



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2022 AND 2021**

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**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2022 AND 2021**

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Hardin Northern Local School District  
Hardin County  
11589 State Route 81  
Dola, Ohio 45835

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 Hardin Northern Local School District, Hardin County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the 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 District, as of June 30, 2022 and 2021, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General fund for the fiscal years 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 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 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.

***Emphasis of Matter***

As discussed in Note 16 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing recovery measure may impact subsequent periods of the 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 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 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 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.

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 16, 2023, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. 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 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

June 16, 2023

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**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS  
JUNE 30, 2022

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 8,167,878</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	\$ 41,286
Classroom facilities maintenance	23,976
Debt service	163,768
State funded programs	205,673
Federally funded programs	675
Food service operations	116,084
Extracurricular	111,718
Other purposes	7,897
Unrestricted	<u>7,496,801</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 8,167,878</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	Program Receipts			Net (Disbursements)
	Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Receipts and Changes in Net Position
				Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental activities:</b>				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 2,647,746	\$ 86,807	\$ 87,147	\$ (2,473,792)
Special	444,228	8,022	316,533	(119,673)
Vocational	252,453	-	34,718	(217,735)
Other	11,620	-	13,616	1,996
Support services:				
Pupil	369,446	-	224,597	(144,849)
Instructional staff	266,874	-	43,535	(223,339)
Board of education	51,095	-	-	(51,095)
Administration	533,689	-	-	(533,689)
Fiscal	219,584	-	-	(219,584)
Operations and maintenance	783,319	-	2,500	(780,819)
Pupil transportation	224,054	-	13,982	(210,072)
Central	18,925	-	-	(18,925)
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	283,912	30,675	283,563	30,326
Extracurricular activities	411,266	215,771	18,929	(176,566)
Facilities acquisition and construction	4,000	-	-	(4,000)
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	125,000	-	-	(125,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	78,847	-	-	(78,847)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 6,726,058</u>	<u>\$ 341,275</u>	<u>\$ 1,039,120</u>	<u>(5,345,663)</u>
<b>General receipts:</b>				
Property taxes levied for:				
General purposes				1,933,472
Debt service				191,067
Capital outlay				90,759
Classroom facilities maintenance				23,051
Payments in lieu of taxes				285,490
Income taxes levied for:				
General purposes				1,215,588
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs				2,853,586
Investment earnings				21,111
Miscellaneous				8,437
Total general receipts				<u>6,622,561</u>
Change in net position				1,276,898
<b>Net position at beginning of year</b>				<u>6,890,980</u>
<b>Net position at end of year</b>				<u>\$ 8,167,878</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>General</u>	<u>Permanent Improvement</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Assets:</b>				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,894,946	\$ 1,602,591	\$ 670,341	\$ 8,167,878
<b>Fund balances:</b>				
Restricted:				
Debt service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 163,768	\$ 163,768
Capital improvements	-	736	40,550	41,286
Classroom facilities maintenance	-	-	23,976	23,976
Food service operations	-	-	116,084	116,084
State funded programs	-	-	205,673	205,673
Federally funded programs	-	-	675	675
Extracurricular	-	-	111,718	111,718
Other purposes	-	-	7,897	7,897
Assigned:				
Student instruction	106,616	-	-	106,616
Student and staff support	94,049	-	-	94,049
Extracurricular activities	5,220	-	-	5,220
Capital improvements	-	1,601,855	-	1,601,855
Unassigned	5,689,061	-	-	5,689,061
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 5,894,946</u>	<u>\$ 1,602,591</u>	<u>\$ 670,341</u>	<u>\$ 8,167,878</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN 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>Permanent Improvement</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Receipts:</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 1,933,472	\$ 90,759	\$ 214,118	\$ 2,238,349
Income taxes	1,215,588	-	-	1,215,588
Intergovernmental	3,136,344	10,188	727,225	3,873,757
Investment earnings	21,000	-	120	21,120
Tuition and fees	94,619	-	-	94,619
Extracurricular	-	-	212,289	212,289
Charges for services	-	-	30,675	30,675
Contributions and donations	-	-	7,216	7,216
Payment in lieu of taxes	285,490	-	-	285,490
Miscellaneous	12,129	-	11,724	23,853
Total receipts	<u>6,698,642</u>	<u>100,947</u>	<u>1,203,367</u>	<u>8,002,956</u>
<b>Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	2,560,004	400	87,342	2,647,746
Special	287,492	-	156,736	444,228
Vocational	252,453	-	-	252,453
Other	-	-	11,620	11,620
Support services:				
Pupil	288,690	-	80,756	369,446
Instructional staff	223,339	-	43,535	266,874
Board of education	51,095	-	-	51,095
Administration	533,689	-	-	533,689
Fiscal	213,481	1,797	4,306	219,584
Operations and maintenance	587,527	94,014	101,778	783,319
Pupil transportation	224,054	-	-	224,054
Central	18,925	-	-	18,925
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	-	-	283,912	283,912
Extracurricular activities	217,986	-	193,280	411,266
Facilities acquisition and construction	-	4,000	-	4,000
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	-	-	125,000	125,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	-	78,847	78,847
Total disbursements	<u>5,458,735</u>	<u>100,211</u>	<u>1,167,112</u>	<u>6,726,058</u>
Excess of receipts over disbursements	<u>1,239,907</u>	<u>736</u>	<u>36,255</u>	<u>1,276,898</u>
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>				
Transfers in	-	900,000	-	900,000
Transfers (out)	(900,000)	-	-	(900,000)
Advances in	15,366	-	-	15,366
Advances (out)	-	-	(15,366)	(15,366)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(884,634)</u>	<u>900,000</u>	<u>(15,366)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	355,273	900,736	20,889	1,276,898
<b>Fund balances at beginning of year</b>	<u>5,539,673</u>	<u>701,855</u>	<u>649,452</u>	<u>6,890,980</u>
<b>Fund balances at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 5,894,946</u>	<u>\$ 1,602,591</u>	<u>\$ 670,341</u>	<u>\$ 8,167,878</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
<b>Receipts:</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 1,672,851	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,933,472	\$ 133,472
Income taxes	1,020,062	1,100,000	1,215,588	115,588
Intergovernmental	2,909,333	3,084,586	3,136,344	51,758
Investment earnings	7,119	8,500	21,000	12,500
Tuition and fees	492,780	59,000	94,619	35,619
Payment in lieu of taxes	268,226	287,000	285,490	(1,510)
Miscellaneous	4,711	5,000	4,399	(601)
Total receipts	<u>6,375,082</u>	<u>6,344,086</u>	<u>6,690,912</u>	<u>346,826</u>
<b>Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	2,916,959	2,584,142	2,613,533	(29,391)
Special	525,394	439,951	291,034	148,917
Vocational	210,571	296,860	302,138	(5,278)
Support services:				
Pupil	250,267	280,279	293,870	(13,591)
Instructional staff	223,780	260,210	245,821	14,389
Board of education	61,616	82,714	53,204	29,510
Administration	485,711	544,580	535,142	9,438
Fiscal	217,560	241,691	214,042	27,649
Operations and maintenance	552,278	672,303	613,191	59,112
Pupil transportation	207,588	248,724	253,768	(5,044)
Central	12,865	16,424	19,040	(2,616)
Extracurricular activities	154,679	176,090	219,334	(43,244)
Total disbursements	<u>5,819,268</u>	<u>5,843,968</u>	<u>5,654,117</u>	<u>189,851</u>
Excess of receipts over disbursements	<u>555,814</u>	<u>500,118</u>	<u>1,036,795</u>	<u>536,677</u>
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>				
Refund of prior year's disbursements	1,000	1,000	141	(859)
Transfers (out)	(350,000)	(900,000)	(900,000)	-
Advances in	15,366	15,366	15,366	-
Sale of capital assets	-	-	4,038	4,038
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(333,634)</u>	<u>(883,634)</u>	<u>(880,455)</u>	<u>3,179</u>
Net change in fund balance	222,180	(383,516)	156,340	539,856
<b>Fund balance at beginning of year</b>	5,463,244	5,463,244	5,463,244	-
<b>Prior year encumbrances appropriated</b>	69,477	69,477	69,477	-
<b>Fund balance at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 5,754,901</u>	<u>\$ 5,149,205</u>	<u>\$ 5,689,061</u>	<u>\$ 539,856</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Hardin Northern Local School District (the “District”) is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The District provides educational services as authorized by State statute and/or federal guidelines. The District was established in 1952 and serves an area of approximately eighty-eight miles. It is located in Hardin and Hancock Counties and includes all of Blanchard and Washington Townships and portions of Pleasant, Cessna, Van Buren and Jackson Townships. The District employs 38 certified employees, 20 classified employees and 4 administrators to provide services to 373 students in grades K through 12 and various community groups.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

As discussed in Note 2.D, these financial statements are presented on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In cases where these cash basis statements contain items that are the same as, or similar to, those items in financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP, similar informative disclosures are provided. The following are the Districts more significant accounting policies.

**A. Reporting Entity**

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, “The Financial Reporting Entity” as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, “Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units” and GASB Statement No. 61, “The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34”. The reporting entity is composed of the primary government and component units. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. For the District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the District.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the District is financially accountable. The District is financially accountable for an organization if the District appoints a voting majority of the organization’s Governing Board and (1) the District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization’s resources; or (3) the District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or (4) the District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the District in that the District approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. Certain organizations are also included as component units if the nature and significance of the relationship between the primary government and the organization is such that exclusion by the primary government would render the primary government’s financial statements incomplete or misleading. Based upon the application of these criteria, the District has no component units. The basic financial statements of the reporting entity include only those of the District (the primary government).

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

The following organizations are described due to their relationship to the District:

*JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS*

Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO)

WOCO is a jointly governed organization composed of 28 school districts, 3 educational service centers, 3 parochial schools and 4 community schools. It was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these schools supports WOCO based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. In the event of dissolution of the organization, all current members will share in net obligations or asset liquidations in a ratio proportionate to their last twelve months financial contributions. WOCO is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of superintendents of the members school districts. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the board. In accordance with GASB Statements Nos. 14 and 61, the Center does not have an equity interest in WOCO as the residual interest in the net resources of an organization upon dissolution is not equivalent to an equity interest. Financial information can be obtained from Donn Walls, who serves as Director, at 129 East Court Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

Apollo Career Center (the Career Center)

The Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio, which provides vocational education to students. The Career Center is operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating school districts' elected boards. The degree of control exercised by the School District is limited to its representation on the Board. The Board is its own budgeting and taxing authority. Financial information can be obtained from the Apollo Career Center, 3325 Shawnee Road, Lima, Ohio 45806.

Hardin County Schools Consortium Local Professional Development Committee (the Consortium)

The Consortium is an association of five school districts within Hardin County. The Consortium was formed to plan, promote, and facilitate effective and efficient professional educator license renewal standards and staff development activities. The governing board of the Consortium consists of fifteen members, eight of which are teachers and seven of which are administrators. Financial information can be obtained from Keith Thomas, Midwest Regional Education Service Center, 121 South Opera Street, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311.

*INSURANCE POOLS*

CompManagement Workers' Compensation Group Rating (the Group)

The District participates in the CompManagement Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (the "Group"). Each year, the participants in the Group pay an enrollment fee to cover the costs of administering the program. Participation in the Group is limited to participants that can meet the Group's selection criteria.

Hardin County School Employees' Health and Benefit Plan and Trust

The Hardin County School Employees' Health and Welfare Benefit Plan and Trust (the "Trust") is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of six school districts and the District. The Trust is organized as a Voluntary Employee Benefit association under Section 501(C)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides sick, accident and other benefits to the employees of the participating school districts.

Each participating school district's superintendent is appointed to an Administrative Committee, which advises the Trustee, Ohio Bank, concerning aspects of the administration of the Trust.

Each school district and the District decides which plans offered by the Administrative Committee will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Trust is by written application subject to acceptance by the Administrative Committee and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information may be obtained from Mark Schlagheck, Chief Fiscal Officer, Jefferson Health Plan 2023 Sunset Boulevard, Steubenville, Ohio, 43952.



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

*RELATED ORGANIZATION*

Hardin Northern Public Library (the Library)

The Library is a distinct 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 Hardin Northern Board of Education. The Board of Trustees possesses its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel, and does not depend on the District for operational subsidies. Although the District serves as the taxing authority, 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 Hardin Northern Public Library, Fiscal Officer, P.O. Box 114, 153 North Main Street, Dunkirk, Ohio 45836.

**B. Basis of Presentation**

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position – cash basis and the statement of activities – cash basis display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The government-wide statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the District's governmental activities. These disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the District. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing on the cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the District.

All cash assets and net cash position associated with the operation of the District are included on the statement of net position – cash basis.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type. The District had no fiduciary funds at June 30, 2022.

**C. Fund Accounting**

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain District functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary.

*GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS*

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. The District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants) and other non-exchange transactions as governmental funds. Expendable cash assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. The following are the District's major governmental funds:

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

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

*Permanent Improvement fund* - The permanent improvement fund is used to account for resources that are restricted for the acquisition, construction or improvement of permanent assets. The fund balance of this fund is restricted for capital improvements.

The nonmajor governmental funds of the District are used to account for (a) financial receipts that are restricted, committed, or assigned to disbursements for capital outlays including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets, (b) specific receipts that are restricted or committed to disbursements for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects, and (c) financial receipts that are restricted, committed, or assigned to disbursements for principal and interest

*PROPRIETARY FUNDS*

Proprietary funds are used to account for the ongoing activities which are similar to those often found in the private sector. The District has no proprietary funds.

*FIDUCIARY FUNDS*

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that have certain characteristics. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The District has no fiduciary funds.

**D. Basis of Accounting**

Although Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the District's financial report to follow GAAP, the District chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP. The District recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraph.

Budgetary presentations report budgetary cash disbursements when a commitment is made (i.e. when an encumbrance is approved). For the general fund, the difference between disbursements reported in the fund statement disbursements reported in the budgetary statement are due to current year encumbrances being added to disbursements reported on the budgetary statement.

**E. Budgetary Process**

All funds, other than custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriation resolution and the certificate of estimated resources, which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amounts that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and set annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The General fund legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the object level. All other funds legal level of control has been established at the fund level.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the District Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original and final budgeted amounts in the budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the certificate when the original and final appropriations were adopted.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations may not exceed estimated revenues. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried over from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the year.

**F. Cash and Investments**

To improve cash management, all cash received by the District is pooled in a central bank account. Monies for all funds are maintained in this account or temporarily used to purchase short-term investments. Individual fund integrity is maintained through District's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the financial statements.

During fiscal year 2022, the District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of 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 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 year 2022 amounted to \$21,000, which includes \$4,965 assigned from other funds.

For presentation on the financial statements, investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the District are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that are not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

An analysis of the District's deposits and investment at year end is provided in Note 4.

**G. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

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

**H. Capital Assets**

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

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

**I. Interfund Balances**

On fund financial statements, the District reports advances in and advances out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying fund financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. Advances are eliminated in the governmental activities column on the statement of net position.

**J. Compensated Absences**

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

**K. Long-Term Obligations**

Bonds and other long-term obligations are not recognized as a liability in the financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. These statements report proceeds of debt when cash is received, and debt service disbursements for debt principal and interest payments.

**L. Fund Cash Balance**

Fund cash balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the 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 District had no nonspendable fund cash balances at June 30, 2022.

*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 District Board of Education (the highest level of decision making authority). Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the 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.

*Assigned* - Amounts in the assigned fund cash balance classification are intended to be used by the 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 District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

*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.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

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

The District applies restricted receipts first when disbursements 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.

**M. Restricted Assets**

Assets are reported as restricted assets when limitations on their use change the normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments or imposed by enabling legislation. The District did not have any restricted cash assets at June 30, 2022.

**N. Net Cash Position**

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

**O. Interfund Activity**

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.

**P. 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.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

**A. Change in Accounting Principles**

For fiscal year 2022, the 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".

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 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 District.

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 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 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 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 District.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)**

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 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 District.

**B. Compliance**

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the 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 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 District into three categories.

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

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

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

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, and Government National Mortgage 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;
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 bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

Protection of the deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institutions participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial 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 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 District had \$1,964 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the 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 District deposits was \$354,457 and the bank balance of all District deposits was \$379,527. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by the FDIC and \$129,527 was exposed to custodial credit risk discussed below.



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

**C. Investments**

As of June 30, 2022, the District had the following investment and maturity:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>NAV</u>	<u>Investment Maturity 6 months or less</u>
STAR Ohio	<u>\$ 7,811,457</u>	<u>\$ 7,811,457</u>

*Interest Rate Risk:* Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates substantially increase. The District has no policy limiting investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. State statute requires that an investment mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to an specific obligation or debt of the District, and that investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

*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 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 District will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The 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.

*Concentration of Credit Risk:* The District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the District at June 30, 2022:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>NAV</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
STAR Ohio	<u>\$ 7,811,457</u>	<u>\$ 100.00</u>

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

**D. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis**

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the note disclosure above to cash and investments as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2022:

<u>Cash and investments per note disclosure</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 354,457
Investments	7,811,457
Cash on hand	<u>1,964</u>
Total	<u>\$ 8,167,878</u>
 <u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 8,167,878</u>

**NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS**

**A. Advances**

Advances in/advances out consisted of the following at June 30, 2022 as reported on the fund statement:

<u>Advances In</u>	<u>Advances Out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	<u>\$ 15,366</u>

The primary purpose of the advance is to cover negative cash balances in specific funds where revenues were not received by June 30. Advances between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

**B. Transfers**

Transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, as reported on the fund statements, consist of the following:

<u>Transfers in</u>	<u>Transfers out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Permanent Improvement fund	General fund	<u>\$ 900,000</u>

Transfers are used to move cash receipts from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to disburse them and to use unrestricted cash receipts collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. All transfers were made in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements; therefore, no transfers are reported in the statement of activities.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis while the District fiscal year runs from July through June. First half tax collections are received by the District in the second half of the fiscal year. Second half tax distributions occur in the first half of the following fiscal year.

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property. 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 revenues received in calendar year 2022 represent the collection of calendar year 2021 taxes. Public utility real and 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 District receives property taxes from Hardin and Hancock Counties. The County Auditors periodically advance to the 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 2022 operations. The amount available to be advanced 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>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 70,869,310	90.16	\$ 71,351,280	87.09
Public utility personal	<u>7,731,390</u>	<u>9.84</u>	<u>10,574,710</u>	<u>12.91</u>
Total	<u>\$ 78,600,700</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 81,925,990</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$40.55		\$40.45	

**NOTE 7 - INCOME TAX**

The District levies a voted tax of 1¾% for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The 1% was effective on January 1, 1991 and the ¾ of 1% was effective on January 1, 2006 and is a continuing tax. 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 District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts are credited to the general fund.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

**NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

A. During fiscal year 2022, the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term obligations:

	Balance Outstanding <u>06/30/21</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	Balance Outstanding <u>06/30/22</u>	Amounts Due in <u>One Year</u>
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>					
Refunding school improvement bond 2020, 3.30%	\$ 2,580,000	\$ -	\$ (125,000)	\$ 2,455,000	\$ 125,000
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 2,580,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (125,000)</u>	<u>\$ 2,455,000</u>	<u>\$ 125,000</u>

In May of 2020, the District issued \$2,685,000 in general obligation bonds for the refunding of the 2008 school improvement bonds. This refunding resulted in bond issuance costs of \$33,477 and payments to refunded bond escrow agent of \$2,745,873 and was undertaken to reduce the combined total debt service payments over a seventeen-year period by \$243,921. These current interest bonds have a final maturity of December 1, 2036 and an interest rate of 3.30%. Interest payments on the current interest bonds are due on June 1 and December 1 of each year. Payments of principal and interest are recorded as cash disbursements of the bond retirement fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

The following is a summary of the District's future annual debt service requirements for long-term obligations:

Fiscal Year <u>Ending June 30,</u>	Refunding <u>School Improvement Bonds</u>	
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2023	\$ 125,000	\$ 75,005
2024	130,000	71,008
2025	140,000	66,776
2026	145,000	62,308
2027	145,000	57,762
2028 - 2032	795,000	216,864
2033 - 2037	<u>975,000</u>	<u>80,491</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 2,455,000</u>	 <u>\$ 630,214</u>

**B. Legal Debt Margin**

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530 which became effective March 30, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2022, are a voted debt margin of \$5,082,107 (including available funds of \$163,768) and an unvoted debt margin of \$81,926.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. Comprehensive**

The 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. For fiscal year 2022, the District contracted with the Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority (SORSA) for the following insurance coverage:

<u>Type of Coverage</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
Buildings and contents - replacement cost	\$ 25,542,367
General Liability:	
Per occurrence	15,000,000
Aggregate	17,000,000
Vehicle Liability	15,000,000
Uninsured Motorist	1,000,000
Public Employees Dishonesty	1,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded commercial coverage in any of the past three years. There were no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year.

**B. Workers' Compensation**

The District participates in the CompManagement Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (the "Group"). Each year, the participants in the Group pay an enrollment fee to cover the costs of administering the program. Participation in the Group is limited to participants that can meet the Group's selection criteria.

**C. Employee Health Benefits**

The District participates in the Hardin County Employees' Health and Welfare Benefit Plan and Trust (the Trust), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of six school districts and the Ada Public Library. The District pays monthly premiums to the Trust for medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. The Trust is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the Trust, a participant is responsible for the payment of all Trust liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

**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 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.

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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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 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](http://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.

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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2022.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the 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 District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$90,575 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](http://www.strsoh.org).

New members have a choice of three retirement plans: a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined (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.

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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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.

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 District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$369,137 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 District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the 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:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.01815190%	0.02050049%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.01986410%</u>	<u>0.02108693%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.00171220%</u>	<u>0.00058644%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 732,928	\$ 2,696,154	\$ 3,429,082



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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

*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.

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 system expenses
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. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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.

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 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.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,219,412	\$ 732,928	\$ 322,654

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**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, compared with June 30, 2020 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.

***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.

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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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 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
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,048,887	\$ 2,696,154	\$ 708,099

**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 STRS 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.

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

***Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

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

***Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)***

**Health Care Plan Description** - The 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. 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](http://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.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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 District's surcharge obligation was \$11,826.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$11,826 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](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

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 District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the 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	0.01863720%	0.02050049%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.02022930%</u>	<u>0.02108693%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.00159210%</u>	<u>0.00058644%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 382,856	\$ -	\$ 382,856
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (444,601)	\$ (444,601)

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

*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.

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%

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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.

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:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
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>	

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

**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 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 (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%).

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 474,405	\$ 382,856	\$ 309,720
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 294,768	\$ 382,856	\$ 500,515



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB 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, compared with June 30, 2020, are presented below:

	June 30, 2021		June 30, 2020	
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
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	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%		0.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.45%	
Blended discount rate of return	N/A		N/A	
Health care cost trends				
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.

**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.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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:

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.

**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 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.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 375,174	\$ 444,601	\$ 502,596
		Current Trend Rate	
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 500,246	\$ 444,601	\$ 375,790

**NOTE 12 - 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.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING - (Continued)**

The statement of cash 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 or committed 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 is as follows:

**Net Change in Fund Cash Balance**

	<u>General fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ 156,340
Funds budgeted elsewhere	(180)
Adjustment for encumbrances	199,113
Cash basis	\$ 355,273

Certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate fund classifications are considered part of the general fund on a cash basis. This includes the public school support fund.

**NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

The District receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, state and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the District. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the District.

**B. Litigation**

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

**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 District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, all ODE adjustments have been finalized and they were not material to the District.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 14 - OTHER COMMITMENTS**

The District utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year end may be reported as part of restricted, committed, or assigned classifications of fund cash balance. At year end, the District's commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General	\$ 199,113
Nonmajor governmental	<u>105,602</u>
 Total	 <u><u>\$ 304,715</u></u>

**NOTE 15 - SET-ASIDES**

The District is required by State law to annually set-aside certain general fund cash receipt amounts, as defined by 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 year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. This amount must be carried forward to be used for the same purpose in future years. Disbursements and offsets exceeding the set-aside requirement may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

The following cash-basis information describes the change in the fiscal year-end set-aside amount for capital improvements. Disclosure of this information is required by State statute.

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2021	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	68,180
Current year offset	<u>(68,180)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2023	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2022	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

**NOTE 16 - 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 District received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the District. The impact on the District's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS  
JUNE 30, 2021

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,890,980
<b>Net position:</b>	
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	\$ 40,547
Classroom facilities maintenance	48,106
Debt service	154,661
State funded programs	241,069
Federally funded programs	675
Food service operations	85,758
Extracurricular	73,975
Other purposes	4,661
Unrestricted	6,241,528
Total net position	\$ 6,890,980

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	<b>Program Receipts</b>			<b>Capital Grants and Contributions</b>	<b>Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position Governmental Activities</b>
	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Charges for Services and Sales</b>	<b>Operating Grants and Contributions</b>		
<b>Governmental activities:</b>					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 3,211,113	\$ 463,434	\$ 151,781	\$ -	\$ (2,595,898)
Special	720,787	87,471	321,430	-	(311,886)
Vocational	224,039	-	32,632	-	(191,407)
Support services:					
Pupil	316,351	-	4,128	-	(312,223)
Instructional staff	264,094	-	49,829	-	(214,265)
Board of education	64,296	-	-	-	(64,296)
Administration	500,345	-	4,000	-	(496,345)
Fiscal	274,723	-	1,000	-	(273,723)
Operations and maintenance	816,512	-	194,782	-	(621,730)
Pupil transportation	306,121	-	10,115	29,188	(266,818)
Central	489	-	-	-	(489)
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	227,219	34,333	215,625	-	22,739
Other non-instructional services	4,000	-	4,000	-	-
Extracurricular activities	324,362	120,249	9,109	-	(195,004)
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	661,886	-	-	-	(661,886)
Interest and fiscal charges	93,962	-	-	-	(93,962)
<b>Total governmental activities</b>	<b>\$ 8,010,299</b>	<b>\$ 705,487</b>	<b>\$ 998,431</b>	<b>29,188</b>	<b>(6,277,193)</b>

**General receipts:**

Property taxes levied for:	
General purposes	1,840,168
Debt service	191,606
Capital outlay	99,087
Classroom facilities maintenance	21,497
Payments in lieu of taxes	286,710
Income taxes levied for:	
General purposes	1,099,896
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs	3,047,026
Investment earnings	10,118
Miscellaneous	10,047
<b>Total general receipts</b>	<b>6,606,155</b>
 Change in net position	 328,962
 <b>Net position at beginning of year</b>	 <b>6,562,018</b>
 <b>Net position at end of year</b>	 <b>\$ 6,890,980</b>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2021

	<u>General</u>	<u>Permanent Improvement</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Assets:</b>				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,539,673	\$ 701,855	\$ 649,452	\$ 6,890,980
<b>Fund balances:</b>				
Restricted:				
Debt service	-	-	154,661	154,661
Capital improvements	-	-	40,547	40,547
Classroom facilities maintenance	-	-	48,106	48,106
Food service operations	-	-	85,758	85,758
State funded programs	-	-	241,069	241,069
Federally funded programs	-	-	675	675
Extracurricular	-	-	73,975	73,975
Other purposes	-	-	4,661	4,661
Assigned:				
Student instruction	3,896	-	-	3,896
Student and staff support	72,533	-	-	72,533
Subsequent year's appropriations	321,390	-	-	321,390
Capital improvements	-	701,855	-	701,855
Unassigned (deficit)	5,141,854	-	-	5,141,854
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 5,539,673</u>	<u>\$ 701,855</u>	<u>\$ 649,452</u>	<u>\$ 6,890,980</u>

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	<u>General</u>	<u>Permanent Improvement</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Receipts:</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 1,840,168	\$ 99,087	\$ 213,103	\$ 2,152,358
Income taxes	1,099,896	-	-	1,099,896
Intergovernmental	3,149,044	12,624	903,868	4,065,536
Investment earnings	10,055	-	63	10,118
Tuition and fees	550,905	-	-	550,905
Extracurricular	-	-	116,232	116,232
Charges for services	-	-	34,333	34,333
Contributions and donations	-	-	1,470	1,470
Payment in lieu of taxes	286,710	-	-	286,710
Miscellaneous	14,064	-	7,639	21,703
Total receipts	<u>6,950,842</u>	<u>111,711</u>	<u>1,276,708</u>	<u>8,339,261</u>
<b>Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,028,213	25,867	157,033	3,211,113
Special	514,519	-	206,268	720,787
Vocational	224,039	-	-	224,039
Support services:				
Pupil	311,988	-	4,363	316,351
Instructional staff	213,658	-	50,436	264,094
Board of education	64,296	-	-	64,296
Administration	496,345	-	4,000	500,345
Fiscal	267,245	1,933	5,545	274,723
Operations and maintenance	501,645	207,047	107,820	816,512
Pupil transportation	209,026	62,907	34,188	306,121
Central	489	-	-	489
Operation of non-instructional services				
Food service operations	-	-	227,219	227,219
Other non-instructional services	-	-	4,000	4,000
Extracurricular activities	180,262	-	144,100	324,362
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	-	556,886	105,000	661,886
Interest and fiscal charges	-	5,363	88,599	93,962
Total disbursements	<u>6,011,725</u>	<u>860,003</u>	<u>1,138,571</u>	<u>8,010,299</u>
Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>939,117</u>	<u>(748,292)</u>	<u>138,137</u>	<u>328,962</u>
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>				
Transfers in	-	819,369	3,350	822,719
Transfers (out)	(822,719)	-	-	(822,719)
Advances in	-	-	15,367	15,367
Advances (out)	(15,367)	-	-	(15,367)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(838,086)</u>	<u>819,369</u>	<u>18,717</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	101,031	71,077	156,854	328,962
<b>Fund balances at beginning of year</b>	<u>5,438,642</u>	<u>630,778</u>	<u>492,598</u>	<u>6,562,018</u>
<b>Fund balances at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 5,539,673</u>	<u>\$ 701,855</u>	<u>\$ 649,452</u>	<u>\$ 6,890,980</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)  
GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			<b>Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)</b>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
<b>Receipts:</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 1,840,168	\$ 40,168
Income taxes	811,658	811,658	1,099,896	288,238
Intergovernmental	2,707,406	2,707,406	3,149,044	441,638
Investment earnings	90,000	90,000	10,055	(79,945)
Tuition and fees	461,800	461,800	550,905	89,105
Payment in lieu of taxes	287,000	287,000	286,710	(290)
Miscellaneous	7,500	7,500	31,310	23,810
Total receipts	<u>6,165,364</u>	<u>6,165,364</u>	<u>6,968,088</u>	<u>802,724</u>
<b>Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,158,945	3,148,244	3,053,998	94,246
Special	514,974	514,501	514,519	(18)
Vocational	240,048	238,945	224,334	14,611
Support services:				
Pupil	341,577	339,908	312,063	27,845
Instructional staff	196,199	195,340	217,664	(22,324)
Board of education	56,143	71,372	80,200	(8,828)
Administration	509,445	506,772	497,174	9,598
Fiscal	268,580	269,903	267,481	2,422
Operations and maintenance	598,790	584,519	535,812	48,707
Pupil transportation	233,487	232,199	219,390	12,809
Central	602	599	489	110
Extracurricular activities	171,762	170,717	178,051	(7,334)
Total disbursements	<u>6,290,552</u>	<u>6,273,019</u>	<u>6,101,175</u>	<u>171,844</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>(125,188)</u>	<u>(107,655)</u>	<u>866,913</u>	<u>974,568</u>
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>				
Refund of prior year's disbursements	7,000	7,000	921	(6,079)
Transfers (out)	(550,531)	(832,772)	(822,719)	10,053
Advances (out)	-	(15,367)	(15,367)	-
Sale of capital assets	4,000	4,000	-	(4,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(539,531)</u>	<u>(837,139)</u>	<u>(837,165)</u>	<u>(26)</u>
Net change in fund balance	(664,719)	(944,794)	29,748	974,542
<b>Fund balance at beginning of year</b>	5,406,567	5,406,567	5,406,567	-
<b>Prior year encumbrances appropriated</b>	26,929	26,929	26,929	-
<b>Fund balance at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 4,768,777</u>	<u>\$ 4,488,702</u>	<u>\$ 5,463,244</u>	<u>\$ 974,542</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Hardin Northern Local School District (the "District") is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The District provides educational services as authorized by State statute and/or federal guidelines. The District was established in 1952 and serves an area of approximately eighty-eight miles. It is located in Hardin and Hancock Counties and includes all of Blanchard and Washington Townships and portions of Pleasant, Cessna, Van Buren and Jackson Townships. The District employs 38 certified employees, 19 classified employees and 4 administrators to provide services to 417 students in grades K through 12 and various community groups.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

As discussed in Note 2.D, these financial statements are presented on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In cases where these cash basis statements contain items that are the same as, or similar to, those items in financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP, similar informative disclosures are provided. The following are the Districts more significant accounting policies.

**A. Reporting Entity**

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity" as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, "Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units" and GASB Statement No. 61, "The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34". The reporting entity is composed of the primary government and component units. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. For the District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the District.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the District is financially accountable. The District is financially accountable for an organization if the District appoints a voting majority of the organization's Governing Board and (1) the District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; or (3) the District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or (4) the District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the District in that the District approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. Certain organizations are also included as component units if the nature and significance of the relationship between the primary government and the organization is such that exclusion by the primary government would render the primary government's financial statements incomplete or misleading. Based upon the application of these criteria, the District has no component units. The basic financial statements of the reporting entity include only those of the District (the primary government).

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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

The following organizations are described due to their relationship to the District:

*JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS*

Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO)

WOCO is a jointly governed organization composed of 28 school districts, 3 educational service centers, 3 parochial schools and 4 community schools. It was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these schools supports WOCO based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. In the event of dissolution of the organization, all current members will share in net obligations or asset liquidations in a ratio proportionate to their last twelve months financial contributions. WOCO is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of superintendents of the members school districts. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the board. In accordance with GASB Statements Nos. 14 and 61, the Center does not have an equity interest in WOCO as the residual interest in the net resources of an organization upon dissolution is not equivalent to an equity interest. Financial information can be obtained from Donn Walls, who serves as Director, at 129 East Court Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

Apollo Career Center (the Career Center)

The Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio, which provides vocational education to students. The Career Center is operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating school districts' elected boards. The degree of control exercised by the School District is limited to its representation on the Board. The Board is its own budgeting and taxing authority. Financial information can be obtained from the Apollo Career Center, 3325 Shawnee Road, Lima, Ohio 45806.

Hardin County Schools Consortium Local Professional Development Committee (the Consortium)

The Consortium is an association of five school districts within Hardin County. The Consortium was formed to plan, promote, and facilitate effective and efficient professional educator license renewal standards and staff development activities. The governing board of the Consortium consists of fifteen members, eight of which are teachers and seven of which are administrators. Financial information can be obtained from Keith Thomas, Midwest Regional Education Service Center, 121 South Opera Street, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311.

*INSURANCE POOLS*

CompManagement Workers' Compensation Group Rating (the Group)

The District participates in the CompManagement Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (the "Group"). Each year, the participants in the Group pay an enrollment fee to cover the costs of administering the program. Participation in the Group is limited to participants that can meet the Group's selection criteria.

Hardin County School Employees' Health and Benefit Plan and Trust

The Hardin County School Employees' Health and Welfare Benefit Plan and Trust (the "Trust") is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of six school districts and the District. The Trust is organized as a Voluntary Employee Benefit association under Section 501(C)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides sick, accident and other benefits to the employees of the participating school districts.

Each participating school district's superintendent is appointed to an Administrative Committee, which advises the Trustee, Ohio Bank, concerning aspects of the administration of the Trust.

Each school district and the District decides which plans offered by the Administrative Committee will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Trust is by written application subject to acceptance by the Administrative Committee and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information may be obtained from Mark Schlagheck, Chief Fiscal Officer, Jefferson Health Plan 2023 Sunset Boulevard, Steubenville, Ohio, 43952.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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

*RELATED ORGANIZATION*

Hardin Northern Public Library (the Library)

The Library is a distinct 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 Hardin Northern Board of Education. The Board of Trustees possesses its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel, and does not depend on the District for operational subsidies. Although the District serves as the taxing authority, 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 Hardin Northern Public Library, Fiscal Officer, P.O. Box 114, 153 North Main Street, Dunkirk, Ohio 45836.

**B. Basis of Presentation**

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position – cash basis and the statement of activities – cash basis display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The government-wide statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the District's governmental activities. These disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the District. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing on the cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the District.

All cash assets and net cash position associated with the operation of the District are included on the statement of net position – cash basis.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type. The District had no fiduciary funds at June 30, 2021.

**C. Fund Accounting**

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain District functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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

*GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS*

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. The District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants) and other non-exchange transactions as governmental funds. Expendable cash assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. The following are the District's major governmental funds:

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

*Permanent Improvement fund* - The permanent improvement fund is used to account for resources that are restricted for the acquisition, construction or improvement of permanent assets. The fund balance of this fund is restricted for capital improvements.

The nonmajor governmental funds of the District are used to account for (a) financial receipts that are restricted, committed, or assigned to disbursements for capital outlays including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets, (b) specific receipts that are restricted or committed to disbursements for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects, and (c) financial receipts that are restricted, committed, or assigned to disbursements for principal and interest

*PROPRIETARY FUNDS*

Proprietary funds are used to account for the ongoing activities which are similar to those often found in the private sector. The District has no proprietary funds.

*FIDUCIARY FUNDS*

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that have certain characteristics. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The District has no fiduciary funds.

**D. Basis of Accounting**

Although Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the District's financial report to follow GAAP, the District chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes in accordance with the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP. The District recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraph.

Budgetary presentations report budgetary cash disbursements when a commitment is made (i.e. when an encumbrance is approved). For the general fund, the difference between disbursements reported in the fund statement disbursements reported in the budgetary statement are due to current year encumbrances being added to disbursements reported on the budgetary statement.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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

**E. Budgetary Process**

All funds, other than custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriation resolution and the certificate of estimated resources, which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amounts that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and set annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The General fund legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the object level. All other funds legal level of control has been established at the fund level.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the District Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original and final budgeted amounts in the budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the certificate when the original and final appropriations were adopted.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations may not exceed estimated revenues. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried over from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the year.

**F. Cash and Investments**

To improve cash management, all cash received by the District is pooled in a central bank account. Monies for all funds are maintained in this account or temporarily used to purchase short-term investments. Individual fund integrity is maintained through District's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the financial statements.

During fiscal year 2021, the District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of 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 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 2021, 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 \$25 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$100 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$100 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 year 2021 amounted to \$10,055, which includes \$1,799 assigned from other funds.

For presentation on the financial statements, investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the District are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that are not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

An analysis of the District's deposits and investment at year end is provided in Note 4.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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

**G. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

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

**H. Capital Assets**

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

**I. Interfund Balances**

On fund financial statements, the District reports advances in and advances out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying fund financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. Advances are eliminated in the governmental activities column on the statement of net position.

**J. Compensated Absences**

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

**K. Long-Term Obligations**

Bonds and other long-term obligations are not recognized as a liability in the financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. These statements report proceeds of debt when cash is received, and debt service disbursements for debt principal and interest payments.

**L. Fund Cash Balance**

Fund cash balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the 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 District had no nonspendable fund cash balances at June 30, 2021.

*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 District Board of Education (the highest level of decision making authority). Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the 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.



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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

*Assigned* - Amounts in the assigned fund cash balance classification are intended to be used by the 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 District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

*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 District applies restricted receipts first when disbursements 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.

**M. Restricted Assets**

Assets are reported as restricted assets when limitations on their use change the normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments or imposed by enabling legislation. The District did not have any restricted cash assets at June 30, 2021.

**N. Net Cash Position**

Net cash position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. The District did not have any net cash position restricted by enabling legislation at June 30, 2021.

**O. Interfund Activity**

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.

**P. 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.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

**A. Change in Accounting Principles**

For fiscal year 2021, the District has applied GASB Statement No. 95, "Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance." GASB Statement No. 95 provides temporary relief to governments and other stakeholders in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This objective is accomplished by postponing the effective dates of certain provisions in Statements and Implementation Guides that first became effective or are scheduled to become effective for periods beginning after June 15, 2018, and later.

Certain provisions contained in the following pronouncements were scheduled to be implemented for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 95, the effective dates of certain provisions contained in these pronouncements are postponed until the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022:

- Statement No. 87, *Leases*
- Implementation Guide No. 2019-3, *Leases*
- Statement No. 89, *Accounting for Interest Cost Incurred before the End of a Construction Period*
- Statement No. 92, *Omnibus 2020*
- Statement No. 93, *Replacement of Interbank Offered Rates*

**B. Compliance**

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the 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 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 District into three categories.

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

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

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

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, and Government National Mortgage 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;
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 bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

Protection of the deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institutions participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial 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 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 District had \$1,964 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the District as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

**B. Deposits with Financial Institutions**

At June 30, 2021, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$268,617. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures", as of June 30, 2021, the District's entire bank balance of \$231,191 was covered by the FDIC.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

**C. Investments**

As of June 30, 2021, the District had the following investment and maturity:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>NAV</u>	<u>Investment Maturity 6 months or less</u>
STAR Ohio	\$ 6,620,399	\$ 6,620,399

*Interest Rate Risk:* Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates substantially increase. The District has no policy limiting investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. State statute requires that an investment mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to an specific obligation or debt of the District, and that investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

*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 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 District will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The 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.

*Concentration of Credit Risk:* The District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the District at June 30, 2021:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>NAV</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
STAR Ohio	\$ 6,620,399	\$ 100.00

**D. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis**

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the note disclosure above to cash and investments as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2021:

<u>Cash and investments per note disclosure</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 268,617
Investments	6,620,399
Cash on hand	<u>1,964</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,890,980</u>
 <u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 6,890,980</u>

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS**

**A. Advances**

Advances in/advances out consisted of the following at June 30, 2021 as reported on the fund statement:

<u>Advances In</u>	<u>Advances Out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nonmajor governmental funds	General fund	<u>\$ 15,367</u>

The primary purpose of the advance is to cover negative cash balances in specific funds where revenues were not received by June 30. Advances between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

**B. Transfers**

Transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, as reported on the fund statements, consist of the following:

<u>Transfers in</u>	<u>Transfers out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Permanent Improvement fund	General fund	<u>\$ 822,719</u>

Transfers are used to move cash receipts from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to disburse them and to use unrestricted cash receipts collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. All transfers were made in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements; therefore, no transfers are reported in the statement of activities.

**NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis while the District fiscal year runs from July through June. First half tax collections are received by the District in the second half of the fiscal year. Second half tax distributions occur in the first half of the following fiscal year.

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property. Real property tax receipts received in calendar year 2021 represent the collection of calendar year 2020 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2021 were levied after April 1, 2020, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2020, 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 revenues received in calendar year 2021 represent the collection of calendar year 2020 taxes. Public utility real and personal property taxes received in calendar year 2021 became a lien on December 31, 2019, were levied after April 1, 2020, 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 District receives property taxes from Hardin and Hancock Counties. The County Auditors periodically advance to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2021, are available to finance fiscal year 2021 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES - (Continued)**

The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2021 taxes were collected are:

	2020 Second Half Collections		2021 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 81,645,720	91.76	\$ 70,869,310	90.16
Public utility personal	<u>7,333,460</u>	<u>8.24</u>	<u>7,731,390</u>	<u>9.84</u>
Total	<u>\$ 88,979,180</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 78,600,700</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$41.45		\$40.55	

**NOTE 7 - INCOME TAX**

The District levies a voted tax of 1¾% for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The 1% was effective on January 1, 1991 and the ¾ of 1% was effective on January 1, 2006 and is a continuing tax. 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 District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts are credited to the general fund.

**NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

A. During fiscal year 2021, the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term obligations:

	Balance Outstanding			Balance Outstanding		Amounts Due in One Year
	<u>06/30/20</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>06/30/21</u>		
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>						
Refunding school improvement bond 2020, 3.30%	\$ 2,685,000	\$ -	\$ (105,000)	\$ 2,580,000	\$ 120,000	
Capital lease purchase agreement	<u>556,886</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(556,886)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 3,241,886</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (661,886)</u>	<u>\$ 2,580,000</u>	<u>\$ 120,000</u>	

In May of 2020, the District issued \$2,685,000 in general obligation bonds for the refunding of the 2008 school improvement bonds. This refunding resulted in bond issuance costs of \$33,477 and payments to refunded bond escrow agent of \$2,745,873 and was undertaken to reduce the combined total debt service payments over a seventeen-year period by \$243,921. These current interest bonds have a final maturity of December 1, 2036 and an interest rate of 3.30%. Interest payments on the current interest bonds are due on June 1 and December 1 of each year. Payments of principal and interest are recorded as cash disbursements of the bond retirement fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

In July 2009, the District issued a Capital Lease Purchase Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association in the amount of \$950,000 for construction and improvements to school facilities including earth works, paving, landscaping, site improvements, equipment and furnishings. The initial term of the lease is from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 with one year renewal terms until June 1, 2029. During fiscal year 2021, the District retired the remaining portion of the lease.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)**

The following is a summary of the District's future annual debt service requirements for long-term obligations:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30.	Refunding School Improvement Bonds	
	Principal	Interest
2022	\$ 125,000	\$ 78,924
2023	125,000	75,005
2024	130,000	71,008
2025	140,000	66,776
2026	145,000	62,308
2027 - 2031	770,000	241,395
2032 - 2036	915,000	110,117
2037	230,000	3,605
Total	<u>\$ 2,580,000</u>	<u>\$ 709,138</u>

**B. Legal Debt Margin**

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530 which became effective March 30, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2021, are a voted debt margin of \$4,648,724 (including available funds of \$154,661) and an unvoted debt margin of \$78,601.

**NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. Comprehensive**

The 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. For fiscal year 2021, the District contracted with the Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority (SORSA) for the following insurance coverage:

<u>Type of Coverage</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
Buildings and contents - replacement cost	\$ 23,696,029
General Liability:	
Per occurrence	15,000,000
Aggregate	17,000,000
Vehicle Liability	15,000,000
Uninsured Motorist	1,000,000
Public Employees Dishonesty	1,000,000

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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**NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)**

Settled claims have not exceeded commercial coverage in any of the past three years. There were no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year.

**B. Workers' Compensation**

The District participates in the CompManagement Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (the "Group"). Each year, the participants in the Group pay an enrollment fee to cover the costs of administering the program. Participation in the Group is limited to participants that can meet the Group's selection criteria.

**C. Employee Health Benefits**

The District participates in the Hardin County Employees' Health and Welfare Benefit Plan and Trust (the Trust), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of six school districts and the Ada Public Library. The District pays monthly premiums to the Trust for medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. The Trust is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the Trust, a participant is responsible for the payment of all Trust liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

**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 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.

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

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



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

***Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)***

Plan Description - The 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](http://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	Age 65 with 5 years of services credit; or 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.

Effective January 1, 2018, SERS cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) changed from a fixed 3% annual increase to one based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) with a cap of 2.5% and a floor of 0%. SERS also has the authority to award or suspend the COLA, or to adjust the COLA above or below CPI-W. SERS suspended the COLA increases for 2018, 2019 and 2020 for current retirees, and confirmed their intent to implement a four-year waiting period for the start of a COLA for future retirees. For 2021, the COLA was 0.5%.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14% 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% for plan members and 14% 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, 2021, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0%.

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$103,983 for fiscal year 2021.

***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](http://www.strsoh.org).

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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 will be 2.2% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Effective July 1, 2017, the cost-of-living adjustment was reduced to zero. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or age 55 with 28 years of service, or 33 years of service regardless of age. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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.

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. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. New members on or after July 1, 2013, must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit to apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. 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. For fiscal year 2021, plan members were required to contribute 14% of their annual covered salary. The District was required to contribute 14%; the entire 14% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2021 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$365,073 for fiscal year 2021.

***Net Pension Liability***

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2020, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.01917010%	0.02094085%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.01815190%</u>	<u>0.02050049%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00101820%</u>	<u>-0.00044036%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,200,605	\$ 4,960,389	\$ 6,160,994

***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.

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, 2020, are presented below:

Wage inflation	3.00%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.50% to 18.20%
COLA or ad hoc COLA	2.50%
Investment rate of return	7.50% net of investment expense, including inflation
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

For 2020, 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, 2015.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**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 %	1.85 %
US Equity	22.50	5.75
International Equity	22.50	6.50
Fixed Income	19.00	2.85
Private Equity	12.00	7.60
Real Assets	17.00	6.60
Multi-Asset Strategies	5.00	6.65
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**Discount Rate** - The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.50%. 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 (7.50%). 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 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 7.50%, 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 (6.50%), or one percentage point higher (8.50%) than the current rate.

	Current		
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,644,682	\$ 1,200,605	\$ 828,016

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**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 July 1, 2020, actuarial valuation are presented below:

	July 1, 2020
Inflation	2.50%
Projected salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
Investment rate of return	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll increases	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%

For the July 1, 2020, actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table 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. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2020 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	100.00 %	

\*\*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.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45% as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2020. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2020.

**Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** - The following table presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45%, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.45%) or one-percentage-point higher (8.45%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 7,062,731	\$ 4,960,389	\$ 3,178,830

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

**Net OPEB Liability/Asset**

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

**Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

**Health Care Plan Description** - The 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. 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 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://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.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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, 2021, 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 2021, this amount was \$23,000. 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 2021, the District's surcharge obligation was \$10,223.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$10,223 for fiscal year 2021.

***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. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued effective January 1, 2021. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

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, 2020, 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, 2020, 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 District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the 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	0.01923190%	0.02094085%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.01863720%</u>	<u>0.02050049%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00059470%</u>	<u>-0.00044036%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 405,047	\$ -	\$ 405,047
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ 360,296	\$ 360,296

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

*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.

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2020 are presented below:

Wage inflation	3.00%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.50% to 18.20%
Investment rate of return	7.50% net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal bond index rate:	
Measurement date	2.45%
Prior measurement date	3.13%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:	
Measurement date	2.63%
Prior measurement date	3.22%
Medical trend assumption:	
Measurement date	
Medicare	5.25 to 4.75%
Pre-Medicare	7.00 to 4.75%
Prior measurement date	
Medicare	5.25 to 4.75%
Pre-Medicare	7.00 to 4.75%

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, 120% of male rates and 110% of female rates. RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table with 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates set back five years.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five year period ended June 30, 2015.



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**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 2010 through 2015, and was adopted by the Board on April 21, 2016. 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, 7.50%, 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, 2015 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	1.85 %
US Equity	22.50	5.75
International Equity	22.50	6.50
Fixed Income	19.00	2.85
Private Equity	12.00	7.60
Real Assets	17.00	6.60
Multi-Asset Strategies	5.00	6.65
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2020 was 2.63%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2019 was 3.22%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the state statute contribution rate of 2.00% of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and 0.50% of contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to present value the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and the Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index rate of 2.45%, as of June 30, 2020 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to present value the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. A municipal bond rate of 3.13% was used as of June 30, 2019. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

***Sensitivity of the 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 of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (1.63%) and higher (3.63%) than the current discount rate (2.63%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.75%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.75%) than the current rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.75%).

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 495,768	\$ 405,047	\$ 332,925

  

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 318,944	\$ 405,047	\$ 520,190

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the July 1, 2020, actuarial valuation, compared with July 1, 2019, are presented below:

	July 1, 2020		July 1, 2019	
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	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%		0.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.45%		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%	5.87%	4.00%
Medicare	-6.69%	4.00%	4.93%	4.00%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	6.50%	4.00%	7.73%	4.00%
Medicare	11.87%	4.00%	9.62%	4.00%

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

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

For healthy retirees the mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table 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 Table 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, 2020 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* - There were no changes in assumptions since the prior measurement date of June 30, 2019.

*Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date* - There was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year end 2021 premium based on June 30, 2020 enrollment distribution. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare 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	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.

*Discount Rate* - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB asset was 7.45% as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes 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. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.45% was used to measure the total OPEB asset as of June 30, 2020.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

*Sensitivity of the 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, 2020, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45%, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.45%) or one percentage point higher (8.45%) 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.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 313,481	\$ 360,296	\$ 400,017
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 397,551	\$ 360,296	\$ 314,913

**NOTE 12 - 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 cash 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 or committed 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 is as follows:

**Net Change in Fund Cash Balance**

	<u>General fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ 29,748
Funds budgeted elsewhere	1,806
Adjustment for encumbrances	69,477
Cash basis	\$ 101,031

Certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate fund classifications are considered part of the general fund on a cash basis. This includes the public school support fund.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

The District receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, state and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the District. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the District.

**B. Litigation**

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

**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 District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, all ODE adjustments have been finalized and they were not material to the District.

**NOTE 14 - OTHER COMMITMENTS**

The District utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year end may be reported as part of restricted, committed, or assigned classifications of fund cash balance. At year end, the District's commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General	\$ 69,477
Permanent improvement	39,075
Nonmajor governmental	<u>25,603</u>
Total	<u>\$ 134,155</u>

**NOTE 15 - SET-ASIDES**

The District is required by State law to annually set-aside certain general fund cash receipt amounts, as defined by 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 year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. This amount must be carried forward to be used for the same purpose in future years. Disbursements and offsets exceeding the set-aside requirement may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

**NOTE 15 - SET-ASIDES - (Continued)**

The following cash-basis information describes the change in the fiscal year-end set-aside amount for capital improvements. Disclosure of this information is required by State statute.

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2020	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	70,716
Current year offset	<u>(70,716)</u>
Total	<u>\$ -</u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2022	<u>\$ -</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2021	<u>\$ -</u>

**NOTE 16 - 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. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the District. The District's investment portfolio and the pension and other employee benefits plan in which the District participate fluctuates with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of gains or losses that will be realized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the District's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

During fiscal year 2021, the District received \$251,113 as an on-behalf of grant from another government. These amounts are recorded in the Coronavirus Relief Special Revenue Fund and the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Special Revenue Fund.

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



88 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
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(800) 282-0370

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

Hardin Northern Local School District  
Hardin County  
11589 State Route 81  
Dola, Ohio 45835

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 the 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 Hardin Northern Local School District, Hardin County, (the District) as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2022 and 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 16, 2023, wherein we noted the 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 District.

### ***Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the 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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 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 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 matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2022-001.

**District's Response to Findings**

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings. The 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 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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

June 16, 2023



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HARDIN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
JUNE 30, 2022 AND 2021**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2022-001**

**Noncompliance**

**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.

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

The 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 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 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 District should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

**Officials' Response:**

The cost of reporting in GAAP form exceeds the value of the report in the opinion of the Board of Education.

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**HARDIN NORTHERN  
LOCAL SCHOOLS  
11589 STATE ROUTE 81  
DOLA, OHIO 45835  
419 – 759 - 2331**

**Practicing ‘Polar Bear Guts, Resilience, Integrity, Tenacity’ (GRIT) Every Day**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS**

**JUNE 30, 2022 AND 2021**

Jeff Price, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Ext. 1210

Brennon Hattery  
Treasurer  
Ext. 1208

Andrew Cano  
7 – 12 Principal  
Ext. 1206

Brett Halsey  
K – 6 Principal  
Ext. 1204

Brady Mast  
Athletic Director  
Ext. 1211

Brian Webb  
Maintenance  
Coordinator  
Ext. 1218

Andy Emerine  
Technology  
Coordinator  
Ext. 1027

Andy Ayers  
Cafeteria  
Coordinator  
Ext. 1219

Mike Crist  
Transportation  
Coordinator  
Ext. 1506

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>Finding Summary</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
2020-001	<b>Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B)</b> – Failed to file annual financial reports using generally accepted accounting principles. This was first reported for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013.	Not Corrected	The Board of Education maintains that the cost of reporting in compliance with GAAP is cost prohibitive in relation to the benefit it provides.

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**HARDIN NORTHERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**HARDIN 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 7/11/2023**

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](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)