<u>\$ 8,448,874</u>

As mentioned previously, the total net position increased \$470,254 or 6%, due in part to an increase in operating grants and contributions.

Table 2 reflects the changes in net position for fiscal years 2022 and 2021.

	Table 2 - Change in Net Position	
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Receipts:		
Program receipts:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 561,489	\$ 1,688,523
Operating grants and contributions	2,154,214	1,576,714
Capital grants and contributions	<u>46,276</u>	<u>43,972</u>
Total program receipts	<u>2,761,979</u>	<u>3,309,209</u>
General receipts:		
Property taxes	4,060,163	4,110,680
Income taxes	1,015,700	904,733
Unrestricted grants	6,228,866	5,008,954
Investment earnings	10,026	16,328
Miscellaneous	<u>6,176</u>	<u>99,700</u>
Total general receipts	<u>11,320,931</u>	<u>10,140,395</u>
Total receipts	<u>14,082,910</u>	<u>13,449,604</u>

- (Continued)

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022
UNAUDITED

Table 2 - Change in Net Position - Continued)

	Governmental Activities	
	2022	2021
Disbursements:		
Instruction:		
Regular	\$ 6,382,788	\$ 6,140,005
Special	953,734	889,699
Vocational	100,592	102,607
Other	267,588	514,931
Support services:		
Pupil	457,459	538,434
Instructional staff	255,754	199,309
Board of education	51,388	30,342
Administration	975,287	922,230
Fiscal	343,455	309,570
Operations and maintenance	1,498,032	1,296,158
Pupil transportation	528,363	543,274
Central	33,265	35,070
Operation of non-instructional services:		
Food service operations	689,007	449,590
Other non-instructional services	2,122	14,954
Extracurricular	507,355	412,285
Debt service	566,467	633,333
Total disbursements	13,612,656	13,031,791
Increase in net position	470,254	417,813
Net position at beginning of year	8,448,874	8,031,061
Net position at end of year	\$ 8,919,128	\$ 8,448,874

Program receipts represent 20 percent of total receipts and are primarily represented by restricted intergovernmental receipts, charges for tuition and fees, extracurricular activities and food service sales. General receipts represent 80 percent of the School District's total receipts and are comprised of property taxes, income taxes, unrestricted grants and entitlements, investment earnings and miscellaneous. Unrestricted grants and entitlements, which primarily represent State resources for school funding are 44 percent of the School District's total receipts. Property taxes are 29 percent of the School District's total receipts. The permanent improvement income taxes make up 7 percent of the School District's total receipts. Other receipts are insignificant and somewhat unpredictable receipt sources.

The major program disbursements for governmental activities are instruction, which accounts for 57 percent of all governmental disbursements. Support services, which include pupil, instructional staff, board, administration, fiscal, operations and maintenance, pupil transportation and central, account for 30 percent of all governmental disbursements.

If you look at the statement of activities, you will see that the first column lists the major services provided by the School District. The next column identifies the costs of providing these services. The major program disbursements for governmental activities are for instruction and support services which accounts for 57 and 30 percent fiscal year 2022, respectively. Food service operations also represent a significant cost, 5 percent in fiscal year 2022.

The next three columns of the statement of activities entitled program cash receipts identify amounts paid by people who are directly charged for the service and grants received by the School District that must be used to provide a specific service. The net (disbursements) receipts column compares the program receipts to the cost of the service. This "net cost of services" amount represents the cost of the service which ends up being paid from money provided by local taxpayers. These net costs are paid from the general receipts which are presented at the bottom of the Statement.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022
UNAUDITED

Table 3 presents a comparison between the total cost of services and the net cost for fiscal years 2022 and 2021:

	Table 3 - Governmental Activities			
	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services	Total Cost of Services	Net Cost of Services
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2021</u>
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 6,382,788	\$ 5,728,663	\$ 6,140,005	\$ 4,312,463
Special	953,734	366,325	889,699	309,572
Vocational	100,592	100,592	102,607	101,593
Other	267,588	267,588	514,931	514,931
Support services:				
Pupil	457,459	242,012	538,434	348,081
Instructional staff	255,754	151,341	199,309	140,462
Board of education	51,388	51,388	30,342	30,342
Administration	975,287	975,287	922,230	922,230
Fiscal	343,455	343,434	309,570	309,528
Operations and maintenance	1,498,032	1,489,436	1,296,158	1,288,277
Pupil transportation	528,363	478,927	543,274	497,501
Central	33,265	33,265	35,070	35,070
Operation of non-instruction services:				
Food service operations	689,007	(285,296)	449,590	(74,434)
Other non-instructional services	2,122	1,941	14,954	14,423
Extracurricular	507,355	339,307	412,285	339,210
Debt service	566,467	566,467	633,333	633,333
Total	<u>\$ 13,612,656</u>	<u>\$ 10,850,677</u>	<u>\$ 13,031,791</u>	<u>\$ 9,722,582</u>

The dependence upon property taxes and other general receipts is apparent as 80 percent of governmental activities in fiscal years 2022 and 2021 was supported through these general receipts. Taxes and other general receipts supported instruction activities by 84 percent in fiscal year 2022 and 69 percent in fiscal year 2021. Operation of food services was fully funded through program receipts in fiscal year 2022. In fiscal year 2022, 33 percent of extracurricular activities expenses was covered by program receipts and in fiscal year 2021, 18 percent was covered by program receipts. This is primarily due to an increase in music and athletic fees, ticket sales and gate receipts. It is apparent that the community, as a whole, is the primary support for the School District.

The School District's Funds

The School District's governmental funds are accounted for using the cash basis of accounting. Total governmental funds had receipts of \$14,082,910 and disbursements of \$13,612,656, net of transfers. The positive change of \$470,254 in fund balance for the fiscal year indicates that the School District is financially sound.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

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

Original and final budgeted receipts, including other financing sources, were budgeted at \$10,003,425 while actual receipts were \$10,873,954. The difference between final budgeted receipts and actual receipts was due, in part, to a change in the state school foundation funding model, which effected state foundation and tuition and fees.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022
UNAUDITED

Original and final disbursements, including other financing uses, were budgeted at \$17,398,658 while actual disbursements were \$10,567,074. The School District was able to restrict spending below what was anticipated. The School District experienced lower instruction and support services disbursements than expected. The School District appropriates conservatively in order to cover disbursements.

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2022, the School District's outstanding debt included \$785,000 in library construction bonds. During fiscal year 2022, the School District made the final debt service payments on the 2015 general obligation refunding bonds and the energy conservation loan. For further information regarding the School District's debt, refer to Note 12 to the basic financial statements.

Current Issues

The challenge for all school districts is to provide quality education to the public while staying within the restrictions imposed by limited, and in some cases shrinking, funding. We rely heavily on local taxes and have very little industry to support the tax base. Our newly prepared financial forecast predicts deficit spending for fiscal year 2024; therefore, the administration will continue to look for ways to delay the deficit by reducing disbursements through wise spending.

Contacting the School District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to reflect the School District's accountability for the monies it receives. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to Paula M. Parish, Treasurer, Bluffton Exempted Village School District, 102 South Jackson St., Bluffton, Ohio 45817.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
JUNE 30, 2022

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,919,128
Net position:	
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	345,352
Debt service	175,271
Federally funded programs	4,297
Food service operations	379,166
Student activities	101,355
Scholarships - expendable	49,129
Scholarships - nonexpendable	10,000
Unrestricted	7,854,558
Total net position	\$ 8,919,128

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	Disbursements	Program Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 6,382,788	\$ 293,478	\$ 360,188	\$ 459	\$ (5,728,663)
Special	953,734	-	587,409	-	(366,325)
Vocational	100,592	-	-	-	(100,592)
Other	267,588	-	-	-	(267,588)
Support services:					
Pupil	457,459	-	215,447	-	(242,012)
Instructional staff	255,754	17	104,396	-	(151,341)
Board of education	51,388	-	-	-	(51,388)
Administration	975,287	-	-	-	(975,287)
Fiscal	343,455	-	-	21	(343,434)
Operations and maintenance	1,498,032	1,263	6,659	674	(1,489,436)
Pupil transportation	528,363	-	4,314	45,122	(478,927)
Central	33,265	-	-	-	(33,265)
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	689,007	108,860	865,443	-	285,296
Other non-instructional services	2,122	130	51	-	(1,941)
Extracurricular activities	507,355	157,741	10,307	-	(339,307)
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	513,937	-	-	-	(513,937)
Interest and fiscal charges	52,530	-	-	-	(52,530)
Total governmental activities	\$ 13,612,656	\$ 561,489	\$ 2,154,214	\$ 46,276	(10,850,677)

General receipts:

Property taxes levied for:	
General purposes	3,918,726
Debt service	141,437
Income taxes levied for:	
Capital purposes	1,015,700
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs	6,228,866
Investment earnings	10,026
Miscellaneous	6,176
Total general receipts	11,320,931
Change in net position	470,254
Net position at beginning of year	8,448,874
Net position at end of year	\$ 8,919,128

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2022

	<u>General</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 7,867,631</u>	<u>\$ 175,271</u>	<u>\$ 876,226</u>	<u>\$ 8,919,128</u>
Fund balances:				
Nonspendable:				
Scholarships	-	-	10,000	10,000
Restricted:				
Capital improvements	-	-	345,352	345,352
Debt service	-	175,271	-	175,271
Federally funded programs	-	-	4,297	4,297
Food service operations	-	-	379,166	379,166
Student activities	-	-	101,355	101,355
Scholarships	-	-	49,129	49,129
Assigned:				
Student instruction	78,060	-	-	78,060
Student and staff support	56,309	-	-	56,309
Subsequent year's appropriations	7,702,113	-	-	7,702,113
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>31,149</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(13,073)</u>	<u>18,076</u>
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 7,867,631</u>	<u>\$ 175,271</u>	<u>\$ 876,226</u>	<u>\$ 8,919,128</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	<u>General</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Receipts:				
Property taxes	\$ 3,918,726	\$ 141,437	\$ -	\$ 4,060,163
Income taxes	-	-	1,015,700	1,015,700
Intergovernmental	6,698,423	65,547	1,653,670	8,417,640
Investment earnings	9,684	342	1,409	11,435
Tuition and fees	266,668	-	-	266,668
Extracurricular	-	-	153,206	153,206
Rental income	1,200	-	4,535	5,735
Charges for services	25,197	-	109,070	134,267
Contributions and donations	1,613	-	10,307	11,920
Miscellaneous	6,176	-	-	6,176
Total receipts	<u>10,927,687</u>	<u>207,326</u>	<u>2,947,897</u>	<u>14,082,910</u>
Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	5,725,327	-	657,461	6,382,788
Special	682,653	-	271,081	953,734
Vocational	100,592	-	-	100,592
Other	267,588	-	-	267,588
Support services:				
Pupil	452,712	-	4,747	457,459
Instructional staff	147,615	-	108,139	255,754
Board of education	51,388	-	-	51,388
Administration	975,287	-	-	975,287
Fiscal	324,815	3,404	15,236	343,455
Operations and maintenance	1,007,723	-	490,309	1,498,032
Pupil transportation	396,130	-	132,233	528,363
Central	33,265	-	-	33,265
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	-	-	689,007	689,007
Other non-instructional services	-	-	2,122	2,122
Extracurricular activities	340,284	-	167,071	507,355
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	-	513,937	-	513,937
Interest and fiscal charges	-	52,530	-	52,530
Total disbursements	<u>10,505,379</u>	<u>569,871</u>	<u>2,537,406</u>	<u>13,612,656</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>422,308</u>	<u>(362,545)</u>	<u>410,491</u>	<u>470,254</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers in	-	3,950	4,950	8,900
Transfers (out)	(8,900)	-	-	(8,900)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(8,900)</u>	<u>3,950</u>	<u>4,950</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	413,408	(358,595)	415,441	470,254
Fund balances at beginning of year	<u>7,454,223</u>	<u>533,866</u>	<u>460,785</u>	<u>8,448,874</u>
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 7,867,631</u>	<u>\$ 175,271</u>	<u>\$ 876,226</u>	<u>\$ 8,919,128</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Receipts:				
Property taxes	\$ 3,752,000	\$ 3,752,000	\$ 3,918,726	\$ 166,726
Intergovernmental	4,750,000	4,750,000	6,698,423	1,948,423
Investment earnings	17,175	17,175	9,684	(7,491)
Tuition and fees	1,466,500	1,466,500	234,848	(1,231,652)
Rental income	2,500	2,500	1,200	(1,300)
Miscellaneous	5,250	5,250	6,176	926
Total receipts	<u>9,993,425</u>	<u>9,993,425</u>	<u>10,869,057</u>	<u>875,632</u>
Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	6,215,037	6,215,036	5,706,672	508,364
Special	1,108,374	1,108,374	684,653	423,721
Vocational	200,000	200,000	150,592	49,408
Adult/continuing	1,000	1,000	-	1,000
Other	551,040	551,040	268,588	282,452
Support services:				
Pupil	610,493	610,493	454,776	155,717
Instructional staff	185,724	185,724	147,776	37,948
Board of education	68,939	68,939	59,588	9,351
Administration	1,109,782	1,109,783	978,411	131,372
Fiscal	340,264	355,264	324,815	30,449
Operations and maintenance	1,240,539	1,240,539	1,010,358	230,181
Pupil transportation	537,712	537,712	397,246	140,466
Central	40,350	40,350	33,265	7,085
Extracurricular activities	360,579	360,579	340,284	20,295
Facilities acquisition and construction	4,798,775	4,783,775	-	4,783,775
Total disbursements	<u>17,368,608</u>	<u>17,368,608</u>	<u>10,557,024</u>	<u>6,811,584</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>(7,375,183)</u>	<u>(7,375,183)</u>	<u>312,033</u>	<u>7,687,216</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Refund of prior year's disbursements	10,000	10,000	4,897	(5,103)
Transfers (out)	(30,050)	(30,050)	(10,050)	20,000
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(20,050)</u>	<u>(20,050)</u>	<u>(5,153)</u>	<u>14,897</u>
Net change in fund balance	(7,395,233)	(7,395,233)	306,880	7,702,113
Fund balance at beginning of year (restated)	7,305,388	7,305,388	7,305,388	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	89,845	89,845	89,845	-
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 7,702,113</u>	<u>\$ 7,702,113</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bluffton Exempted Village School District (the “School District”) is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The School District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The School District provides educational services as authorized by state statute and federal guidelines.

The School District was established in 1861 through the consolidation of existing land areas and school districts. The School District serves an area of approximately 57.5 square miles. It is located in Allen and Hancock counties and includes the entire Village of Bluffton, all of Richland Township, and portions of Monroe and Orange Townships. The School District is staffed by 44 classified employees, 72 certified teaching personnel, and 6 administrative employees who provide services to 1,195 students and other community members. The School District currently operates 3 buildings.

The reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading.

A. Primary Government

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

B. Component Units

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organization’s governing board and (1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization’s resources; the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. The School District is also financially accountable for any organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. Component units also include legally separate, tax-exempt entities whose resources are for the direct benefit of the School District, are accessible to the School District and are significant in amount to the School District. The School District does not have any component units.

C. Jointly Governed Organizations

The School District participates in three jointly governed organizations and two public entity risk pools, and is associated with a related organization. These organizations are the Apollo Career Center, Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (NOACSC), Northwestern Ohio Educational Research Council, Inc., Council of Allen County Schools Health Benefits Consortium, Ohio School Boards Association Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan, and Bluffton Public Library. These organizations are presented in Notes 15, 16 and 17 to the basic financial statements.

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

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in Note 2.C, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

A. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. The statements distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The School District reports no business type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the School District's general receipts.

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

B. Fund Accounting

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The School District's only category of funds is governmental.

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 resources are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used.

The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The General Fund cash balance is available for any purpose provided it is disbursed or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Debt Service Fund - The Debt Service Fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term obligation principal, interest, and related costs.

Other governmental funds of the School District are used to account for grants and other resources whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

C. Basis of Accounting

The School District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the School District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

D. Budgetary Process

All funds are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the five year forecast, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The five year forecast demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates.

The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the fund, function, object, level for all funds.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Board.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment throughout the fiscal year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect 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 represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

E. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the School District is pooled and invested. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".

Investments of the School District's cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the School District are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that were not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts (contra revenue), respectively.

During fiscal year 2022, investments were limited to STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The School District measures its investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For fiscal year 2022, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given 24 hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2022 was \$9,684, which includes \$363 assigned from other funds. Other School District funds had interest receipts of \$1,751.

An analysis of the School District's investment account at fiscal year-end is provided in Note 4.

F. Fund Balance

Fund cash balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable - The nonspendable fund cash balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

Restricted - Fund cash balance is reported as restricted when constraints are placed on the use of resources that are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed - The committed fund cash balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the School District Board of Education (the highest level of decision making authority). Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the School District Board of Education removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund cash balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund cash balance classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund cash balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the School District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes. The School District Board of Education has also assigned fund balance to cover a gap between estimated resources and appropriations in the fiscal year 2023 budget, as well as for various educational activities.

Unassigned - Unassigned fund cash balance is the residual classification for the General Fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund cash balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

The School District applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which restricted and unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) fund cash balance is available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund cash balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund cash balance classifications could be used.

G. Restricted Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. The School District did not have any net cash position restricted by enabling legislation at June 30, 2022.

The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net positions are available.

H. Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the basic financial statements. Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated in the statement of activities.

I. Inventory and Prepaid Items

The School District reports cash disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

J. Capital Assets

Acquisition of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as cash disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements under the cash basis of accounting.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

K. Interfund Receivables/Payables

The School District reports advances-in and advances-out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying financial statements. The School District did not have advance activity during the year.

L. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the School District's cash basis of accounting.

M. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability and net OPEB asset, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension/OPEB plans report investments at fair value.

N. Leases

The School District is the lessee in a lease related to copier equipment under a noncancelable lease. Lease payables are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

O. Long-Term Obligations

The School District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments are reported when paid.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2022, the School District has implemented GASB Statement No. 87, "Leases", GASB Implementation Guide 2019-3, "Leases", GASB Statement No. 89, "Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred before the End of a Construction Period", GASB Implementation Guide 2020-1, "Implementation Guide Update - 2020", GASB Statement No. 92, "Omnibus 2020", GASB Statement No. 93, "Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates", GASB Statement No. 97, "Certain Component Unit Criteria, and Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans—an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 84, and a supersession of GASB Statement No. 32" and certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "Omnibus 2022".

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

GASB Statement No. 87 and GASB Implementation Guide 2019-3 enhance the relevance and consistency of information of the government's leasing activities. It establishes requirements for lease accounting based on the principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. A lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right to use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources. Since the School District does not prepare financial statements using generally accepted accounting principles, the implementation of GASB Statement No. 87 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District. The notes to the basic financial statements include the disclosure requirements under the Statement. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 87 had no effect on beginning fund balance/net position. Refer to the Summary of Significant Accounting Policies for disclosures on the School District's lease activity.

GASB Statement No. 89 establishes accounting requirements for interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period. GASB Statement No. 89 requires that interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period be recognized as an expense in the period in which the cost is incurred for financial statements prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. GASB Statement No. 89 also reiterates that financial statements prepared using the current financial resources measurement focus, interest cost incurred before the end of a construction period should be recognized as an expenditure on a basis consistent with governmental fund accounting principles. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 89 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Implementation Guide 2020-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2020-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 92 enhances comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 92 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 93 establishes accounting and financial reporting requirements related to the replacement of Interbank Offered Rates (IBORs) in hedging derivative instruments and leases. It also identifies appropriate benchmark interest rates for hedging derivative instruments. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 93 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 97 is to (1) increase consistency and comparability related to the reporting of fiduciary component units in circumstances in which a potential component unit does not have a governing board and the primary government performs the duties that a governing board typically would perform; (2) mitigate costs associated with the reporting of certain defined contribution pension plans, defined contribution other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plans, and employee benefit plans other than pension plans or OPEB plans (other employee benefit plans) as fiduciary component units in fiduciary fund financial statements; and (3) enhance the relevance, consistency, and comparability of the accounting and financial reporting for Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 457 deferred compensation plans (Section 457 plans) that meet the definition of a pension plan and for benefits provided through those plans. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 97 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 99 to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

B. Compliance

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the School District prepared its basic financial statements on a cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying basic financial statements omit assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The School District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the District.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use, but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories.

Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the fair 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, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including but not limited to passbook accounts;

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items (1) and (2) above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio);
8. Certain banker's acceptance and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one-hundred-eighty days and two-hundred-seventy days, respectively, from the purchase date in an amount not to exceed forty percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time; and,

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

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. Except as noted above an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Cash on Hand

At fiscal year end, the School District had \$600 in undeposited cash on hand, which is included on the financial statements of the School District as part of "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".

B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2022, the carrying amount of all School District deposits was \$8,179,848. At fiscal year end, the School District's bank balance of \$8,675,169 at June 30, 2022, was not exposed to custodial credit risk because it was insured through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and a \$1,500,000 Letter of Credit, with the School District listed as beneficiary, through the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati.

C. Investments

As of June 30, 2022, the investment with Star Ohio was \$738,680.

Interest Rate Risk: Interest rate risk arises as potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the School District's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Credit Risk: STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAAM by Standard & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The School District's investment policy does not address credit risk beyond the requirements of State statutes.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the treasurer or qualified trustee.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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Concentration of Credit Risk: The School District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer.

NOTE 5 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the cash basis, the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances.

The statement of receipts, disbursements and change in fund balance - budget and actual (budgetary basis) presented for the General Fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget.

The major differences between the budget basis and the cash basis are that:

- (a) In order to determine compliance with Ohio law, and to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, total outstanding encumbrances (budget basis) are recorded as the equivalent of a cash disbursement, as opposed to assigned, committed, or restricted fund cash balance for that portion of outstanding encumbrances (cash basis); and,
- (b) Some funds are included in the General Fund (cash basis) but have separate legally adopted budgets (budget basis).

The adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations for the year on the budget basis to the cash basis for the General Fund are as follows:

Net Change in Fund Balance

	<u>General Fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ 306,880
Funds budgeted elsewhere	11,170
Adjustment for encumbrances	95,358
Cash basis	\$ 413,408

The Uniform School Supplies Fund, Public School Support Fund and the Internal Rotary Fund are legally budgeted as separate special revenue funds; however, these funds are considered part of the General Fund for financial reporting purposes.

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis while the School District fiscal year runs from July through June. First half tax collections are received by the School District in the second half of the fiscal year. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent. Second half tax distributions occur in the first half of the following fiscal year.

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ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES - (Continued)

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property located within the School District. Real property tax receipts received in calendar year 2022 represent the collection of calendar year 2021 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2022 were levied after April 1, 2021, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2021, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised fair value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established. Public utility property tax receipts received in calendar year 2022 represent the collection of calendar year 2021 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2022 became a lien on December 31, 2020, were levied after April 1, 2021, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Allen and Hancock Counties. The respective County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2022, are available to finance fiscal year 2023 operations. The amount of second-half real property taxes available for advance at fiscal year-end can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2022 taxes were collected are:

	2021 Second Half Collections		2022 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Real property:				
Agricultural/residential	\$ 129,618,320	79.57	\$ 146,231,140	80.74
Industrial/commercial	22,030,390	13.52	23,008,850	12.70
Tangible/utility personal property	<u>11,251,680</u>	<u>6.91</u>	<u>11,883,880</u>	<u>6.56</u>
Total	<u>\$ 162,900,390</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 181,123,870</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of	\$ 39.17		\$ 38.12	

NOTE 7 - INCOME TAXES

The School District levies a voted tax of one-half percent for permanent improvements on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was effective on January 1, 2008, and is renewed by the voters in three year increments through December 31, 2025. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts are recorded in the Permanent Improvement Fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2022, the School District contracted with Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority for the following insurance coverage:

Building and business personal property - pool limit	\$350,000,000
Automobile liability	15,000,000
General liability:	
Per occurrence	15,000,000
Aggregate	17,000,000

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years, and there has been no significant reduction in insurance coverage from the prior fiscal year.

The School District participates in the Council of Allen County Schools Health Benefits Consortium (Note 16.A), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of the local school districts within Allen County. The School District pays monthly premiums to the Plan for employee medical and dental benefits. The Plan is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the Plan, a participant is responsible for the payment of all Plan liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

For fiscal year 2022, the School District participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP) (Note 16.B), an insurance purchasing pool. The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating members is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all members in the GRP.

Each member pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated and each member's individual performance is compared to the overall savings of the GRP. A member will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund". This "equity pooling" arrangement ensures that each member share equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that meet GRP's selection criteria. Sedgwick provides administrative, cost control, and actuarial services to the GRP. The School District paid \$2,695 in administrative fees during fiscal year 2022.

NOTE 9 - TAX ABATEMENTS

The School District's property taxes were reduced as follows under enterprise zone agreements:

	<u>Amount of Fiscal Year 2022 Taxes Abated</u>
<u>Enterprise Zone Agreements</u>	
BTMS Investments LLC (Diamond Manufacturing)	\$ 5,090

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The Statewide retirement systems provide both pension benefits and other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

Pensions and OPEB are a component of exchange transactions - between an employer and its employees - of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions/OPEB are provided to an employee - on a deferred-payment basis - as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period.

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represent the School District's proportionate share of each pension/OPEB plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

The Ohio Revised Code limits the School District's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The School District cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the School District does receive the benefit of employees' services in exchange for compensation including pension and OPEB.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes pension costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the retirement systems to amortize unfunded pension liabilities within 30 years. If the pension amortization period exceeds 30 years, each retirement system’s board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension/OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The net pension/net OPEB liability (asset) are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 11 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description - The School District non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3309. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about SERS’ fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire after August 1, 2017
Full benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially reduced benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit; or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit

* Members with 25 years of service credit as of August 1, 2017 will be included in this plan.

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service; 2.2% for the first thirty years of service and 2.5% for years of service credit over 30. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it will be indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0%. In 2021, the Board of Trustees approved a 0.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2022.

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ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14.00% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00%. For fiscal year 2022, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$198,237 for fiscal year 2022.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - Licensed teachers participate in STRS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS website at www.strsoh.org.

New members have a choice of three retirement plans: a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined (CO) Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307.

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0% to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five year of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years of service credit at any age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 9.53% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.47% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12% of the 14% member rate goes to the DC Plan and the remaining 2% is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity after termination of employment at age 50 and after termination of employment.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

New members who choose the DC Plan or Combined Plan will have another opportunity to reselect a permanent plan during their fifth year of membership. Members may remain in the same plan or transfer to another STRS plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's Combined Plan account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS has therefore included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB 68 reporting purposes.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. New members must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit that apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The fiscal year 2022 employer and employee contribution rate of 14% was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2022, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$771,718 for fiscal year 2022.

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.03810460%	0.04206617%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.03795850%</u>	<u>0.04205924%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00014610%</u>	<u>-0.00000693%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,400,559	\$ 5,377,652	\$ 6,778,211

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and plan members to that point. The projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes does not explicitly incorporate the potential effects of legal or contractual funding limitations.

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. For a newly hired employee, actuarial calculations will take into account the employee's entire career with the employer and also take into consideration the benefits, if any, paid to the employee after termination of employment until the death of the employee and any applicable contingent annuitant. In many cases actuarial calculations reflect several decades of service with the employer and the payment of benefits after termination.

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2021, are presented below:

Wage inflation:

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	3.00%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Prior measurement date	3.50% to 18.20%

COLA or ad hoc COLA:

Current measurement date	2.00%
Prior measurement date	2.50%

Investment rate of return:

Current measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
Prior measurement date	7.50% net of investments expense, including inflation

Discount rate:

Current measurement date	7.00%
Prior measurement date	7.50%

Actuarial cost method

Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

In 2021, Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table project to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

In the prior measurement date, the mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females. Mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates. Mortality among disabled members was based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five-year period ended June 30, 2020.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.33) %
US Equity	24.75	5.72
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.55
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.54
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.14
Private Equity	11.00	10.03
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	5.41
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.47
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.28
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Discount Rate - The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by state statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00%). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,330,185	\$ 1,400,559	\$ 616,564

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation are presented below:

	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.45%
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%	0.00%

For the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Tables with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Tables, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Tables with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

STRS Ohio's investment consultant develops an estimate range for the investment return assumption based on the target allocation adopted by the Retirement Board. The target allocation and long-term expected rate of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return *
Domestic Equity	28.00 %	7.35 %
International Equity	23.00	7.55
Alternatives	17.00	7.09
Fixed Income	21.00	3.00
Real Estate	10.00	6.00
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	2.25
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

*10-Year geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2021. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with the rates described previously. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS Ohio's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2021. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2021.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following table represents the net pension liability as of June 30, 2021, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 10,070,329	\$ 5,377,652	\$ 1,412,349

Changes Between Measurement Date and Reporting Date – In February 2022, the Board approved changes to demographic measures that will impact the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation. These demographic measures include retirement, salary increase, disability/termination and mortality assumptions. In March 2022, the SRTS Board approved benefit plan changes to take effect on July 1, 2022. These changes include a one-time three percent cost-of living increase (COLA) to be paid to eligible benefit recipients and the elimination of the age 60 requirement for retirement age and service eligibility that was set to take effect in 2026. The effect on the net pension liability is unknown.

Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by STRS or SERS have an option to choose Social Security or STRS/SERS. As of June 30, 2022, two of the Board of Education Members have elected Social Security. The Board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 10 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. The following type of credit purchased after January 29, 1981 do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. The SERS Retirement Board established the rules for the premiums paid by the retirees for health care coverage for themselves and their dependents or for their surviving beneficiaries. Premiums vary depending on the plan selected, qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy.

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2022, this amount was \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2022, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$25,414.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$25,414 for fiscal year 2022.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net OPEB liability/asset was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total OPEB liability/asset used to calculate the net OPEB liability/asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the School District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.03956860%	0.04206617%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.03919140%</u>	<u>0.04205924%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00037720%</u>	<u>-0.00000693%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 741,729	\$ -	\$ 741,729
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (886,785)	\$ (886,785)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

The total OPEB liability is determined by SERS' actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment terminations). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and plan members to that point. The projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes does not explicitly incorporate the potential effects of legal or contractual funding limitations.

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. For a newly hired employee, actuarial calculations will take into account the employee's entire career with the employer and also take into consideration the benefits, if any, paid to the employee after termination of employment until the death of the employee and any applicable contingent annuitant. In many cases, actuarial calculations reflect several decades of service with the employer and the payment of benefits after termination.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2021 are presented below:

Wage inflation:	
Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	3.00%
Future salary increases, including inflation:	
Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Prior measurement date	3.50% to 18.20%
Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement date	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation
Prior measurement date	7.50% net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal bond index rate:	
Current measurement date	1.92%
Prior measurement date	2.45%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:	
Current measurement date	2.27%
Prior measurement date	2.63%
Medical trend assumption:	
Current measurement date	
Medicare	5.125 to 4.400%
Pre-Medicare	6.750 to 4.400%
Prior measurement date	
Medicare	5.25 to 4.75%
Pre-Medicare	7.00 to 4.75%

In 2021, Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

In the prior measurement date, the mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females. Mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates. Mortality among disabled members was based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five-year period ended June 30, 2020.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2015 through 2020 and was adopted by the Board in 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00%, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2020 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.33) %
US Equity	24.75	5.72
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.55
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.54
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.14
Private Equity	11.00	10.03
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	5.41
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.47
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.28
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2021 was 2.27%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2021 was 2.63%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50% of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination of the SEIR for both the June 30, 2020 and the June 30, 2021 total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is 1.92% at June 30, 2021 and 2.45% at June 30, 2020.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates - The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability, what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (1.27%) and higher (3.27%) than the current discount rate (2.27%). Also shown is what the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 919,092	\$ 741,729	\$ 600,039

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 571,071	\$ 741,729	\$ 969,677

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation, compared with June 30, 2020, are presented below:

	June 30, 2021		June 30, 2020	
Projected salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65		12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65	
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.45%	
Blended discount rate of return	N/A		N/A	
Health care cost trends	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	5.00%	4.00%	5.00%	4.00%
Medicare	-16.18%	4.00%	-6.69%	4.00%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	6.50%	4.00%	6.50%	4.00%
Medicare	29.98%	4.00%	11.87%	4.00%

Projections of benefits include the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and retired plan members.

For healthy retirees the mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Tables with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Tables with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2021 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate was adjusted to 7.00% from 7.45% for the June 30, 2021 valuation.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022 from 2.055% to 2.100%. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in CY2022. The Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

STRS' investment consultant develops an estimate range for the investment return assumption based on the target allocation adopted by the Retirement Board. The target allocation and long-term expected rate of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return *</u>
Domestic Equity	28.00 %	7.35 %
International Equity	23.00	7.55
Alternatives	17.00	7.09
Fixed Income	21.00	3.00
Real Estate	10.00	6.00
Liquidity Reserves	<u>1.00</u>	2.25
Total	<u><u>100.00 %</u></u>	

*10-Year geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB asset was 7.00% as of June 30, 2021. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2021. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2021.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate - The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2021, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
	School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 748,309	\$ 886,785

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
	School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 997,773	\$ 886,785

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

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

<u>Description</u>	<u>Balance 06/30/21</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Balance 06/30/22</u>	<u>Amount Due in One Year</u>
2015 School Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds - Private Placement, 3.27%	\$ 420,000	\$ -	\$ (420,000)	\$ -	\$ -
2002 Library Construction and Improvement General Obligation Bonds, 5.5%	875,000	-	(90,000)	785,000	95,000
Energy Conservation HB 264 Loan, 3.947%	<u>3,937</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,937)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total debt obligations	<u>\$ 1,298,937</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (513,937)</u>	<u>\$ 785,000</u>	<u>\$ 95,000</u>

2015 School Improvement Refunding Bonds - On March 12, 2015, the School District refinanced the \$885,000 Term Bonds, which were part of the 2005 School Improvement Bonds, with the issuance of \$885,000 in Private Placement Term Bonds. This transaction resulted in a savings to local taxpayers of \$62,023 over the life of the bonds. The bonds matured on December 1, 2021.

2002 Library Construction and Improvement Bonds - On February 1, 2002, Library Construction and Improvement General Obligation Bonds were issued in the amount of \$1,965,000 for the purpose of renovating, improving and constructing an addition to the Bluffton-Richland Public Library. These bonds are payable from a voted debt service tax levied on all taxable property in the School District.

Energy Conservation HB264 Loan - The School District obtained a loan for energy conserving measures in accordance with the House Bill 264 School Energy Conservation Financing Program, at a 5% rate of interest. The School District was awarded \$519,301. Of this amount \$309,811 was received in fiscal year 2007 and \$209,648 was received in fiscal year 2006. The loan was retired from the debt service fund with payments beginning in August 2006. On July 15, 2011, the School District refinanced the Energy Conservation HB264 Loan, in the amount of \$388,593 at a 3.947% fixed rate of interest, which matured on July 15, 2021.

Principal and interest requirements to retire long-term liabilities outstanding at June 30, 2022 are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Library Construction Bonds</u>		
	<u>General Obligation Bonds</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023	\$ 95,000	\$ 40,562	\$ 135,562
2024	100,000	35,200	135,200
2025	105,000	29,563	134,563
2026	110,000	23,650	133,650
2027	120,000	17,325	137,325
2028 - 2029	<u>255,000</u>	<u>14,162</u>	<u>269,162</u>
Total	<u>\$ 785,000</u>	<u>\$ 160,462</u>	<u>\$ 945,462</u>

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation of the School District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the School District. The Code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the School District.

The School District had a voted debt margin of \$15,691,419 and an unvoted debt margin of \$181,124.

NOTE 13 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and to use unrestricted revenues collected in the General fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

Transfers for fiscal year 2022, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund statements:

<u>Transfers Out</u>	<u>Transfers In</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General fund	Debt Service Fund	\$ 3,950
	Nonmajor special revenue fund:	
	Student Activities	<u>4,950</u>
	Total	<u>\$ 8,900</u>

NOTE 14 - SET-ASIDE REQUIREMENTS

The School District is required by State statute to annually set aside, in the General Fund, an amount based on a statutory formula for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the fiscal year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. These amounts must be carried forward and used for the same purposes in future years.

The following cash basis information identifies the changes in the fund balance reserve for capital improvements during fiscal year 2022.

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside reserve balance June 30, 2021	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	210,899
Current year offsets	<u>(210,899)</u>
Total	<u>\$ -</u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2023	<u>\$ -</u>

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

NOTE 15 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Apollo Career Center

The Apollo Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating school districts' elected boards, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. To obtain financial information write to the Apollo Career Center, Maria Rellinger, who serves as Treasurer, at 3325 Shawnee Road, Lima, Ohio 45806.

B. Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative

The School District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (NOACSC), which is a computer consortium. NOACSC is an association of educational entities within the boundaries of Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Seneca, Van Wert, Wood and Wyandot Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member educational entities. The governing board of NOACSC consists of two representatives from each county elected by majority vote of all charter member educational entities within each county. Financial information can be obtained from Ben Thaxton, Director or Brenda Core, Treasurer, at 4277 East Road, Elida Ohio 45807.

C. Northwestern Ohio Educational Research Council, Inc.

The Northwestern Ohio Educational Research Council, Inc. (NOERC) is a jointly governed organization formed to bring educational entities into a better understanding of their common educational problems, facilitate and conduct practical educational research, coordinate educational research among members, provide a means for evaluating and disseminating the results of research, serve as a repository for research and legislative materials, and provide opportunities for training.

The NOERC serves a twenty-five county area in Northwest Ohio. The Board of Directors consists of superintendents from two educational service centers, two exempted village school districts, five local school districts, and five city school districts, as well as representatives from two private or parochial schools and three institutions of higher education. Each active member is entitled to one vote on all issues addressed by the Board of Directors. Financial information can be obtained from the Northwestern Ohio Educational Research Council, Inc., 15714 Trenton Road, Sunbury, Ohio 43074.

NOTE 16 - PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOLS

A. Council of Allen County Schools Health Benefits Consortium

The School District participates in the Council of Allen County Schools Health Benefits Consortium (Consortium), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of the school districts within Allen County and the Allen County Educational Service Center. The Consortium is organized as a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical and dental benefits to the employees of the participants. Each participant's superintendent is appointed to a Board of Directors which advises the Trustee, Allen County Educational Service Center, concerning aspects of the administration of the Consortium.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

NOTE 16 - PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOLS - (Continued)

Each school district decides which plan offered by the Board of Trustees will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Trust is by written application subject to acceptance by the Board of Trustees and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information can be obtained from Craig Kupferberg, Superintendent, Allen County ESC and Chairman of the Council of Allen County Schools Health Benefits Consortium, 1920 Slabtown Road, Lima, Ohio 45801.

B. Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The School District participates in a group rating plan for workers' compensation as established in Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (the "Plan") was established through the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) as an insurance purchasing pool.

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

NOTE 17 - RELATED ORGANIZATION

Bluffton Public Library

The Bluffton Public Library is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio created under Chapter 3375 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Library is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the School District Board of Education. The Board of Trustees possesses its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel and does not depend on the School District for operational subsidies.

Although the School District does serve as the taxing authority and may issue tax related debt on behalf of the Library, its role is limited to a ministerial function. The determination to request approval of a tax, the rate and the purpose are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Trustees. Financial information can be obtained from the Bluffton Public Library, James Weaver, Fiscal Officer, at 145 S. Main Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817.

NOTE 18 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements, and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2022.

B. Litigation

The School District is involved in no material litigation as either plaintiff or defendant.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

NOTE 18 - CONTINGENCIES - (Continued)

C. Foundation Funding

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Traditional districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the School District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODE has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2022 Foundation funding for the School District. As a result of the fiscal year 2022 review, the District is owed an additional amount of \$4,863.75 from ODE. This amount has not been included in the financial statements.

NOTE 19 - COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During fiscal year 2022, the School District received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing recovery measures may impact subsequent periods of the School District. The impact on the School District's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
<i>(Passed through Ohio Department of Education)</i>		
Child Nutrition Cluster:		
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)		
School Breakfast Program	10.553	\$ 9,322
National School Lunch Program	10.555	35,281
Cash Assistance:		
School Breakfast Program	10.553	136,972
National School Lunch Program	10.555	518,398
COVID-19 Special Milk Program for Children	10.556	33,419
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		<u>733,392</u>
COVID-19 Pandemic EBT Administrative Costs	10.649	614
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		<u>734,006</u>
U.S FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION		
<i>Direct Program</i>		
COVID-19 Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) Program	32.009	86,956
Total U.S. Federal Communications Commission		<u>86,956</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
<i>(Passed through Ohio Department of Education)</i>		
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	70,500
Special Education Cluster (IDEA):		
Special Education_Grants to States	84.027	221,522
COVID-19 Special Education_Grants to States	84.027X	52,394
Special Education_Preschool Grants	84.173	7,299
COVID-19 Special Education_Preschool Grants	84.173X	3,965
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)		<u>285,180</u>
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	18,322
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	12,736
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund		
COVID-19 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER I & II) Fund	84.425D	88,593
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund	84.425U	226,445
Total COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund		<u>315,038</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education		<u>701,776</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		<u>\$ 1,522,738</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

NOTE A - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Bluffton Exempted Village School District (the School District) under programs of the federal government for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the School District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the School District.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following, the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

The School District has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

The School District commingles cash receipts from the U.S. Department of Agriculture with similar State grants. When reporting expenditures on this Schedule, the School District assumes it expends federal monies first.

NOTE E – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

The School District reports commodities consumed on the Schedule at the entitlement value. The School District allocated donated food commodities to the respective programs that benefitted from the use of those donated food commodities.



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

Bluffton Exempted Village School District
Allen County
102 S. Jackson Street
Bluffton, Ohio 45817

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Bluffton Exempted Village School District, Allen County, (the School District) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 20, 2023, wherein we noted the School District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing recovery measures may impact subsequent periods of the School District.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances 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 School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control 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 and correct misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the School District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School District's financial statements are free from 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 financial statements. 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2022-001.

School District's Response to Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The School District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 20, 2023



88 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
(800) 282-0370

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS
APPLICABLE TO THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

Bluffton Exempted Village School District
Allen County
102 S. Jackson Street
Bluffton, Ohio 45817

To the Board of Education

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We have audited Bluffton Exempted Village School District’s, Allen County, (the School District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on Bluffton Exempted Village School District’s major federal program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. Bluffton Exempted Village School District’s major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor’s Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Bluffton Exempted Village School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for the major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School District’s compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

The School District's Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the School District's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School District's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the School District's compliance with the requirements of the major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the School District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of this testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 20, 2023

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**BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
ALLEN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2022**

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	Child Nutrition Cluster (AL #10.553, 10.555, 10.556)
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
(d)(1)(ix)	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	No

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

FINDING NUMBER 2022-001

Noncompliance Citation

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2022-001
(Continued)**

Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(B), which further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38, requires the School District to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The School District prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, report on the cash basis of accounting rather than GAAP. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, deferred inflows/outflows of resources, fund equities/net position, and disclosures that, while presumed material, cannot be determined at this time.

Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 the School District may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the School District's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the District.

To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the School District should prepare its financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

OFFICIALS' RESPONSE:

The Bluffton Exempted Village School District plans to continue reporting using the cash basis of accounting as directed by the Board of Education on September 15, 2003. Financial Statements are prepared using the GASB34/Other Comprehensive Basis of Accounting (OCBOA) format because the School District believes this to be more cost efficient.

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS
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None

Bluffton Exempted Village Schools

102 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817-1293

(419)358-5901 FAX (419) 358-4871

Dr. Gregory J. Denecker, Superintendent

Paula M. Parish, Treasurer

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS 2 CFR 200.511(b) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2021-001	Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin Code § 117-2-03(B) – Failed to file annual financial reports using generally accepted accounting principles. First reported in fiscal year 2003.	Not Corrected	The School District acknowledges this requirement but will continue to report on the cash basis in order to save resources for the District Will be repeated as 2022-001.

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Bluffton Exempted Village Schools

102 S. Jackson Street, Bluffton, Ohio 45817-1293

(419)358-5901 FAX (419) 358-4871

Dr. Gregory J. Denecker, Superintendent

Paula M. Parish, Treasurer

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

2 CFR § 200.511(c)

JUNE 30, 2022

Finding Number:	2022-001
Planned Corrective Action:	The School District acknowledges this requirement but will continue to report on the cash basis in order to save resources for the District.
Anticipated Completion Date:	N/A
Responsible Contact Person:	Paula M. Parish, Treasurer

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



BLUFFTON EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALLEN COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 5/11/2023

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov