



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**CLEVELAND ACADEMY OF SCHOLARSHIP, TECHNOLOGY AND LEADERSHIP ENTERPRISE
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| TITLE | PAGE |
|---|-------------|
| Independent Auditor's Report | 1 |
| Prepared by Management: | |
| Management's Discussion and Analysis..... | 5 |
| Basic Financial Statements: | |
| Statement of Net Position | 10 |
| Statement Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position..... | 11 |
| Statement of Cash Flows | 12 |
| Notes to the Basic Financial Statements | 13 |
| Required Supplementary Information: | |
| Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability – Last Five Fiscal Years: School Employees Retirement System (SERS) and State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) | 37 |
| Schedule of the School's Contributions-Pension – Last Ten Fiscal Years: School Employees Retirement System (SERS) and State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)..... | 38 |
| Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability – Last Two Fiscal Years: School Employees Retirement System (SERS) and State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) | 41 |
| Schedule of School's Contributions-OPEB – Last Ten Fiscal Years: School Employees Retirement System (SERS) and State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)..... | 42 |
| Notes to the Required Supplementary Information..... | 44 |
| Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> | 47 |
| Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings, Prepared by Management | 49 |

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County
3950 Prospect Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the School's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinion.

Efficient • Effective • Transparent

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise, Cuyahoga County, as of June 30, 2018, and the changes in its financial position and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 3 to the financial statements, during 2018, the School adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require this presentation to include *management's discussion and analysis*, and schedules of net pension and other post-employment benefit liabilities and pension and other post-employment benefit contributions listed in the table of contents, to supplement the basic financial statements. Although this information is not part of the basic financial statements, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board considers it essential for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, consisting of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, to the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not opine or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to opine or provide any other assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 19, 2019, on our consideration of the School'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. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Faber". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K" and "F".

Keith Faber
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

November 19, 2019

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Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018
(Unaudited)*

Our management's discussion and analysis of the Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise's (the School) financial performance provides an overall review of the School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of the new reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Government issued June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current year and the prior year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

Financial Highlights

Key Financial Highlights for the School for the 2018 school year are as follows:

- In total, net position increased \$583,529, which represents an increase of 17.5 percent from 2017.
- Total assets increased \$33,876, which represents an 80.7 percent increase from 2017.
- Total liabilities decreased \$1,555,284, which represents a 43.9 percent decrease from 2017.
- The School implemented GASB 75, which reduced beginning net position as previously reported by \$479,573.
- A decrease in net pension liability and net OPEB liability substantially decreased fringe benefits (reported as pension/OPEB expense) compared to fiscal year 2017. See further explanation after Table 1.

The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the School at June 30, 2018 and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27*. For fiscal year 2018, the School adopted GASB Statement 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability* or *net OPEB liability*. GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Management's Discussion and Analysis

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(Unaudited)

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to equal the School's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

1. Present value of estimated future pension/OPEB benefits attributable to active and inactive employees' past service
- 2 Minus plan assets available to pay these benefits

GASB notes that pension and OPEB obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange" – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the School is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e. sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability or the net OPEB liability. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities, but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability are satisfied, these liabilities are separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the School's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability and net OPEB liability, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

As a result of implementing GASB 75, the School is reporting a net OPEB liability and deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to OPEB on the accrual basis of accounting. This implementation also had the effect of restating net position at June 30, 2017, from (\$2,859,124) to (\$3,338,697).

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018
(Unaudited)

Using This Financial Report

This financial report contains the basic financial statements of the School, as well as the Management's Discussion and Analysis and notes to the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include a statement of net position, statement of revenues, expenses and change in net position, and a statement of cash flows. As the School reports its operations using enterprise fund accounting, all financial transactions and accounts are reported as one activity. Therefore, the entity-wide and the fund presentation information is the same.

Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position answers the question of how the School did financially during 2018. This statement includes all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resource focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

Table 1 provides a summary of the School's Net Position for fiscal years 2018 and 2017.

(Table 1)
Statement of Net Position

| | 2018 | Restated 2017 |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current Assets | \$ 75,851 | \$ 41,017 |
| Capital Assets, Net | 0 | 958 |
| <i>Total Assets</i> | 75,851 | 41,975 |
| Deferred Outflows | 308,384 | 424,318 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current Liabilities | 514,408 | 394,757 |
| Long Term Liabilities | 1,471,335 | 3,146,270 |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i> | 1,985,743 | 3,541,027 |
| Deferred Inflows | 1,153,660 | 263,963 |
| Net Position | | |
| Investment in Capital Assets | 0 | 958 |
| Unrestricted | (2,755,168) | (3,339,655) |
| <i>Total Net Position</i> | \$ (2,755,168) | \$ (3,338,697) |

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Management's Discussion and Analysis

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(Unaudited)

Total assets increased \$33,876 from 2017. This increase is primarily due to an increase in cash from revenues exceeding expenses. Current liabilities increased \$119,651 from 2017. This increase is primarily due to an increase in accounts payable due to the timing of payments compared to when the expenses were incurred. Long term liabilities decreased by \$1,674,935 from 2017. The significant decrease in long term liabilities is largely the result of a change in benefit terms in which STRS reduced their COLA to zero coupled by a slight reduction in COLA benefits by SERS. The significant changes in pension and OPEB deferred outflows and pension deferred inflows are primarily from changes in proportionate share of contributions. All components of pension and OPEB accruals contribute to the fluctuations in deferred outflows/inflows and NPL/NOL and are described in more detail in their respective notes.

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Position

Table 2 shows the change in Net Position for fiscal years 2018 and 2017.

(Table 2)
Change in Net Position

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Operating Revenue | \$ 1,475,545 | \$ 1,135,158 |
| Non-Operating Revenue | <u>210,282</u> | <u>253,377</u> |
| Total Revenue | <u>1,685,827</u> | <u>1,388,535</u> |
| | | |
| Operating Expenses | <u>1,102,298</u> | <u>1,277,906</u> |
| | | |
| Change In Net Position | <u>\$ 583,529</u> | <u>\$ 110,629</u> |

The information necessary to restate the 2017 beginning balances and the 2017 OPEB expense amounts for the effects of the initial implementation of GASB 75 is not available. Therefore, 2017 functional expenses still include OPEB expense of \$2,060 computed under GASB 45. GASB 45 required recognizing pension expense equal to the contractually required contributions to the plan. Under GASB 75, OPEB expense represents additional amounts earned, adjusted by deferred inflows/outflows. The contractually required contribution is no longer a component of OPEB expense. Under GASB 75, the 2018 statements report negative OPEB expense of \$58,884. Consequently, in order to compare 2018 total program expenses to 2017, the following adjustments are needed:

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Total 2018 Program Expenses under GASB 75 | \$ 1,102,298 |
| Negative OPEB Expense under GASB 75 | 58,884 |
| 2018 Contractually Required Contribution | <u>2,329</u> |
| Adjusted 2018 Program Expenses | 1,163,511 |
| Total 2017 Program Expenses under GASB 45 | <u>1,277,906</u> |
| Decrease in Program Expenses not Related to OPEB | <u>\$ (114,395)</u> |

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018
(Unaudited)*

The School's operating and non-operating revenues in 2018 were based on the School's full-time equivalent (FTE) and the School's federal grant funding received throughout the year. The increase in School's revenue was primarily caused by the increase in student enrollment. The School's most significant expenses, "Purchased services" are a result of the management agreement in place between the School and EEG, LLC. Effective July 1, 2017, the School entered into a management agreement (Agreement) with Educational Empowerment Group, LLC (EEG, LLC), which is an educational consulting and management company. The term of the Agreement with EEG, LLC is for 3 years and will renew for additional, successive three (3) year terms. The agreement provides that specific percentages of the revenues received by the School will be paid to EEG, LLC to fund operations (see notes to the financial statements, note 7).

Capital Assets

For the year ended June 30, 2018, all assets had been fully depreciated in a prior fiscal year. See Note 5.

Current Financial Issues

The School received revenue for 152 students in 2018. State law governing community schools allows for the School to have open enrollment across traditional school district boundaries.

The School receives its support almost entirely from state aid. Per pupil revenue from state aid for the School averaged \$9,708 in fiscal year 2018. The School receives additional revenues from grant subsidies.

Although there is a possibility that state aid will be cut in future years due to the economic climate, the School feels that the relationship with the management company will insulate them from any significant change. The relationship brings stability to the School since specific percentages of revenues are payable to the management company (See notes to the basic financial statements, note 7).

Contacting the School's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our readers with a general overview of the School's finances and to show the School's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the Fiscal Officer at 3320 West Market Street, Suite 300, Fairlawn, Ohio 44333.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2018

ASSETS

Current Assets

| | | |
|------------------------------|----|--------|
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | \$ | 38,659 |
| Accounts Receivable | | 8,581 |
| Intergovernmental Receivable | | 111 |
| Security Deposit, Etc. | | 28,500 |
| | | 28,500 |

| | | |
|---------------------|--|--------|
| Total Assets | | 75,851 |
|---------------------|--|--------|

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

| | | |
|---------|--|---------|
| Pension | | 300,350 |
| OPEB | | 8,034 |
| | | 8,034 |

| | | |
|---|--|---------|
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources | | 308,384 |
|---|--|---------|

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|----------|
| Accounts Payable | | 487,333 |
| Accrued Wages and Benefits | | 59,004 |
| Judgment Payable | | 9,300 |
| Pension Obligation Payable | | (41,229) |
| | | (41,229) |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|---------|
| Total Current Liabilities | | 514,408 |
|---------------------------|--|---------|

Long Term Liabilities

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|---------|
| Net Pension Liability | | 904,062 |
| Net OPEB Liability | | 232,793 |
| Judgment Payable | | 334,480 |
| | | 334,480 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------|
| Total Long Term Liabilities | | 1,471,335 |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------|

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|
| Total Liabilities | | 1,985,743 |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

| | | |
|---------|--|---------|
| Pension | | 960,059 |
| OPEB | | 193,601 |
| | | 193,601 |

| | | |
|--|--|-----------|
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources | | 1,153,660 |
|--|--|-----------|

NET POSITION

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|
| Unrestricted Net Position | | (2,755,168) |
|---------------------------|--|-------------|

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|----------------|
| Total Net Position | | \$ (2,755,168) |
|---------------------------|--|----------------|

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

OPERATING REVENUES

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----|------------------|
| State Basic Aid | \$ | 1,438,153 |
| Facilities Aid | | 29,522 |
| Other Operating Revenue | | 651 |
| Casino Revenue | | 7,219 |
| | | 1,475,545 |
| Total Operating Revenues | | 1,475,545 |

OPERATING EXPENSES

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Salaries and Wages | | 6,486 |
| Fringe Benefits | | (572,128) |
| Purchased Services | | 1,564,419 |
| Materials and Supplies | | 63,085 |
| Depreciation | | 958 |
| Other Expenses | | 39,478 |
| | | 1,102,298 |
| Total Operating Expenses | | 1,102,298 |
| Operating Income (Loss) | | 373,247 |

NON-OPERATING REVENUES

| | | |
|--|----|--------------------|
| Federal and State Grants | | 210,282 |
| | | 210,282 |
| Change in Net Position | | 583,529 |
| Net Position Beginning of Year (Restated) | | (3,338,697) |
| Net Position End of Year | \$ | (2,755,168) |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Cash Received From State Aid | \$ 1,475,545 |
| Cash Payments To Suppliers For Goods And Services | (1,649,610) |
| | (174,065) |

CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Cash Received From Grant Programs | 210,282 |
| | 36,217 |
| Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents | 36,217 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year | 2,442 |
| | 38,659 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year | \$ 38,659 |

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH USED FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Operating Income (Loss) | \$ 373,247 |
|-------------------------|------------|

ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH USED FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Depreciation | 958 |
| Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Deferred Outflows/Inflows: | |
| Accounts Receivable | (8,581) |
| Intergovernmental Receivable | 16,321 |
| Prepays | 2,643 |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | 115,934 |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | 889,697 |
| Accounts Payable | 145,651 |
| Security Deposit, Etc. | (9,000) |
| Loans Payable - EEG | (48,420) |
| Accrued Expenses - Other | (7,221) |
| Pension Obligation Payable | 2,937 |
| Accrued Wages and Benefits | 26,704 |
| Judgement Payable | (9,300) |
| Net Pension/OPEB Liability | (1,665,635) |
| | (547,312) |
| Total Adjustments | (547,312) |
| Net Cash Used For Operating Activities | \$ (174,065) |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL AND REPORTING ENTITY

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise, Inc. (the School) is a federal tax exempt 501(c)(3) and state nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Chapters 3314 and 1702 to maintain and provide a school exclusively for any educational, literary, scientific and related teaching service. The School, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school district. The School may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the School.

The School contracts with Educational Empowerment Group, LLC (EEG, LLC) for most of its functions (see note 7).

The School signed a contract with The Educational Resource Consultants of Ohio, Inc. (ERCO) (Sponsor) to operate for a period from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020. The School operates under a self-appointing, five-member Board of Directors (the Board). The School's Code of Regulations specify that vacancies that arise on the Board will be filled by the appointment of a successor director by a majority vote of the then existing directors. The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract with the Sponsor, which include, but are not limited to, state-mandated provisions regarding student population, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admission standards, and qualifications of teachers. (The School has two instructional/support facilities, which are leased by EEG, LLC. The facilities are staffed with teaching personnel employed by EEG, LLC, who provide services to 152 students).

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic financial statements of the School have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governmental nonprofit organizations. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the School's accounting policies are described below.

Basis of Presentation

The School's financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows. Enterprise fund reporting focuses on the determination of the change in Net Position, financial position and cash flows.

Auditor of State of Ohio Bulletin No. 2000-005 requires the presentation of all financial activity to be reported within one enterprise fund for year-end reporting purposes. Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent is that the costs (expenses) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and deferred outflows of resources as well as all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position. Operating statements present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in Net Position. The accrual basis of accounting is utilized for reporting purposes. Revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Budgetary Process

Community schools are statutorily required to adopt a budget by Ohio Revised Code 3314.032(C). However, unlike traditional public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the specific budgetary process and limits set forth in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided in the contract between the School and its Sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor does not require the School to follow the provisions Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705; therefore, no budgetary information is presented in the basic financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

All cash received by the School is maintained in a demand deposit account.

Intergovernmental Revenues

The School currently participates in the State Foundation Program, facilities aid and casino tax distributions, which are reflected under “Operating revenues” on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. Revenues received from these programs are recognized as operating revenue in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements, and contributions. Grants, entitlements, and contributions are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

Capital Assets and Depreciation

For purposes of recording capital assets, the Board has a capitalization threshold of \$5,000.

As of June 30, 2018, the School’s capital assets were fully depreciated. Depreciation is computed by the straight-line method over five years for all assets. The useful lives are as follows:

| <u>Asset</u> | <u>Useful Life</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Computers and Software | 3 Years |
| Furniture and Fixtures | 5 Years |
| Equipment | 5 Years |
| Textbooks | 5 Years |

Use of Estimates

In preparing the financial statements, management is sometimes required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Net Position

Net Position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. The School applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the School's primary activities. For the School, these revenues are primarily state aid payments. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the goods and services that are the primary activities of the School. Revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

Pensions and Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense; 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.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the School, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the statement of net position for pension and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Notes 10 and 11.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized until that time. For the School, deferred inflows of resources include pension and OPEB, which are reported on the statement of net position. (See Notes 10 and 11).

Accrued Liabilities

Obligations incurred but unpaid at June 30 are reported as accrued liabilities in the accompanying financial statements which consist of accounts payable, accrued wages and benefits, judgment payable, and pension obligation payable of \$848,888 at June 30, 2018.

Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place, Non-exchange transactions, in which the School receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose and expenditures requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Prepays

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2018, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of purchase by the School and an expense is recorded when used.

NOTE 3 – IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES AND RESTATEMENT OF NET POSITION

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the School has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial reporting for Postemployment Benefits other than Pensions*, GASB Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*, GASB Statement No. 85, *Omnibus 2017* and GASB Statement No. 86, *Certain Debt Extinguishments*.

GASB Statement No. 75 requires recognition of the entire net postemployment benefits other than pensions (other postemployment benefits or OPEB) liability and a more comprehensive measure of postemployment benefits expense for OPEB provided to the employees of state and local governmental employers through OPEB plans that are administered through trusts or equivalent arrangements. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 75 resulted in the inclusion of net OPEB liability and OPEB expense components on the financial statements. See below for the effect on net position as previously reported.

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Net Position, June 30, 2017 | \$ (2,859,124) |
| Adjustments: | |
| Net OPEB Liability | (481,633) |
| Deferred Outflow-Payments Subsequent to Measurement Date | 2,060 |
| Restated Net Position, July 1, 2017 | <u>\$ (3,338,697)</u> |

Other than employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date, the School made no restatement for deferred inflows/outflows of resources as the information needed to generate these restatements was not available.

GASB Statement No. 81 requires that a government that receives resources pursuant to an irrevocable split-interest agreement recognize assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources at the inception of the agreement. Furthermore, it requires that a government recognize assets representing its beneficial interests in irrevocable split-interest agreements that are administered by a third party, if the government controls the present service capacity of the beneficial interests. This Statement also requires that a government recognize revenue when the resources become applicable to the reporting period. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 81 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

GASB Statement No. 85 addresses a variety of topics including issues related to blending component units, goodwill, fair value measurement and application, and postemployment benefits. These changes were incorporated in the School's fiscal year 2018 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

GASB Statement No. 86 addresses the reporting and disclosure requirements of certain debt extinguishments including in-substance defeasance transactions and prepaid insurance associated with debt that is extinguished. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 86 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS

Protection of the School’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.

NOTE 5 - CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

As of June 30, 2018, the School’s capital assets are fully depreciated.

| | Balance 6/30/2017 | Additions | Reductions | Balance 6/30/2018 |
|---|----------------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|
| <i>Capital Assets, being depreciated:</i> | | | | |
| Computers and Software | \$ 141,139 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 141,139 |
| Furniture and Fixtures | 6,015 | 0 | 0 | 6,015 |
| Textbooks | 25,905 | 0 | 0 | 25,905 |
| Textbooks | 132,181 | 0 | 0 | 132,181 |
| Total Capital Assets, being depreciated | <u>305,240</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>305,240</u> |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation: | | | | |
| Computers and Software | (140,181) | (958) | 0 | (141,139) |
| Furniture and Fixtures | (6,015) | 0 | 0 | (6,015) |
| Textbooks | (25,905) | 0 | 0 | (25,905) |
| Textbooks | (132,181) | 0 | 0 | (132,181) |
| Total Accumulated Depreciation | <u>(304,282)</u> | <u>(958)</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>(305,240)</u> |
| Total Capital Assets being depreciated, net | <u>958</u> | <u>(958)</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Property and Liability - The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft or damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. As part of its management agreement with EEG, LLC, EEG, LLC has contracted with an insurance company for property and general liability insurance pursuant to the Management Agreement (see note 7). There have been no settlements claims exceeding coverage in the past three years, nor has there been a reduction in insurance coverage from the prior year.

Director and Officer - Coverage has been purchased by the School with a \$2,000,000 aggregate limit and a \$5,000, \$15,000, or \$50,000 deductible, depending on the claim.

Worker’s Compensation – The school is responsible for paying the State Worker’s Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

NOTE 7 - AGREEMENT WITH EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT GROUP, LLC

Effective July 1, 2016, the School entered into a management agreement (Agreement) with Educational Empowerment Group, LLC (EEG, LLC), which is an educational consulting and management company. The term of the Agreement with EEG, LLC is for 3 years and will renew for additional, successive three (3) year terms unless one party notifies the other party no later than six months prior to the term expiration date of its intention to not renew the Agreement. Substantially all functions of the School have been contracted to EEG, LLC. EEG, LLC is responsible and accountable to the School's Board of Directors for the administration and operation of the School. The School is required to pay EEG, LLC a monthly continuing fee of 16 percent of the School's "Qualified gross revenues," defined in the Agreement as, all revenues and income received by the School except for charitable contributions. The continuing fee is paid to EEG, LLC based on the qualified gross revenues.

The School purchased services for the year ended June 30, 2018, to EEG, LLC, of \$1,564,419. EEG, LLC will be responsible for procuring the educational program at the School, which include but are not limited to, salaries and benefits of all personnel, curriculum materials, textbooks, library books, computers and other equipment, software, supplies, building payments, maintenance, capital, and insurance which are then invoiced to the school or reimbursed to EEG, LLC.

NOTE 8 - SPONSORSHIP FEES

Under Paragraph D(4) of the sponsor contract with ERCO, it states that the School "...shall pay to the Sponsor, the amount of three percent (3%) of all state funds received each year, in consideration for the time, organization, oversight, fees and costs of the Sponsor pursuant to this contract." Such fees are paid to the ERCO monthly. As indicated on the statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in Net Position, the School incurred \$43,288 in sponsorship fees to ERCO.

NOTE 9 - PURCHASED SERVICES

For the year ended June 30, 2018, purchased service expenses were as follows:

| <u>Purchased Services</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Direct Expenses: | |
| Personnel Services | \$ 1,027,889 |
| Professional Services | 119,917 |
| Building Services | 306,792 |
| Food Service | 66,533 |
| Sponsor Services | 43,288 |
| Total | <u>\$ 1,564,419</u> |

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for pensions. Pensions are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions 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 obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension liability represents the School's proportionate share of each pension plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension liability 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 this estimate annually.

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

GASB 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *accounts payable*.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description – School non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a statewide, cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor 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.

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

| | Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017* | Eligible to Retire on or 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 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 year of service; 2.2 percent for the first 30 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.

When a benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, an annual COLA is provided. This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. For those retiring prior to January 7, 2013, the COLA will continue to be a three percent simple annual COLA. For those retiring after January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the COLA will be based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at three percent.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School 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, 2018, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14 percent. SERS allocated 0.5 percent of employer contributions to the Health Care Fund for fiscal year 2018.

The School’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$31,657 for fiscal year 2018.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description – School licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS’ fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS Web site 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 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 was 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or at age 55 with 26 years of service, or 31 years of service regardless of age. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.5 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.5 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 or later.

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

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. New members on or after July 1, 2013, must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit to apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, plan members were required to contribute 14 percent of their annual covered salary. The School was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2018 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$49,487 for fiscal year 2018.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2017, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an independent actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's employer allocation percentage of the net pension liability was based on the employer's share of employer contributions in the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating employers. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Proportion of the Net Pension Liability: | | | |
| Current Measurement Date | 0.00505940% | 0.00253323% | |
| Prior Measurement Date | 0.00730360% | 0.00533654% | |
| Change in Proportionate Share | -0.00224420% | -0.00280331% | |
| Proportionate Share of the Net | | | |
| Pension Liability | \$ 302,288 | \$ 601,774 | \$ 904,062 |
| Pension Expense | \$ (101,330) | \$ (416,318) | \$ (517,648) |

Deferred outflows/inflows of resources represent the effect of changes in the net pension liability due to the difference between projected and actual investment earnings, differences between expected and actual actuarial experience, changes in assumptions and changes in the School's proportion of the collective net pension liability. The deferred outflows and deferred inflows are to be included in pension expense over current and future periods. The difference between projected and actual investment earnings is recognized in pension expense using a straight line method over a five year period beginning in the current year. Deferred outflows and deferred inflows resulting from changes in sources other than differences between projected and actual investment earnings are amortized over the average expected remaining service lives of all members (both active and inactive) using the straight line method. Employer contributions to the pension plan subsequent to the measurement date are also required to be reported as a deferred outflow of resources.

At June 30, 2018 the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|---|-----------|------------|------------|
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | | | |
| Differences between Expected and | | | |
| Actual Experience | \$ 13,010 | \$ 23,236 | \$ 36,246 |
| Changes of Assumptions | 15,632 | 131,614 | 147,246 |
| Changes in Proportion and Differences between | | | |
| The School Contributions and Proportionate | | | |
| Share of Contributions | 0 | 35,714 | 35,714 |
| The School Contributions Subsequent to the | | | |
| Measurement Date | 31,657 | 49,487 | 81,144 |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources | \$ 60,299 | \$ 240,051 | \$ 300,350 |

| | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | | | |
| Differences between Expected and | | | |
| Actual Experience | \$ 0 | \$ 4,850 | \$ 4,850 |
| Net Difference between Projected and | | | |
| Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments | 1,434 | 19,860 | 21,294 |
| Changes in Proportion and Differences between | | | |
| The School Contributions and Proportionate | | | |
| Share of Contributions | 160,528 | 773,387 | 933,915 |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources | \$ 161,962 | \$ 798,097 | \$ 960,059 |

\$81,144 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Fiscal Year Ending June 30: | | | |
| 2019 | \$ (78,341) | \$ (156,881) | \$ (235,222) |
| 2020 | (27,774) | (129,867) | (157,641) |
| 2021 | (20,158) | (163,373) | (183,531) |
| 2022 | (7,047) | (157,412) | (164,459) |
| | \$ (133,320) | \$ (607,533) | \$ (740,853) |

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 terminations). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2017, are presented below:

| | |
|--|---|
| Wage Inflation | 3.00 percent |
| Future Salary Increases, including inflation | 3.50 percent to 18.20 percent |
| COLA or Ad Hoc COLA | 2.50 percent |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation |
| Actuarial Cost Method | Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll) |

Mortality rates among active members were based upon 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 were 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.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2017 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2015. The assumed rate of inflation, payroll growth assumption and assumed real wage growth were reduced in the most recent actuarial valuation. The rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability updated to reflect recent experience and mortality rates were also updated.

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by 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 an arithmetic weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major assets class are summarized in the following table:

| Asset Class | Target Allocation | Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return |
|------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Cash | 1.00 % | 0.50 % |
| US Stocks | 22.50 | 4.75 |
| Non-US Stocks | 22.50 | 7.00 |
| Fixed Income | 19.00 | 1.50 |
| Private Equity | 10.00 | 8.00 |
| Real Assets | 15.00 | 5.00 |
| Multi-Asset Strategies | <u>10.00</u> | 3.00 |
| Total | <u>100.00 %</u> | |

Discount Rate The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 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 (7.50 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 School'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 School's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 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 (6.50 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.50 percent) than the current rate.

| | 1% Decrease (6.50%) | Current Discount Rate (7.50%) | 1% Increase (8.50%) |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 419,497 | \$ 302,288 | \$ 204,101 |

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2017, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Inflation | 2.50 percent |
| Salary Increases | 12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65 |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation |
| Payroll Increases | 3.00 percent |
| Cost-of-Living Adjustments | 0.00 percent effective July 1, 2017 |

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2017, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

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

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

*The target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2017. Target weights will be phased in over a 24-month period concluding on July 1, 2019.

**Ten year annualized 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 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2017. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above.

For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2017. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2017.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following table presents the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability as of June 30, 2017, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45 percent, as well as what the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.45 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.45 percent) than the current assumption:

| | 1% Decrease (6.45%) | Current Discount Rate (7.45%) | 1% Increase (8.45%) |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 862,623 | \$ 601,774 | \$ 382,048 |

Assumption Changes since the Prior Measurement Date

The Retirement Board approved several changes to the actuarial assumptions in 2017. The long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent, the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75 percent to 2.50 percent, the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00 percent, and total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25 percent due to lower inflation. The healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016. Rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.

Benefit Term Changes since the Prior Measurement Date

Effective July 1, 2017, the COLA was reduced to zero.

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability

The net OPEB liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for OPEB. OPEB is a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. 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 obligation to sacrifice resources for OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net OPEB liability represents the School's proportionate share of each OPEB plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The net OPEB liability 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.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

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

GASB 75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB liability. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net OPEB liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required OPEB contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *accounts payable*.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org 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 fiscal year 2018, .5 percent of covered payroll was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2018, this amount was \$23,700. 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

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2018, the School's surcharge obligation was \$1,157.

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 School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$2,329 for fiscal year 2018. Of this amount \$1,157 is reported as an accounts payable.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description – The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued effective January 1, 2020. 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, 2018, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2017, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the School'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 and OPEB expense:

| | <u>SERS</u> | <u>STRS</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability | | | |
| Current Measurement Date | 0.00499140% | 0.00253323% | |
| Prior Measurement Date | <u>0.00688449%</u> | <u>0.00533654%</u> | |
| Change in Proportionate Share | <u>-0.00189309%</u> | <u>-0.00280331%</u> | |
| | | | |
| Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 133,956 | \$ 98,837 | \$ 232,793 |
| OPEB Expense | \$ (7,308) | \$ (51,576) | \$ (58,884) |

At June 30, 2018, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

| | <u>SERS</u> | <u>STRS</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | | | |
| Differences between Expected and Actual Experience | \$ 0 | \$ 5,705 | \$ 5,705 |
| The School Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date | 2,329 | 0 | 2,329 |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources | <u>\$ 2,329</u> | <u>\$ 5,705</u> | <u>\$ 8,034</u> |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | | | |
| Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments | \$ 354 | \$ 4,225 | \$ 4,579 |
| Changes of Assumptions | 12,711 | 7,962 | 20,673 |
| Changes in Proportionate Share and Differences between The School Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions | 39,844 | 128,505 | 168,349 |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources | <u>\$ 52,909</u> | <u>\$ 140,692</u> | <u>\$ 193,601</u> |

\$2,329 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

| | <u>SERS</u> | <u>STRS</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Fiscal Year Ending June 30: | | | |
| 2019 | \$ (19,130) | \$ (22,849) | \$ (41,979) |
| 2020 | (19,130) | (22,849) | (41,979) |
| 2021 | (14,559) | (22,849) | (37,408) |
| 2022 | (90) | (22,850) | (22,940) |
| 2023 | 0 | (21,793) | (21,793) |
| Thereafter | 0 | (21,797) | (21,797) |
| | <u>\$ (52,909)</u> | <u>\$ (134,987)</u> | <u>\$ (187,896)</u> |

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.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

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, 2017, are presented below:

| | |
|--|---|
| Wage Inflation | 3.00 percent |
| Future Salary Increases, including inflation | 3.50 percent to 18.20 percent |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation |
| Municipal Bond Index Rate | |
| Measurement Date | 3.56 percent |
| Prior Measurement Date | 2.92 percent |
| Single Equivalent Interest Rate | |
| Measurement Date | 3.63 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation |
| Prior Measurement Date | 2.98 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation |
| Medical Trend Assumption | |
| Medicare | 5.50 percent - 5.00 percent |
| Pre-Medicare | 7.50 percent - 5.00 percent |

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, 2015.

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2010 through 2015, and was adopted by the Board on April 21, 2016. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.50 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, 2015 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Target Allocation</u> | <u>Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Cash | 1.00 % | 0.50 % |
| US Stocks | 22.50 | 4.75 |
| Non-US Stocks | 22.50 | 7.00 |
| Fixed Income | 19.00 | 1.50 |
| Private Equity | 10.00 | 8.00 |
| Real Assets | 15.00 | 5.00 |
| Multi-Asset Strategies | 10.00 | 3.00 |
| Total | <u>100.00 %</u> | |

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2017 was 3.63 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2017 was 2.98 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 state statute contribution rate of 2.00 percent of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and 0.50 percent of contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to present value the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and the Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index rate of 3.56 percent, as of June 30, 2017 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to present value the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (2.63 percent) and higher (4.63 percent) than the current discount rate (3.63 percent). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.5 percent decreasing to 4.0 percent) and higher (8.5 percent decreasing to 6.0 percent) than the current rate.

| | <u>1% Decrease (2.63%)</u> | <u>Current Discount Rate (3.63%)</u> | <u>1% Increase (4.63%)</u> |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 161,769 | \$ 133,956 | \$ 111,921 |
| | <u>1% Decrease</u> | <u>Current Trend Rate</u> | <u>1% Increase</u> |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 108,695 | \$ 133,956 | \$ 167,389 |

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2017, actuarial valuation are presented below:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Inflation | 2.50 percent |
| Projected Salary Increases | 12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65 |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation |
| Payroll Increases | 3.00 percent |
| Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) | 0.00 percent effective July 1, 2017 |
| Blended Discount Rate of Return | 4.13 percent |
| Health Care Cost Trends | 6.00 percent to 11.00 percent, initial, 4.50 percent ultimate |

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 Table 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 Table 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, 2017, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

Since the prior measurement date, the discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent based on the methodology defined under GASB *Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB)* and the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

Also since the prior measurement date, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019. Subsequent to the current measurement date, the date for discontinuing remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements was extended to January 2020.

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:

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

| 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 |
| | 100.00 % | |

*Ten year annualized 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 actual rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 4.13 percent as of June 30, 2017. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. The OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2037. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to determine the present value of the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2036 and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 3.58 percent as of June 30, 2017 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to determine the present value of the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The blended discount rate of 4.13 percent, which represents the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45 percent for the funded benefit payments and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 3.58 percent for the unfunded benefit payments, was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017. A blended discount rate of 3.26 percent which represents the long term expected rate of return of 7.75 percent for the funded benefit payments and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 2.85 percent for the unfunded benefit payments was used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2016.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate The following table represents the net OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 4.13 percent, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.13 percent) or one percentage point higher (5.13 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB liability 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.

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

| | 1% Decrease (3.13%) | Current Discount Rate (4.13%) | 1% Increase (5.13%) |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 132,687 | \$ 98,837 | \$ 72,085 |

| | 1% Decrease | Current Trend Rate | 1% Increase |
|---|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 68,668 | \$ 98,837 | \$ 138,544 |

NOTE 12 - CONTINGENCIES

Grants

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of the School, any such adjustments will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the School.

Enrollment FTE

School foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. However, there is an important nexus between attendance and enrollment for Foundation funding purposes. Community schools must provide documentation that clearly demonstrates students have participated in learning opportunities. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end.

Under Ohio Rev. Code Section 3314.08, ODE may perform a FTE Review subsequent to the fiscal year end that may result in an additional adjustment to the enrollment information as well as claw backs of Foundation funding due to a lack of evidence to support student participation and other matters of noncompliance. ODE did not perform such a review on the School for fiscal year 2019.

As of the date of this report, ODE adjustments for fiscal year 2019 are finalized.

NOTE 13 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2018 consisted of intergovernmental receivables arising from grants, entitlements, and accounts receivable from miscellaneous governments. All receivables are considered collectible in full.

NOTE 14 - OPERATING LEASE

On October 2014, the School entered into a lease agreement with the George Group for 19,000 square feet located at 3950 Prospect Avenue. The current rental amount through fiscal year 2023 is \$16,500.

On June 15, 2017, the School entered into a lease agreement with The Savron Group for a second location at 12000 Snow Road. The rental amount is \$4,000 and expires two years from the Commencement date.

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Total rent expense included other facility related costs, utilities, and late fees related to the building being rented. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, total rent expense was \$229,500. A summary of the next four years' rent payments for both locations are seen below:

| | <u>Main Location</u> | <u>Parma Location</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 2019 | \$ 198,000 | \$ 48,000 | \$ 246,000 |
| 2020 | 198,000 | 0 | 198,000 |
| 2021 | 198,000 | 0 | 198,000 |
| 2022 | 198,000 | 0 | 198,000 |

NOTE 15 - LITIGATION

In 2015, the School was named a defendant in a civil suit filed in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, involving a lease agreement dispute. In August 2016, a judgment was granted in favor of the plaintiff, Sunshine Limited Partnership against the School in the amount of \$313,555. In October 2016, the Court granted the School's motion to stay execution pending an appeal.

In 2015, the School was named a defendant in a civil suit filed in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, involving a copier lease agreement dispute. September 2016, the plaintiff, US Bank National Association dba US Bank Equipment Finance settled with the School for the total principal amount of \$46,500 to be payable in 60 equal payments of \$775 beginning October 2016.

In December 2017, the School was named a defendant in a civil suit filed in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court, involving an EMIS services agreement dispute. In April 2018, the plaintiff, Mangen & Associates settled with the School for the total principal amount of \$14,175 to be payable in 7 equal payments of \$2,025 beginning May 2018.

NOTE 16 - DEBT – LONG AND SHORT TERM LIABILITIES

On June 30, 2018, the School's long and short term liabilities were as follows:

Long and Short Term Liabilities

| | Balance 6/30/2017 | Additions | Reductions | Balance 6/30/2018 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Long-Term Debt | | | | |
| Sunshine Limited Partnership | \$ 313,555 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 313,555 |
| US Bank National Association | 30,225 | 0 | (9,300) | 20,925 |
| Total Long-Term Debt | <u>\$ 343,780</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ (9,300)</u> | <u>\$ 334,480</u> |
| Short-Term Debt | Amount | | | |
| US Bank National Association | \$ 9,300 | | | |
| Total Short-Term Debt | <u>\$ 9,300</u> | | | |

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

NOTE 17 - DEFICIT NET POSITION

The School's Net Position at June 30, 2018 was a deficit of \$2,755,168. This was due to the fact that the School's current and long-term liabilities exceeded its available assets to meet those obligations, including the impact of the GASB 68 and 75 accruals that accounts for \$1,982,131 of the deficit. The Board remains committed to the success of the School both academically and financially and is focused on overcoming this deficit through increases in student enrollment that will lead to higher revenues, or reductions of current operating expenses.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability Last
Five Fiscal Years (1)

| | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i> | | | | | |
| The School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability | 0.00505940% | 0.00730360% | 0.00793170% | 0.01130900% | 0.01130900% |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 302,288 | \$ 534,556 | \$ 452,590 | \$ 572,342 | \$ 672,510 |
| The School's Covered Payroll | \$ 158,721 | \$ 226,821 | \$ 253,642 | \$ 331,934 | \$ 379,617 |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll | 190.45% | 235.67% | 178.44% | 172.43% | 177.15% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability | 69.50% | 62.98% | 69.16% | 71.70% | 65.52% |
| <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i> | | | | | |
| The School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability | 0.00253323% | 0.00533654% | 0.00593697% | 0.00562466% | 0.00562466% |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 601,774 | \$ 1,786,301 | \$ 1,640,805 | \$ 1,368,112 | \$ 1,629,686 |
| The School's Covered Payroll | \$ 278,500 | \$ 567,271 | \$ 486,000 | \$ 618,885 | \$ 632,069 |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll | 216.08% | 314.89% | 337.61% | 221.06% | 257.83% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability | 75.30% | 66.80% | 72.10% | 74.70% | 69.30% |

(1) Information prior to 2014 is not available.

Note: The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which is the prior fiscal year.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Contributions - Pension
Last Ten Fiscal Years

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i> | | | | |
| Contractually Required Contribution | \$ 31,657 | \$ 22,221 | \$ 31,755 | \$ 33,430 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>(31,657)</u> | <u>(22,221)</u> | <u>(31,755)</u> | <u>(33,430)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| The School's Covered Payroll | \$ 234,496 | \$ 158,721 | \$ 226,821 | \$ 253,642 |
| Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll | 13.50% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 13.18% |
| <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i> | | | | |
| Contractually Required Contribution | \$ 49,487 | \$ 38,990 | \$ 79,418 | \$ 68,040 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>(49,487)</u> | <u>(38,990)</u> | <u>(79,418)</u> | <u>(68,040)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| The School's Covered Payroll | \$ 353,479 | \$ 278,500 | \$ 567,271 | \$ 486,000 |
| Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% |

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

| <u>2014</u> | <u>2013</u> | <u>2012</u> | <u>2011</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2009</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| \$ 46,006 | \$ 52,539 | \$ 53,326 | \$ 46,166 | \$ 36,380 | \$ 36,879 |
| <u>(46,006)</u> | <u>(52,539)</u> | <u>(53,326)</u> | <u>(46,166)</u> | <u>(36,380)</u> | <u>(36,879)</u> |
| <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| \$ 331,934 | \$ 379,617 | \$ 396,476 | \$ 367,271 | \$ 268,685 | \$ 374,787 |
| 13.86% | 13.84% | 13.45% | 12.57% | 13.54% | 9.84% |
| \$ 80,455 | \$ 82,169 | \$ 81,979 | \$ 86,011 | \$ 80,293 | \$ 192,512 |
| <u>(80,455)</u> | <u>(82,169)</u> | <u>(81,979)</u> | <u>(86,011)</u> | <u>(80,293)</u> | <u>(192,512)</u> |
| <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| \$ 618,885 | \$ 632,069 | \$ 630,608 | \$ 661,623 | \$ 617,638 | \$ 1,480,862 |
| 13.00% | 13.00% | 13.00% | 13.00% | 13.00% | 13.00% |

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

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Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability Last
Two Fiscal Years (1)

| | 2018 | 2017 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| <i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i> | | |
| The School's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability | 0.00499140% | 0.00688449% |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 133,956 | \$ 196,233 |
| The School's Covered Payroll | \$ 158,721 | \$ 226,821 |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll | 84.40% | 86.51% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability | 12.46% | 11.49% |
| <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i> | | |
| The School's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability | 0.00253323% | 0.00533654% |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 98,837 | \$ 285,400 |
| The School's Covered Payroll | \$ 278,500 | \$ 567,271 |
| The School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll | 35.49% | 50.31% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability | 47.10% | 37.30% |

(1) Information prior to 2017 is not available.

Note: The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which is the prior fiscal year.

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Contributions - OPEB
Last Ten Fiscal Years

| | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i> | | | | |
| Contractually Required Contribution (1) | \$ 2,329 | \$ 2,060 | \$ 1,266 | \$ 3,224 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>(2,329)</u> | <u>(2,060)</u> | <u>(1,266)</u> | <u>(3,224)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| The School's Covered Payroll | \$ 234,496 | \$ 158,721 | \$ 226,821 | \$ 253,642 |
| OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (1) | 0.99% | 1.30% | 0.56% | 1.27% |
| <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i> | | | | |
| Contractually Required Contribution | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| The School's Covered Payroll | \$ 353,479 | \$ 278,500 | \$ 567,271 | \$ 486,000 |
| OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

(1) Includes surcharge

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

| <u>2014</u> | <u>2013</u> | <u>2012</u> | <u>2011</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2009</u> |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| \$ 2,497 | \$ 3,308 | \$ 8,177 | \$ 10,802 | \$ 6,610 | \$ 15,591 |
| <u>(2,497)</u> | <u>(3,308)</u> | <u>(8,177)</u> | <u>(10,802)</u> | <u>(6,610)</u> | <u>(15,591)</u> |
| <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| \$ 331,934 | \$ 379,617 | \$ 396,476 | \$ 367,271 | \$ 268,685 | \$ 374,787 |
| 0.75% | 0.87% | 2.06% | 2.94% | 2.46% | 4.16% |
| \$ 6,189 | \$ 6,321 | \$ 6,306 | \$ 6,616 | \$ 6,176 | \$ 14,809 |
| <u>(6,189)</u> | <u>(6,321)</u> | <u>(6,306)</u> | <u>(6,616)</u> | <u>(6,176)</u> | <u>(14,809)</u> |
| <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> | <u>\$ 0</u> |
| \$ 618,885 | \$ 632,069 | \$ 630,608 | \$ 661,623 | \$ 617,638 | \$ 1,480,862 |
| 1.00% | 1.00% | 1.00% | 1.00% | 1.00% | 1.00% |

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Note 1 - Net Pension Liability

Changes in Assumptions - SERS

For fiscal year 2017, the SERS Board adopted the following assumption changes:

- Assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25 percent to 3.00 percent
- Payroll Growth Assumption was reduced from 4.00 percent to 3.50 percent
- Assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75 percent to 0.50 percent
- Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience.
- Mortality among active members was updated to the following:
 - 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 was updated to the following:
 - 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 disable member was updated to the following:
 - 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.

Changes in Benefit Terms - SERS

For fiscal year 2018, the cost-of-living adjustment was changed from a fixed 3.00 percent to a cost-of-living adjustment that is indexed to CPI-W not greater than 2.50 percent with a floor of zero percent beginning January 1, 2018. In addition, with the authority granted the Board under HB 49, the Board has enacted a three-year COLA suspension for benefit recipients in calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Changes in Assumptions – STRS

For fiscal year 2018, the Retirement Board approved several changes to the actuarial assumptions in 2017. The long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent, the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75 percent to 2.50 percent, the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00 percent, and total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25 percent due to lower inflation. The healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016. Rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.

Changes in Benefit Terms - STRS

Effective for fiscal year 2018, the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) was reduced to zero.

**Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology, and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Note 2 - Net OPEB Liability

Changes in Assumptions – SERS

Amounts reported for fiscal year 2018 incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

Municipal Bond Index Rate:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Fiscal year 2018 | 3.56 percent |
| Fiscal year 2017 | 2.92 percent |

Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Fiscal year 2018 | 3.63 percent |
| Fiscal year 2017 | 2.98 percent |

Changes in Assumptions – STRS

For fiscal year 2018, the discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent based on the methodology defined under GASB *Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB)* and the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

Also for fiscal year 2018, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise
Cuyahoga County
3950 Prospect Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the Cleveland Academy of Scholarship, Technology and Leadership Enterprise, Cuyahoga County, Ohio (the School) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 19, 2019, wherein we noted the School adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the School's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the School's financial statements. 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 internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the School's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the School's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

November 19, 2019

**CLEVELAND ACADEMY OF SCHOLARSHIP, TECHNOLOGY AND LEADERSHIP ENTERPRISE
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2018**

| Finding Number | Finding Summary | Status | Additional Information |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2017-001 | The School failed to accurately present financial statement transactions, note disclosures and report beginning fund balances which diminished the reliability of financial data at year-end. | Fully Corrected. | None |

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



CLEVELAND ACADEMY OF SCHOLARSHIP, TECHNOLOGY AND LEADERSHIP ENTERPRISE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
DECEMBER 5, 2019**