



**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

SINGLE AUDIT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2022**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Prepared by Management:	
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-Wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis	5
Statement of Activities – Cash Basis	6
Fund Financial Statements:	
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances – Cash Basis Governmental Funds.....	7
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances – Cash Basis Governmental Funds.....	8
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budget Basis General Fund	9
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements	10
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	42
Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.....	43
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	45
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance	47
Schedule of Findings.....	51
Prepared by Management:	
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings.....	53
Corrective Action Plan.....	54

This page intentionally left blank.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Northeastern Local School District
Defiance County
05855 Domersville Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512-6703

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 Northeastern Local School District, Defiance County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, 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 the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the 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 17 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures 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.

Supplementary Information

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

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

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 5, 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

April 5, 2023

This page intentionally left blank.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
JUNE 30, 2022

		Governmental Activities
Assets:		
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$	13,768,595
Investments		1,174
Total assets		13,769,769
 Net position:		
Restricted for:		
Capital projects		249,876
Classroom facilities maintenance		758,064
Debt service		58,173
State funded programs		111,279
Food service operations		221,280
Extracurricular activities		166,778
Other purposes		19,014
Unrestricted		12,185,305
Total net position	\$	13,769,769

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY

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

	Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position	
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 5,823,771	\$ 908,309	\$ 51,422		\$ (4,864,040)
Special	1,602,592	28,075	403,779		(1,170,738)
Vocational	142,487		220		(142,267)
Other	506,261				(506,261)
Support services:					
Pupil	988,047		226,164		(761,883)
Instructional staff	710,329		24,838		(685,491)
Board of education	90,905				(90,905)
Administration	934,676	9,661	2,342		(922,673)
Fiscal	699,490				(699,490)
Operations and maintenance	1,217,200				(1,217,200)
Pupil transportation	981,503		8,862	\$ 18,633	(954,008)
Central	50,441		3,660		(46,781)
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	647,728	64,119	773,499		189,890
Other non-instructional services	17,246				(17,246)
Extracurricular activities	483,906	217,282	34,244		(232,380)
Facilities acquisition and construction	9,911,123				(9,911,123)
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	1,057,000				(1,057,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	933,532				(933,532)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 26,798,237</u>	<u>\$ 1,227,446</u>	<u>\$ 1,529,030</u>	<u>\$ 18,633</u>	<u>(24,023,128)</u>
			General receipts:		
			Property taxes levied for:		
			General purposes		10,932,649
			Debt service		1,294,006
			Classroom facilities maintenance		173,521
			Payment in lieu of taxes		35,615
			Grants and entitlements not restricted		
			to specific programs		3,424,222
			Note issuance		6,000,000
			Investment earnings		111,817
			Miscellaneous		216,657
			Total general receipts		<u>22,188,487</u>
			Change in net position		(1,834,641)
			Net position at beginning of year		<u>15,604,410</u>
			Net position at end of year		<u>\$ 13,769,769</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Capital Projects Fund</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,715,542	\$ 1,109,357	\$ 1,943,696	\$ 13,768,595
Investments		1,174		1,174
Total assets	<u>\$ 10,715,542</u>	<u>\$ 1,110,531</u>	<u>\$ 1,943,696</u>	<u>\$ 13,769,769</u>
Fund balances:				
Restricted:				
Debt service			\$ 58,173	\$ 58,173
Capital improvements			384,876	384,876
Classroom facilities maintenance	\$ 7,937		758,064	766,001
Food service operations			221,280	221,280
State funded programs			111,279	111,279
Extracurricular activities			166,778	166,778
Other purposes			11,077	11,077
Committed:				
Capital improvements		\$ 1,110,531	433,959	1,544,490
Assigned:				
Student instruction	82,675			82,675
Staff and staff support	363,599			363,599
Extracurricular activities	23,665			23,665
Facilities acquisition and construction	125,269			125,269
Subsequent year's appropriations	1,425,945			1,425,945
Unassigned (deficit)	8,686,452		(201,790)	8,484,662
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 10,715,542</u>	<u>\$ 1,110,531</u>	<u>\$ 1,943,696</u>	<u>\$ 13,769,769</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts:				
Property taxes	\$ 10,932,649		\$ 1,467,527	\$ 12,400,176
Intergovernmental	3,626,235		1,298,504	4,924,739
Investment earnings	96,086	\$ 2,437	13,294	111,817
Tuition and fees	922,532			922,532
Extracurricular	23,513		217,282	240,795
Rental income	600			600
Charges for services			64,119	64,119
Contributions and donations	54,350		29,289	83,639
Payment in lieu of taxes	35,615			35,615
Miscellaneous	18,225		12,157	30,382
Total receipts	15,709,805	2,437	3,102,172	18,814,414
Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	5,759,517		64,254	5,823,771
Special	1,303,216		299,376	1,602,592
Vocational	142,487			142,487
Other	506,261			506,261
Support services:				
Pupil	848,199		139,848	988,047
Instructional staff	696,996		13,333	710,329
Board of education	90,905			90,905
Administration	934,676			934,676
Fiscal	674,821		24,669	699,490
Operations and maintenance	1,148,847		68,353	1,217,200
Pupil transportation	962,870		18,633	981,503
Central	46,781		3,660	50,441
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations			647,728	647,728
Other non-instructional services	17,246			17,246
Extracurricular activities	274,243		209,663	483,906
Facilities acquisition and construction	390,743	8,726,180	794,200	9,911,123
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	427,000		630,000	1,057,000
Interest and fiscal charges	65,117		868,415	933,532
Total disbursements	14,289,925	8,726,180	3,782,132	26,798,237
Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements	1,419,880	(8,723,743)	(679,960)	(7,983,823)
Other financing sources (uses):				
Proceeds from sale of assets	14,182		135,000	149,182
Note issuance		6,000,000		6,000,000
Transfers in		2,830,000	218,890	3,048,890
Transfers (out)	(2,098,890)		(950,000)	(3,048,890)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(2,084,708)	8,830,000	(596,110)	6,149,182
Net change in fund balances	(664,828)	106,257	(1,276,070)	(1,834,641)
Fund balances at beginning of year	11,380,370	1,004,274	3,219,766	15,604,410
Fund balances at end of year	\$ 10,715,542	\$ 1,110,531	\$ 1,943,696	\$ 13,769,769

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Receipts:				
Property taxes	\$ 10,469,000	\$ 10,469,000	\$ 10,932,649	\$ 463,649
Intergovernmental	3,547,025	3,547,025	3,626,235	79,210
Investment earnings	20,000	20,000	96,086	76,086
Tuition and fees	1,218,000	1,218,000	922,532	(295,468)
Rental income	2,500	2,500	600	(1,900)
Contributions and donations	15,000	27,500	48,650	21,150
Payment in lieu of taxes	73,000	73,000	35,615	(37,385)
Miscellaneous	8,000	8,000	18,225	10,225
Total receipts	<u>15,352,525</u>	<u>15,365,025</u>	<u>15,680,592</u>	<u>315,567</u>
Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	6,317,982	6,251,374	5,876,915	374,459
Special	1,521,403	1,549,879	1,313,034	236,845
Vocational	138,493	150,043	142,491	7,552
Other	1,018,865	896,865	507,461	389,404
Support services:				
Pupil	1,044,334	1,011,350	852,621	158,729
Instructional staff	756,905	829,769	700,512	129,257
Board of education	175,535	175,535	93,787	81,748
Administration	895,906	960,306	926,273	34,033
Fiscal	634,537	839,787	675,168	164,619
Operations and maintenance	1,447,051	1,466,551	1,219,360	247,191
Pupil transportation	1,278,873	1,365,923	1,198,250	167,673
Central	573,645	695,945	46,781	649,164
Operation of non-instructional services				
Other non-instructional services	33,100	33,125	17,246	15,879
Extracurricular activities	322,137	348,252	297,908	50,344
Facilities acquisition and construction	490,193	547,993	516,012	31,981
Debt service:				
Principal	427,000	427,000	427,000	
Interest and fiscal charges	65,150	65,150	65,117	33
Total disbursements	<u>17,141,109</u>	<u>17,614,847</u>	<u>14,875,936</u>	<u>2,738,911</u>
Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>(1,788,584)</u>	<u>(2,249,822)</u>	<u>804,656</u>	<u>3,054,478</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Refund of prior year's expenditures	238,350	238,350	61,219	(177,131)
Refund of prior year's receipts	(25,000)	(25,000)		25,000
Transfers (out)	(75,000)	(2,237,100)	(2,098,890)	138,210
Advances (out)	(25,000)	(25,000)		25,000
Contingencies	(500,000)	(500,000)		500,000
Proceeds from sale of assets	4,300	18,162	14,182	(3,980)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(382,350)</u>	<u>(2,530,588)</u>	<u>(2,023,489)</u>	<u>507,099</u>
Net change in fund balance	<u>(2,170,934)</u>	<u>(4,780,410)</u>	<u>(1,218,833)</u>	<u>3,561,577</u>
Fund balance at beginning of year	10,769,720	10,769,720	10,769,720	
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	<u>569,447</u>	<u>569,447</u>	<u>569,447</u>	
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 9,168,233</u>	<u>\$ 6,558,757</u>	<u>\$ 10,120,334</u>	<u>\$ 3,561,577</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Northeastern Local School District (the District) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. Northeastern Local School District is a local school district as defined by §3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) and is responsible for the provision of public education to residents of the District. The Board oversees the operations of the District's three instructional/support facilities which are staffed by 48 noncertified and 83 certified part-time and full-time teaching personnel. The District's average daily membership for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 was 1,014 students.

The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government and other organizations that are included to insure the financial statements are not misleading.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed in the Basis of Accounting section of this note, these financial statements are presented on a 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.

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.

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

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Northwest Ohio Computer Association

The District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA). NWOCA is an association of public school districts within the boundaries of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member school districts. NWOCA is governed by the Northern Buckeye Education Council and its participating members.

The NWOCA Assembly consists of a superintendent from each participating educational entity and a representative from the fiscal agent. The Assembly elects the Council. NWOCA is governed by a Council chosen from two representatives from each of the six counties in which the member educational entities are located and the representative from the member educational entity serving as fiscal agent for NWOCA. The degree of control exercised by any participating educational entity is limited to its representation on the Board. All payments made by the District for services received are made to the Northern Buckeye Educational Council. Total disbursements made by the District to NWOCA during this fiscal year were \$153,278. Financial information can be obtained from Tammy Butler, who serves as Treasurer, at 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

Northern Buckeye Education Council

The Northern Buckeye Education Council (NBEC) was established in 1979 to foster cooperation among school districts located in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood Counties. NBEC is organized under Ohio laws as a regional council of governments pursuant to a written agreement entered into by its member educational entities and bylaws adopted by the representatives of the member educational entities. NBEC is governed by an elected Board consisting of two representatives from each of the six counties in which the member educational entities are located. The Board is elected from an Assembly consisting of a representative from each participating educational entity. Total disbursements made by the District to NBEC during this fiscal year were \$300. To obtain financial information write to the Northern Buckeye Education Council, Tammy Butler, at 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

Four County Career Center

The Four County Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of five representatives from the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center—one each from the counties of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, and Williams and one additional representative; one representative from each of the city school districts; and one representative from each of the exempted village school districts. The Four County Career Center possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. Total disbursements made by the District to the Four County Career Center during this fiscal year were \$53,986. To obtain financial information write to the Four County Career Center, Connie Nicely, who serves as Treasurer, at 22-900 State Route 34, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

State Support Team Region 1

The State Support Team Region 1 (SSTR1) provides specialized core work related to building regional capacity for district, building, and community school implementation of the Ohio Improved Process (OIP) at a high level. The service region of the SSTR1 includes Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood Counties. House Bill 115 established the Educational Resource System and required the creation of a coordinated, integrated, and aligned system to support state and school district efforts to improve school effectiveness and student achievement. Resulting from House Bill 115, the Ohio Department of Education established a 16-region system consisting of a State Support Team for each of the 16 regions, which has a fiscal agent for each region. The fiscal agent for the SSTR1 is the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West. The SSTR1 Executive Director and Single Point of Contact is Lynn McKahan. Contract information is available at www.sstr1.org. Financial information can be obtained from the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West, 2275 Collingwood, Toledo, Ohio 43620.

GROUP PURCHASING POOLS

Employee Insurance Benefits Program

The District participates in a group health insurance pool through the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP), Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiative Consortium (OHI) Insurance Benefits Program. NBHP is a joint self-insurance arrangement created pursuant to the authority vested in Ohio Rev. Code Section 9.833. NBHP is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of educational entities located in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, and Williams Counties. NBHP is governed by OHI and its participating members. The District contributed a total of \$1,573,707 to Northern Buckeye Health Plan, Northwest Division of OHI for all employee insurance plans. Financial information for the period can be obtained from Charlie LeBoeuf, Treasurer, at 201 East 5th Street, Suite 2100, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202.

Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The District participates in a group-rating plan for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Northern Buckeye Health Plan, Northern Division of Ohio Health Initiatives (OHI) Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (WCGRP) is an insurance purchasing pool.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

The group was formed to create a workers' compensation group rating plan which would allow employers to group together to achieve a potentially lower premium rate than they may otherwise be able to acquire as individual employers. OHI has created a workers' compensation group rating and risk management program which will potentially reduce the workers' compensation premiums for the District.

OHI has retained Sheakley UniService as the servicing agent to perform administrative, actuarial, cost control, claims, and safety consulting services and unemployment claims services for program participants. During this fiscal year, the District's enrollment fee of \$34 was used to cover the costs of administering the program.

Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority

The District participates in the Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority (SORSA), which was established in 2002 pursuant to Articles of Incorporation filed under Chapter 1702 of the Ohio Revised Code – Non-Profit Corporations and functioning under authority granted by Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. SORSA's purpose is to provide a joint self-insurance pool to assist member school districts in preventing and reducing losses and injuries to property and persons which might result in claims being made against members of SORSA, their employees or officers. The District paid \$73,202 for those services to SORSA during fiscal year 2022.

A nine-person Board of Directors manages the business and affairs of SORSA and is elected annually by the members of the pool. The Board of Directors consists of superintendents, treasurers, or business managers from the participating school districts. The District works with First Insurance Group, a local agent, as a liaison between SORSA and the District. SORSA employs an Executive Director, Program Manager, Risk Control Manager, and Claims Manager. Claims are handled in-house by Claims Manager, Greg Gilliam. Additional information can be obtained from SORSA at 555 Metro Place North, Suite 645, Dublin, Ohio, 43017 or by calling 866-767-7299.

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

B. Basis of Accounting

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with GAAP, the District chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

Budgetary presentations report budgetary cash disbursements when a commitment is made (i.e. when an encumbrance is approved). The difference between disbursements reported in the fund and entity wide statements and disbursements reported in the budgetary statements are due to current year encumbrances being added to disbursements reported on the budgetary statements.

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

C. Fund Accounting

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. The District has no proprietary or fiduciary funds.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. The following are the District's major governmental funds.

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

Capital Projects Fund – The Capital Projects Fund is used to account for various capital improvement projects related to the District's Locally Funded Initiatives (LFI) portion of the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission project.

Other governmental funds of the District are used to account for and report grants and other resources whose use is restricted, committed, or assigned to a particular purpose.

D. Basis of Presentation

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

Government-Wide Financial Statements – The Statement of Net 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. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts, or other nonexchange transactions.

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

Fund Financial Statements – The District segregates transactions related to certain District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid in financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. 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.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

E. Budgets

The budgetary process is prescribed by provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable. The major documents prepared are the alternate tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriation resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The certificate of estimated resources and the appropriations resolution are subject to amendment throughout the year with the legal restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources, as certified. All funds, other than custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The legal level of budgetary control selected by the Board is at the fund, function, object level within the General Fund and the fund, special cost center level for all other funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education. Budgetary allocations below these levels are made by the Treasurer.

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

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

The District is required to use the encumbrance method of accounting by virtue of Ohio law. Under this system, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve the portion of the applicable appropriation. Expenditures plus encumbrances may not legally exceed appropriations. Encumbrances at year end are reported as a reservation of fund balance for subsequent-year expenditures for governmental funds.

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

F. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled and invested. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool with the exception of debt proceeds utilized for construction of new District facilities. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the District's records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the basic financial statements.

Investments of the District's cash management pool and investments with original maturities 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 were not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

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

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

During fiscal year 2022, investments were limited to investments in federal agency securities, negotiable certificates of deposit, U.S. Treasury Obligations, a money market mutual fund, and the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio). Investments are reported at cost, except for the money market mutual fund and STAR Ohio. The money market mutual fund is recorded at the amount reported by U.S. Bank at June 30, 2022.

STAR Ohio is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The 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.

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.

Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earnings are assigned to the General Fund unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund. The Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2022 amounted to \$96,086, which includes \$12,082 assigned from other District funds.

G. Inventory and Prepaid Items

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

H. Capital Assets

Acquisition of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. Depreciation has not been reported for any capital assets.

I. Accumulated 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.

J. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Plans

The District recognized the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions of pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

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 payments.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

Since recording a capital asset when entering into a capital lease is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments are reported when paid.

L. Leases

For fiscal year 2022, GASB Statement No. 87, Leases was effective. This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

M. Fund Balance

Fund 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 balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of interfund loans.

Restricted – Fund 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 is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

Committed – The committed fund 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. 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 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 balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. These amounts are assigned by the District’s Board of Education. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the District Board of Education or a District official delegated by that authority by resolution or by State Statute. State statute authorizes the District’s Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

Unassigned – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

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

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

N. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for food service, music and athletic programs, and federal and state grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes. All other net position that does not meet the definition of restricted are reported as unrestricted net position. The District's policy is first to apply restricted resources when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net cash position is available. There are no amounts restricted by enabling legislation.

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. Interfund activities between governmental funds are eliminated in the statement of activities.

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.

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. The notes to the basic financial statements include the disclosure requirements under the Statement.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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.

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.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

In addition, contrary to Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.39, the District approved appropriations in excess of certified resources from the County Auditor in the Capital Projects and Classroom Facilities Funds.

C. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2022 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief	\$ 72,985
Title I	106,122
Title II-A	22,683

The General Fund is liable for any deficit in these funds and provides transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur. The deficit fund balances resulted from the advance spending of approved grant monies.

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.

Protection of the District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, 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.

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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 division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
8. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one-hundred-eighty days and two-hundred-seventy days, respectively, in an amount not to exceed forty percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met;

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the District and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Cash on Hand

At fiscal year end, the District had \$100 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 \$6,548,786 and the bank balance was \$6,649,105. Of the bank balance, \$6,069,098 was covered by the FDIC, \$10,934 was covered by specific collateral pledged by the financial institution, and \$569,073 was covered by pooled collateral through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS). 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 investments:

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

Investment type	Carrying Value	NAV/ Fair Value	Investment Maturities		
			12 months or less	13 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
FHLB Notes	\$ 790,000	\$ 743,553			\$ 743,553
Negotiable CDs	3,187,581	3,026,028	\$ 886,495	\$ 1,583,457	556,076
U.S. Treasury Obligations	268,998	267,384	267,384		
STAR Ohio	1,817,608	1,817,608	1,817,608		
Money Market Mutual Fund	1,156,696	1,156,696	1,156,696		
Total	\$ 7,220,883	\$ 7,011,269	\$ 4,128,183	\$ 1,583,457	\$ 1,299,629

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.90 years.

STAR Ohio is measured at net asset value (NAV), the District's investment in a money market mutual fund is valued using quoted market prices in active markets (Level 1 inputs), and the remaining investments are valued using quoted market prices in markets that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs).

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

Credit Risk: The District's investments in federal agency securities and U.S. Treasury obligations were rated AA+ and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAAM by Stand & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard service rating. The negotiable CD's and money market mutual fund were not rated. The District's investment policy does not specifically address credit risk beyond the adherence to all relevant sections of the Ohio Revised Code.

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 investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The negotiable CD's are covered by FDIC. The federal agency securities, U.S. Treasurer obligations, and money market mutual fund are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the District's name. 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:

Investment type	Carrying Value	% of Total
FHLB Notes	\$ 790,000	10.94
Negotiable CDs	3,187,581	44.14
U.S. Treasury Obligations	268,998	3.73
STAR Ohio	1,817,608	25.17
Money Market Mutual Fund	1,156,696	16.02
Total	\$ 7,220,883	100.00

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

D. Reconciliation of Cash to the Statement of Net Position

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

<u>Cash and Investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 6,548,786
Investments	7,220,883
Cash on hand	<u>100</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 13,769,769</u>
 <u>Cash and Investments per Statement of Net Position</u>	
Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 13,769,769</u>

NOTE 5 – INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

A. Interfund Transfers

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2022, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund statements:

<u>Transfers in</u>	<u>Transfers out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Capital Projects Fund	General Fund	\$ 1,880,000
Capital Projects Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	950,000
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	General Fund	<u>218,890</u>
		<u>\$ 3,048,890</u>

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and to use unrestricted revenues collected in the General Fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Nonmajor Governmental Funds transferred investment earnings from the local share of classroom facilities project monies to the Capital Project Fund to pay costs related to the District’s classroom facilities project. Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

B. Interfund Loans

Advances originally recorded in fiscal year 2020 from the General fund to the Nonmajor Governmental Food Service Fund and the Public School Support Fund (which rolls up into the General Fund for financial reporting purposes) in the amounts of \$3,500 and \$1,500, respectively, remain outstanding as of June 30, 2022.

The purpose of advances is to provide temporary assistance from the General Fund to another District fund(s) or to return the money of the General Fund. Advances between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

NOTE 6 – PROPERTY TAXES

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

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the District. Real and public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2022 represent the collection of calendar year 2021 taxes. Real property taxes for 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 revenue received in calendar 2022 represents collections of calendar year 2021 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2022 became a lien 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 currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The District receives property taxes from Defiance County. The County Auditor periodically advances 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 2023 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	\$ 215,872,220	51.27	\$ 218,920,170	51.44
Public utility personal	<u>205,198,570</u>	<u>48.73</u>	<u>206,630,590</u>	<u>48.56</u>
Total	<u>\$ 421,070,790</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 425,550,760</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$48.55		\$48.40	

NOTE 7 – 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. The District participates in the Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority, Inc. for insurance coverage.

Coverages provided are as follows:

Property Insurance	\$ 51,287,927
Equipment Breakdown	250,000
Automobile Liability	15,000,000
Wrongful Acts	15,000,000
Crime Coverage	1,000,000
General Liability:	
Per Occurrence	15,000,000
Total Per Year	17,000,000

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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

B. Employee Insurance Benefits Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan, Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiative Consortium (OHI) Insurance Benefits Program (the Program), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of school districts within Defiance, Fulton, Henry, and Williams Counties and other eligible governmental entities. The District pays monthly premiums to the OHI for the benefits offered to its employees, which includes health, dental, vision, and life insurance plans. Northern Buckeye Health Plan is responsible for the management and operations of the Program. The agreement for the Program provides for additional assessments to participants if the premiums are insufficient to pay the program costs for the fiscal year. Upon withdrawal from the Program, a participant is responsible for any claims not processed and paid and any related administrative costs.

C. Workers' Compensation Group Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP), Northern Division of Ohio Health Initiatives Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (the Plan), an insurance purchasing pool. The Plan is intended to reduce premiums for the participants. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the Plan. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the Plan rather than its individual rate. The Plan is governed by NBHP and the governing members of the Plan. The Executive Director of the NBHP coordinates the management and administration of the program.

NOTE 8 – 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.

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).

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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 9 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 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 percent for the first thirty years of service and 2.5 percent for years of service credit over 30. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

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

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14 percent 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 percent for plan members and 14 percent 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 percent. 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 \$221,784 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 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS website at www.strsoh.org.

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent 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 percent 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 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.47 percent of the 14 percent 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 percent of the 14 percent member rate goes to the DC Plan and the remaining 2 percent 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.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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 percent 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 \$777,041 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:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.04079220%	0.04371389%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.04291910%</u>	<u>0.04464861%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.00212690%</u>	<u>0.00093472%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,583,590	\$ 5,708,726	\$ 7,292,316

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.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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 percent
Prior measurement date	3.00 percent
Future salary increases, including inflation:	
Current measurement date	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Prior measurement date	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
COLA or ad hoc COLA:	
Current measurement date	2.00 percent
Prior measurement date	2.50 percent
Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement date	7.00 percent net of system expenses
Prior measurement date	7.50 percent net of system expenses
Discount rate:	
Current measurement date	7.00 percent
Prior measurement date	7.50 percent
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 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent 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 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent 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 percent of male rates, and 110 percent of female rates. Mortality among disabled members was based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent 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.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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 percent. 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 percent). 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 percent, 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 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,634,705	\$ 1,583,590	\$ 697,139

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

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

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

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

For the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Tables with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent 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 percent of rates for males and 100 percent 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 percent 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 percent as of June 30, 2021. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with the rates described previously. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS Ohio's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2021. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent 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 percent, 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 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 10,690,307	\$ 5,708,726	\$ 1,499,300

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 8 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 under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

Funding Policy – State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent 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, prorated 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 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2022, the District's surcharge obligation was \$26,684.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$26,684 for fiscal year 2022.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

Plan Description – State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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 percent 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	0.04212810%	0.04371389%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.04392310%</u>	<u>0.04464861%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.00179500%</u>	<u>0.00093472%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 831,281		\$ 831,281
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset		\$ 941,379	\$ 941,379

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.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

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

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 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent 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 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

For 2020, mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates and 110 percent of female rates. RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates set back five years.

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

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2015 through 2020 and was adopted by the Board in 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation.

The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

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

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

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2021 was 2.27 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2021 was 2.63 percent. 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 percent of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent 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 percent at June 30, 2021 and 2.45 percent 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 percent) and higher (3.27 percent) than the current discount rate (2.27 percent). 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 percent decreasing to 3.40 percent) and higher (7.75 percent decreasing to 5.40 percent) than the current rate (6.75 percent decreasing to 4.40 percent).

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,030,057	\$ 831,281	\$ 672,484

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 640,018	\$ 831,281	\$ 1,086,749

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	
Inflation	2.50 percent		2.50 percent	
Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65		12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65	
Investment rate of return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00 percent		3.00 percent	
Discount rate of return	7.00 percent		7.45 percent	
Health care cost trends				
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	5.00 percent	4.00 percent	5.00 percent	4.00 percent
Medicare	-16.18 percent	4.00 percent	-6.69 percent	4.00 percent
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	6.50 percent	4.00 percent	6.50 percent	4.00 percent
Medicare	29.98 percent	4.00 percent	11.87 percent	4.00 percent

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 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent 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 percent of rates for males and 100 percent 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.

Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date – The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022 from 2.055 percent to 2.100 percent. 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.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

<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 percent 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 percent 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 percent 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 percent, 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 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 794,379	\$ 941,379	\$ 1,064,176

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 1,059,201	\$ 941,379	\$ 795,682

Changes Between the Measurement Date and the Reporting Date – In February 2022, the Board approved changes to demographic measures that will impact the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation. The effect on the net OPEB liability is unknown.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

NOTE 10 – COMPENSATED ABSENCES

Employees earn vacation at rates specified under State of Ohio law and based on credited service. Clerical, Technical, and Maintenance and Operation employees with one or more years of service are entitled to vacation ranging from 10 to 20 days. Employees with less than one year of service earn no vacation. Employees are permitted to carry over vacation leave if approved by the Superintendent.

All employees are entitled to a sick leave credit equal to one and one-quarter days for each month of service (earned on a pro rata basis for less than full-time employees). This sick leave will either be absorbed by time off due to illness or injury or, within certain limitations, be paid to the employee upon retirement. The amount paid to an employee upon retirement is limited to one-fourth of the accumulated sick leave to a maximum of 61.25 days for certified employees and 61.25 days for non-certified employees.

NOTE 11 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

During fiscal year 2022, the following changes occurred in the District’s long-term obligations:

	Balance Outstanding 06/30/21	Additions	Reductions	Balance Outstanding 06/30/22	Amounts Due in One Year
Governmental activities:					
<u>General obligation bonds:</u>					
Series 2015 refunding	\$ 2,380,000		\$ (445,000)	\$ 1,935,000	\$ 455,000
Series 2018A	12,140,000		(110,000)	12,030,000	115,000
Series 2018B	8,285,000		(75,000)	8,210,000	80,000
Note payable - financed purchased (direct financing)		\$ 6,000,000	(427,000)	5,573,000	358,000
Total long-term obligations	\$ 22,805,000	\$ 6,000,000	\$ (1,057,000)	\$ 27,748,000	\$ 1,008,000

Series 2015 Refunding General Obligation Bonds

On June 23, 2015, the District issued general obligation bonds to advance refund the outstanding Series 2005 current interest bonds. These bonds are general obligations of the District, for which its full faith and credit is pledged. The source of payment is derived from proceeds of a voted debt tax levy.

The issuance proceeds of \$4,046,950 were used to purchase securities which were placed in an irrevocable trust to provide resources for all future debt service payments on the refunded debt. This refunded debt is considered defeased (in-substance). At June 30, 2022, \$2,065,000 of defeased debt was outstanding.

This issue is comprised of current interest bonds, par value \$4,105,000, bearing an annual interest rate of 2.18 percent. Interest payments on the current interest bonds are due on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The final maturity stated in the issue is December 1, 2026.

Series 2018A and 2018B General Obligation Bonds

On March 20, 2018, the District issued the Series 2018A and Series 2018B general obligation bonds to provide resources for school facilities construction and improvement. These bonds are general obligations of the District, for which its full faith and credit is pledged. The source of payment is derived from proceeds of a voted debt tax levy.

The issuances are comprised of current interest bonds, par value \$21,150,000, bearing annual interest rates ranging from 2.0 percent to 5.0 percent. Interest payments on the bonds are due on May 1 and November 1 of each year. The final maturity date is November 1, 2054.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

The bonds maturing after November 1, 2026 will be subject to redemption at the option of the District, either in whole or in part, in such order of maturity as the District shall determine, on any date on or after November 1, 2026, at a redemption price equal to 100 percent of the principal amount redeemed plus, in each case, accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

The Series 2018A term bonds maturing November 1, 2031, November 1, 2035, November 1, 2038, November 1, 2043, November 1, 2048, and November 1, 2054 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption prior to stated maturity.

The Series 2018B term bonds maturing November 1, 2033, November 1, 2038, November 1, 2043, November 1, 2048, and November 1, 2054 are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption prior to stated maturity.

Note Payable – Financed Purchase

On September 14, 2021, the District signed a note payable agreement with The Farmers & Merchants State Bank to finance the construction, improvement, and furnishing and equipping of school facilities. The note principal was \$6,000,000 and is payable over a fifteen year period with interest at 1.6 percent. Interest payments are due each June 1 and December 1, and the final maturity date is December 1, 2035. The debt payments are made from the General Fund.

The scheduled payments of principal and interest on debt outstanding at June 30, 2022 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	General Obligation Bonds			Note Payable - Financed Purchase		
	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total
2023	\$ 650,000	\$ 851,006	\$ 1,501,006	\$ 358,000	\$ 86,304	\$ 444,304
2024	675,000	832,878	1,507,878	364,000	80,528	444,528
2025	720,000	813,532	1,533,532	370,000	74,656	444,656
2026	745,000	791,738	1,536,738	376,000	68,688	444,688
2027	330,000	772,477	1,102,477	382,000	62,624	444,624
2028 - 2032	1,790,000	3,614,910	5,404,910	2,002,000	218,768	2,220,768
2033 - 2037	2,520,000	3,087,935	5,607,935	1,721,000	55,608	1,776,608
2038 - 2042	3,150,000	2,491,410	5,641,410			
2043 - 2047	3,825,000	1,808,490	5,633,490			
2048 - 2052	4,585,000	1,037,222	5,622,222			
2053 - 2055	3,185,000	181,969	3,366,969			
Total	\$ 22,175,000	\$ 16,283,567	\$ 38,458,567	\$ 5,573,000	\$ 647,176	\$ 6,220,176

Legal Debt Margin

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9 percent of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1 percent 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 percent 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 \$16,182,741 (including available funds of \$58,173) and an unvoted debt margin of \$425,551.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

NOTE 12 – SET-ASIDES

The District is required by State law to annually set-aside certain General Fund revenue 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. Expenditures 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	\$ 194,560
Current year qualifying expenditures	(734,973)
Current year offsets	<u>(175,887)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (716,300)</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2022	<u><u> </u></u>

NOTE 13 – BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

While the District is reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the cash basis, the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budget 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 budgetary 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 disbursement, as opposed to assigned or committed fund balance (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 reconcile the budget basis statement to the cash basis statement are as follows:

Net Change in Fund Balance	<u>General Fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ (1,218,833)
Funds budgeted elsewhere	2,945
Adjustment for encumbrances	<u>551,060</u>
Cash basis	<u><u>\$ (664,828)</u></u>

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

Certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate Special Revenue Funds are considered part of the General Fund on a cash basis. This includes the Public School Support Fund.

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 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 Fund	\$ 552,752
Capital Projects Fund	965,135
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	<u>747,096</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,264,983</u>

NOTE 15 – CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The District received financial assistance from federal and State agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the District at June 30, 2022, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

B. Litigation

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

NOTE 16 – TAX ABATEMENTS

Defiance County provide tax abatements through Community Reinvestment Areas (CRAs) and Enterprise Zones (EZones).

CRA – Under the authority of Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 3735.67, the CRA program is an economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real property tax exemptions for property owners who renovate existing or construct new buildings. CRA’s are areas of land in which property owners can receive tax incentives for investing in real property improvements. Under the CRA program, local governments petition to the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) for confirmation of a geographical area in which investment in housing is desired. Once an area is confirmed by the ODSA, local governments may offer real property tax exemptions to taxpayers that invest in that area. Property owners in the CRA can receive temporary tax abatements for renovation of existing structures and new construction in these areas. Property owners apply to the local legislative authority for approval to renovate or construct in the CRA. Upon approval and certification of completion, the amount of the abatement is deducted from the individual or entity’s property tax bill.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

EZone – Under the authority of ORC Sections 5709.62 and 5709.63, the Ezone program is an economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real and personal property tax exemptions to businesses making investments in Ohio. An Ezone is a designated area of land in which businesses can receive tax incentives in the form of tax exemptions on qualifying new investment. An Ezone's geographic area is identified by the local government involved in the creation of the zone. Once the zone is defined, the local legislative authority participating in the creation must petition the OSDA. The OSDA must then certify the area for it to become an active Enterprise Zone. The local legislative authority negotiates the terms of the Enterprise Zone Agreement (the Agreement) with the business, which may include tax sharing with the Board of Education. Legislation must then be passed to approve the Agreement. All Agreements must be finalized before the project begins and may contain provisions for the recoupment of taxes should the individual or entity fail to perform. The amount of the abatement is deducted from the business's property tax bill.

The CRA and EZone agreements affect the property tax receipts collected and distributed to the District. During fiscal year 2022, the District's property tax revenues were reduced as a result of these agreements as follows:

<u>Tax Abatement Program</u>	<u>Taxes Abated</u>
CRA	\$ 75,943
Ezone	<u>93,130</u>
Total	<u>\$ 169,073</u>

NOTE 17 – 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. The District's investment portfolio 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.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Provided to Subrecipients	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
<u>Child Nutrition Cluster:</u>			
School Breakfast Program Cash Assistance	10.553		\$ 123,330
National School Lunch Program Cash Assistance	10.555		481,474
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)	10.555		35,670
COVID-19 National School Lunch Program	10.555		42,309
Total National School Lunch Program			559,453
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			682,783
COVID-19 Pandemic EBT Administrative Costs	10.649		614
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			683,397
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
COVID-19 Coronavirus Relief Fund - Broadband Ohio Connectivity	21.019		13,334
Total U.S. Department of the Treasury			13,334
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010		120,181
<u>Special Education Cluster:</u>			
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	\$ 222,496	222,496
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	6,583	6,583
Total Special Education Cluster		229,079	229,079
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367		22,683
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I)	84.425D		68,353
Total U.S. Department of Education		229,079	440,296
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		\$ 229,079	\$ 1,137,027

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

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

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

The District has elected to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE D – SUBRECIPIENTS

The District passes certain federal awards received from the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to other governments or not-for-profit agencies (subrecipients). As Note B describes, the District reports expenditures of Federal awards to subrecipients when paid in cash.

As a pass-through entity, the District has certain compliance responsibilities, such as monitoring its subrecipients to help assure they use these subawards as authorized by laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and that subrecipients achieve the award's performance goals.

NOTE E – CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE F – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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

NOTE G – TRANSFERS BETWEEN PROGRAM YEARS

Federal regulations require schools to obligate certain federal awards by June 30. However, with ODE's consent, schools can transfer unobligated amounts to the subsequent fiscal year's program. The District transferred the following amounts from 2022 to 2023 programs:

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

NOTE G – TRANSFERS BETWEEN PROGRAM YEARS – (Continued)

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>AL Number</u>	<u>Amt. Transferred</u>
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	\$ 6,875
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	30,969
COVID-19 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I)	84.425D	453,464
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER)	84.425U	1,019,140
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	6,707
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Special Education Grants to States	84.027X	53,947
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	284

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

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

Northeastern Local School District
Defiance County
05855 Domersville Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512-6703

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 Northeastern Local School District, Defiance County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 5, 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 emergency measures which 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 opinions 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.

Efficient • Effective • Transparent

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 instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2022-001 and 2022-002.

District's Responses to Findings

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

Purpose of This Report

This 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

April 5, 2023

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

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

Northeastern Local School District
Defiance County
05855 Domersville Road
Defiance, Ohio 43512-6703

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

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

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

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

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

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

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

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

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

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

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



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 5, 2023

This page intentionally left blank.

**NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

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

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

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

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

FINDING NUMBER 2022-001

Noncompliance

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:

See Corrective Action Plan

FINDING NUMBER 2022-002

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.39 provides that total appropriations from each fund shall not exceed the total of the estimated revenue available for expenditure there-from, as certified by the county budget commission, or in case of appeal, by the board of tax appeals. No appropriation measure shall become effective until the county auditor files with the appropriating authority a certificate that the total appropriations from each fund, taken together with all other outstanding appropriations, do not exceed such official estimate or amended official estimate. For purposes of this section of the Ohio Revised Code, estimated revenue is commonly referred to as "estimated resources" because it includes unencumbered fund balances.

At June 30, 2022 the District's appropriations exceeded the amount certified as available by the budget commission in the Classroom Facilities and Capital Projects Funds in the amounts of \$435,399 and \$2,142,032, respectively.

Failure to limit appropriations to the amount certified by the budget commission due to deficiencies in the District's compliance monitoring policies and procedures could result in overspending and negative cash fund balances.

The District should draft, approve, and implement procedures to compare appropriations to estimated resources and, if adequate resources are available for additional appropriations, the District should submit an amended certificate of estimated resources to the budget commission for certification. If the resources are not available to cover the appropriations, an amendment to the appropriation resolution should be passed by the Board of Education to reduce the appropriations.

Officials' Response:

See Corrective Action Plan

3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None

Northwestern Local School District

Board Members

Mr. Mike Boff
 Mr. John Higbea
 Mr. Shaun Mack
 Mrs. Jenni Schweitzer-Ahmed
 Mr. Eric Wiemken

Mrs. Nicole Wells
 Superintendent

“Home of the Rams”

5855 Domersville Road
 Defiance, OH 43512
 419-497-3461



Mrs. Lisa Maxwell
 Middle School Principal

Mr. Alex Nafziger
 High School Principal

Mr. Eric Tipton
 Elementary School Principal

Mrs. Sara Buchhop
 Treasurer/CFO

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
 2 CFR 200.511(b)
 JUNE 30, 2022**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2021-001	This finding was first reported in 2008. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B) for reporting on a basis other than generally accepted accounting principles.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2022-001 in this report.	This finding reoccurred since the District has determined that it is more cost effective to report financial results on a basis other than GAAP. The Board feels that the information contained in such statements is sufficient.
2021-002	This finding was first reported in 2021. Material weakness for lack of monitoring of financial transactions resulting in errors in the financial statements.	Partially corrected and reissued in the Management Letter.	Additional errors occurred and were not detected. The District will monitor these errors going forward.
2021-003	This finding was first reported in 2021. Material weakness and noncompliance on 2 CFR §§ 417.10, 180, and 417.20 for not properly retaining evidence of suspension and debarment verification for a vendor.	Corrective action taken and finding is fully corrected.	

Northeastern Local School District

Board Members

Mr. Mike Boff
Mr. John Higbea
Mr. Shaun Mack
Mrs. Jenni Schweitzer-Ahmed
Mr. Eric Wiemken

Mrs. Nicole Wells
Superintendent

“Home of the Rams”

5855 Domersville Road
Defiance, OH 43512
419-497-3461



Mrs. Lisa Maxwell
Middle School Principal

Mr. Alex Nafziger
High School Principal

Mr. Eric Tipton
Elementary School Principal

Mrs. Sara Buchhop
Treasurer/CFO

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2 CFR § 200.511(c) JUNE 30, 2022

Finding Number:	2022-001
Planned Corrective Action:	Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient. The District will continue to report on an OCBOA (Other Comprehensive Basis of Accounting) basis for future audits.
Anticipated Completion Date:	N/A
Responsible Contact Person:	Sara Buchhop, Treasurer/CFO
Finding Number:	2022-002
Planned Corrective Action:	The Treasurer will ensure appropriations do not exceed estimated resources for all District funds.
Anticipated Completion Date:	June 30, 2023
Responsible Contact Person:	Sara Buchhop, Treasurer/CFO

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



NORTHEASTERN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

DEFIANCE 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 4/18/2023

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