



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2020**

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STARK COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2020**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



Conference Center, Suite 154
6000 Frank Ave. NW
North Canton, OH 44720
EastRegion@ohioauditor.gov
(800) 443-9272

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Stark County Educational Service Center
Stark County
6057 Strip Avenue
North Canton, Ohio 44720

To the Governing Board:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Stark County Educational Service Center, Stark County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center'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 Center'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 Center'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 opinions.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Center, as of June 30, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position thereof 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 18 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Center. Also, as discussed in Note 3 to the financial statements, during 2020, the Center adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*. We did not modify our opinion regarding these matters.

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.

Supplementary and Other Information

Our audit was conducted to opine on the Center's basic financial statements taken as a whole.

The Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) for the General Fund presents additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements.

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

The schedules are management's responsibility, and derive from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. We subjected this information to the auditing procedures we applied to the basic financial statements. We also applied certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling this information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, this information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 10, 2021, on our consideration of the Center'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 Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

May 10, 2021

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**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

The management's discussion and analysis of the Stark County Educational Service Center's ("the ESC") financial performance provides an overall review of the ESC's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the ESC's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the ESC's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for 2020 are as follows:

- The ESC's net position of governmental activities decreased \$2,460,445 which represents a 11.68% decrease from 2019's restated net position.
- General revenues accounted for \$1,881,182 in revenue or 5.44% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$32,715,460 or 94.56% of total revenues of \$34,596,642.
- The ESC had \$37,057,087 in expenses related to governmental activities; \$32,715,460 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues supporting governmental activities (primarily unrestricted grants and entitlements) of \$1,881,182 were not adequate to provide for these programs.
- The ESC has one major governmental fund, the general fund. The general fund had \$29,641,246 in revenues and \$29,023,315 in expenditures. During fiscal 2020, the general fund's fund balance increased \$617,931 from a restated balance of \$5,053,620 to \$5,671,551.

Using these Basic Financial Statements (BFS)

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the ESC as a financial whole, an entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

The statement of net position and statement of activities provide information about the activities of the whole ESC, presenting both an aggregate view of the ESC's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the ESC's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. In the case of the ESC, the general fund is by far the most significant fund, and the only governmental fund reported as a major fund.

Reporting the ESC as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the ESC to provide programs and activities, the view of the ESC as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during 2020?" The statement of net position and the statement of activities answer this question. These statements include all assets, deferred outflows, liabilities, deferred inflows, revenues and expenses using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting will take into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

These two statements report the ESC's net position and changes in that position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the ESC as a whole, the financial position of the ESC has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include increased or decreased services desired by school districts, state budget cuts, required educational programs and other factors.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, the governmental activities include the ESC's programs and services, including instruction, support services, and other operations.

Reporting the ESC's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the ESC's major fund. The ESC uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the ESC's most significant funds. The ESC's major governmental fund is the general fund.

Governmental Funds

Most of the ESC's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed short-term view of the ESC's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities) and governmental funds is reconciled in the basic financial statements.

Reporting the ESC's Fiduciary Responsibilities

The ESC is the fiscal agent of the area A-site, Stark/Portage Area Computer Consortium ("SPARCC"), the Stark County Schools Council of Government and the Stark County Family Council. This activity is presented as fiduciary funds. These activities are excluded from the ESC's other financial statements because the assets cannot be utilized by the ESC to finance its operations.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

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

Required Supplementary Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the ESC's net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset.

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

The ESC as a Whole

The statement of net position provides the perspective of the ESC as a whole. The table below provides a summary of the ESC's net position for June 30, 2020 and June 30, 2019. Net position at June 30, 2019 has been restated due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84.

	Net Position	
	Governmental Activities 2020	Restated Governmental Activities 2019
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Current and other assets	\$ 13,496,330	\$ 11,895,518
Net OPEB asset	1,896,471	1,811,640
Capital assets, net	<u>3,822,051</u>	<u>3,884,333</u>
Total assets	<u>19,214,852</u>	<u>17,591,491</u>
<u>Deferred outflows of resources</u>		
Pensions	8,044,236	11,685,064
OPEB	<u>1,152,505</u>	<u>960,429</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>9,196,741</u>	<u>12,645,493</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current liabilities	4,795,742	4,450,603
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	139,774	128,369
Due in more than one year:		
Net pension liability	35,941,863	35,253,870
Net OPEB liability	4,407,463	5,105,805
Other amounts	<u>1,235,460</u>	<u>1,120,576</u>
Total liabilities	<u>46,520,302</u>	<u>46,059,223</u>
<u>Deferred inflows of resources</u>		
Pensions	1,652,385	1,988,219
OPEB	<u>3,769,828</u>	<u>3,260,019</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>5,422,213</u>	<u>5,248,238</u>
<u>Net position</u>		
Net investment in capital assets	3,799,042	3,844,499
Restricted	1,149,185	878,666
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(28,479,149)</u>	<u>(25,793,642)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ (23,530,922)</u>	<u>\$ (21,070,477)</u>

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

The net pension liability is reported pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27." The other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability/asset is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions." For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the ESC'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 and the net OPEB asset.

GASB 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.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to equal the ESC'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 ESC 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.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the ESC'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/asset, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

Analysis of Net Position

Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2020, the ESC's liabilities and deferred inflows of resources exceeded assets and deferred outflows of resources by \$23,530,922.

Deferred outflows related to pension decreased primarily due to changes in assumptions by the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS).

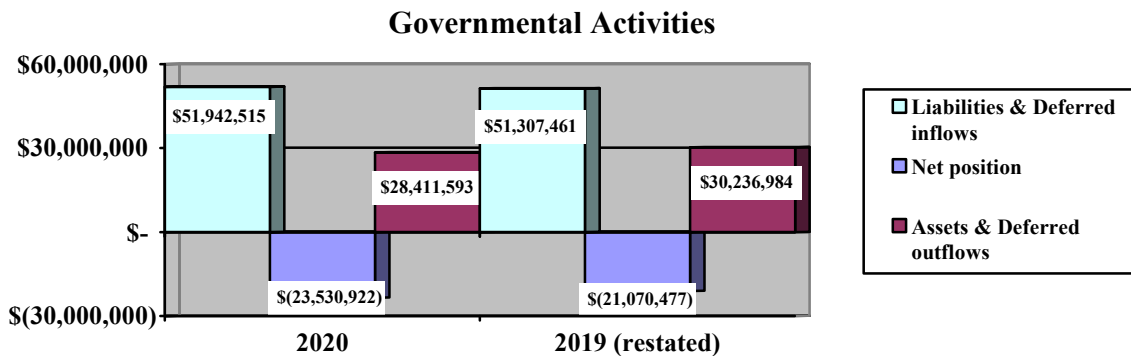
Total assets include a net OPEB asset reported by STRS.

At year-end, capital assets represented 19.89% of total assets. Capital assets include land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture and equipment and vehicles. The ESC's net investment in capital assets at June 30, 2020 was \$3,799,042. These capital assets are used to provide services to the students and are not available for future spending. Although the ESC's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

The most significant liabilities for the ESC are the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability. These liabilities are outside of the control of the ESC. The ESC contributes its statutorily required contributions to the pension systems; however, it's the pension systems that collect, hold and distribute pensions and OPEB to ESC's employees, not the ESC.

A portion of the ESC's net position, \$1,149,185, represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net position was a deficit of \$28,479,149.

The graph below illustrates the ESC's governmental activities assets plus deferred outflows, liabilities plus deferred inflows and net position at June 30, 2020 and 2019. Amounts at June 30, 2019 have been restated due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84.



**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

The table below shows the changes in net position for governmental activities between 2020 and 2019. Amounts for 2019 have been restated due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84.

	Change in Net Position	
	Governmental	Restated
	Activities	Governmental
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>Revenues</u>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 29,239,116	\$ 27,100,953
Operating grants and contributions	3,476,344	3,358,470
General revenues:		
Grants and entitlements	1,724,976	1,743,772
Investment earnings	97,121	102,221
Other	<u>59,085</u>	<u>310,412</u>
Total revenues	<u>34,596,642</u>	<u>32,615,828</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Program expenses:		
Instruction:		
Regular	63,085	148,110
Special	14,608,155	11,883,349
Support services:		
Pupil	8,744,720	7,364,351
Instructional staff	5,529,983	4,883,965
Board of education	23,256	256,439
Administration	4,313,324	3,471,741
Fiscal	860,726	755,204
Business	1,011,013	863,982
Operations and maintenance	612,447	918,265
Pupil transportation	29,734	39,924
Central	100,212	96,486
Operations of non-instructional services:		
Food service operations	136,808	100,788
Other non-instructional services	1,002,020	877,930
Extracurricular	19,025	73,938
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>2,579</u>	<u>3,868</u>
Total expenses	<u>37,057,087</u>	<u>31,738,340</u>
Change in net position	(2,460,445)	877,488
Net position at beginning of year (restated)	<u>(21,070,477)</u>	<u>(21,947,965)</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ (23,530,922)</u>	<u>\$ (21,070,477)</u>

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

Governmental Activities

Net position of the ESC's governmental activities decreased \$2,460,445. Total governmental expenses of \$37,057,087 were offset by program revenues of \$32,715,460, and general revenues of \$1,881,182. Program revenues supported 88.28% of governmental expenses.

Governmental activities revenue increased approximately \$2 million. This is primarily due to an increase in tuition and services provided to other entities.

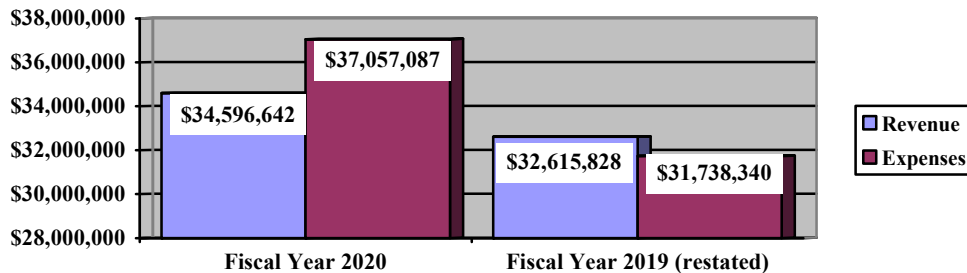
The primary sources of revenue for governmental activities are derived from contracted fees for services provided to other entities and tuition. This revenue source represents 84.51% of total governmental revenue.

Overall, expenses of the governmental activities increased \$5,318,747 or 16.76%. This increase is primarily the result changes related to the net pension liability and net OPEB liability.

On an accrual basis, the ESC reported \$6,958,468 and \$4,947,873 in pension expense for fiscal year 2020 and 2019, respectively. In addition, the ESC reported (\$392,391) and (\$3,584,616) in OPEB expense for fiscal year 2020 and 2019, respectively. The increase in both the net pension expense and the OPEB expense from fiscal year 2019 to fiscal year 2020 was \$5,202,820. This increase is primarily the result of the benefit changes by the retirement systems. Fluctuations in the pension and OPEB expense makes it difficult to compare financial information between years. Pension and OPEB expense are components of program expenses reported on the statement of activities.

The graph below presents the ESC's governmental activities revenue and expenses for fiscal years 2020 and 2019. Amounts for 2019 have been restated due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84.

Governmental Activities - Revenues and Expenses



The statement of activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. The following table shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by unrestricted State grants and entitlements, and other general revenues not restricted to a specific program.

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

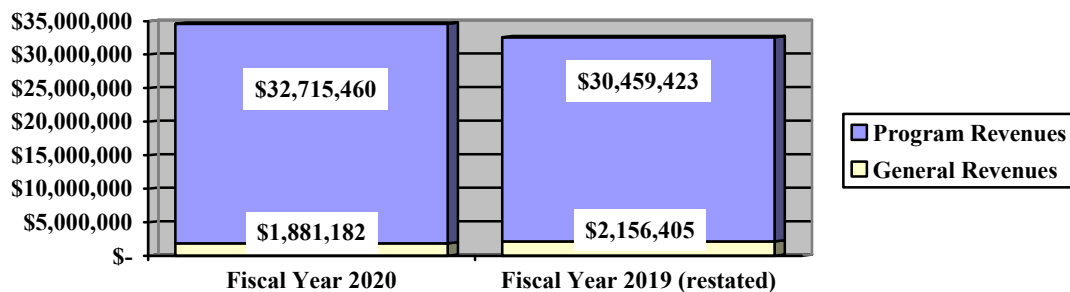
Governmental Activities

	Total Cost of Services <u>2020</u>	Net Cost of Services <u>2020</u>	Restated Total Cost of Services <u>2019</u>	Restated Net Cost of Services <u>2019</u>
Program expenses				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 63,085	\$ 36,105	\$ 148,110	\$ 103,030
Special	14,608,155	1,557,336	11,883,349	11,051
Support services:				
Pupil	8,744,720	994,573	7,364,351	44,549
Instructional staff	5,529,983	382,652	4,883,965	56,529
Board of education	23,256	23,256	256,439	256,439
Administration	4,313,324	469,037	3,471,741	(165,207)
Fiscal	860,726	82,392	755,204	(27,803)
Business	1,011,013	54,297	863,982	3,426
Operations and maintenance	612,447	489,342	918,265	882,216
Pupil transportation	29,734	(7,888)	39,924	(18,293)
Central	100,212	94,374	96,486	96,486
Operations of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	136,808	75,376	100,788	77,312
Other non-instructional services	1,002,020	102,777	877,930	(70,304)
Extracurricular	19,025	(14,581)	73,938	25,618
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>2,579</u>	<u>2,579</u>	<u>3,868</u>	<u>3,868</u>
Total	<u>\$ 37,057,087</u>	<u>\$ 4,341,627</u>	<u>\$ 31,738,340</u>	<u>\$ 1,278,917</u>

For all governmental activities, program revenue support is 88.28%. The primary support of the ESC is contracted fees for services provided to other districts.

The graph below presents the ESC's governmental activities revenue for fiscal years 2020 and 2019. Amounts for fiscal year 2019 have been restated due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84.

Governmental Activities - General and Program Revenues



**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

The ESC's Funds

The ESC's governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$6,614,769, which is greater than last year's restated balance of \$5,517,297. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance as of June 30, 2020 and 2019. Amounts for 2019 have been restated due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84.

	Fund Balance <u>June 30, 2020</u>	Restated Fund Balance <u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>Change</u>
Major Fund:			
General	\$ 5,671,551	\$ 5,053,620	\$ 617,931
Other governmental	<u>943,218</u>	<u>463,677</u>	<u>479,541</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,614,769</u>	<u>\$ 5,517,297</u>	<u>\$ 1,097,472</u>

General Fund

The table that follows assists in illustrating the financial activities and fund balance of the general fund.

	2020 <u>Amount</u>	Restated 2019 <u>Amount</u>	Percentage <u>Change</u>
<u>Revenues</u>			
Tuition	\$ 14,399,553	\$ 14,239,944	1.12 %
Services provided to other entities	12,991,283	11,502,396	12.94 %
Earnings on investments	93,756	107,922	(13.13) %
Intergovernmental	1,752,208	1,803,361	(2.84) %
Other revenues	<u>404,446</u>	<u>639,045</u>	(36.71) %
Total	<u>\$ 29,641,246</u>	<u>\$ 28,292,668</u>	4.77 %
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Instruction	\$ 12,392,347	\$ 11,561,836	7.18 %
Support services	16,459,266	16,127,604	2.06 %
Non-instructional services	103,784	84,732	22.49 %
Extracurricular	-	32,789	(100.00) %
Facilities acquisition and construction	48,514	886,494	(94.53) %
Debt service	<u>19,404</u>	<u>19,404</u>	- %
Total	<u>\$ 29,023,315</u>	<u>\$ 28,712,859</u>	1.08 %

The general fund's revenues increased approximately \$1,350,000 from the prior fiscal year. This increase is mainly due to the increase in services provided to other entities. The ESC continues to expand services which results in increasing revenue and expenditures. The facilities acquisition and construction expenditures made in fiscal year 2019 relate to remodeling at the ESC's new location at Stark State Community College.

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal 2020, the ESC had \$3,822,051 invested in land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture and equipment, and vehicles. This entire amount is reported in governmental activities.

The following table shows fiscal 2020 balances compared to 2019.

	Capital Assets at June 30 (Net of Depreciation)	
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Land	\$ 111,059	\$ 111,059
Land improvements	23,508	26,783
Buildings and improvements	3,426,162	3,479,777
Furniture and equipment	209,653	256,491
Vehicles	<u>51,669</u>	<u>10,223</u>
Total	<u>\$3,822,051</u>	<u>\$ 3,884,333</u>

Total additions to capital assets for 2020 were \$145,391. A total of \$207,673 in depreciation expense was recognized for fiscal year 2020.

See Note 7 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the ESC's capital assets.

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2020, the ESC had \$23,009 in capital leases outstanding. Of this total, \$18,222 is due within one year and \$4,787 is due in greater than one year. The following table summarizes the debt outstanding.

	Outstanding Debt, at Year End	
	Governmental Activities	Governmental Activities
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Capital lease	<u>\$ 23,009</u>	<u>\$ 39,834</u>

See Note 9 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the ESC's debt administration.

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(UNAUDITED)

Current Financial Related Activities

The ESC, along with the majority of the school districts in Ohio, continues to be challenged to provide a high level of services in a cost-efficient method. As the preceding information shows, the ESC relies heavily on contracts with local, city, and joint vocational school districts in Stark County and surrounding Counties, as well as State Foundation revenue and grants. The need for additional services from local and city school districts will provide the ESC with the necessary funds to meet its operating expenses in fiscal year 2020 and for the foreseeable future. However, the ESC needs to make sure it provides a high-level service in a cost-efficient manner in order to retain the districts it serves. This point was especially challenging for the 2020 school year as the ESC had to adapt its services to fit an environment dealing with the COVID-19 global pandemic. All of the services the ESC provides had to be adjusted to a remote service model once all Ohio schools were closed for the year in March. Under federal law, school districts were still required to provide special need services to its students and the ESC was able to provide the same support it always has but with a little different delivery. This allowed the ESC to remain valuable to its districts and see no interruptions in the fees received for services. Moving forward, the ESC will continue to adapt and adjust with Districts as they work through providing a quality education to students under the new norms created by the pandemic.

In fiscal year 2012, every ESC in Ohio was subject to a reduction of approximately 10% of the annual funding provided by the State. This represented an approximate reduction of \$225,000. Near the end of fiscal year 2015, the state legislature once again reduced the per student funding for ESC's by 12% for fiscal year 2016, but then increased funding by 9% for fiscal year 2017. The increase in 2017 came partially from a funding carve out of \$2 per student for ESC's that could demonstrate they are high performing, which the Stark ESC did. The ESC retained its \$2 high performing subsidy for fiscal years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. The ESC will need to retain this bonus in order to keep its state funding stagnant since no other increases were included in the budget. In its long-term planning, the ESC fully expects there will come a time when it no longer receives any direct state funding and it is structuring its fiscal operations to be prepared for that time.

Declining enrollment also remains a concern of the ESC. State funding is based on the average daily membership of the school districts served. From 2007 to 2012, when the ESC only served Stark County districts, the ESC saw its average daily membership decline from 63,039 to 60,316. In 2013, membership increased by over 4,000 due to some districts outside of Stark County joining the ESC. However, from 2013 to 2020, total students served still dropped by 1,784 even with Carrollton Exempted Village School District choosing to align with the ESC in 2018. Moving forward, unless additional districts choose to align with the ESC, the overall expectation is for enrollment to continue to decline.

The needs of districts are always changing. Therefore, the ESC is constantly reviewing its programming to make sure it is providing the services districts need and adjusting how they are provided to make sure and maintain a financially solvent operation.

Contacting the ESC's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide the citizens, school districts, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the ESC's finances and to show the ESC's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information contact James Carman, Treasurer, Stark County ESC, 6057 Strip Avenue NW, North Canton, Ohio 44720 or by calling (330) 492-8136.

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**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2020

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents . . .	\$ 7,357,993
Receivables:	
Accounts	5,222,923
Accrued interest	8,650
Intergovernmental	856,716
Prepayments	50,048
Net OPEB asset	1,896,471
Capital assets:	
Nondepreciable capital assets	111,059
Depreciable capital assets, net.	3,710,992
Capital assets, net	3,822,051
Total assets.	19,214,852
 Deferred outflows of resources:	
Pension	8,044,236
OPEB	1,152,505
Total deferred outflows of resources	9,196,741
 Liabilities:	
Accounts payable.	119,616
Accrued wages and benefits	3,977,131
Intergovernmental payable	184,713
Pension and postemployment benefits payable	514,282
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year.	139,774
Due in more than one year:	
Net pension liability	35,941,863
Net OPEB liability	4,407,463
Other amounts due in more than one year	1,235,460
Total liabilities	46,520,302
 Deferred inflows of resources:	
Pension.	1,652,385
OPEB	3,769,828
Total deferred inflows of resources	5,422,213
 Net position:	
Net investment in capital assets	3,799,042
Restricted for:	
Montessori school.	507,106
Locally funded programs	348,658
State funded programs.	14,311
Federally funded programs	189,774
Student activities	58,343
Food service operations.	30,993
Unrestricted (deficit)	(28,479,149)
Total net position	\$ (23,530,922)

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	
Governmental activities:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 63,085	\$ 8,000	\$ 18,980	\$ (36,105)
Special	14,608,155	12,661,813	389,006	(1,557,336)
Support services:				
Pupil.	8,744,720	7,100,058	650,089	(994,573)
Instructional staff	5,529,983	3,250,115	1,897,216	(382,652)
Board of education	23,256	-	-	(23,256)
Administration.	4,313,324	3,719,074	125,213	(469,037)
Fiscal.	860,726	772,473	5,861	(82,392)
Business.	1,011,013	956,716	-	(54,297)
Operations and maintenance	612,447	103,410	19,695	(489,342)
Pupil transportation.	29,734	37,622	-	7,888
Central	100,212	3,338	2,500	(94,374)
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations.	136,808	8,725	52,707	(75,376)
Other non-instructional services.	1,002,020	584,166	315,077	(102,777)
Extracurricular activities	19,025	33,606	-	14,581
Interest and fiscal charges	2,579	-	-	(2,579)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 37,057,087</u>	<u>\$ 29,239,116</u>	<u>\$ 3,476,344</u>	<u>(4,341,627)</u>
General revenues:				
Grants and entitlements not restricted				
to specific programs				1,724,976
Investment earnings				97,121
Miscellaneous.				59,085
Total general revenues.				<u>1,881,182</u>
Change in net position				(2,460,445)
Net position at beginning of year (restated)				<u>(21,070,477)</u>
Net position at end of year				<u>\$ (23,530,922)</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2020

	<u>General</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Assets:			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,597,494	\$ 760,499	\$ 7,357,993
Receivables:			
Accounts	4,812,823	410,100	5,222,923
Accrued interest	8,650	-	8,650
Intergovernmental	14,886	841,830	856,716
Prepayments	44,773	5,275	50,048
Due from other funds	241,261	-	241,261
Total assets	<u>\$ 11,719,887</u>	<u>\$ 2,017,704</u>	<u>\$ 13,737,591</u>
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 65,633	\$ 53,983	\$ 119,616
Accrued wages and benefits	3,604,821	372,310	3,977,131
Compensated absences payable	21,979	-	21,979
Intergovernmental payable	179,327	5,386	184,713
Pension and postemployment benefits payable	438,223	76,059	514,282
Due to other funds	-	241,261	241,261
Total liabilities	<u>4,309,983</u>	<u>748,999</u>	<u>5,058,982</u>
Deferred inflows of resources:			
Intergovernmental revenue not available	-	252,066	252,066
Accrued interest not available	3,865	-	3,865
Charges for services revenue not available	1,734,488	14,671	1,749,159
Miscellaneous revenue not available	-	58,750	58,750
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>1,738,353</u>	<u>325,487</u>	<u>2,063,840</u>
Fund balances:			
Nonspendable:			
Prepays	44,773	5,275	50,048
Unclaimed monies	57,681	-	57,681
Restricted:			
Food service operations	-	30,983	30,983
Special education	-	8,407	8,407
Extracurricular	-	58,343	58,343
Montessori school	-	527,050	527,050
Other purposes	-	369,265	369,265
Assigned:			
Student instruction	454,935	-	454,935
Student and staff support	344,714	-	344,714
Facilities acquisition and construction	1,330	-	1,330
Other purposes	7,514	-	7,514
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>4,760,604</u>	<u>(56,105)</u>	<u>4,704,499</u>
Total fund balances	<u>5,671,551</u>	<u>943,218</u>	<u>6,614,769</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balances	<u>\$ 11,719,887</u>	<u>\$ 2,017,704</u>	<u>\$ 13,737,591</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
JUNE 30, 2020

Total governmental fund balances		\$	6,614,769
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities on the statement of net position are different because:</i>			
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.			3,822,051
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred inflows in the funds.			
Accounts receivable	\$	1,807,909	
Accrued interest receivable		3,865	
Intergovernmental receivable		252,066	
Total			2,063,840
The net pension/OPEB assets & liabilities are not due and payable in the current period; therefore, the assets & liabilities and related deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds.			
Deferred outflows - pension		8,044,236	
Deferred inflows - pension		(1,652,385)	
Net pension liability		(35,941,863)	
Deferred outflows - OPEB		1,152,505	
Deferred inflows - OPEB		(3,769,828)	
Net OPEB asset		1,896,471	
Net OPEB liability		(4,407,463)	
Total			(34,678,327)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.			
Capital lease obligations		(23,009)	
Compensated absences		(1,330,246)	
Total			(1,353,255)
Net position of governmental activities		\$	(23,530,922)

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	<u>General</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:			
From local sources:			
Tuition	\$ 14,399,553	\$ 631,213	\$ 15,030,766
Contributions from private sources	15,930	241,990	257,920
Earnings on investments	93,756	-	93,756
Charges for services	-	8,725	8,725
Extracurricular	234	41,606	41,840
Rental income	19,145	-	19,145
Services provided to other entities	12,991,283	575,832	13,567,115
Other local revenues	369,137	-	369,137
Intergovernmental - intermediate	-	54,039	54,039
Intergovernmental - state	1,724,976	953,798	2,678,774
Intergovernmental - federal	27,232	2,311,971	2,339,203
Total revenues	<u>29,641,246</u>	<u>4,819,174</u>	<u>34,460,420</u>
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	25,005	26,980	51,985
Special	12,367,342	756,960	13,124,302
Support services:			
Pupil	7,227,039	585,720	7,812,759
Instructional staff	3,139,855	1,828,702	4,968,557
Board of education	23,256	-	23,256
Administration	3,702,611	121,270	3,823,881
Fiscal	787,670	7,061	794,731
Business	975,408	-	975,408
Operations and maintenance	497,485	75,139	572,624
Pupil transportation	27,571	-	27,571
Central	78,371	4,239	82,610
Operation of non-instructional services:			
Food service operations	103,447	17,035	120,482
Other non-instructional services	337	897,645	897,982
Extracurricular activities	-	18,882	18,882
Facilities acquisition and construction	48,514	-	48,514
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	16,825	-	16,825
Interest and fiscal charges	2,579	-	2,579
Total expenditures	<u>29,023,315</u>	<u>4,339,633</u>	<u>33,362,948</u>
Net change in fund balances	617,931	479,541	1,097,472
Fund balances at beginning of year (restated).	<u>5,053,620</u>	<u>463,677</u>	<u>5,517,297</u>
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 5,671,551</u>	<u>\$ 943,218</u>	<u>\$ 6,614,769</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$	1,097,472
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:</i>		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.		
Capital asset additions	\$ 145,391	
Current year depreciation	(207,673)	
Total		(62,282)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.		
Tuition	866,689	
Earnings on investments	3,365	
Services provided to other entities	(604,089)	
Contributions from private sources	58,750	
Other local revenue	(2,056)	
Intergovernmental	(186,437)	
Total		136,222
Repayment of capital lease principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the statement of net position.		
		16,825
Contractually required contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows.		
Pension	2,965,481	
OPEB	73,049	
Total		3,038,530
Except for amounts reported as deferred inflows/outflows, changes in the net pension/OPEB asset & liability are reported as pension/OPEB expense in the statement of activities		
Pension	(6,958,468)	
OPEB	392,391	
Total		(6,566,077)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities, such as compensated absences, do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
		(121,135)
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$	(2,460,445)

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2020

	Custodial
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 67,112,837
Investments	74,220,654
Receivables:	
Accounts	9,153,682
Accrued interest	265,977
Due from other governments	364,436
Prepayments	8,207
Total assets.	151,125,793
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	127,866
Accrued wages and benefits	232,144
Due to other governments	932,316
Unearned revenue	1,777,226
Pension and postemployment benefits payable	45,837
Claims payable	26,501,000
Total liabilities	29,616,389
Net position:	
Restricted for individuals, organizations and other governments . . .	121,509,404
Total net position.	\$ 121,509,404

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Custodial
Additions:	
Amounts received as fiscal agent for Stark County Schools COG	\$ 311,670,862
Amounts received as fiscal agent for Stark County Family Council. . . .	2,025,657
Amounts received as fiscal agent for SPARCC.	6,068,763
Earnings on Stark County Schools COG investments	2,592,572
Total additions.	322,357,854
Deductions:	
Amounts distributed as fiscal agent for Stark County Schools COG	299,540,573
Amounts distributed as fiscal agent for Stark County Family Council. . . .	1,722,966
Amounts distributed as fiscal agent for SPARCC.	6,155,530
Total deductions	307,419,069
Change in net position	14,938,785
Net position at beginning of year (restated).	106,570,619
Net position at end of year	\$ 121,509,404

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE ESC

The Stark County Educational Service Center (the “ESC”) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The ESC supplies supervisory, administrative and other needed services to participating school districts.

The Governing Board consists of 5 members elected by the voters of Stark County. This Board acts as the authorizing body for expenditures, policy and procedures, and approves all financial activities. The ESC is staffed by 298 non-certified employees and 255 certified employees to provide services to students throughout Stark and surrounding Counties.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic financial statements of the ESC have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

A. Reporting Entity

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

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

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

The ESC is fiscal agent for the Stark County Family Council (the “Council”). The ESC is responsible for receiving and disbursing funds at the direction of the Council. This entity is legally separate from the ESC. The ESC is fiscal agent and custodian for the Council, but is not accountable; therefore, the operations of the Council have been included as a custodial fund in the ESC’s basic financial statements. The funds invested on behalf of the Council have been included in the basic financial statements as “equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents.”

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

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Stark-Portage Area Computer Consortium (“SPARCC”) - SPARCC is a jointly governed organization which provides computer services to the school districts within the boundaries of Stark and Portage Counties. Each district’s superintendent serves as a representative on the Board, which consists of approximately 30 member districts. However, SPARCC is primarily governed by a six-member Executive Board, which is made up of three representatives from Stark County, two from Portage County, and a Treasurer. The Board meets monthly to address any current issues.

Stark County Schools Council of Governments (“COG”) - The COG is a group purchasing pool. The COG is governed by an Assembly which consists of one representative from each participating school district (usually the superintendent or designee). The Assembly elects officers for one year terms to serve as the Board of Directors. The Assembly exercises control over the operation of the COG. All COG revenues are generated from charges for services.

In the case of SPARCC and the COG, the ESC serves as fiscal agent and custodian but is not accountable; therefore, the operations of SPARCC and the COG have been excluded from the ESC’s financial statements, but the funds held on behalf of SPARCC and the COG are included as custodial funds.

PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOLS

Stark County Schools Council of Governments Health Benefit Plan

The Stark County Schools Council of Governments Health Benefit Plan is a shared risk pool created pursuant to State statute for the purpose of administering health care benefits. The Health Benefits Plan is provided through the COG. The COG is governed by an assembly which consists of one representative from each participating school district (usually the superintendent or designee). The assembly elects officers for one year terms to serve on the Board of Directors. The assembly exercises control over the operation of the council. All Health Benefits Plan revenues are generated from charges for services received from the participating school districts, based on the established premiums for the insurance plans. Each school district reserves the right to terminate the plan in whole or in part, at any time. If it is terminated, no further contributions will be made, but the benefits under the insurance contract shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Stark County Schools Council of Governments Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan

The Stark County Schools Council of Governments Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan has created a group insurance pool for the purpose of creating a group rating plan for workers’ compensation. The governing body is comprised of the superintendents and the members who have been appointed by the respective governing body of each member.

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

The intent of the pool is to achieve a reduced rate for the ESC and the other group members. The injury claim history of all participating members is used to calculate a common rate for the group. An annual fee is paid to CompManagement, Inc. to administer the group and to manage any injury claims. Premium savings created by the group are prorated to each member entity annually based on its payroll percent of the group.

B. Fund Accounting

The ESC uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self balancing set of accounts. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are reported as fund balance. The following is the ESC's major governmental fund:

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

Other governmental funds of the ESC are used to account for specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to an expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

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

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the ESC under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the ESC's own programs. The ESC has no trust funds. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The ESC's custodial funds account for various resources held for the COG, SPARCC and the Council.

C. Basis of Presentation and Measurement Focus

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

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the governmental activities of the ESC. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include amounts paid by the recipient of goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the ESC.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets, deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows associated with the operation of the ESC are included on the statement of net position.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the ESC. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets, deferred outflows of resources and current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Fiduciary funds present a statement of changes in fiduciary net position which reports additions to and deductions from custodial funds.

D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting.

Revenues - Exchange and Nonexchange 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. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the ESC, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal year end.

Nonexchange transactions, in which the ESC receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

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 ESC must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the ESC on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: tuition, grants, accrued interest, and contract services.

Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources - In addition to assets, the government-wide statement of net position will report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents 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. See Notes 11 and 12 for deferred outflows of resources related to the ESC's net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively.

In addition to liabilities, both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements 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 as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the ESC, deferred inflows of resources include unavailable revenue. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. For the ESC, unavailable revenue includes, but is not limited to, tuition, accrued interest, services provided to other entities and intergovernmental grants. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available.

See Notes 11 and 12 for deferred inflows of resources related to the ESC's net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively. This deferred inflow of resources is only reported on the government-wide statement of net position.

Expenses/Expenditures - On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

E. Budgets

Although not legally required, the ESC adopts its budget for all funds. The budget includes the estimated resources and expenditures for each fund and consists of three parts; Part (A) includes entitlement funding from the State, Part (B) includes the cost of all other lawful expenditures of the ESC (which are apportioned by the State Department of Education to each local board of education under the supervision of the ESC), and Part (C) includes the adopted appropriation resolution.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

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

In fiscal year 2004, the ESC's requirement to file budgetary information with the Ohio Department of Education was eliminated. Even though the budgetary process for the ESC is discretionary, the ESC continues to have its Board approve appropriations and estimated resources. The ESC's Board adopts an annual appropriation resolution, which is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The level of control has been established by the Board at the object level for the general fund and at the fund level for all other funds. Budgetary information for the general fund has been presented as supplementary information to the basic financial statements.

F. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the ESC is pooled. Monies for all funds, including fiduciary funds, are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the ESC's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the basic financial statements.

During fiscal year 2020, investments were limited to federal agency securities, negotiable CD's, commercial paper, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Government money market mutual funds and investments in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio). Except for nonparticipating investment contracts, investments are reported at fair value which is based on quoted market prices. Nonparticipating investment contracts, such as repurchase agreements, are reported at cost. The ESC has no repurchase agreements.

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

For fiscal year 2020, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given 24 hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$25 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$100 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$100 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earnings are assigned to the general fund unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund. Earnings on investments revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal 2020 totaled \$93,756, which includes \$28,694 assigned from other ESC funds.

For presentation on the basic financial statements, investments of the cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the ESC are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

An analysis of the ESC's investment account at year end is provided in Note 4.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

G. Capital Assets

General capital assets are those assets specifically related to governmental activities. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The ESC maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The ESC does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not.

All reported capital assets, except land, are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Governmental Activities Estimated Lives</u>
Land improvements	30 years
Building and improvements	50 years
Furniture and equipment	5 - 10 years
Vehicles	5 - 10 years

H. Compensated Absences

Compensated absences of the ESC consist of vacation leave and sick leave to the extent that payments to the employee for these absences are attributable to services already rendered and are not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the ESC and the employee.

In accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 16, "Accounting for Compensated Absences," a liability for vacation leave is accrued if (a) the employees' rights to payment are attributable to services already rendered; and (b) it is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or other means, such as cash payment at termination or retirement. An accrual for earned sick leave is made to the extent that it is probable that the benefits will result in termination (severance) payments. A liability for sick leave is accrued using the vesting method; i.e., the liability is based on the sick leave accumulated at the balance sheet date by those employees who are currently eligible to receive termination (severance) payments, as well as those employees expected to become eligible in the future. For purposes of establishing a liability for sick leave on employees expected to become eligible to retire in the future, all employees age 50 or greater with at least 10 years of service and for all employees with at least 20 years of service at any age were considered expected to become eligible to retire in accordance with GASB Statement No. 16.

The total liability for vacation and sick leave payments has been calculated using pay rates in effect at June 30, 2020 and reduced to the maximum payment allowed by labor contracts and/or statute, plus any applicable additional salary related payments.

The entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

For governmental fund financial statements, compensated absences are recognized as liabilities and expenditures as payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirements.

I. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements, and all payables and accrued liabilities from the fiduciary funds are reported on the fiduciary fund statements.

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources are reported as obligations of the funds. However, compensated absences, net pension liability and net OPEB liability that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current year. Capital leases are recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements when due. Net pension/OPEB liability should be recognized in the governmental funds to the extent that benefit payments are due and payable and the pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits.

J. Fund Balance

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

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

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

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

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the ESC for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the Governing Board, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

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

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

K. Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows and liabilities and deferred inflows. The net position component “net investment in capital assets,” consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets or related debt also should be included in this component of net position. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the ESC or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

The ESC applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

L. Prepayments

Certain payments to vendors reflect the costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements. These items are reported as assets on the balance sheet using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amounts is recorded at the time of the purchase and the expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

M. Estimates

The preparation of the basic financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the basic financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

N. Interfund Activity

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

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

O. Interfund Balances

On fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from cash deficits among the governmental activities are classified as amounts “due to/from other funds”. These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities column on the statement of net position.

P. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, net OPEB asset, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related pensions/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.

Q. Fair Value

The ESC categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

R. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Governing Board and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during fiscal year 2020.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2020, the ESC has implemented GASB Statement No. 84, “Fiduciary Activities” and GASB Statement No. 90, “Majority Equity Interests - an amendment to GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 61”.

GASB Statement No. 84 establishes specific criteria for identifying activities that should be reported as fiduciary activities and clarifies whether and how business-type activities should report their fiduciary activities. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84, the ESC will no longer be reporting agency funds. The ESC reviewed its agency funds and certain funds will be reported in the new fiduciary classification of custodial funds, while other funds have been reclassified as governmental funds. These fund reclassifications resulted in the restatement of the ESC’s financial statements.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

GASB Statement No. 90 improves the consistency and comparability of reporting a government's majority equity interest in a legally separate organization and improve the relevance of financial statement information for certain component units. It defines a majority equity interest and specifies that a majority equity interest in a legally separate organization should be reported as an investment if a government's holding of the equity interest meets the definition of an investment. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 90 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the ESC.

B. Restatement of Net Position and Fund Balances

The implementation of GASB Statement No. 84 had the following effect on fund balance as reported at June 30, 2019:

	<u>General</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Fund Balance as previously reported	\$ 4,861,757	\$ (55,712)	\$ 4,806,045
GASB Statement No. 84	<u>191,863</u>	<u>519,389</u>	<u>711,252</u>
Restated Fund Balance, at June 30, 2019	<u>\$ 5,053,620</u>	<u>\$ 463,677</u>	<u>\$ 5,517,297</u>

The implementation of GASB Statement No. 84 had the following effect on the net position as reported at June 30, 2019:

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Net position as previously reported	\$ (21,818,159)
GASB Statement No. 84	<u>747,682</u>
Restated net position at June 30, 2019	<u>\$ (21,070,477)</u>

Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No.84, the new classification of custodial funds is reporting a beginning net position of \$106,570,619. Also, related to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84, the ESC will no longer be reporting agency funds. At June 30, 2019, agency funds reported assets and liabilities of \$134,979,438.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

C. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2020 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Public school preschool	\$ 19,897
Title I	8,903
IDEA handicapped preschool	26,532

The general fund is liable for any deficit in these funds and provides transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur. The deficit fund balances resulted from adjustments for accrued liabilities.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

State statutes classify monies held by the ESC into three categories.

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

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

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

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

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made on through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio); and
8. Certain banker's acceptance and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days and two hundred seventy days, respectively, from the purchase date in an amount not to exceed forty percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

Protection of the deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institutions participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the ESC, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2020, the carrying amount of all ESC deposits was \$70,022,609. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures," as of June 30, 2020, \$71,060,195 of the ESC's bank balance of \$71,560,195 was exposed to custodial credit risk as discussed below, while \$500,000 was covered by the FDIC.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the ESC will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The ESC has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the ESC and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State. For 2020, one of the ESC's financial institutions was approved for a reduced collateral rate of 50 percent through the OPCS, while the other financial institution was not approved for the reduced collateral rate through the OPCS. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the ESC to a successful claim by the FDIC.

B. Investments

As of June 30, 2020, the ESC had the following investments and maturities:

Measurement/ Investment type	Measurement value	Investment maturities				
		6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
<i>Fair value:</i>						
FHLB	\$ 9,441,432	\$ 451,748	\$ 3,412,107	\$ 2,626,917	\$ 503,400	\$ 2,447,260
FHLMC	18,423,416	1,004,910	2,470,187	-	-	14,948,319
FNMA	9,110,253	2,761,459	2,031,735	1,011,920	-	3,305,139
FFCB	16,166,459	1,005,089	509,950	-	1,006,865	13,644,555
FAMC	2,514,083	-	-	-	-	2,514,083
Negotiable CD's	8,190,664	-	-	252,498	1,267,066	6,671,100
U.S. Treasury notes	2,797,288	1,079,382	606,563	1,111,343	-	-
Commercial paper	9,874,615	9,874,615	-	-	-	-
U.S. Government money market	1,738,087	1,738,087	-	-	-	-
<i>Amortized cost:</i>						
STAR Ohio	412,578	412,578	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 78,668,875	\$ 18,327,868	\$ 9,030,542	\$ 5,002,678	\$ 2,777,331	\$ 43,530,456

The weighted average maturity of investments is 2.17 years.

The ESC's investments in U.S. Government money market mutual funds are valued using quoted market prices in active markets (Level 1 inputs). The ESC's investments in federal agency securities, negotiable CD's, commercial paper and U.S. Treasury notes are valued using quoted prices in markets that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs).

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

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Credit Risk: The ESC's investments in federal agency securities and U.S. Treasury notes were rated AA+ and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. Standard & Poor's has assigned STAR Ohio and the U.S. Government money market funds an AAAm money market rating. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The ESC's investments in commercial paper were rated A-1 and P-1 by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. The ESC's investments in negotiable CD's are not rated. The ESC's investment policy does not specifically address credit risk beyond the adherence to all relevant sections of the Ohio Revised Code.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the ESC will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The federal agency securities, commercial paper and U.S. Treasury notes are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent but not in the ESC's name. The ESC's investments in negotiable CD's are insured by the FDIC. The ESC has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The ESC places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the ESC at June 30, 2020:

<u>Measurement/ Investment type</u>	<u>Measurement value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
<i>Fair value:</i>		
FHLB	\$ 9,441,432	12.00
FHLMC	18,423,416	23.42
FNMA	9,110,253	11.58
FFCB	16,166,459	20.55
FAMC	2,514,083	3.20
Negotiable CD's	8,190,664	10.41
U.S. Treasury notes	2,797,288	3.56
Commercial paper	9,874,615	12.55
U.S. Government money market	1,738,087	2.21
<i>Amortized cost:</i>		
STAR Ohio	412,578	0.52
Total	<u>\$ 78,668,875</u>	<u>100.00</u>

C. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the note above to cash and investments as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2020:

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 70,022,609
Investments	<u>78,668,875</u>
Total	<u>\$ 148,691,484</u>

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	\$ 7,357,993
Custodial funds	<u>141,333,491</u>
Total	<u>\$ 148,691,484</u>

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Interfund balances at June 30, 2020, as reported on the fund statements, consist of the following amounts due to and due from other funds:

<u>Due to</u>	<u>Due from</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	\$ 241,261

The purpose of the amount due to/from other funds is to cover negative cash balances in the nonmajor governmental funds. The interfund balance will be repaid once the anticipated revenues are received and is expected to be repaid within one year.

Interfund balances between governmental funds are eliminated on the statement of net position.

NOTE 6 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2020 consisted of accounts (billings to school districts for user charged services and tuition), intergovernmental grants and accrued interest. All receivables are considered collectible in full. A summary of the principal items of receivables reported in the statement of net position follows:

Governmental activities:	
Accounts	\$ 5,222,923
Intergovernmental	856,716
Accrued interest	<u>8,650</u>
Total	<u>\$ 6,088,289</u>

Receivables have been disaggregated on the face of the basic financial statements. All receivables are expected to be collected in the subsequent year.

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NOTE 7 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>06/30/19</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>06/30/20</u>
Governmental activities:				
Land	\$ 111,059	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 111,059
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>111,059</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>111,059</u>
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated:</i>				
Land improvements	98,252	-	-	98,252
Buildings and improvements	4,271,240	32,600	-	4,303,840
Furniture and equipment	796,124	40,538	(24,439)	812,223
Vehicles	61,989	72,253	-	134,242
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>5,227,605</u>	<u>145,391</u>	<u>(24,439)</u>	<u>5,348,557</u>
<i>Less: accumulated depreciation:</i>				
Land improvements	(71,469)	(3,275)	-	(74,744)
Buildings and improvements	(791,463)	(86,215)	-	(877,678)
Furniture and equipment	(539,633)	(87,376)	24,439	(602,570)
Vehicles	(51,766)	(30,807)	-	(82,573)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,454,331)</u>	<u>(207,673)</u>	<u>24,439</u>	<u>(1,637,565)</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 3,884,333</u>	<u>\$ (62,282)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,822,051</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

<u>Instruction:</u>	
Special	\$ 60,111
<u>Support services:</u>	
Instructional staff	76,618
Administration	19,481
Fiscal	4,200
Business	21,193
Operations and maintenance	8,468
Central	<u>17,602</u>
Total depreciation expense	<u>\$ 207,673</u>

NOTE 8 - CAPITALIZED LEASES - LESSEE DISCLOSURE

In fiscal year 2017, the ESC entered into a capitalized lease for copier equipment. The lease agreement meets the criteria of a capital lease as defined by generally accepted accounting principles, which defines a capital lease generally as one which transfers benefits and risks of ownership to the lessee. Capital lease payments have been reclassified and are reflected as debt service expenditures in the financial statements for the governmental funds. These expenditures are reported as function expenditures on the budgetary schedule.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 8 - CAPITALIZED LEASES - LESSEE DISCLOSURE - (Continued)

Capital assets consisting of office equipment have been capitalized in the amount of \$80,209. This amount represents the present value of the minimum lease payments at the time of acquisition. A corresponding liability is recorded in the government-wide financial statements. Accumulated depreciation as of June 30, 2020 was \$60,157, leaving a current book value of \$20,052. Principal payments in fiscal year 2020 totaled \$16,825 paid by the general fund.

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

<u>Fiscal Year Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2021	\$ 19,404
2022	<u>4,851</u>
Total	24,255
Less: amount representing interest	<u>(1,246)</u>
Present value of minimum lease payments	<u>\$ 23,009</u>

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

During the fiscal year 2020, the following activity occurred in governmental activities long-term obligations:

	Balance			Balance	Amounts
	<u>06/30/19</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>06/30/20</u>	<u>Due in</u>
					<u>One Year</u>
Governmental activities:					
Capital lease obligations	\$ 39,834	\$ -	\$ (16,825)	\$ 23,009	\$ 18,222
Net pension liability	35,253,870	687,993	-	35,941,863	-
Net OPEB liability	5,105,805	-	(698,342)	4,407,463	-
Compensated absences	<u>1,209,111</u>	<u>224,658</u>	<u>(81,544)</u>	<u>1,352,225</u>	<u>121,552</u>
Total	<u>\$ 41,608,620</u>	<u>\$ 912,651</u>	<u>\$ (796,711)</u>	<u>\$ 41,724,560</u>	<u>\$ 139,774</u>

Compensated absences will be paid from the fund from which the employee's salaries are paid which, for the ESC, is primarily the general fund.

See Note 8 for a description of the ESC's capital lease obligation.

See Note 11 for a description of the ESC's net pension liability. The ESC pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service.

See Note 12 for a description of the ESC's net OPEB liability/asset. The ESC pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 10 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Comprehensive

The ESC is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The ESC has obtained risk management by traditional means of insuring through a commercial company. With the exception of a deductible, the risk of loss transfers entirely from the ESC to the commercial company. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance in any of the past three fiscal years. There has been no significant reduction in coverage from the prior fiscal year.

B. Shared Risk Pool

The ESC is a participant in the Stark County Schools Council of Governments (“COG”) for the purpose of obtaining benefits at a reduced premium for both health care and workers’ compensation.

The ESC’s insurance program for health care, through the COG, is administered by Mutual Health Services Company and Aultcare Corporation. Payments are made to the COG for monthly premiums, monthly stop-loss premiums and administrative charges. The ESC is fiscal agent for the COG. The Treasurer of the ESC pays Mutual Health Services Company and Aultcare Corporation monthly for all participating districts, the actual amount of claims processed, the stop-loss premium and the administrative charges.

C. Workers’ Compensation

The ESC also participates in a program with the COG to obtain workers’ compensation coverage. This program is administered by CompManagement, Inc. The experience rating of each of the participating districts is calculated as one experience rate and applied to all participants in the program. Premiums paid to the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation are based on this calculation. Total savings are then determined and each participant’s performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the program. The districts will then either receive money back or be required to contribute additional money to the program.

NOTE 11 - 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 ESC’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.

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

The Ohio Revised Code limits the ESC’s obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The ESC cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the ESC 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 *pension and postemployment benefits payable* on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire after August 1, 2017
Full benefits	Age 65 with 5 years of services credit; or Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially reduced benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit; or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit

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

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the ESC is required to contribute 14% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10% for plan members and 14% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0%.

The ESC's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$912,845 for fiscal year 2020. Of this amount, \$113,438 is reported as pension and postemployment benefits payable.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation will be 2.2% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Effective July 1, 2017, the cost-of-living adjustment was reduced to zero. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or age 55 with 28 years of service, or 33 years of service regardless of age. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

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

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

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

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

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For fiscal year 2020, plan members were required to contribute 14% of their annual covered salary. The ESC was required to contribute 14%; the entire 14% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2020 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The ESC's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$2,052,636 for fiscal year 2020. Of this amount, \$327,826 is reported as pension and postemployment benefits payable.

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

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 actuarial valuation as of that date. The ESC's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the ESC's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.18271731%	0.11274144%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.17749528%</u>	<u>0.11450462%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00522203%</u>	<u>0.00176318%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 10,619,854	\$ 25,322,009	\$ 35,941,863
Pension expense	\$ 2,168,498	\$ 4,789,970	\$ 6,958,468

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

At June 30, 2020, the ESC reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 269,296	\$ 206,163	\$ 475,459
Changes of assumptions	-	2,974,560	2,974,560
Difference between ESC contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	187,162	1,441,574	1,628,736
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>912,845</u>	<u>2,052,636</u>	<u>2,965,481</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 1,369,303</u>	<u>\$ 6,674,933</u>	<u>\$ 8,044,236</u>
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 109,614	\$ 109,614
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	136,318	1,237,603	1,373,921
Difference between ESC contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>149,408</u>	<u>19,442</u>	<u>168,850</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 285,726</u>	<u>\$ 1,366,659</u>	<u>\$ 1,652,385</u>

\$2,965,481 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from ESC contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2021.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2021	\$ 386,820	\$ 2,162,868	\$ 2,549,688
2022	(284,326)	668,618	384,292
2023	(9,072)	203,156	194,084
2024	<u>77,310</u>	<u>220,996</u>	<u>298,306</u>
Total	<u>\$ 170,732</u>	<u>\$ 3,255,638</u>	<u>\$ 3,426,370</u>

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

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment 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, 2019, are presented below:

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

For 2019, the mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females. Mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates. Mortality among disabled members was based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

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

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

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

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	1.00 %	0.50 %
US Equity	22.50	4.75
International Equity	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%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.50%). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the ESC's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.50%, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.50%), or one percentage point higher (8.50%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
ESC's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 14,882,212	\$ 10,619,854	\$ 7,045,333

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	July 1, 2019
Inflation	2.50%
Projected salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
Investment rate of return	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll increases	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

For the July 1, 2019 actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

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

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

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

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

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45% as of June 30, 2019. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2019. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2019.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
ESC's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 37,005,295	\$ 25,322,009	\$ 15,431,509

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net OPEB liability/asset reported on the statement of net position represents a liability/asset 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/asset represents the ESC'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/asset calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

The Ohio Revised Code limits the ESC's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The ESC cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which OPEB are financed; however, the ESC 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/asset. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability/asset 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/funded benefits is presented as a long-term *net OPEB liability* or *net OPEB asset* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required OPEB contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *pension and postemployment benefits payable* on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The ESC 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% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, prorated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2020, this amount was \$19,600. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2020, the ESC's surcharge obligation was \$73,049, which is reported as pension and postemployment benefits 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, 2021. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

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NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

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

The net OPEB liability/asset was measured as of June 30, 2019, and the total OPEB liability/asset used to calculate the net OPEB liability/asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The ESC's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the ESC'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/asset prior measurement date	0.18404138%	0.11274144%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.17526170%</u>	<u>0.11450462%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00877968%</u>	<u>0.00176318%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 4,407,463	\$ -	\$ 4,407,463
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (1,896,471)	\$ (1,896,471)
OPEB expense	\$ 138,627	\$ (531,018)	\$ (392,391)

At June 30, 2020, the ESC reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 64,697	\$ 171,931	\$ 236,628
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	10,579	-	10,579
Changes of assumptions	321,915	39,863	361,778
Difference between ESC contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	202,063	268,408	470,471
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>73,049</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73,049</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 672,303</u>	<u>\$ 480,202</u>	<u>\$ 1,152,505</u>

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 968,290	\$ 96,486	\$ 1,064,776
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	-	119,111	119,111
Changes of assumptions	246,981	2,079,261	2,326,242
Difference between ESC contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>254,400</u>	<u>5,299</u>	<u>259,699</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 1,469,671</u>	<u>\$ 2,300,157</u>	<u>\$ 3,769,828</u>

\$73,049 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from ESC contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability/asset in the year ending June 30, 2021.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
2021	\$ (255,824)	\$ (403,097)	\$ (658,921)
2022	(130,328)	(403,097)	(533,425)
2023	(127,224)	(355,359)	(482,583)
2024	(127,729)	(338,612)	(466,341)
2025	(150,637)	(326,937)	(477,574)
Thereafter	<u>(78,675)</u>	<u>7,147</u>	<u>(71,528)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (870,417)</u>	<u>\$ (1,819,955)</u>	<u>\$ (2,690,372)</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.

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NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

Wage inflation	3.00%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.50 to 18.20%
Investment rate of return	7.50% net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal bond index rate:	
Measurement date	3.13%
Prior measurement date	3.62%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:	
Measurement date	3.22%
Prior measurement date	3.70%
Medical trend assumption:	
Measurement date	
Medicare	5.25 to 4.75%
Pre-Medicare	7.00 to 4.75%
Prior measurement date	
Medicare	5.375 to 4.75%
Pre-Medicare	7.25 to 4.75%

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

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

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2010 through 2015, and was adopted by the Board on April 21, 2016. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.50%, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2015 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	1.00 %	0.50 %
US Equity	22.50	4.75
International Equity	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, 2019 was 3.22%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2019 was 3.70%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the state statute contribution rate of 2.00% of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and 0.50% of contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to present value the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and the Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index rate of 3.13%, 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. A municipal bond rate of 3.62% was used as of June 30, 2018. 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 ESC'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%) and higher (4.22%) than the current discount rate (3.22%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.75%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.75%) than the current rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.75%).

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
ESC's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 5,349,824	\$ 4,407,463	\$ 3,658,176
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
ESC's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 3,531,271	\$ 4,407,463	\$ 5,569,958

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the July 1, 2019, actuarial valuation, compared with July 1, 2018, are presented below:

	July 1, 2019		July 1, 2018	
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Inflation	2.50%		2.50%	
Projected salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65		12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65	
Investment rate of return	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%		0.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.45%		7.45%	
Blended discount rate of return	N/A		N/A	
Health care cost trends				
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	5.87%	4.00%	6.00%	4.00%
Medicare	4.93%	4.00%	5.00%	4.00%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	7.73%	4.00%	8.00%	4.00%
Medicare	9.62%	4.00%	-5.23%	4.00%

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

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

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

Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - There were no changes in assumptions since the prior measurement date of June 30, 2018.

Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - There was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2020 from 1.944% to 1.984% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB asset was 7.45% as of June 30, 2019. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.45% was used to measure the total OPEB asset as of June 30, 2019.

Sensitivity of the ESC's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate - The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2019, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45%, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.45%) or one percentage point higher (8.45%) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
	ESC's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ (1,618,261)	\$ (1,896,471)

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
	ESC's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ (2,150,511)	\$ (1,896,471)

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The ESC receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, state and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds.

However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the overall financial position of the ESC.

B. Litigation

There are no claims or lawsuits pending against the ESC that, upon ultimate disposition, would have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the ESC.

NOTE 14 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During fiscal year 2020, the ESC received fees in the amount of \$1,550,974 for fiscal agent services provided to the Stark County Schools Council of Governments.

The ESC also serves as fiscal agent for Stark Portage Area Computer Consortium (SPARCC). In lieu of fiscal agent fees, the ESC receives computer services from SPARCC at no charge.

NOTE 15 - STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING

The main sources of revenues of Educational Service Center (ESC) funding are the local funds that are deducted from the state foundation funding of the client districts and transferred to the ESC under ORC Sections 3313.843 or 3313.845 as well as state funds that are distributed directly to the ESCs based on parameters listed in Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Sections 265.210 and 265.360. Additionally, ESCs can apply to any state or federal agency for competitive grants.

A. State Funding

ORC Sections 265.210 and 265.360 provide for direct state funding of the ESCs for the general purpose of program maintenance and service delivery to client school districts.

State Per-Pupil Funding - One component of state funding is predicated on the per-pupil amounts. The per-pupil amount is applied to the total count of students of the client districts these entities serve. The law provides for \$40,000,000 in fiscal years 2019, 2020 and 2021, respectively, for this purpose. As the appropriation for this funding is set and the funding is based on a constant per-pupil amount, it is often necessary and authorized by law for the fund distribution to be prorated in order to stay within the appropriations. As the data changes during the course of a fiscal year, so does the proration rate to maintain the appropriated levels.

The Am. Sub. HB 49 continued state per-pupil funding for ESCs. An ESC may apply to the Ohio Department of Education to be designated as a High-Performing ESC. A High-Performing ESC will generate \$26.00 per student instead of the standard amount of \$24.00.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 15 - STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING - (Continued)

State Gifted Funding - Another component of the state funding of ESCs is for gifted education. Under this section of the law the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is authorized to set aside \$3,800,000 of the total statewide appropriation slated for Foundation Funding for ESC gifted education. ODE is to distribute this funding through the unit-based funding methodology in place under ORC Section 3317.024(L), ORC Section 3317.05(E) and ORC Section 3317.035(A), (B) and (C) as they existed prior to fiscal year 2010. These sections of the law provide for the cost of each gifted unit to be predicated on the salary and fringes of the full time equivalent of the personnel involved at 15% of the salary figure as well as any additional unit allowances the law allows. The law also provides for the proration of the resulting state funding if the appropriation is not sufficient.

In addition to the above-mentioned funding from the state, ESCs also receive funding to cover the costs associated with the transportation of special needs students and for special equipment needed for such transportation. This aid is calculated as the lesser of the actual cost reported or the sum of \$6 per pupil per day plus half of the amount by which the actual cost exceeds \$6 per pupil per day. The state covers 25% of this amount.

B. Local Funding

ORC Section 3313.843 Contracts

Presently the law provides that city, exempted village and local school districts with an average daily enrollment of 16,000 or less must enter into an agreement with an ESC under ORC Section 3313.843. The services the ESC provides to the client district under this section may include a variety of services including special education for students with special needs. Since ESCs have no legal taxing or bonding authority they must depend on revenues from member school districts.

Local Per-Pupil Funding - ORC Section 3313.843(H) provides that pursuant to provisions of ORC Section 3317.023, the ODE annually shall deduct from each school district that enters into an agreement with an ESC under this section, a per-pupil amount of \$6.50 or an alternative amount in excess of \$6.50 if agreed upon by both the ESC and the client districts to be paid to the ESC. The per-pupil amount is multiplied by the school age students count of the client district as reported on the latest Report Card.

Local Preschool Funding - In addition to services provided to school age children, ESCs can also provide preschool services to children with disabilities who are under the age of 6 and are not enrolled in kindergarten. Under the provisions of ORC 3317.0213, the ODE shall compute and pay additional state aid to school districts for preschool children with disabilities. The state funding for preschool services goes directly to the school district based on the count of students the district reports. The district can choose to provide the services itself or contract with an ESC. Preschool funding will be calculated based on parameters specified in ORC Section 3317.0213(A). If the district provides the services itself, then the funding will remain with the district. If on the other hand, the district contracts with an ESC, the calculated funding will be deducted from the foundation payment of the district and sent to the ESC.

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NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOTE 15 - STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING - (Continued)

School districts and ESCs can also agree on an alternative payment mechanism or they can agree on bypassing ODE altogether and base the payments directly from the district to the ESC. Should the district use these services for the preschool children and have ODE deduct the foundation from its foundation funding, the ESC funding will be based on a constant per-pupil amount of \$4,000 applied to the total count of all preschool children with disabilities plus special education per-pupil amounts as specified in the law, applied to each one of the 6 categories of special education preschool children. For this purpose, special education preschool children are classified into 6 categories in accordance with their handicapping condition. The law provides for a unique per-pupil amount for each one of the categories that is applied at 50% strength to the number of children in the respective category. To wealth equalize this funding the law also calls for the application of the state share index which is the measure of the state contribution to the foundation formula of the district to this part of the funding calculation.

ORC Section 3313.845 Contracts

Service Contracts - In addition to service contracts under ORC Section 3313.843, districts may set up contracts with ESCs for various services based on agreed upon fees beyond those covered by ORC Section 3313.843 contracts. Funds for those contractual services can be deducted from contracting school districts' foundation calculation and sent to the appropriate ESCs. To receive payment for these contracts an ESC must furnish the ODE with a copy of the contract or a written statement clearly indicating the amount of the contract for each contracting school district. ESCs also have the option of billing school districts directly for these contracts instead of having the state deduct the contract amounts from their foundation funding.

NOTE 16 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

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

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General fund	\$ 843,551
Other governmental	<u>122,260</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 965,811</u>

NOTE 17 - RENTAL AGREEMENT

The ESC has entered into a rental agreement with Stark State College for office space. The space consists of approximately 42,036 square feet. The rent for this lease is \$4.75 per square foot. The ESC is also responsible for any utilities and common area maintenance charges. The initial term of this agreement ends on December 31, 2022. The ESC has the option to renew the agreement for an additional three consecutive five-year terms.

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

NOTE 18 - 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 ensuing emergency measures will impact subsequent periods of the ESC. The ESC's investment portfolio and the investments of the pension and other employee benefit plans are subject to increased market volatility, which could result in a significant decline in fair value, consistent with the general decline in financial markets. However, because the values of individual investments fluctuate with market conditions, the amount of losses that will be recognized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the ESC's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE ESC'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
ESC's proportion of the net pension liability	0.17749528%	0.18271731%	0.16618543%	0.16614628%
ESC's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 10,619,854	\$ 10,464,559	\$ 9,929,212	\$ 12,160,375
ESC's covered payroll	\$ 6,365,304	\$ 5,754,911	\$ 5,629,686	\$ 5,293,500
ESC's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	166.84%	181.84%	176.37%	229.72%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	70.85%	71.36%	69.50%	62.98%

Note: Information prior to 2014 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the ESC's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
0.14246746%	0.15193390%	0.15193390%
\$ 8,129,331	\$ 7,689,288	\$ 9,035,021
\$ 4,555,857	\$ 4,414,899	\$ 4,182,023
178.44%	174.17%	216.04%
69.16%	71.70%	65.52%

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SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE ESC'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST SEVEN FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
ESC's proportion of the net pension liability	0.11450462%	0.11274144%	0.10404506%	0.10421847%
ESC's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 25,322,009	\$ 24,789,311	\$ 24,716,127	\$ 34,885,063
ESC's covered payroll	\$ 14,053,493	\$ 12,622,007	\$ 11,544,836	\$ 11,037,357
ESC's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	180.18%	196.40%	214.09%	316.06%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	77.40%	77.31%	75.30%	66.80%

Note: Information prior to 2014 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the ESC's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
0.10017119%	0.09009802%	0.09009802%
\$ 27,684,387	\$ 21,914,957	\$ 26,104,953
\$ 10,451,186	\$ 9,205,531	\$ 8,524,377
264.89%	238.06%	306.24%
72.10%	74.70%	69.30%

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SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF ESC PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

	LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS			
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 912,845	\$ 859,316	\$ 776,913	\$ 788,156
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(912,845)</u>	<u>(859,316)</u>	<u>(776,913)</u>	<u>(788,156)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
ESC's covered payroll	\$ 6,520,321	\$ 6,365,304	\$ 5,754,911	\$ 5,629,686
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	14.00%	13.50%	13.50%	14.00%

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
\$ 741,090	\$ 600,462	\$ 611,905	\$ 578,792	\$ 571,146	\$ 553,957
<u>(741,090)</u>	<u>(600,462)</u>	<u>(611,905)</u>	<u>(578,792)</u>	<u>(571,146)</u>	<u>(553,957)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 5,293,500	\$ 4,555,857	\$ 4,414,899	\$ 4,182,023	\$ 4,246,439	\$ 4,406,977
14.00%	13.18%	13.86%	13.84%	13.45%	12.57%

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF ESC PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

	LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS			
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 2,052,636	\$ 1,967,489	\$ 1,767,081	\$ 1,616,277
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(2,052,636)</u>	<u>(1,967,489)</u>	<u>(1,767,081)</u>	<u>(1,616,277)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
ESC's covered payroll	\$ 14,661,686	\$ 14,053,493	\$ 12,622,007	\$ 11,544,836
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
\$ 1,545,230	\$ 1,463,166	\$ 1,196,719	\$ 1,108,169	\$ 1,037,061	\$ 1,019,505
<u>(1,545,230)</u>	<u>(1,463,166)</u>	<u>(1,196,719)</u>	<u>(1,108,169)</u>	<u>(1,037,061)</u>	<u>(1,019,505)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 11,037,357	\$ 10,451,186	\$ 9,205,531	\$ 8,524,377	\$ 7,977,392	\$ 7,842,346
14.00%	14.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%

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SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE ESC'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

LAST FOUR FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
ESC's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.17526170%	0.18404138%	0.17197105%	0.17232699%
ESC's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 4,407,463	\$ 5,105,805	\$ 4,615,251	\$ 4,911,957
ESC's covered payroll	\$ 6,365,304	\$ 5,754,911	\$ 5,629,686	\$ 5,293,500
ESC's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	69.24%	88.72%	81.98%	92.79%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	15.57%	13.57%	12.46%	11.49%

Note: Information prior to 2017 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the ESC's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF THE ESC'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY/ASSET
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

LAST FOUR FISCAL YEARS

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
ESC's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset	0.11450462%	0.11274144%	0.10404506%	0.10421847%
ESC's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability/(asset)	\$ (1,896,471)	\$ (1,811,640)	\$ 4,059,454	\$ 5,573,631
ESC's covered payroll	\$ 14,053,493	\$ 12,622,007	\$ 11,544,836	\$ 11,037,357
ESC's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability/asset as a percentage of its covered payroll	-13.49%	-14.35%	35.16%	50.50%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability/asset	174.74%	176.00%	47.10%	37.30%

Note: Information prior to 2017 was unavailable. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the ESC's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
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SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF ESC OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

	LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS			
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 73,049	\$ 107,701	\$ 122,316	\$ 109,137
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>(73,049)</u>	<u>(107,701)</u>	<u>(122,316)</u>	<u>(109,137)</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
ESC's covered payroll	\$ 6,520,321	\$ 6,365,304	\$ 5,754,911	\$ 5,629,686
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	1.12%	1.69%	2.13%	1.94%

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
\$ 109,138	\$ 104,198	\$ 54,827	\$ 118,063	\$ 103,348	\$ 156,479
<u>(109,138)</u>	<u>(104,198)</u>	<u>(54,827)</u>	<u>(118,063)</u>	<u>(103,348)</u>	<u>(156,479)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 5,293,500	\$ 4,555,857	\$ 4,414,899	\$ 4,182,023	\$ 4,246,439	\$ 4,406,977
2.06%	2.29%	1.24%	2.82%	2.43%	3.55%

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SCHEDULES OF REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF ESC OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

	LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS			
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
ESC's covered payroll	\$ 14,661,686	\$ 14,053,493	\$ 12,622,007	\$ 11,544,836
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
\$ -	\$ -	\$ 94,035	\$ 85,244	\$ 79,774	\$ 78,423
-	-	(94,035)	(85,244)	(79,774)	(78,423)
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 11,037,357	\$ 10,451,186	\$ 9,205,531	\$ 8,524,377	\$ 7,977,392	\$ 7,842,346
0.00%	0.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%

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NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

PENSION

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

Changes in benefit terms: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014-2017. For fiscal year 2018, SERS changed from a fixed 3% annual increase to a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), with a cap of 2.5% and a floor of 0%. There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal years 2019-2020.

Changes in assumptions: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014-2016. For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females, (f) 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% of male rates and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to 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 and (h) the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%. There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2018-2020.

STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

Changes in benefit terms: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal years 2014-2017. For fiscal year 2018, STRS decreased the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to zero. There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal years 2019-2020.

Changes in assumptions: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal years 2014-2017. For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (b) the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, (c) the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%, (d) total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25% due to lower inflation, (e) the healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016 and (f) rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience. There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.

(Continued)

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
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NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

Changes in benefit terms: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal years 2017-2020.

Changes in assumptions: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017. For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) 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, (f) 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% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to the following: 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, (h) the municipal bond index rate increased from 2.92% to 3.56% and (i) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 2.98% to 3.63%. For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate increased from 3.63% to 3.70%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.50%-5.00% to a range of 5.375%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.50%-5.00% to a range of 7.25%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate increased from 3.56% to 3.62% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 3.63% to 3.70%. For fiscal year 2020, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.375%-4.75% to a range of 5.25%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.25%-4.75% to a range of 7.00%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.62% to 3.13% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%.

STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

Changes in benefit terms: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2017. For fiscal year 2018, STRS reduced the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 2.1% to 1.9% 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. For fiscal year 2019, STRS increased the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 1.9% to 1.944% per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020. For fiscal year 2020, STRS increased the subsidy percentage from 1.944% to 1.984% effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.

Changes in assumptions: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017. For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB), (b) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (c) valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified, (d) 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 and (e) the assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs. For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability/asset since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13% to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB) and (b) decrease in health care cost trend rates from 6.00%-11.00% initial; 4.50% ultimate down to Medical Pre-Medicare 6.00% and Medicare 5.00% initial; 4.00% ultimate and Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare 8.00% and Medicare (5.23%) initial; 4.00% ultimate. For fiscal year 2020, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-medicare from 6.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-medicare from 8.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate and (5.23%) initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Revenues:				
From local sources:				
Tuition	\$ 14,711,454	\$ 15,072,650	\$ 14,291,661	\$ (780,989)
Contributions from private sources	19,667	20,150	30,930	10,780
Earnings on investments	53,753	55,073	91,570	36,497
Services provided to other entities	11,068,123	11,339,869	12,260,414	920,545
Rental income	18,055	18,498	19,145	647
Other local revenues	253,037	259,250	326,637	67,387
Intergovernmental - state	1,665,112	1,705,994	1,710,475	4,481
Intergovernmental - federal	58,195	59,624	34,721	(24,903)
Total revenue	<u>27,847,396</u>	<u>28,531,108</u>	<u>28,765,553</u>	<u>234,445</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	48,815	48,815	48,015	800
Special	13,041,697	13,041,697	12,609,129	432,568
Support services:				
Pupil	7,416,264	7,416,264	7,189,931	226,333
Instructional staff	3,135,376	3,135,376	2,953,908	181,468
Board of education	26,450	26,450	25,644	806
Administration	3,795,333	3,795,333	3,701,360	93,973
Fiscal	882,745	882,745	817,253	65,492
Business	1,138,380	1,138,380	1,057,901	80,479
Operations and maintenance	765,010	765,010	678,583	86,427
Pupil transportation	42,378	42,378	28,721	13,657
Central	194,110	194,110	87,167	106,943
Food service operations	108,219	108,219	103,539	4,680
Extracurricular activities	977	977	977	-
Facilities acquisition and construction	61,700	61,700	51,544	10,156
Total expenditures	<u>30,657,454</u>	<u>30,657,454</u>	<u>29,353,672</u>	<u>1,303,782</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	<u>(2,810,058)</u>	<u>(2,126,346)</u>	<u>(588,119)</u>	<u>1,538,227</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Advances in	97,604	100,000	-	(100,000)
Advances (out)	(143,027)	(143,027)	-	143,027
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(45,423)</u>	<u>(43,027)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,027</u>
Net change in fund balance	(2,855,481)	(2,169,373)	(588,119)	1,581,254
Fund balance at beginning of year	5,253,524	5,253,524	5,253,524	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	1,000,481	1,000,481	1,000,481	-
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 3,398,524</u>	<u>\$ 4,084,632</u>	<u>\$ 5,665,886</u>	<u>\$ 1,581,254</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING BUDGETARY NOTES

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

**BUDGETARY NOTES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

The ESC is no longer required under State statute to file budgetary information with the State Department of Education. However, the ESC's Board does follow the budgetary process for control purposes.

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

The ESC's Governing Board adopts an annual appropriation resolution, which is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures at the level of control selected by the Governing Board. The level of control has been established by the Governing Board at the object level for the general fund and at the fund level for all other funds.

Throughout the fiscal year, appropriations may be amended or supplemented as circumstances warrant. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire fiscal year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior fiscal years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Governing Board during the fiscal year.

NOTE 2 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

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

The schedule of revenue, expenditures, and changes in fund balance - budget and actual (non-GAAP budgetary basis) presented for the general fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are that:

- (a) Revenues and other financing sources are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
- (b) Expenditures and other financing uses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);
- (c) To reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, total outstanding encumbrances (budget basis) are recorded as the equivalent of an expenditure, as opposed to assigned fund balance for that portion of outstanding encumbrances not already recognized as an account payable (GAAP basis);
- (d) Advances-in and advances-out are operating transactions (budget basis) as opposed to balance sheet transactions (GAAP basis); and,
- (e) Investments are reported at fair value (GAAP basis) rather than cost (budget basis).

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY, OHIO**

BUDGETARY NOTES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOTE 2 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING - (Continued)

The adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations for the year on the budget basis to the GAAP basis for the general fund is as follows:

Net Change in Fund Balance

	<u>General Fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ (588,119)
Net adjustment for revenue accruals	679,444
Net adjustment for expenditure accruals	(413,660)
Funds budgeted elsewhere**	(4,870)
Adjustment for encumbrances	<u>945,136</u>
GAAP basis	<u>\$ 617,931</u>

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title	Federal CFDA Number	Pass Through Entity Identifying Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
National School Lunch Program	10.555	049825-3L60-2020	\$6,490
COVID-19 National School Lunch Program	10.555	049825-3L60-2020	<u>537</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			<u>7,027</u>
Child and Adult Care Food Program	10.558	049825-3L80-2019	7,466
Child and Adult Care Food Program	10.558	049825-3L80-2020	42,572
COVID-19 Child and Adult Care Food Program	10.558	049825-3L80-2020	<u>3,696</u>
Total Child and Adult Care Food Program			<u>53,734</u>
Direct			
Farm to School Grant Program	10.575	2020	<u>20,375</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			<u>81,136</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
Title I Grant to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	049825-3M00-2019	4,262
Title I Grant to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	049825-3M00-2020	<u>64,702</u>
Total Title I Grant to Local Educational Agencies			<u>68,964</u>
Special Education Cluster:			
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	049825-3M20-2019	223,988
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	049825-3M20-2020	1,035,821
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	049825-3M20-2019	10,000
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	049825-3M20-2020	167,582
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	049825-3C50-2019	22,184
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	049825-3C50-2020	87,143
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	049825-3C50-2019	14,968
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	049825-3C50-2020	73,855
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	049825-3C50-2019	2,859
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	049825-3C50-2020	<u>22,181</u>
Total Special Education Cluster			<u>1,660,581</u>
Special Education - State Personnel Development	84.323	049825-3700-2019	1,150
Special Education - State Personnel Development	84.323	049825-3700-2020	<u>7,211</u>
Total Special Education - State Personnel Development			<u>8,361</u>
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	049825-3Y70-2019	20,221
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	049825-3Y70-2020	<u>69,970</u>
Total English Language Acquisition State Grants			<u>90,191</u>
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	049825-3Y60-2020	<u>13,752</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education			<u>1,841,849</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Health</i>			
Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant Program	93.870	07650011MH0719	120,443
Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant Program	93.870	07650011MH0820	<u>202,654</u>
Total Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Grant Program			<u>323,097</u>
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			<u>323,097</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			<u>\$2,246,082</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Stark County Educational Service Center (the Service Center) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2020. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Service Center, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position, of the Service Center.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

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

NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



Conference Center, Suite 154
6000 Frank Ave. NW
North Canton, OH 44720
EastRegion@ohioauditor.gov
(800) 443-9272

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

Stark County Educational Service Center
Stark County
6057 Strip Avenue
North Canton, Ohio 44720

To the Governing Board:

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 governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Stark County Educational Service Center, Stark County, (the Center) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 10, 2021, wherein we noted the Center adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 84 *Fiduciary Activities*. We, also, noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures which may impact subsequent periods of the District.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the Center's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing 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 Center'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 Center'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 Center'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 financial statements. 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 Center's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Center's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

May 10, 2021

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



Conference Center, Suite 154
6000 Frank Ave. NW
North Canton, OH 44720
EastRegion@ohioauditor.gov
(800) 443-9272

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

Stark County Educational Service Center
Stark County
6057 Strip Avenue
North Canton, Ohio 44720

To the Governing Board:

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

We have audited the Stark County Educational Service Center's (the Center) compliance with the applicable requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could directly and materially affect the Stark County Educational Service Center's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2020. The *Summary of Auditor's Results* in the accompanying schedule of findings identifies the Center's major federal program.

Management's Responsibility

The Center's Management is responsible for complying with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal program.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on the Center's compliance for the Center's major federal program based on our audit of the applicable compliance requirements referred to above. Our compliance audit followed auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). These standards and the Uniform Guidance require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether noncompliance with the applicable compliance requirements referred to above that could directly and materially affect a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Center's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our compliance opinion on the Center's major program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Center's compliance.

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the Stark County Educational Service Center complied, in all material respects with the compliance requirements referred to above that could directly and materially affect its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2020.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

The Center's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the applicable compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our compliance audit, we considered the Center's internal control over compliance with the applicable requirements that could directly and materially affect a major federal program, to determine our auditing procedures appropriate for opining on each major federal program's compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control over compliance.

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

This report only describes the scope of our internal control over compliance tests and the results of this testing based on Uniform Guidance requirements. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

May 10, 2021

**STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
STARK COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2020**

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

<i>(d)(1)(i)</i>	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iii)</i>	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
<i>(d)(1)(v)</i>	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
<i>(d)(1)(vi)</i>	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(vii)</i>	Major Programs (list):	Special Education Cluster (CFDA 84.027 and 84.173)
<i>(d)(1)(viii)</i>	Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
<i>(d)(1)(ix)</i>	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	Yes

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

None

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



STARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

STARK 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 6/8/2021

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