



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Leetonia Exempted Village School District  
Columbiana County  
450 Walnut Street  
Leetonia, Ohio 44431

To the Board of Education:

### ***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of the Leetonia Exempted Village School District, Columbiana County, Ohio (the School District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This responsibility includes the 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 District'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 District'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 that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our adverse audit opinion.

***Basis for Adverse Opinion***

As described in Note 1 of the financial statements, the School District prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. However, Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires these statements to follow accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumably material.

***Adverse Opinion***

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Leetonia Exempted Village School District as of June 30, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended.

***Emphasis of Matter***

As discussed in Note 15 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the School District. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report December 22, 2020, on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

December 22, 2020

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

	Governmental Fund Types				Fiduciary	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Private-Purpose Trust	
<b>Cash Receipts:</b>						
Receipts from Local Sources:						
Taxes	\$ 1,823,424	\$ 28,713	\$ 167,178	\$ 305,080		\$ 2,324,395
Tuition and Fees	680,652					680,652
Gifts and contributions	1,400				\$ 15,450	16,850
Earnings on Investment	139,651				889	140,540
Extracurricular Activities	18,799	112,684				131,483
Rent	1,553					1,553
Miscellaneous Receipts	14,903	177				15,080
Intergovernmental	6,208,241	743,256	24,983	42,773		7,019,253
<b>Total Cash Receipts</b>	<b>8,888,623</b>	<b>884,830</b>	<b>192,161</b>	<b>347,853</b>	<b>16,339</b>	<b>10,329,806</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>						
Current:						
Instruction:						
Regular	3,953,554	77,811		60,173		4,091,538
Special	1,189,498	373,728		240		1,563,466
Vocational	66,925			225		67,150
Student Intervention Services	1,019	6,978				7,997
Support Services:						
Pupils	710,969	79,973			29,671	820,613
Instructional Staff	35,228	12,108				47,336
Board of Education	28,522					28,522
School Administration	698,392					698,392
Fiscal	243,687	633	3,645	6,872		254,837
Operation and Maintenance	755,247	59,740		49,666		864,653
Pupil Transportation	392,143					392,143
Central	151,245	135				151,380
Operation of Non-Instructional/Shared Services:						
Other Operaton of Non-Instructional Services	22,074					22,074
Extracurricular Activities:						
Academic and Subject Oriented Activities	11,199	4,034				15,233
Sport Oriented Activities	152,613	164,266				316,879
Co-Curricular Activities	6,157	10,606				16,763
Capital Outlay:						
Building Acquisition and Construction Services	288			190,113		190,401
Building Improvement Services	103,337					103,337
Debt Service:						
Principal			165,000			165,000
Interest			48,375			48,375
<b>Total Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>8,522,097</b>	<b>790,012</b>	<b>217,020</b>	<b>307,289</b>	<b>29,671</b>	<b>9,866,089</b>
Excess of Cash Receipts Over (Under) Cash Disbursements	366,526	94,818	(24,859)	40,564	(13,332)	463,717
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>						
Transfers-In		52,707				52,707
Advances-In	8,383					8,383
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	16,086					16,086
Transfers-Out	(170,398)					(170,398)
Advances-Out		(8,383)				(8,383)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)</b>	<b>(145,929)</b>	<b>44,324</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(101,605)</b>
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Sources Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Uses	220,597	139,142	(24,859)	40,564	(13,332)	362,112
Fund Cash Balances, July 1, 2019	6,254,623	106,087	534,556	164,715	132,955	7,192,936
<b>Fund Cash Balances, June 30, 2020</b>	<b>\$ 6,475,220</b>	<b>\$ 245,229</b>	<b>\$ 509,697</b>	<b>\$ 205,279</b>	<b>\$ 119,623</b>	<b>\$ 7,555,048</b>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES  
ALL PROPRIETARY AND SIMILAR FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

	<u>Proprietary Fund Types</u>	<u>Fiduciary Fund Types</u>	<u>Totals (Memorandum Only)</u>
	<u>Enterprise</u>	<u>Agency</u>	
<b>Operating Cash Receipts:</b>			
Food Service	\$ 92,076		\$ 92,076
Miscellaneous		\$ 29,473	29,473
Total Operating Cash Receipts	<u>92,076</u>	<u>29,473</u>	<u>121,549</u>
<b>Operating Cash Disbursements:</b>			
Personal Services-Salaries	104,233		104,233
Employees' Retirement and Insurance	52,490		52,490
Purchased Services	219,229		219,229
Supplies and Materials	4,701		4,701
Extracurricular Activities		28,877	28,877
Total Operating Cash Disbursements	<u>380,653</u>	<u>28,877</u>	<u>409,530</u>
Excess of Operating Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Operating Cash Disbursements	<u>(288,577)</u>	<u>596</u>	<u>(287,981)</u>
<b>Non-Operating Cash Receipts/(Disbursements):</b>			
Interest	583		583
Federal & State Sources:	182,754		182,754
Refund of Prior Year Expense	374		374
Total Non-Operating Cash Receipts	<u>183,711</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>183,711</u>
Income (Loss) before Advances	<u>(104,866)</u>	<u>596</u>	<u>(104,270)</u>
Transfers-In	<u>116,936</u>	<u>755</u>	<u>117,691</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	12,070	1,351	13,421
Fund Cash Balances, July 1, 2019	<u>1,155</u>	<u>41,009</u>	<u>42,164</u>
Fund Cash Balances, June 30, 2020	<u>\$ 13,225</u>	<u>\$ 42,360</u>	<u>\$ 55,585</u>

*The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.*



**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

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**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

The Leetonia Exempted Village School District, Columbiana County, (the School District) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The School District is an exempted village school district as defined by Section 3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The School District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) and is responsible for the provision of public education to residents of the School District.

Average daily membership (ADM) as of October 1, 2019 was 581.10. The School District employed 53 certificated employees and 35 non-certificated employees for 2020.

Management believes the financial statements included in this report represent all of the funds of the School District over which the School District has the ability to exercise direct operating control.

**B. Basis of Accounting**

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03 (B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, the School District chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for governmental entities that are not required to prepare annual financial reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, with the exception that the School District has elected not to implement Governmental Accounting Standards Board No. 54. This basis of accounting is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

By virtue of Ohio law, the School District is required to maintain the encumbrance method of accounting and to make appropriations.

**C. Investments**

Investment procedures are restricted by the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. Purchased investments are valued at cost and are neither charged when purchased nor credited at the time of redemption to their respective fund balances. Interest earned is recognized and recorded when received.

**D. Fund Accounting**

The School District uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use.

The School District classifies its funds into the following types:

**1. General Fund**

This fund is the general operating fund for the School District and is used to account for all financial resources except those required by law or contract that are to be accounted for in another fund.

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

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**2. Special Revenue Funds**

Special revenue funds are used to account for proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than permanent funds, or major capital projects) that are legally restricted to disbursements for specified purposes. The School District had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

Title I Fund – This fund receives federal revenue for the Title I grant.

Title IDEA-B Fund – This fund receives federal revenue for the Title IDEA-B grant.

**3. Debt Service Funds**

These funds are used to account for the accumulation of resources for the payment of general long-term debt principal, interest and related costs. According to the government accounting principles, the debt service fund accounts for the payment of long-term debt for governmental funds only. Under Ohio law, the debt service fund might also be used to account for the payment of long-term debt of proprietary funds and the short-term debt of both governmental and proprietary funds. For the purpose of this report, these funds have been classified into the proper groups if practical. The School District had the following significant Debt Service Funds:

School Facility Bonds Retirement Fund - This fund receives property taxes and intergovernmental revenue for payment on debt service related to the school facility.

Library Bonds Retirement Fund - This fund receives property taxes and intergovernmental revenue for payment on debt service related to the Leetonia Community Public Library.

**4. Capital Projects Funds**

Capital projects funds are used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by Proprietary Funds and Trust Funds). The School District had the following significant Capital Projects Funds:

Permanent Improvement Fund - This fund receives property taxes and intergovernmental revenue and accounts for the local share of improvements projects.

Lease/Purchase Service Fund - This fund receives property taxes and intergovernmental revenue and accounts for the capital lease agreement for the football stadium.

**5. Enterprise Funds**

Enterprise funds are used to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the intent of the governing body is that the costs of providing goods and services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability or other purposes. The School District had the following significant Enterprise Fund:

Food Service Fund - This fund receives charges for services, state and federal revenue for operation of the food service program.

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

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**6. Fiduciary Funds**

Trust and Agency funds are used to account for assets held by a governmental unit in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units, and/or other funds. These include Private Purpose Trust and Agency Funds.

**E. Budgetary Process**

The budgetary process is prescribed by provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriation resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The certificate of estimated resources and the appropriations resolution are subject to amendment throughout the year with the legal restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources, as certified. All funds, other than agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated.

Advances in and advances out are not required to be budgeted since they represent a temporary cash flow resource and are intended to be repaid.

**1. Budget**

A budget of estimated cash receipts and disbursements is submitted to the county auditor, as secretary of the county budget commission, by January 20 of each year, for the period July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

**2. Estimated Resources**

The county budget commission certifies its actions to the School District by March 1. As part of this certification, the School District receives the official certificate of estimated resources which states the projected receipts of each fund. On or about July 1, this certificate is amended to include any unencumbered balances from the preceding year. Prior to June 30, the School District must revise its budget so that the total contemplated expenditures from a fund during the ensuing fiscal year will not exceed the amount stated in the certificate of estimated resources. The revised budget then serves as the basis for the annual appropriation measure. Budget receipts as shown in the accompanying financial statements do not include July 1, 2019 unencumbered fund balances. However, those fund balances are available for appropriations.

**3. Appropriations**

A temporary appropriation measure to control cash disbursements may be passed on or about July 1 of each year for the period July 1 to September 30. An annual appropriation measure must be passed by October 1 of each year for the period July 1 to June 30.

The appropriation measure may be amended or supplemented during the year as new information becomes available. Appropriations may not exceed estimated resources.

**4. Encumbrances**

The School District is required to use the encumbrance method of accounting by virtue of Ohio law. Under this system, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of funds are recorded in order to reserve the portion of the applicable appropriation.

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

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

A summary of 2020 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**F. Capital Assets**

Capital assets acquired or constructed for general governmental service are recorded as expenditures. Depreciation is not recorded for these capital assets.

**G. Total Columns on Financial Statements**

Total columns on the financial statements are captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. This data is not comparable to a consolidation. Interfund-type eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

**H. Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave**

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

**I. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)**

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, 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 plans. 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.

**2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

The School District maintains a deposit and investments pool all funds use. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at June 30 was as follows:

	<u>June 30, 2020</u>
Demand Deposits	\$517,061
Petty Cash on Hand	1,100
Total Deposits	<u>518,161</u>
Repurchase Agreement	2,850,967
Investments	4,188,956
STAR Ohio	52,549
Total Investments	<u>7,092,472</u>
Total deposits and investments	<u>\$7,610,633</u>

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

**Deposits:** Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or collateralized through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

**Investments:** The School District's financial institution transfers securities to the School District's agent to collateralize repurchase agreements. The securities are not in the School District's name.

Investments in STAR Ohio and mutual funds are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the year ending June 30, 2020 follows:

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund Type	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 8,890,622	\$ 8,913,092	\$ 22,470
Special Revenue	1,013,090	937,537	(75,553)
Debt Service	192,161	192,161	-
Capital Projects	347,853	347,853	-
Enterprise	392,298	392,723	425
Private Purpose Trust	15,340	16,339	999
Agency	29,405	30,228	823
Total	<u>\$ 10,880,769</u>	<u>\$ 10,829,933</u>	<u>\$ (50,836)</u>

2020 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund Type	Appropriation Authority	Actual Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 8,954,081	\$ 8,953,287	\$ 794
Special Revenue	848,688	844,056	4,632
Debt Service	217,020	217,020	-
Capital Projects	358,762	364,176	(5,414)
Enterprise	384,000	380,653	3,347
Private Purpose Trust	30,472	29,672	800
Agency	29,697	29,627	70
Total	<u>\$ 10,822,721</u>	<u>\$ 10,818,491</u>	<u>\$ 4,230</u>

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

**4. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes are levied on assessed values which equal 35% of appraised value. The county auditor reappraises all real property every six years and property values are updated in the third year following each sexennial reappraisal.

Real property taxes become a lien on all non-exempt real property located in the county on January 1. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due the first Friday in March; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due the first Friday in March with the remainder payable by the last Friday in August. Under certain circumstances, state statute permits later payment dates to be established.

Columbiana County and Mahoning County tax rates are combined. The full tax rate applied to real property for the tax (calendar) year 2019 for fiscal year 2020 was \$32.96 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. After adjustment of the rate for inflationary increases in property values, the effective tax rate was \$32.83 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for real property classified as residential/agricultural and \$32.88 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for all other real property for 2019. Real property owners' tax bills are further reduced by homestead and rollback deductions, when applicable. The amount of these homestead and rollback reductions is reimbursed to the School District by the State of Ohio.

	2020
Real Property:	
Residential/Agricultural	\$61,893,760
Commercial/Industrial	7,374,910
Public Utility Personal	10,245,000
Total Valuation	\$79,513,670

The Columbiana County Treasurer and Mahoning County Treasurer collect property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts within their respective county. The Columbiana County Auditor and Mahoning County Auditor periodically remit to the taxing districts their portions of the taxes collected.

**5. DEBT**

Debt outstanding at June 30, 2020 was as follows:

	Principal Outstanding 7/1/2019	Additions	Reductions	Principal Outstanding 6/30/2020	Amount Due in One Year
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
2007 General Obligation Bonds	\$ 335,000	\$ -	\$(110,000)	\$ 225,000	\$ 115,000
2007 Library Construction Obligation Bonds	715,001	-	(55,000)	660,001	55,000
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$1,050,001	\$0	(\$165,000)	\$885,001	\$170,000

Outstanding general obligation bonds consist of school improvement issues and various purpose bonds. These bonds are direct obligations of the School District for which its full faith, credit, and resources are pledged, and are payable from taxes levied on all taxable property in the School District.

These debt instruments were in the form of general obligation bonds for school improvement including the construction of a new school building which will house all the School District's students.

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

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The School District issued bonds in the amount of \$1,420,000 as taxing authority for the construction of the Leetonia Community Public Library. The bonds will be paid from property tax money and will mature in 2031. See Note 13 for more detail.

The annual requirements to amortize all outstanding bonded debt as of June 30, 2020, including interest payments are presented below.

<u>Year ending</u> <u>June 30:</u>	<u>General</u> <u>Obligation Bonds:</u>	<u>General</u> <u>Library Bonds:</u>
2021	118,500	86,825
2022	117,875	83,875
2023		81,125
2024		78,375
2025		75,625
2026-2030		336,875
2031-2032		115,500
TOTAL	\$ 236,375	\$ 858,200

**6. CAPITAL LEASE AGREEMENT**

The School District entered into a capital lease agreement with Farmers National Bank in 2004. This capital lease was for the construction of a football stadium on the school grounds.

The following is a schedule of the future long-term minimum lease payments, including interest, required under the capital lease as of June 30, 2020:

<u>Year ending</u> <u>June 30:</u>	<u>Capital Lease</u> <u>Payments</u>
2021	125,000
2022	125,000
2023	125,000
2024	125,000
2025	113,669
TOTAL	\$ 613,669

**7. INSURANCE**

The School District maintains comprehensive insurance coverage with private carriers for real property, building contents and vehicles. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. Real property and contents are 100% coinsured.

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

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**8. PENSION PLANS**

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

**Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

***Net Pension Liability***

For fiscal year 2015, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions" and GASB Statement No. 71, "Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date—an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68" were effective. These GASB pronouncements had no effect on beginning net position as reported June 30, 2014, as the net pension liability is not reported in the accompanying financial statements. The net pension liability has been disclosed below.

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

Governmental Accounting Standards Board No. 68 (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.



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

Plan Description – The School District non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a statewide, cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit public employee retirement system. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits to non-teaching employees of Ohio’s public K-12 school districts, vocational, technical, and community schools, community colleges and University of Akron. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3309. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about SERS’ fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources. Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire 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 thirty years of service and 2.5 percent for years of service credit over 30. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

A three-year cost of living adjustment (COLA) suspension is in effect for all retirees for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it will be indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not greater than the 2.5%, with a floor of 0%.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the Leetonia Exempted Village School District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS’ Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System’s funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, the allocation to the pension and death benefits and Medicare part B was 14.00 percent.

The School District’s required contributions for pension obligations to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2020 was \$144,020.

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***Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)***

Plan Description – STRS Ohio is a cost-sharing multiple-employer statewide retirement plan for licensed teachers and other faculty members employed in public schools of Ohio (the state) or any school, college, university, institution or other agency controlled, managed and supported, in whole or part, by the state or any political subdivision thereof. 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](http://www.strsoh.org).

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation will be 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA graded on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2023 when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years of service credit at any age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. The remaining 4.47 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12 percent of the 14 percent member rate is deposited in the member' DC account 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 services. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50 and after termination of employment.

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

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A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years of service credit, who is determined to be disabled, may qualify for a disability benefit. New members must have at least 10 years of qualifying service credit to apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are only entitled to their account balance.

Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the employer and plan contribute rates are 14 percent of covered payroll. The entire 14 percent of the employer contribution was used to fund pension obligations.

The School District's required contribution to STRS for the DB Plan, the DC Plan, and the Combined Plan were \$465,529 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.

***Net Pension Liability***

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2019, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an independent actuarial valuation as of that date. Each respective employer allocation of the net pension liability is based on the employer's share of contributions in the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating employers. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$1,942,031	\$5,981,974	\$7,924,005
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.0324582%	0.02705013%	

***Actuarial Assumptions - SERS***

The total pension liability is determined by SERS' 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, service credit) 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.

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Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2019, are presented below:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level of Percent of Payroll)
Actuarial Assumptions Experience Study Date	5 year period ended June 30, 2015
Investment Rate of Return	7.50%, net of investments expense, including inflation
Cost of Living Increases (COLA) or "Ad Hoc" COLA	2.50%
Future Salary Increases, including Inflation	3.50% to 18.20%
Inflation	3.00%

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

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

<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 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 earning 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.

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***Sensitivity of the Leetonia Exempted Village School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate*** Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 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%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$2,721,480	\$1,942,031	\$1,288,366

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2019 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
Payroll Increases	3.00%
Investment rate of return	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.45%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0%

Post-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2019, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation*</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return**</u>
Domestic Equity		
International Equity	28%	7.35%
Alternatives	23%	7.55%
Fixed Income	17%	7.09%
Real Estate	21%	3.00%
Liquidity Reserves	10%	6.00%
	1%	2.25%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

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\* Target weights will be phased in over a 24-month period concluding on July 1, 2019.

\*\* 10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return of inflation of 2.25 percent, but does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio's 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, 2019. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with 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 available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2019. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2019.

**Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** The following table presents the net pension liability as of June 30, 2019, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45 percent, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.45 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.45 percent) than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$8,741,988	\$5,981,974	\$3,645,480

**9. POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**Defined Benefit OPEB Plans**

**Net OPEB Liability**

For fiscal year 2018, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions" was effective. This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position as reported June 30, 2017, as the net OPEB liability is not reported in the accompanying financial statements. The net OPEB liability has been disclosed below.

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 net OPEB liability represents the School District'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.

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Ohio Revised Code limits the School District's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The School District cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which OPEB are financed; however, the School District 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.

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

Health Care Plan Description - The Leetonia Exempted Village School District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute.

The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

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 2020, no covered payroll was made to health care. In addition, there is a health care surcharge designed to compensate for low-wage salaries, levied against employers, and exclusively for funding health care coverage. For fiscal year 2020, the minimum salary compensation amount is \$19,600. A surcharge is payable for any annual payroll salaries following below the minimum salary threshold; however, the surcharge amount is capped at 2 percent of that employer's payroll and 1.5 percent of the total statewide reported payroll. For fiscal year 2020, the Leetonia Exempted Village School District's surcharge obligation was \$20,544.

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 District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$20,544 for fiscal year 2020.

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

Funding Policy – Employer and member contributions are established by the Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. 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. The employer and member contribution rates are 14 percent of covered payroll. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, no employer allocation was made to the health care fund.

***Net OPEB Liability***

The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2019, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability Prior Measurement Date	0.03297670%	0.02704193%	
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability Current Measurement Date	<u>0.03330880%</u>	<u>0.02705013%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.00033210%</u>	<u>0.00000820%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$837,646	\$448,015	\$1,285,661

***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.



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Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. For a newly hired employee, actuarial calculations will consider 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, 2019, are presented below:

	5 year period ended June 30, 2015
Experience Study Date	
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Inflation	3.00 percent
Wage Increases	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Prior Measurement Date	3.62 percent
Measurement Date	3.13 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	
Prior Measurement Date	3.70 percent
Measurement Date	3.22 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	
Pre-Medicare	7.00 to 4.75 percent
Medicare	5.25 to 4.75 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:

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<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
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>	

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2019 was 3.22 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2019 was 3.70 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 3.13 percent, as of June 30, 2019 (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 Leetonia Exempted Village School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates** The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (2.22 percent) and higher (4.22 percent) than the current discount rate (3.70 percent). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00 percent decreasing to 3.75 percent) and higher (8.00 percent decreasing to 5.75 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (2.22%)	Current Discount Rate (3.22%)	1% Increase (4.22%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$1,016,744	\$837,646	\$695,243
	(6.00% decreasing to 3.75%)	(7.00% decreasing to 4.75%)	(8.00% decreasing to 5.75%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$671,124	\$837,646	\$1,058,581

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**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2019 actuarial valuation was determined using the following assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65	
Payroll Increases	3 percent	
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Discount Rate of Return	7.45 percent	
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.0 percent, effective July 1, 2017	
Health Care Cost Trends	Initial	Ultimate
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	5.87 percent	4.00 percent
Medicare	4.93 percent	4.00 percent
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	7.73 percent	4.00 percent
Medicare	9.62 percent	4.00 percent

Projections of benefits include the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between 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, 2019, valuation is 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:

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

\* Target weights will be phased in over a 24-month period concluding on July 1, 2019.

\*\* 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent and does not include 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 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2019. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members as of June 30, 2019. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2019.

**Sensitivity of the Leetonia Exempted Village School District'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, 2019, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45 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 (6.45 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.45 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.

	<u>1% Decrease (6.45%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.45%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.45%)</u>
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$382,292	\$448,015	\$503,273
		<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$508,028	\$448,015	\$374,513

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY  
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**10. HEALTH INSURANCE**

The School District provides major medical, hospitalization, vision, prescription drug, and life insurance benefits to its employees through a third-party administrator. The School District participates in a health care consortium with other local school districts through the Portage Area Schools Consortium, a public entity shared risk pool, currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for 25-member school districts. The plan was organized to provide health care and other benefits to its member organizations. Rates are calculated and set through an annual update process. The School District pays a monthly contribution which is placed in a common fund from which claim payments and claims are made for all participating school districts, regardless of cash flow.

**11. SET-ASIDE CALCULATION AND FUND RESERVES**

The School District is required by State statute to annually set aside in the general fund an equal amount for the capital improvements and maintenance. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at year-end. These amounts must be carried forward to be used for the same purposes in future years. Expenditures exceeding the set-aside requirement may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

The following cash basis information describes the changes in the year-end set-aside amounts for capital acquisitions. Disclosure of this information is required by State statute.

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside cash balance as of June 30, 2019	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	116,189
Current year offsets	(125,000)
Qualifying Disbursements	-
Total	\$ (8,811)

**12. ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

Legal Compliance

The School District failed to properly prepare their financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as required by ORC Section 117.38 and OAC Section 117-02-03 (B).

**13. RELATED ORGANIZATION**

**Leetonia Community Public Library:** The Leetonia Community Public Library is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio created under Chapter 3375 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Library is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Leetonia Board of Education. The Board of Trustees possesses its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel and does not depend on the School District for operational subsidies. Although the School District does serve as the taxing authority and may issue tax related debt on behalf of the Library, its role is limited to a ministerial function. The determination to request approval of a tax, the rate and the purposes are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Trustees.

**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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In 2007, the School District issued general obligation bonds, in the amount of \$1,420,000, for construction of a new library. The bonds will be paid with property tax money and will mature in 2031. The School District does not hold title to the land and building of the Library.

Financial information can be obtained from the Leetonia Community Public Library, Christopher Simmons, Director/Clerk-Treasurer, 189 Walnut Street, Leetonia, Ohio 44431.

**14. SCHOOL FOUNDATION**

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. 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. As of the date of this report, additional ODE adjustments for fiscal year 2020 are not finalized. As a result, the impact of future FTE adjustments on the fiscal year 2020 financial statements is not determinable, at this time. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or a liability of, the School District.

**14. COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Township. In addition, the impact on the School District's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

# 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*

Leetonia Exempted Village School District  
Columbiana County  
450 Walnut Street  
Leetonia, Ohio 44431

To the Board of Education:

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 Leetonia Exempted Village School District, Columbiana County, (the School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 22, 2020, wherein we issued an adverse opinion on the School District's financial statements because the School District did not follow accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as required by Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures which may impact subsequent periods of the School District.

### ***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the School District'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 District'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 Government'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. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that we consider a material weakness. We consider finding 2020-001 to be a material weakness.

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of reasonably assuring whether the School District'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. 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matter we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2020-001.

***School District's Response to Findings***

The School District's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not subject the School District's response to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

***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 Government's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Government's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

December 22, 2020



**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
JUNE 30, 2020**

**1. Ohio Rev. Code §117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code §117-2-03 (B)**

**FINDING NUMBER 2020-001**

NONCOMPLIANCE AND MATERIAL WEAKNESS

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

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

The School District prepared financial statements in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for governmental entities that are not required to prepare reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This basis of accounting is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, deferred inflows/outflows of resources, fund equities/net position, and disclosures that, while presumed material, cannot be determined at this time.

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

Governments preparing regulatory statements are required to implement Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54 Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions – which establishes fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds. The initial distinction that is made in reporting fund balance information is identifying amounts that are considered non-spendable, such as fund balance associated with inventories. This Statement also provides for additional classification as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned based on the relative strength of the constraints that control how specific amounts can be spent.

Auditor of State Bulletin 2011-004 provides additional guidance to local governments preparing regulatory statements on how to implement both the new fund balance classifications and the government fund type definitions, as stated in GASB No. 54.

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

**Official's Response:**

The Leetonia EVSD prepares its financial statements on a basis of accounting in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for government entities. The Leetonia EVSD has, as have all public K-12 school districts in the state, based its day-to-day accounting on these standards for many years. All financial information on a daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly basis use these standards. However, the District does not, at the end of the fiscal year, restate its yearly finances in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). These principals require not only the restating of existing information, but the introduction of additional information that has little value to the District.

The auditor's opinion that the 2020 financial information presented in the audit does not fairly represent the financial position of the District simply means it does not represent it in the GAAP format. The lack of GAAP statements has had no impact on the District's dealing with bond underwriters, banks, or vendors. The District has, therefore, decided it is in the best interest of the District's tax payers not to spend scarce resources of time and money on the year end conversion of its financial statements to a GAAP format.



# Leetonia Exempted Village School District

## K-12 Campus

450 Walnut Street • Leetonia, Ohio 44431 • 330-427-2444

### SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS JUNE 30, 2020

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>Finding Summary</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
2019-001	Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03, the District failed to prepare its financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and implement Government Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54	Not Corrected	Repeated as finding 2020-001 – see Official's Response to the current year finding

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**LEETONIA EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

**AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

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



**Certified for Release 2/2/2021**

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

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)