



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**MARION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MERCER COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020**

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MARION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MERCER COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
7956 State Route 119
Maria Stein, Ohio 45860

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Marion Local School District, Mercer County, Ohio (the School District), as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2021 and 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District'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 the cash accounting basis Note 2 describes. This responsibility includes determining that the cash accounting basis is acceptable for the circumstances. Management is also responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

We believe 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 cash financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Marion Local School District, as of June 30, 2021 and 2020, and the respective changes in cash financial position and the budgetary comparison for the General fund thereof for the fiscal years then ended in accordance with the accounting basis described in Note 2.

Accounting Basis

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis applied to these statements. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis other than generally accepted accounting principles. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 18 to the financial statements, during 2021, the School District adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

As discussed in Note 16 to the financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021 and Note 17 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the School District. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 25, 2022, on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 25, 2022

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
June 30, 2021

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 10,635,197</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u><u>\$ 10,635,197</u></u>
Net Position	
Restricted for:	
Capital Projects	\$ 890,681
Debt Service	184,445
Other Purposes	1,142,299
Unrestricted	<u>8,417,772</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u><u>\$ 10,635,197</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Activities - Cash Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

	Program Cash Receipts				Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest	Capital Grants and Contributions	Total Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:					
Instruction					
Regular	\$ 4,504,074	\$ 510,286	\$ 100,461	\$ 0	\$ (3,893,327)
Special	1,303,276	-	534,641	-	(768,635)
Vocational	128,053	-	62,846	-	(65,207)
Other	193,145	-	10,035	-	(183,110)
Support Services					
Pupil	327,342	-	136,143	-	(191,199)
Instructional Staff	376,693	-	-	-	(376,693)
Board of Education	25,775	-	-	-	(25,775)
Administration	672,496	12,407	-	-	(660,089)
Fiscal	287,131	-	-	-	(287,131)
Business	6,650	-	-	-	(6,650)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	669,181	8,363	10,959	-	(649,859)
Pupil Transportation	348,800	-	22,366	39,322	(287,112)
Central	1,757	-	-	-	(1,757)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	363,132	118,171	378,002	-	133,041
Extracurricular Activities	519,292	165,085	3,282	-	(350,925)
Capital Outlay	1,178,549	-	-	-	(1,178,549)
Debt Service	99,900	-	-	-	(99,900)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$ 11,005,246</u>	<u>\$ 814,312</u>	<u>\$ 1,258,735</u>	<u>\$ 39,322</u>	<u>(8,892,877)</u>
General Receipts					
Property Taxes Levied for:					
General Purposes					3,407,812
Capital Outlay					167,580
Debt Service					46,060
Classroom Facilities & Maintenance					37,513
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs					5,031,910
Gifts and Donations not Restricted to Specific Programs					2,000
Interest					52,919
Miscellaneous					80,615
<i>Total General Receipts</i>					<u>8,826,409</u>
Change in Net Position					(66,468)
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year (Restated)</i>					<u>10,701,665</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>					<u>\$ 10,635,197</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Cash Basis Assets and Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2021

	General Fund	Facility Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 6,583,565	\$ 1,834,207	\$ 2,217,425	\$ 10,635,197
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$ 6,583,565</u>	<u>\$ 1,834,207</u>	<u>\$ 2,217,425</u>	<u>\$ 10,635,197</u>
 Fund Balances				
Restricted	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 2,217,425	\$ 2,217,425
Committed	99,215	1,834,207	0	1,933,422
Assigned	309,522	0	0	309,522
Unassigned	6,174,828	0	0	6,174,828
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$ 6,583,565</u>	<u>\$ 1,834,207</u>	<u>\$ 2,217,425</u>	<u>\$ 10,635,197</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

	General Fund	Facility Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$ 3,407,812	\$ 0	\$ 251,153	\$ 3,658,965
Intergovernmental	5,346,641	-	979,767	6,326,408
Interest	53,043	-	533	53,576
Tuition and Fees	498,794	-	-	498,794
Rent	8,363	-	-	8,363
Extracurricular Activities	57,996	-	143,081	201,077
Gifts and Donations	2,000	-	2,902	4,902
Charges for Services	-	-	112,088	112,088
Miscellaneous	73,940	-	665	74,605
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>9,448,589</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,490,189</u>	<u>10,938,778</u>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction				
Regular	4,401,238	-	102,836	4,504,074
Special	1,060,803	-	242,473	1,303,276
Vocational	124,852	-	3,201	128,053
Other	183,110	-	10,035	193,145
Support Services				
Pupil	277,036	-	50,306	327,342
Instructional Staff	376,693	-	-	376,693
Board of Education	25,775	-	-	25,775
Administration	672,496	-	-	672,496
Fiscal	277,312	-	9,819	287,131
Business	6,650	-	-	6,650
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	645,205	-	23,976	669,181
Pupil Transportation	309,478	-	39,322	348,800
Central	1,757	-	-	1,757
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	-	-	363,132	363,132
Extracurricular Activities	326,490	-	192,802	519,292
Capital Outlay	13,268	665,793	499,488	1,178,549
Debt Service				
Principal Retirement	-	-	90,000	90,000
Interest	-	-	9,900	9,900
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>8,702,163</u>	<u>665,793</u>	<u>1,637,290</u>	<u>11,005,246</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over / (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>746,426</u>	<u>(665,793)</u>	<u>(147,101)</u>	<u>(66,468)</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Operating Transfers - In	3,931	500,000	405,000	908,931
Advances - In	60,900	-	60,900	121,800
Operating Transfers - Out	(908,931)	-	-	(908,931)
Advances - Out	(60,900)	-	(60,900)	(121,800)
<i>Total Other Financing (Uses) Sources</i>	<u>(905,000)</u>	<u>500,000</u>	<u>405,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	(158,574)	(165,793)	257,899	(66,468)
<i>Fund Balances Beginning (Restated)</i>	<u>6,742,139</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>1,959,526</u>	<u>10,701,665</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 6,583,565</u>	<u>\$ 1,834,207</u>	<u>\$ 2,217,425</u>	<u>\$ 10,635,197</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis
General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget Over (Under)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$ 3,348,276	\$ 3,408,164	\$ 3,407,812	\$ (352)
Intergovernmental	5,024,305	5,361,860	5,346,641	(15,219)
Interest	145,530	51,450	52,919	1,469
Tuition and Fees	515,004	468,585	469,212	627
Rent	8,500	8,500	8,363	(137)
Extracurricular Activities	18,795	19,624	19,294	(330)
Gifts and Donations	2,200	2,200	2,000	(200)
Miscellaneous	15,000	65,400	67,399	1,999
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>9,077,610</u>	<u>9,385,783</u>	<u>9,373,640</u>	<u>(12,143)</u>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction				
Regular	4,585,273	4,601,665	4,404,323	197,342
Special	1,155,106	1,188,274	1,064,283	123,991
Vocational	132,670	137,221	124,852	12,369
Other	129,550	200,185	183,110	17,075
Support Services				
Pupil	318,310	313,826	277,876	35,950
Instructional Staff	322,617	408,093	376,738	31,355
Board of Education	49,861	49,981	25,775	24,206
Administration	706,987	704,740	667,142	37,598
Fiscal	302,225	304,321	280,960	23,361
Business	6,700	6,700	6,650	50
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	773,264	791,736	651,130	140,606
Pupil Transportation	550,013	541,754	309,478	232,276
Central	7,500	9,250	1,757	7,493
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	50	50	-	50
Extracurricular Activities	344,995	366,595	319,928	46,667
Capital Outlay	141,500	180,164	14,868	165,296
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>9,526,621</u>	<u>9,804,555</u>	<u>8,708,870</u>	<u>1,095,685</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>(449,011)</u>	<u>(418,772)</u>	<u>664,770</u>	<u>1,083,542</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Proceeds of Sale of Capital Assets	12,000	-	-	-
Advances - In	62,900	60,900	60,900	-
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	5,000	12,000	12,866	866
Operating Transfers - Out	(1,010,000)	(1,207,000)	(908,931)	298,069
Advances - Out	(63,400)	(62,900)	(60,900)	2,000
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>(993,500)</u>	<u>(1,197,000)</u>	<u>(896,065)</u>	<u>300,935</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	<u>(1,442,511)</u>	<u>(1,615,772)</u>	<u>(231,295)</u>	<u>1,384,477</u>
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	<u>6,398,763</u>	<u>6,398,763</u>	<u>6,398,763</u>	<u>-</u>
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	114,616	114,616	114,616	-
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 5,070,868</u>	<u>\$ 4,897,607</u>	<u>\$ 6,282,084</u>	<u>\$ 1,384,477</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

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Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 1 – Description of the School District and Reporting Entity

Marion Local School District (the "School District") is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The School District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government and provides educational services as authorized by State and federal agencies. The legislative power of the School District is vested in the Board of Education, consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. The School District is located in Mercer, Auglaize and Darke counties.

The reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading.

A. Primary Government

The primary government of the School District consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For Marion Local School District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the School District.

B. Jointly Governed Organizations

The School District participates in three jointly governed organizations and three insurance purchasing pools. These organizations are discussed in Note 12 to the basic financial statements. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative
State Support Team Region 6
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

Insurance Purchasing Pools:

Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group
Rating Plan
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council
Ohio School Plan

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

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

A. Basis of Presentation

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

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. These statements distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The School District does not have any business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible.

Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the School District's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements

During the fiscal year, the School District segregates transactions related to certain School District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the School District at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

B. Fund Accounting

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the School District are classified as governmental.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Governmental Funds

The School District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the School District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Facility Project – This fund is used to account for transfers from the General Fund that will be used for a facility project including an Ag education suite, gymnasium, locker rooms and auditorium.

The other governmental funds of the School District account for grants and other resources whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

C. Basis of Accounting

The School District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the School District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the School District are described in the appropriate section in this note.

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

If the School District utilized the basis of accounting recognized as generally accepted, the fund financial statements for governmental funds would use the modified accrual basis of accounting. All government-wide financials would be presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

D. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the School District is pooled and invested. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Cash and Cash Equivalents" on the financial statements.

Investments of the School District's cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that were not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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

During fiscal year 2021, the School District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The School District measures their 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 and NAV per share that approximates fair value. There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given 24 hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$100 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$100 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2021 was \$53,043 which included \$20,368 assigned from other School District funds.

E. Inventory and Prepaid Items

On a cash basis of accounting, inventories of supplies and prepaid items are reported as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

F. Capital Assets

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

G. Interfund Receivables/Payables

The School District reports advances in and advances out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying financial statements.

H. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the School District's cash basis of accounting.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

I. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension/OPEB Plans

The School District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension/OPEB plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 7 and 8, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

J. Long-Term Obligations

The School District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset when entering into a capital lease is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor capital outlay expenditure are reported at inception. Lease payments are reported when paid.

K. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments or laws through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for music and athletic programs, and federal and state grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes. The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available. The School District did not have any assets restricted by enabling legislation at June 30, 2021.

L. Fund Balance

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

Non-spendable – The non-spendable classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The 'not in spendable form' includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of interfund loans.

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

Committed – The committed classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by formal action (resolution) of the Board of Education. The committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Education removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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 classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds, other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Education.

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 used only to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed or assigned.

The School District first applies restricted resources when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within restricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned and unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amount in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used.

M. Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchasing funds. Non-exchange flows of cash from one fund to another fund are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

N. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

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

O. Budgetary Process

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

The appropriations resolution is the Board’s authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of budgetary control is at the fund level for all funds, except the General Fund. The School District legal level of control for the general fund is the object level. The Treasurer makes budgetary allocations at the function level within all funds.

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

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

Note 3 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting

While the School District is reporting financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance on the cash basis, the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budget Basis presented for the General Fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The differences between the budgetary basis and cash basis are as follows:

- 1.) Outstanding year-end encumbrances are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary) rather than as assigned fund balance (cash basis) and
- 2.) Perspective differences resulting from differences in fund structure.

Cash Basis	(\$158,574)
Encumbrances	(85,538)
Perspective Differences **	<u>12,817</u>
Budgetary Basis	<u><u>(\$231,295)</u></u>

**As part of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54 “Fund Balance Reporting”, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the General Fund on a cash basis. This includes the public-school support funds, uniform school supplies funds, tournament funds, termination benefits funds, and the underground storage tank fund.

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments

Monies held by the School District are classified by State statute into three categories.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments (continued)

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

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

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Interim monies held by the School District can 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 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;
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 only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments (continued)

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

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 School District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of securities representing the investment to the treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. The School District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to and deposited with either the School District or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of deposits being secured (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 the State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of the State. For 2021, certain School District financial institutions did not participate in the OPCS while certain other financial institutions did participate in the OPCS. Those financial institutions that did participate were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 102 percent through the OPCS.

At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$7,601,189 and the bank balance was \$7,946,281. \$6,914,073 of the School District's deposits was insured by federal depository insurance. As of June 30, 2021, \$1,032,208 of the School District's bank balance was exposed to custodial risk because it was uninsured and collateralized.

Investments

Investments are reported at fair value. The School District 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 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. As of June 30, 2021, the School District's investment included \$3,034,008 in STAR Ohio (Level 1).

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments (continued)

Interest Rate Risk – Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The Ohio Revised Code generally limits security purchases to those that mature within five years of the settlement date. The School District’s investment policy addresses interest rate risk by requiring that the School District’s investment portfolio be structured so that securities mature to meet cash requirements of ongoing operations.

Credit Risk – State law limits investments in commercial paper and corporate bonds to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The School District’s policy allows the Treasurer to invest in those investments authorized by the Ohio Revised Code, and places additional limitations with amounts authorized for investment in certain types.

STAR Ohio is an investment pool operated by the Ohio State Treasurer. It is unclassified since it is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. Ohio law requires STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The weighted average maturity of the portfolio held by STAR Ohio as of June 30, 2021, is 54.4 days and carries a rating of AAAM by Standard and Poor’s.

Custodial Credit Risk - Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirements of ORC 135.14(M)(2) which states, “Payment for investments shall be made only upon the delivery of securities representing such investments to the treasurer, investing authority, or qualified trustee. If the securities transferred are not represented by a certificate, payment shall be made only upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian by the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee.” However, all of the School District’s investments are either insured and registered in the name of the School District, or at least registered in the name of the school district.

Concentration of Credit Risk - The School District places no limits on the amount the School District may invest in any one issuer; however, State statute limits investments in commercial paper and bankers’ acceptances to 25 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time. 100 percent of the School District’s investments are in STAR Ohio.

Note 5 - Property Taxes

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar 2021 represents collections of calendar year 2020 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2021 were levied after April 1, 2020, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2020, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 5 - Property Taxes (continued)

If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar 2021 represents collections of calendar year 2020 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2021 became a lien December 31, 2019, were levied after April 1, 2020 and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Mercer, Auglaize and Darke Counties. The County Auditors periodically advance to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2021, are available to finance fiscal year 2021 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent. The assessed values upon which fiscal year 2021 taxes were collected are:

	2020 Second- Half Collections		2021 First- Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/Residential and Other Real Estate	\$122,680,100	98.00%	\$129,554,210	98.09%
Public Utility Personal	2,507,150	2.00%	2,520,470	1.91%
Total	<u>\$125,187,250</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$132,074,680</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Tax Rate per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation	\$32.70		\$31.60	

Note 6 - Risk Management

A. Property and Liability

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2021, Ohio School Plan provided the School District's insurance. Coverage provided includes:

Building and Business Personal	
Property Coverage	\$39,392,885
Automobile Liability	5,000,000
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorists	1,000,000
General Liability:	
Each Occurrence	5,000,000
General Aggregate Limit	7,000,000
Violence Coverage	1,000,000
Pollution	1,000,000
Cyber	1,000,000

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 6 - Risk Management (continued)

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

B. Workers' Compensation

The School District participates in the Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 12). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund." This "equity pooling" arrangement ensures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. Sedgwick provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

C. Health Care Benefits

For fiscal year 2021, the School District participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, an insurance purchasing pool (Note 12). The intent of the pool is to achieve the benefit of reduced health insurance premiums for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the pool. The health insurance experience of the participating school districts is calculated and a premium rate is applied to all school districts in the pool. Each participant pays its health insurance premiums to Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council. Participation in the pool is limited to school districts that can meet the pool's selection criteria.

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability

The net pension/OPEB liability is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The Statewide retirement systems provide both pension benefits and other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

Pensions and OPEB are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions/OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period.

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

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

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires 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). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the 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/OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require the systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 8 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension is in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it will be indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5 percent and with a floor of 0 percent. In 2020, the Board of Trustees approved a 0.5 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2021

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. For fiscal year 2021, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$149,357 for fiscal year 2021.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five year of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

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

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

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

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

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The fiscal year 2021 employer and employee contribution rate of 14 percent was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2021, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$601,497 fiscal year 2021.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

Net Pension Liability

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

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Prior Measurement Date	0.0286973%	0.03430483%	
Current Measurement Date	<u>0.0302938%</u>	<u>0.03402014%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.0015965%</u>	<u>-0.00028469%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$2,003,696	\$8,231,663	\$10,235,359

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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

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

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

Inflation	3.00 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.5 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

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 were based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2020 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015 adopted by the Board on April 21, 2016.

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

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

Discount Rate The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.5 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.5 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.5 percent, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.5 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.5 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.5%)	Current Discount Rate (7.5%)	1% Increase (8.5%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$2,744,819	\$2,003,696	\$1,381,880

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the July 1, 2020, actuarial valuation.

Inflation	2.50 percent
Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.45 percent
Payroll Increases	3 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.0 percent, effective July 1, 2017

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2020, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

STRS' 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:

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

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

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

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2020. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2020.

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

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$11,720,456	\$8,231,663	\$5,275,203

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans

The net OPEB liability is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework.

See Note 7 for a description of the net OPEB liability.

A. School Employees Retirement System

Health Care Plan Description - The School District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2021, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2021, this amount was \$23,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2021, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$20,164.

The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$20,164 for fiscal year 2021.

B. State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 8 – 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. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2020, and the total OPEB asset/liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Prior Measurement Date	0.0293875%	0.03430483%	
Current Measurement Date	0.0313495%	0.03402014%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0019620%	-0.00028469%	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB			
Liability (Asset)	\$681,327	(\$597,903)	\$83,424

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total OPEB liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

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

Inflation	3.00 percent
Wage Increases	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	2.45 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.13 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	
Measurement Date	2.63 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.22 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	
Medicare	5.25 to 4.75 percent
Pre-Medicare	7.00 to 4.75 percent

The mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Morality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates, and 110 percent of female rates. RP-2000 Disable 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 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

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

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

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (1.63%) and higher (3.63%) than the current discount rate (2.63%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.75%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.75%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (1.63%)	Current Discount Rate (2.63%)	1% Increase (3.63%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$833,928	\$681,327	\$560,010

Marion Local School District
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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
	6.00% decreasing to 3.75%	7.00% decreasing to 4.75%	8.00% decreasing to 5.75%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$536,493	\$681,327	\$875,007

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the July 1, 2020, actuarial valuation.

Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent
Discount Rate of Return	7.45 percent
Health Care Cost Trends	
Medical	
Pre-Medicare	5.00 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	6.69 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug	
Pre-Medicare	6.50 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	11.87 initial, 4 percent ultimate

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

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2020, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

Since the prior measurement date, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 premium based on June 30, 2020 enrollment distribution. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984 percent to 2.055 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1 percent for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 8 – 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:

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

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

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2020. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.45 percent was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2020.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2020, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45 percent, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.45 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.45 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$520,215)	(\$597,903)	(\$663,819)
	1% Decrease In Trend Rate	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase in Trend Rate
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$659,728)	(\$597,903)	(\$522,592)

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 9 – Debt

The changes in the School District’s long-term obligations during fiscal year 2021 were as follows:

	Amount Outstanding 6/30/2020	Additions	Deletions	Amount Outstanding 6/30/2021	Amount Due in One Year
Governmental Activities					
2006 Refunding Bonds:					
Serial and Term Bonds	4-4.13%	\$285,000	(\$90,000)	\$195,000	\$95,000

2006 Refunding Bonds – On August 29, 2006, the School District refinanced \$2,664,996 in prior bond issues; \$730,000 of the 2000 issue was refinanced and \$1,934,996 of the 1997 issue was refinanced. The bond refunding bonds includes serial, term, and capital appreciation bonds in the amount of \$1,695,000, \$620,000 and \$349,995, respectively. The bonds are being retired from the Bond Retirement debt service fund.

The term bonds maturing on or after December 1, 2022, are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption price equal to 100 percent of the principal amount redeemed plus accrued interest to the date of redemption on December 1, 2020 and each December 1 thereafter. Unless previously redeemed, the remaining principal amount of bonds (\$100,000) is to be paid at stated maturity on December 1, 2022.

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$11,876,162 the un-voted debt margin was \$132,075 and the energy conservation debt margin was \$1,188,672 at June 30, 2021.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2021, are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	General Obligation Bonds		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2022	\$95,000	\$6,084	\$101,084
2023	100,000	2,875	102,875
Grand Total	\$195,000	\$8,959	\$203,959

Note 10 – Fund Balance

Fund balance is classified as non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in governmental funds.

The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 10 – Fund Balance (continued)

Fund Balance	General	Facility Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Restricted:				
Classroom Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 431,761	\$ 431,761
Athletics	-	-	298,768	298,768
Grants	-	-	94,758	94,758
Food Service	-	-	192,217	192,217
Debt Service	-	-	184,445	184,445
Capital Improvements	-	-	890,681	890,681
Student Activities	-	-	124,795	124,795
Total Restricted	-	-	2,217,425	2,217,425
Committed to:				
Capital Improvements	-	1,834,207	-	1,834,207
Underground Storage Tank	3,143	-	-	3,143
Termination Benefits	96,072	-	-	96,072
Total Committed	99,215	1,834,207	-	1,933,422
Assigned for:				
Unpaid Obligations	85,538	-	-	85,538
FY 22 Appropriations	109,300	-	-	109,300
Public School Support	66,177	-	-	66,177
Uniform School Supplies	48,507	-	-	48,507
Total Assigned	309,522	-	-	309,522
Unassigned	6,174,828	-	-	6,174,828
Total Fund Balance	\$ 6,583,565	\$ 1,834,207	\$ 2,217,425	\$ 10,635,197

Note 11 – Set-Aside Requirements

The School District is required by State statute to annually set aside, in the General Fund, an amount based on a statutory formula for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the fiscal year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. These amounts must be carried forward and used for the same purposes in future years. The following cash basis information identifies the changes in the capital improvements set-aside balance during fiscal year 2021.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 11 – Set-Aside Requirements (continued)

	Capital Improvements
Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$0
Current Year Set-aside Requirement	151,003
Offsets	
Proceeds from tax levy for maintenance of capital facilities	(73,027)
Tax levy for permanent improvements	(77,976)
Total	\$0
Balance Carried Forward to Fiscal Year 2021	\$0
Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2021	\$0

Note 12 - Jointly Governed Organizations, Insurance Purchasing Pools and Related Organization

A. Jointly Governed Organizations

Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative - The Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (NOACSC) is a jointly governed organization among school districts in Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Seneca, Van Wert, Wood and Wyandot counties. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these school supports NOACSC based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized.

The NOACSC Assembly consists of a representative from each participating school district and the superintendent from the fiscal agent. The Board of Directors consists of two Assembly members from Hancock, Paulding, Allen, Mercer, Putnam and Van Wert Counties and two at large members. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the Board. During fiscal year 2021, the School District contributed \$36,040 to NOACSC. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Ben Thaxton, who serves as Director, at 4277 East Road, Lima, OH 45807.

State Support Team Region 6 – The State Support Team Region 6 (“SST6”) is a special educational service center, which selects its own board, adopts its own budget and receives direct Federal and State grants for its operations. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of initiating, expanding, and improving special education programs and services for children with disabilities and their parents. A board of 52 members made up of the 50 superintendents of the participating school districts, one non-public school, and Wright State University, whose terms rotate every year, governs the SST6.

The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Becky Rees, Director, at 1045 Dearbaugh, Suite #1, Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council - The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of 240 school districts/organizations in 37 counties in Ohio and 2 in Kentucky. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 12 - Jointly Governed Organizations, Insurance Purchasing Pools and Related Organization

(continued)

any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC shall forfeit its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One-year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group.

During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are made from the general fund. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

B. Insurance Purchasing Pools

Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan - The School District participates in a group-rating plan for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (Plan) was established through the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) as an insurance purchasing pool. A five member OASBO Board of Directors conducts the Plan's business and affairs. Each year, the participants pay an enrollment fee to the Plan to cover the costs of administering the program.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council - The district participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC), an insurance purchasing pool, for medical insurance. The SOEPC was established under Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. SOEPC is an incorporated nonprofit association of its members which enables the participants to provide for a formalized joint insurance purchasing program for maintaining adequate insurance protection and provides risk management programs and other administrative services. SOEPC's business and affairs are conducted by a board consisting of seven school administrators, who are elected by the membership each year.

In addition, the cooperative hires attorneys, auditors and actuaries to assist in running the day-to-day program. Gallagher is responsible for the insurance program administration. JWF Specialty Company is responsible for processing claims between SOEPC and its members. Payments to SOEPC are made from the General Fund. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

Ohio School Plan (Plan) - The School District participates in the Ohio School Plan, an insurance purchasing pool established under Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Plan is an unincorporated nonprofit association of its members, which enables the participants to provide for a formalized joint insurance purchasing program for maintaining adequate insurance protection, and provides risk management programs and other administrative services. A board composed of officials from various member entities conducts the Plan's business and affairs. The Hylant Administrative Services, LLC is the Plan's administrator and is responsible for processing claims. Financial information can be obtained from Ohio School Plan, c/o Hylant Administrative Services, LLC 811 Madison Avenue, P.O. Box 2083, Toledo, Ohio 43606-2083.

Marion Local School District
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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 13 - Interfund Balances

During fiscal year 2021, the School District advanced \$60,900 to non-major special revenue funds from the General Fund. These advances were necessary due to the timing of the receipt of grants and were repaid during fiscal year 2021.

During fiscal year 2021, the School District transferred \$200,000 and \$500,000 from the General Fund to the Permanent Improvement and Facility Project capital projects funds, respectively. The transfer was to provide for capital facilities. In addition, the General Fund transferred \$205,000 to the Athletic fund to support the track.

Also, during 2021, the School District transferred \$3,931 to the Terminations Benefits account from the General Fund. The transfer will set aside money for termination benefits that are anticipated due to changes in the retirement guidelines. The Termination Benefits fund and General Fund have been combined in this report.

Note 14 – Contractual Commitments

As of June 30, 2021, the School District had the following outstanding contractual commitments:

Vendor	Purchase Order Amount	Disbursed	Remaining Amount
McGraw Hill Education	\$ 46,793	\$ 613	\$ 46,180
Regal Plumbing & Heating Co.	267,965	243,117	24,848
H.A. Dorsten, Inc.	1,668,380	555,182	1,113,198
Vasco Asphalt Company, Inc.	217,979	23,032	194,947

Note 15 – Compliance

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03 (B), requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the School District prepared its financial statements on a cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying financial statements omit assets, liabilities, Net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The School District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the School District.

Note 16 – Contingent Liabilities

A. Grants

The School District receives financial assistance from federal and State agencies in the form of grants. Disbursing grant funds generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2021.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 16 – Contingent Liabilities (continued)

B. Litigation

There are currently no matters in litigation with the School District as defendant.

C. Foundation Funding

In fiscal year 2021, School District foundation funding was based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, ODE has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2021 Foundation. The adjustments were not significant to the School District.

D. COVID-19 Pandemic

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June of 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During fiscal year 2021, the school district received Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding. Additional funding has been made available through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, passed by Congress on December 21, 2020 and/or the American Rescue Plan Act, passed by Congress on March 11, 2021.

During fiscal year 2021, the School District received Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding. The School District received \$92,826 for COVID-19.

Note 17 – Tax Abatements

Pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 77, Tax Abatement Disclosures, the County is required to disclose certain information about tax abatements as defined in the Statement. For purposes of GASB Statement 77, a tax abatement is a reduction in tax revenues that results from an agreement between one or more governments and an individual or entity in which (a) one or more governments promise to forgo tax revenues to which they are otherwise entitled and (b) the individual or entity promises to take a specific action after the agreement has been entered into that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the local government or its citizens.

Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Program

The Ohio Community Reinvestment Area program is an economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real property tax exemptions for property owners who renovate existing or construct new buildings. Community Reinvestment Areas (CRA) are areas of land in which property owners can receive tax incentives for investing in real property improvements. In order to use the Community Reinvestment program, a city, village, or county petitions to the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) for confirmation of a geographical area in which investment in housing has traditionally been discouraged. Once the area is confirmed by the Director of ODSA, communities may offer real property tax exemptions to taxpayers that invest in that area.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 17 – Tax Abatements (continued)

The type of development is determined by specifying the eligibility of residential, commercial and/or industrial projects. The local governments negotiate property tax exemptions on new property tax from investment for up to one hundred percent for up to fifteen years based on the amount of investments made to renovate or construct buildings within a CRA. Taxes are abated as the increase in assessed value resulting from the investment is not included (or included at a lesser amount) in the assessed value used for property tax computation for the taxpayer. For commercial projects, job retention and/or creation is also required. Agreements must be in place before the project begins. Provisions for recapturing property tax exemptions, which can be used at the discretions of the local governments, are pursuant to ORC Section 9.66(C)(1) and 9.66(C)(2).

Marion Township entered into agreements with Ohio Recycling Inc. The property taxes foregone by the School District for the abatement program for the year ended December 31, 2020, was \$53,373.

Note 18 - Change in Accounting Principles and Restatement of Fund Balances and Net Position

For fiscal year 2021, the School District implemented GASB Statement No. 90, *Majority Equity Interests* and (GASB) Implementation Guide No. 2019-1, *Implementation Guidance Update*. The implementation of these statements had no effect on School District’s financial statements.

Also, for fiscal year 2021, the School District implemented GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, and related guidance from (GASB) Implementation Guide No. 2019-2, *Fiduciary Activities*. GASB Statement No. 84 established 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 School District will no longer be reporting agency funds. The School District reviewed its agency funds and they have been reclassified as governmental funds. These fund reclassifications resulted in the restatement of the School District’s financial statements.

The implementation of GASB Statement No. 84 had the following effect on fund balance as of June 30, 2020:

	Governmental Funds			Total
	General	Facility	Non Major	
Fund Balances, June 30, 2020	\$6,742,139	\$2,000,000	\$1,810,924	\$10,553,063
Adjustments:				
GASB 84	0	0	148,602	148,602
Restated Fund Balances, June 30, 2020	\$6,742,139	\$2,000,000	\$1,959,526	\$10,701,665

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

Note 18 - Change in Accounting Principles and Restatement of Fund Balances and Net Position
(continued)

The implementation of GASB Statement No. 84 had the following effect on net position as of June 30, 2020:

	Governmental Activities
Net Position June 30, 2020	\$10,553,063
Adjustments:	
GASB 84	148,602
Restated Net Position June 30, 2020	\$10,701,665

Note 19 – Subsequent Event

For fiscal year 2022, School District foundation funding received from the state of Ohio will be funded using a direct funding model. Under this new model, community school, STEM school, scholarship and open enrollment funding will be directly funded by the State of Ohio to the respective educating schools. For fiscal year 2021 and prior, the amounts related to students who were residents of the School District were funded to the School District who, in turn, made the payment to the educating school. For fiscal year 2021, the School District reported \$16,121 in revenue and expenditures/expense related to these programs. This new funding system calculates a unique base cost and a unique “per-pupil local capacity amount” for each School District. The School District’s state core foundation funding is then calculated. Any change in funding will be subject to a phase in percentage of 16.67 percent for fiscal year 2022 and 33.33 percent for fiscal year 2023.

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Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
June 30, 2020

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$ 10,553,063</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u><u>\$ 10,553,063</u></u>
Net Position	
Restricted for:	
Capital Projects	\$ 843,644
Debt Service	236,173
Other Purposes	731,107
Unrestricted	<u>8,742,139</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u><u>\$ 10,553,063</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Activities - Cash Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

	Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest	Total Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities:				
Instruction				
Regular	\$ 4,306,142	\$ 503,032	\$ 24,417	\$ (3,778,693)
Special	1,275,240	-	494,597	(780,643)
Vocational	118,457	-	64,248	(54,209)
Other	132,373	-	10,258	(122,115)
Support Services				
Pupil	334,290	-	29,329	(304,961)
Instructional Staff	334,217	-	-	(334,217)
Board of Education	32,020	-	-	(32,020)
Administration	699,547	36,928	187	(662,432)
Fiscal	293,571	-	-	(293,571)
Business	5,730	-	-	(5,730)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	709,451	7,291	3,755	(698,405)
Pupil Transportation	370,601	2,500	19,459	(348,642)
Central	1,751	-	-	(1,751)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	318,228	238,025	43,578	(36,625)
Extracurricular Activities	481,729	207,299	563	(273,867)
Capital Outlay	266,680	-	-	(266,680)
Debt Service	297,356	-	-	(297,356)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 9,977,383	\$ 995,075	\$ 690,391	(8,291,917)

General Receipts

Property Taxes Levied for:

General Purposes	3,310,293
Capital Outlay	162,680
Debt Service	141,041
Classroom Facilities & Maintenance	36,387
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs	5,020,385
Gifts and Donations not Restricted to Specific Programs	2,200
Interest	160,856
Miscellaneous	51,698
<i>Total General Receipts</i>	<u>8,885,540</u>

Change in Net Position 593,623

Net Position Beginning of Year 9,959,440

Net Position End of Year \$ 10,553,063

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Cash Basis Assets and Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2020

	General Fund	Facility Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 6,742,139	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,810,924	\$ 10,553,063
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$ 6,742,139</u>	<u>\$ 2,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,810,924</u>	<u>\$ 10,553,063</u>
 Fund Balances				
Restricted	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 1,810,924	\$ 1,810,924
Committed	129,623	2,000,000	0	2,129,623
Assigned	213,772	0	0	213,772
Unassigned	6,398,744	0	0	6,398,744
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$ 6,742,139</u>	<u>\$ 2,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,810,924</u>	<u>\$ 10,553,063</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

	General Fund	Facility Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$ 3,310,293	\$ 0	\$ 340,108	\$ 3,650,401
Intergovernmental	5,312,999	-	396,661	5,709,660
Interest	161,043	-	929	161,972
Tuition and Fees	497,401	-	-	497,401
Rent	7,291	-	-	7,291
Extracurricular Activities	48,964	-	194,765	243,729
Gifts and Donations	2,200	-	-	2,200
Charges for Services	-	-	237,689	237,689
Miscellaneous	57,827	-	336	58,163
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>9,398,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,170,488</u>	<u>10,568,506</u>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction				
Regular	4,283,184	-	22,958	4,306,142
Special	1,067,021	-	208,219	1,275,240
Vocational	113,879	-	4,578	118,457
Other	122,115	-	10,258	132,373
Support Services				
Pupil	303,506	-	30,784	334,290
Instructional Staff	334,217	-	-	334,217
Board of Education	32,020	-	-	32,020
Administration	699,547	-	-	699,547
Fiscal	285,932	-	7,639	293,571
Business	5,730	-	-	5,730
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	682,070	-	27,381	709,451
Pupil Transportation	370,601	-	-	370,601
Central	1,751	-	-	1,751
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	3,017	-	315,211	318,228
Extracurricular Activities	300,699	-	181,030	481,729
Capital Outlay	40,910	-	225,770	266,680
Debt Service				
Principal Retirement	-	-	280,000	280,000
Interest	-	-	17,356	17,356
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>8,646,199</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,331,184</u>	<u>9,977,383</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over / (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>751,819</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(160,696)</u>	<u>591,123</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Operating Transfers - In	23,627	-	200,000	223,627
Advances - In	29,000	-	29,000	58,000
Operating Transfers - Out	(223,627)	-	-	(223,627)
Advances - Out	(29,000)	-	(29,000)	(58,000)
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	2,500	-	-	2,500
<i>Total Other Financing (Uses) Sources</i>	<u>(197,500)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>2,500</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	554,319	-	39,304	593,623
<i>Fund Balances Beginning</i>	<u>6,187,820</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>	<u>1,771,620</u>	<u>9,959,440</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 6,742,139</u>	<u>\$ 2,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,810,924</u>	<u>\$ 10,553,063</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis
General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget Over (Under)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$ 3,189,342	\$ 3,310,294	\$ 3,310,293	\$ (1)
Intergovernmental	5,567,271	5,476,166	5,312,999	(163,167)
Interest	188,086	174,300	160,856	(13,444)
Tuition and Fees	461,131	463,519	464,121	602
Rent	8,250	7,000	7,291	291
Extracurricular Activities	18,410	18,165	18,165	-
Gifts and Donations	2,200	2,200	2,200	-
Miscellaneous	44,994	28,000	27,100	(900)
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>9,479,684</u>	<u>9,479,644</u>	<u>9,303,025</u>	<u>(176,619)</u>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction				
Regular	4,456,999	4,421,965	4,258,866	163,099
Special	1,116,361	1,141,729	1,067,782	73,947
Vocational	119,740	122,090	113,879	8,211
Other	118,000	126,500	122,115	4,385
Support Services				
Pupil	342,825	350,870	303,506	47,364
Instructional Staff	315,575	354,547	342,259	12,288
Board of Education	46,054	47,054	34,520	12,534
Administration	698,042	701,187	670,794	30,393
Fiscal	305,085	305,832	288,967	16,865
Business	6,700	6,700	5,730	970
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	754,191	754,704	686,270	68,434
Pupil Transportation	500,660	596,730	461,206	135,524
Central	7,500	2,500	1,751	749
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	3,070	3,070	3,017	53
Extracurricular Activities	340,810	334,945	300,699	34,246
Capital Outlay	305,834	163,124	40,910	122,214
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>9,437,446</u>	<u>9,433,547</u>	<u>8,702,271</u>	<u>731,276</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>42,238</u>	<u>46,097</u>	<u>600,754</u>	<u>554,657</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Proceeds of Sale of Capital Assets	350	2,500	2,500	-
Advances - In	35,000	29,000	29,000	-
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	12,500	16,390	24,598	8,208
Operating Transfers - Out	(30,000)	(223,627)	(223,627)	-
Advances - Out	(31,000)	(29,000)	(29,000)	-
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>(13,150)</u>	<u>(204,737)</u>	<u>(196,529)</u>	<u>8,208</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	29,088	(158,640)	404,225	562,865
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	5,852,829	5,852,829	5,852,829	-
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	141,709	141,709	141,709	-
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 6,023,626</u>	<u>\$ 5,835,898</u>	<u>\$ 6,398,763</u>	<u>\$ 562,865</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis
Fiduciary Funds
June 30, 2020

	<u>Agency</u>
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$148,602</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u><u>\$148,602</u></u>
Liabilities	
Due to Students	<u>\$148,602</u>
Total Liabilities	<u><u>\$148,602</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 1 – Description of the School District and Reporting Entity

Marion Local School District (the "School District") is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The School District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government and provides educational services as authorized by State and federal agencies. The legislative power of the School District is vested in the Board of Education, consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. The School District is located in Mercer, Auglaize and Darke counties.

The reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading.

A. Primary Government

The primary government of the School District consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For Marion Local School District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the School District.

B. Component Units

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. The School District is also financially accountable for any organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. Component units also include legally separate, tax-exempt entities whose resources are for the direct benefit of the School District, are accessible to the School District and are significant in amount to the School District. The School District does not have any component units.

The School District participates in three jointly governed organizations and three insurance purchasing pools. These organizations are discussed in Note 13 to the basic financial statements. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative
State Support Team Region 6
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

Insurance Purchasing Pools:

Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group
Rating Plan
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council
Ohio School Plan

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

A. Basis of Presentation

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

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. These statements distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The School District does not have any business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible.

Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the School District's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements

During the fiscal year, the School District segregates transactions related to certain School District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the School District at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

B. Fund Accounting

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the School District are divided as governmental or fiduciary.

Governmental Funds

The School District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund is used to account for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the School District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Facility Project – This fund is used to account for transfers from the General Fund that will be used for a facility project including an Ag education suite, gymnasium, locker rooms and auditorium.

The other governmental funds of the School District account for grants and other resources whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

Fiduciary Funds

The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds, and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the School District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are not available to support the School District's own programs. Agency funds are custodial in nature. The School District only maintains agency funds that account for the Section 125 plan, OHSAA Tournament Funds and those student activity programs that have student participation in the activities and have students involved in the management of the program. This fund typically includes those student activities which consist of a student body, student president, student treasurer, and faculty advisor.

C. Basis of Accounting

The School District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the School District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the School District are described in the appropriate section in this note. As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

If the School District utilized the basis of accounting recognized as generally accepted, the fund financial statements for governmental funds would use the modified accrual basis of accounting. All government-wide financials would be presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

D. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the School District is pooled and invested. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Interest in the pool is presented as “Cash and Cash Equivalents” on the financial statements.

Investments of the School District’s cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that were not purchased from the pool are reported as investments. Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts (contra revenue), respectively.

During fiscal year 2020, the School District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer’s Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, “Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants.” The School District measures their 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 and NAV per share that approximates fair value.

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

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2020 was \$161,043 which included \$62,492 assigned from other School District funds.

E. Inventory and Prepaid Items

On a cash basis of accounting, inventories of supplies and prepaid items are reported as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

F. Capital Assets

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

G. Interfund Receivables/Payables

The School District reports advances in and advances out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying financial statements.

H. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the School District's cash basis of accounting.

I. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension/OPEB Plans

The School District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension/OPEB plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 7 and 8, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

J. Long-Term Obligations

The School District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset when entering into a capital lease is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor capital outlay expenditure are reported at inception. Lease payments are reported when paid.

K. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments or laws through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for music and athletic programs, and federal and state grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes. The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available. The School District did not have any assets restricted by enabling legislation at June 30, 2020.

L. Fund Balance

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

Non-spendable – The non-spendable classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The 'not in spendable form' includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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

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

Assigned – Amounts in the assigned classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds, other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Education.

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 used only to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed or assigned.

The School District first applies restricted resources when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned and unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amount in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used.

M. Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchasing funds. Non-exchange flows of cash from one fund to another fund are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

N. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

O. Budgetary Process

All funds, except agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate.

The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of budgetary control is at the fund level for all funds, except the General Fund. The School District legal level of control for the general fund is the object level. The Treasurer makes budgetary allocations at the function level within all funds.

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

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

Note 3 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting

While the School District is reporting financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance on the cash basis, the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budget Basis presented for the General Fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The differences between the budgetary basis and cash basis are as follows:

- 1.) Outstanding year-end encumbrances are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary) rather than as assigned fund balance (cash basis) and
- 2.) Perspective differences resulting from differences in fund structure.

Cash Basis	\$554,319
Encumbrances	(114,616)
Perspective Differences**	<u>(35,478)</u>
Budgetary Basis	<u>\$404,225</u>

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 3 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting (continued)

**As part of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54 “Fund Balance Reporting”, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the General Fund on a cash basis. This includes the public school support funds, uniform school supplies funds, termination benefits funds, and the underground storage tank fund.

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments

Monies held by the School District are classified by State statute into three categories.

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

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

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

Interim monies held by the School District can 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 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;
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;

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments (continued)

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 only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).
8. Certain bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

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 School District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of securities representing the investment to the treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. The School District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited with either the School District or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of deposits being secured; or 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 the State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of the State. For 2020, certain School District financial institutions did not participate in the OPCS while certain other financial institutions did participate in the OPCS. Those financial institutions that did participate were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 102 percent through the OPCS.

At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$7,672,489 and the bank balance was \$8,005,786. \$710,165 of the School District's deposits was insured by federal depository insurance. As of June 30, 2020, \$7,295,621 of the School District's bank balance was exposed to custodial risk because it was uninsured and collateralized.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 4 - Deposits and Investments (continued)

Investments

Investments are reported at fair value. The School District 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. As of June 30, 2020, the School District's investment included \$3,029,178 in STAR Ohio (Level 1).

Interest Rate Risk – Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The Ohio Revised Code generally limits security purchases to those that mature within five years of the settlement date. The School District's investment policy addresses interest rate risk by requiring that the School District's investment portfolio be structured so that securities mature to meet cash requirements of ongoing operations.

Credit Risk – State law limits investments in commercial paper and corporate bonds to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The School District's policy allows the Treasurer to invest in those investments authorized by the Ohio Revised Code, and places additional limitations with amounts authorized for investment in certain types.

STAR Ohio is an investment pool operated by the Ohio State Treasurer. It is unclassified since it is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. Ohio law requires STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The weighted average maturity of the portfolio held by STAR Ohio as of June 30, 2020, is 41.5 days and carries a rating of AAAM by Standard and Poor's.

Custodial Credit Risk - Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirements of ORC 135.14(M)(2) which states, "Payment for investments shall be made only upon the delivery of securities representing such investments to the treasurer, investing authority, or qualified trustee. If the securities transferred are not represented by a certificate, payment shall be made only upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian by the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee." However, all of the School District's investments are either insured and registered in the name of the School District, or at least registered in the name of the school district.

Concentration of Credit Risk - The School District places no limits on the amount the School District may invest in any one issuer; however, State statute limits investments in commercial paper and bankers' acceptances to 25 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time. 100 percent of the School District's investments are in STAR Ohio.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 5 - Property Taxes

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar 2020 represents collections of calendar year 2019 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2020 were levied after April 1, 2019, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2019, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar 2020 represents collections of calendar year 2019 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2020 became a lien December 31, 2018, were levied after April 1, 2019 and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Mercer, Auglaize and Darke Counties. The County Auditors periodically advance to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2020, are available to finance fiscal year 2020 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

The assessed values upon which fiscal year 2020 taxes were collected are:

	2019 Second- Half Collections		2020 First- Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/Residential and Other Real Estate	\$120,057,370	98.04%	\$122,680,100	98.00%
Public Utility Personal	2,403,870	1.96%	2,507,150	2.00%
Total	<u>\$122,461,240</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$125,187,250</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Tax Rate per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation	\$34.20		\$32.70	

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 6 - Risk Management

A. Property and Liability

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2020, Ohio School Plan provided the School District's insurance. Coverage provided include:

Building and Business Personal	
Property Coverage	\$38,620,477
Automobile Liability	5,000,000
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorists	1,000,000
General Liability:	
Each Occurrence	5,000,000
General Aggregate Limit	7,000,000
Violence Coverage	1,000,000
Pollution	1,000,000
Cyber	1,000,000

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

B. Workers' Compensation

The School District participates in the Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 13). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund." This "equity pooling" arrangement ensures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. Sedgwick provides the administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

C. Health Care Benefits

For fiscal year 2020, the School District participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, an insurance purchasing pool (Note 13). The intent of the pool is to achieve the benefit of reduced health insurance premiums for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the pool. The health insurance experience of the participating school districts is calculated and a premium rate is applied to all school districts in the pool. Each participant pays its health insurance premiums to Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council. Participation in the pool is limited to school districts that can meet the pool's selection criteria.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability

The net pension/OPEB liability is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The Statewide retirement systems provide both pension benefits and other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

Pensions and OPEB are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions/OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period.

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represents the School District’s proportionate share of each pension/OPEB plan’s collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension/OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position. The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

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

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires 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). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the 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/OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require the systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 8 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

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

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS’ Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System’s funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14 percent; 0 percent was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The School District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$143,397 for fiscal year 2020.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients’ base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or age 55 with 27 years of service, or 30 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 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.47 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

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 that apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the employer rate was 14% and the member rate was 14% of covered payroll. The School District was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2020 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$574,798 fiscal year 2020.

Net Pension Liability

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

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Prior Measurement Date	0.0272581%	0.03376488%	
Current Measurement Date	<u>0.0286973%</u>	<u>0.03430483%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0014392%	0.000540%	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$1,717,010	\$7,586,307	\$9,303,317

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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

Marion Local School District
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For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension 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 pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2019, are presented below:

Inflation	3.00 percent
Future Salary Increase, including inflation	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.5 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

Mortality rates 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 were based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2019 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015 adopted by the Board on April 21, 2016.

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS’ Statement of Investment Policy. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major assets class are summarized in the following table:

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Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

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 7.5 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.5 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.5 percent, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.5 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.5 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.5%)	Current Discount Rate (7.5%)	1% Increase (8.5%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$2,406,058	\$1,717,010	\$1,139,102

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.

Inflation	2.50 percent
Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.45 percent
Payroll Increases	3 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.0 percent, effective July 1, 2017

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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the 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' 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	100.00 %	

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

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2019. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2019. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2019.

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Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans (continued)

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

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$11,086,543	\$7,586,307	\$4,623,178

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans

The net OPEB liability is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework.

See Note 7 for a description of the net OPEB liability.

A. School Employees Retirement System

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

Marion Local School District
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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2020, 0 percent of covered payroll was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2020, this amount was \$19,600. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer’s SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2020, the School District’s surcharge obligation was \$19,731.

The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$19,731 for fiscal year 2020.

B. State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description The School District participates in the cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit Health Plan administered by the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) 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 a portion of the monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements elimination date was postponed to 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.

Funding Policy Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS Ohio to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board 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. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The statutory employer rate is 14% and the statutory member rate is 14% of covered payroll effective July 1, 2016. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For the year ended June 30, 2020, no employer allocation was made to the post-employment health care fund.

Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Prior Measurement Date	0.0277376%	0.03376488%	
Current Measurement Date	0.0293875%	0.03430483%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0016499%	0.000540%	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB			
Liability (Asset)	\$739,034	(\$568,170)	\$170,864

Marion Local School District
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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total OPEB liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 74, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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

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

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

Inflation	3.00 percent
Wage Increases	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	3.13 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.62 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of investment expense, including price inflation	
Measurement Date	3.22 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.70 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	
Medicare	5.25-4.75 percent
Pre-Medicare	7.0-4.45 percent

The mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Morality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates, and 100 percent of female rates. RP-2000 Disable 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.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

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

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
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 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. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

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

Marion Local School District
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Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

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.

	1% Decrease (2.22%)	Current Discount Rate (3.22%)	1% Increase (4.22%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$897,047	\$739,034	\$613,395
	1% Decrease 6.00% decreasing to 3.75%	Current Discount Rate 7.00% decreasing to 4.75%	1% Increase 8.00% decreasing to 5.75%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$592,116	\$739,034	\$933,958

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.

Projected salary increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.0 percent, effective July 1, 2017
Discount Rate of Return	7.45 percent
Health Care Cost Trends	
Medical	
Pre-Medicare	5.87 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	4.93 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug	
Pre-Medicare	7.73 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	9.62 initial, 4 percent ultimate

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

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

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.

Since the prior measurement date, 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 percent to 1.984 percent 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 percent for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected 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	100.00 %	

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

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.45 percent 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 percent was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2019.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate The following tables represents the net OPEB liability as of June 30, 2019, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB 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. Also shown is the net OPEB liability as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

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Note 8 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans (continued)

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$484,820)	(\$568,170)	(\$638,248)
	1% Decrease In Trend Rate	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase in Trend Rate
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$644,279)	(\$568,170)	(\$474,956)

Note 9 – Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Clerical, Technical, and Maintenance and Operation employees are entitled to vacation ranging from 0 to 20 days upon hiring. Employees are permitted to carry over 3 days vacation leave earned for 90 days into the new-year. After the 90-day period, all vacation days are cleared and the allocation is reset. Administrators are allowed to be paid up to 5 days of unused vacation days at the end of their contract.

All employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Upon retirement, employees who meet the State requirement of 10 years of service will receive payment for twenty-five percent of accrued, but unused sick leave credit to a maximum of 56 days. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 225 days.

Note 10 – Debt

The changes in the School District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2020 were as follows:

	Amount Outstanding 6/30/2019	Additions	Deletions	Amount Outstanding 6/30/2020	Amount Due in One Year
Governmental Activities					
2006 Refunding Bonds:					
Serial and Term Bonds 4 - 4.13%	\$ 565,000	\$ -	\$ (280,000)	\$ 285,000	\$ 90,000

2006 Refunding Bonds – On August 29, 2006, the School District refinanced \$2,664,996 in prior bond issues; \$730,000 of the 2000 issue was refinanced and \$1,934,996 of the 1997 issue was refinanced. The bond refunding bonds includes serial, term, and capital appreciation bonds in the amount of \$1,695,000, \$620,000 and \$349,995, respectively. The bonds are being retired from the Bond Retirement debt service fund.

The term bonds maturing on or after December 1, 2022, are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption price equal to 100 percent of the principal amount redeemed plus accrued interest to the date of redemption on December 1, 2020 and each December 1 thereafter. Unless previously redeemed, the remaining principal amount of bonds (\$100,000) is to be paid at stated maturity on December 1, 2022.

Marion Local School District
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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 10 – Debt (continued)

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$11,218,026 the un-voted debt margin was \$125,187 and the energy conservation debt margin was \$1,126,685 at June 30, 2020.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2020, are as follows:

Fiscal Year	General Obligation Bonds		
<u>Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2021	\$90,000	\$9,900	\$99,900
2022	95,000	6,084	101,084
2023	100,000	2,875	102,875
Grand Total	<u>\$285,000</u>	<u>\$18,859</u>	<u>\$303,859</u>

Note 11 – Fund Balance

Fund balance is classified as non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in governmental funds.

The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

Marion Local School District
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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 11 – Fund Balance (continued)

Fund Balance	General	Facility Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Restricted:				
Classroom Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 508,718	\$ 508,718
Athletics	-	-	148,432	148,432
Grants	-	-	9,438	9,438
Food Service	-	-	64,519	64,519
Debt Service	-	-	236,173	236,173
Capital Improvements	-	-	843,644	843,644
State and Federal Grants	-	-	-	-
Total Restricted	-	-	1,810,924	1,810,924
Committed to:				
Capital Improvements	-	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
Underground Storage Tank	3,143	-	-	3,143
Termination Benefits	126,480	-	-	126,480
Total Committed	129,623	2,000,000	-	2,129,623
Assigned for:				
Unpaid Obligations	114,616	-	-	114,616
Public School Support	48,824	-	-	48,824
Uniform School Supplies	50,332	-	-	50,332
Total Assigned	213,772	-	-	213,772
Unassigned	6,398,744	-	-	6,398,744
Total Fund Balance	\$ 6,742,139	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,810,924	\$ 10,553,063

Note 12 – Set-Aside Requirements

The School District is required by State statute to annually set aside, in the General Fund, an amount based on a statutory formula for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the fiscal year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. These amounts must be carried forward and used for the same purposes in future years.

The following cash basis information identifies the changes in the capital improvements set-aside balance during fiscal year 2020.

Marion Local School District
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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 12 – Set-Aside Requirements (continued)

	Capital Improvements
Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2019	\$0
Current Year Set-aside Requirement	149,914
Offsets	
Proceeds from tax levy for maintenance of capital facilities	(70,694)
Tax levy for permanent improvements	(79,220)
Total	\$0
Balance Carried Forward to Fiscal Year 2021	\$0
Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2020	\$0

Note 13 - Jointly Governed Organizations, Insurance Purchasing Pools and Related Organization

A. Jointly Governed Organizations

Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative - The Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (NOACSC) is a jointly governed organization among school districts in Allen, Auglaize, Hancock, Hardin, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Seneca, Van Wert, Wood and Wyandot counties. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these school supports NOACSC based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized.

The NOACSC Assembly consists of a representative from each participating school district and the superintendent from the fiscal agent. The Board of Directors consists of two Assembly members from Hancock, Paulding, Allen, Mercer, Putnam and Van Wert Counties and two at large members. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the Board. During fiscal year 2020, the School District contributed \$35,248 to NOACSC. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Ben Thaxton, who serves as Director, at 4277 East Road, Lima, OH 45807.

State Support Team Region 6 – The State Support Team Region 6 (“SST6”) is a special educational service center, which selects its own board, adopts its own budget and receives direct Federal and State grants for its operations. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of initiating, expanding, and improving special education programs and services for children with disabilities and their parents. A board of 52 members made up of the 50 superintendents of the participating school districts, one non-public school, and Wright State University, whose terms rotate every year, governs the SST6.

The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Becky Rees, Director, at 1045 Dearbaugh, Suite #1, Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council - The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of 240 school districts/organizations in 37 counties in Ohio and 2 in Kentucky. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 13 - Jointly Governed Organizations, Insurance Purchasing Pools and Related Organization

(continued)

any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC shall forfeit its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One-year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group.

During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are made from the general fund. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

B. Insurance Purchasing Pools

Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan - The School District participates in a group-rating plan for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (Plan) was established through the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) as an insurance purchasing pool. A five member OASBO Board of Directors conducts the Plan's business and affairs. Each year, the participants pay an enrollment fee to the Plan to cover the costs of administering the program.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council - The district participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC), an insurance purchasing pool, for medical insurance. The SOEPC was established under Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. SOEPC is an incorporated nonprofit association of its members which enables the participants to provide for a formalized joint insurance purchasing program for maintaining adequate insurance protection and provides risk management programs and other administrative services. SOEPC's business and affairs are conducted by a board consisting of seven school administrators, who are elected by the membership each year.

In addition, the cooperative hires attorneys, auditors and actuaries to assist in running the day to day program. Gallagher is responsible for the insurance program administration. JWF Specialty Company is responsible for processing claims between SOEPC and its members. Payments to SOEPC are made from the General Fund. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

Ohio School Plan (Plan) - The School District participates in the Ohio School Plan, an insurance purchasing pool established under Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Plan is an unincorporated nonprofit association of its members, which enables the participants to provide for a formalized joint insurance purchasing program for maintaining adequate insurance protection, and provides risk management programs and other administrative services. A board composed of officials from various member entities conducts the Plan's business and affairs. The Hylant Administrative Services, LLC is the Plan's administrator and is responsible for processing claims. Financial information can be obtained from Ohio School Plan, c/o Hylant Administrative Services, LLC 811 Madison Avenue, P.O. Box 2083, Toledo, Ohio 43606-2083.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 14 – Interfund Balances

During fiscal year 2020, the School District advanced \$29,000 to non-major special revenue funds from the General Fund. These advances were necessary due to the timing of the receipt of grants and were repaid during fiscal year 2020.

During fiscal year 2020, the School District transferred \$200,000 from the General Fund to the Permanent Improvement capital projects fund. The transfer was to provide for capital facilities.

Also during 2020, the School District transferred \$23,627 to the Terminations Benefits account from the General Fund. The transfer will set aside money for termination benefits that are anticipated due to changes in the retirement guidelines. The Termination Benefits fund and General Fund have been combined in this report.

Note 15 – Contractual Commitments

As of June 30, 2020, the School District had the following outstanding contractual commitments:

Vendor	Purchase Order Amount	Disbursed	Remaining Amount
Snider Recreation, Inc.	\$247,997	\$199,268	\$48,729
Buehler Asphalt Paving, Inc.	109,470	0	109,470
Cardinal Bus Sales	90,605	0	90,605
Baumer Construction	49,500	15,400	34,100

Note 16 – Compliance

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03 (B), requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the School District prepared its financial statements on a cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying financial statements omit assets, liabilities, net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The School District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the School District.

Note 17 – Contingent Liabilities

A. Grants

The School District receives financial assistance from federal and State agencies in the form of grants. Disbursing grant funds generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2020.

B. Litigation

There are currently no matters in litigation with the School District as defendant.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 17 – Contingent Liabilities (continued)

C. Foundation Funding

School District Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Traditional School Districts must comply with minimum hours of instructions, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the School District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODE has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2020 Foundation for the School District. The adjustments were not significant to the School District.

D. COVID-19 Pandemic

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Marion Local School District. The Marion Local School District's investment portfolio and the investments of the pension and other employee benefit plan in which the School District participates have incurred 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, and due to market volatility, the amount of losses that will be recognized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the School District's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

Note 18 – Tax Abatements

Pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 77, Tax Abatement Disclosures, the County is required to disclose certain information about tax abatements as defined in the Statement. For purposes of GASB Statement 77, a tax abatement is a reduction in tax revenues that results from an agreement between one or more governments and an individual or entity in which (a) one or more governments promise to forgo tax revenues to which they are otherwise entitled and (b) the individual or entity promises to take a specific action after the agreement has been entered into that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the local government or its citizens.

Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Program

The Ohio Community Reinvestment Area program is an economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real property tax exemptions for property owners who renovate existing or construct new buildings. Community Reinvestment Areas (CRA) are areas of land in which property owners can receive tax incentives for investing in real property improvements. In order to use the Community Reinvestment program, a city, village, or county petitions to the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) for confirmation of a geographical area in which investment in housing has traditionally been discouraged. Once the area is confirmed by the Director of ODSA, communities may offer real property tax exemptions to taxpayers that invest in that area.

The type of development is determined by specifying the eligibility of residential, commercial and/or industrial projects. The local governments negotiate property tax exemptions on new property tax from investment for up to one hundred percent for up to fifteen years based on the amount of investments made to renovate or construct buildings within a CRA. Taxes are abated as the increase in assessed value resulting from the investment is not included (or included at a lesser amount) in the assessed value used for property tax computation for the taxpayer. For commercial projects, job retention and/or creation is also required.

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020

Note 18 – Tax Abatements (continued)

Agreements must be in place before the project begins. Provisions for recapturing property tax exemptions, which can be used at the discretions of the local governments, are pursuant to ORC Section 9.66(C)(1) and 9.66(C)(2).

Marion Township entered into agreements with Ohio Recycling Inc. The property taxes foregone by the School District for the abatement program for the year ended December 31, 2019, was \$58,265.

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

Marion Local School District
Mercer County
7956 State Route 119
Maria Stein, Ohio 45860

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Marion Local School District, Mercer County, (the School District) as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2021 and 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 25, 2022, wherein we noted the School District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles. We also noted that the School District adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, and the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the School District.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the School District's financial statements. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the School District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the 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 an instance of noncompliance or other matter we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2021-001.

School District's Response to Findings

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

Purpose of this Report

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



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 25, 2022

**MARION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MERCER COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020**

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS
--

FINDING NUMBER 2021-001

Noncompliance

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

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

The School District prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, report on the cash basis of accounting rather than GAAP. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, deferred inflows/outflows of resources, fund equities/net position, and disclosures that, while presumed material, cannot be determined at this time.

Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 the School District may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the School District's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the School District. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the School District should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Officials' Response:

The board has determined that preparing the GAAP report is not only inefficient as a management tool, but also is very costly to prepare and audit.

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Marion Local Schools

7956 State Route 119 - Maria Stein, Oh, 45860 – Phone: (419) 925-4294 – Fax: 925-0212

MICHAEL L. POHLMAN
Superintendent

AMY REINEKE
Treasurer

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

JUNE 30, 2021 and 2020

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2019-001	Ohio Revised Code § 117.38 – Filing of Annual Financial Report on GAAP Basis; First reported in 2003-001.	Not Corrected	Repeated as Finding 2021-001
2019-002	Posting of Receipts and Fund Balance Classification	Not Corrected	Repeated as Management Letter Recommendation #2 due to the amounts being immaterial.

Wisdom * Integrity * Service

TIM GOODWIN
High School Principal

MICHELLE MESCHER
Technology Director

NICK WILKER
K-8 Principal

1901 St. Rt. 716, Maria Stein, OH 45860

7956 St. Rt. 119, Maria Stein, OH 45860

Phone: 925-4597 Fax: 925-5111 Phone: 925-4595 Fax: 925-0212

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



MARION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MERCER 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 5/24/2022

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