CLARK COUNTY
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
CLARK COUNTY, OHIO

AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE BIENNIAL FISCAL YEARS
ENDED JUNE 30, 2022 AND JUNE 30, 2021

Zupka & Associates
Certified Public Accountants

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

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Members of the Governing Board
Clark County Educational Service Center
4170 Allium Ct
Springfield, OH 45505

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Clark County Educational Service Center, Clark County, prepared by Zupka & Associates, for the audit period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Clark County Educational Service Center is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 09, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Members of the Governing Board
Clark County Educational Service Center
Springfield, Ohio

The Honorable Keith Faber
Auditor of State
State of Ohio

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clark County Educational Service Center, Clark County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clark County Educational Service Center as of June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Center, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(B) requires the Center to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United State of America. Also, as discussed in Note 17 to the basic financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Center. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards,* we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 3, 2023, on our consideration of the Center's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Zupka & Associates

Zupka & Associates
Certified Public Accountants

January 3, 2023

Clark County Educational Service Center
Clark County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
June 30, 2022

	Governmental Activities
Cash Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	$ 3,272,205
Restricted Cash and Investments	142,302
Total Cash Assets	3,414,507
Net Cash Position:	
Restricted for:	
Specific Educational Programs	146,581
State Mandates	142,302
Unrestricted	3,125,624
Total Net Cash Position	$ 3,414,507

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Clark County Educational Service Center
Clark County, Ohio
Statement of Activities - Cash Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

	Cash Disbursements	Program Cash Receipts: Charges for Services and Sales	Program Cash Receipts: Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Disbursement) Receipt and Change in Net Cash Position: Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	$ 455,680	$ -	$ 39,699	$ (415,981)
Special	3,701,869	4,391,151	15,135	704,417
Vocational	7,033	-	-	(7,033)
Student Intervention Services	15,475	4,963	-	(10,512)
Support Services:				
Pupils	5,184,198	5,377,058	60,961	253,821
Instructional Staff	1,158,888	296,126	60,973	(801,789)
Board of Education	27,357	-	-	(27,357)
Administration	1,340,868	1,057,779	1,800	(281,289)
Fiscal	242,447	-	-	(242,447)
Business	20,042	-	-	(20,042)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	168,754	-	-	(168,754)
Central	213,718	-	-	(213,718)
Operation of Non-instructional Services	601,832	141,589	726,892	266,649
Total Governmental Activities	$ 13,138,161	$ 11,268,666	$ 905,460	(964,035)
General Cash Receipts				
Grants, Entitlements and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs				528,879
Interest				2,330
Miscellaneous				55,771
Total General Receipts				586,980
Change in Net Cash Position				(377,055)
Net Cash Position Beginning of Year				3,791,562
Net Cash Position End of Year				$ 3,414,507

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Clark County Educational Service Center
Clark County, Ohio
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2022

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash Assets:			
Equity in Pooled Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	$ 3,415,631	$ (143,426)	$ 3,272,205
Restricted Cash and Investments	142,302	-	142,302
Total Cash Assets	$ 3,557,933	$ (143,426)	$ 3,414,507
Fund Balances:			
Restricted for:			
Educational Grant Programs	$ -	$ 146,581	$ 146,581
State Mandates	142,302	-	142,302
Committed for:			
Future Severence Cost	28,717	-	28,717
Assigned for:			
Subsequent Disbursements	30,964	-	30,964
Future Occupancy Cost	1,349	-	1,349
Unassigned	3,354,601	(290,007)	3,064,594
Total Fund Balances	$ 3,557,933	$ (143,426)	$ 3,414,507

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Clark County Educational Service Center
Clark County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash Receipts:			
Intergovernmental	$ 528,879	$ 905,460	$ 1,434,339
Tuition and fees	254,034	-	254,034
Charges for Services	11,014,632	-	11,014,632
Interest	2,330	-	2,330
Miscellaneous	55,771	-	55,771
Total Receipts	11,855,646	905,460	12,761,106
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	423,366	32,314	455,680
Special	3,650,972	50,897	3,701,869
Vocational	7,033	-	7,033
Student intervention services	15,475	-	15,475
Support Services:			
Pupils	5,067,313	116,885	5,184,198
Instructional staff	980,883	178,005	1,158,888
Board of education	27,357	-	27,357
Administration	1,339,068	1,800	1,340,868
Fiscal	242,447	-	242,447
Business	20,042	-	20,042
Operation and maintenance of plant	153,207	15,547	168,754
Central	142,411	71,307	213,718
Operation of non-instructional services	10,160	591,672	601,832
Total Disbursements	12,079,734	1,058,427	13,138,161
Excess of Receipts (Under) Disbursements	(224,088)	(152,967)	(377,055)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Advances in	-	5,547	5,547
Advances out	(5,547)	-	(5,547)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(5,547)	5,547	-
Net Change in Fund Balance	(229,635)	(147,420)	(377,055)
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	3,787,568	3,994	3,791,562
Fund Balance, End of Year	$ 3,557,933	$ (143,426)	$ 3,414,507

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE REPORTING ENTITY

The Clark County Educational Service Center (the Educational Service Center) is located in Springfield, Ohio, the county seat. The Educational Service Center operates under a locally elected five-member Board form of government and provides educational services by state and federal agencies. The Board controls the Educational Service Center which provides various services to the staff and students of the six local school districts within Clark County, as well as by contractual agreement with the Springfield City School District.

The Educational Service Center was established in 1914 in response to recommendations from the Ohio State School Survey Commission. Senate Bill 9, passed on February 4, 1914, provided for the standardization of schools and established the county educational service centers.

Since 1914, county superintendents have been involved in various areas of administration and performed many services, which include, but are not limited to the following: cooperative programs, supervision, liaison between local school districts and the Ohio Department of Education, health insurance programs, and special education services. Many of those services have been initiated by the county office of education without being legislatively mandated.

The Educational Service Center consists of five elected board members, a superintendent, a treasurer, and employees. The Clark County Educational Service Center is a school district that was chartered July 21, 1989 by the State Board of Elections.

The Educational Service Center serves Springfield City Schools as well as six local school districts: Greenon Local, Northeastern Local, Northwestern Local, Southeastern Local, Clark-Shawnee Local and Tecumseh Local. It also works with the Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center and Global Impact STEM Academy to provide various services. Springfield City Schools and the Educational Service Center have entered into a city/county agreement to provide services in designated areas.

Under Senate Bill 140, county educational service centers are required to appoint business advisory councils. The Educational Service Center has appointed a Business Advisory Council, which is strictly voluntary on the part of the members. There is no financial responsibility of the Educational Service Center for this council. The Business Advisory Council has evolved to promote education from preschool through college/technical school. This consolidated group then joined with the Clark County Chamber of Commerce's "Moving Forward Student Achievement Committee" as many business groups were involved in both committees with the same goals of the best education for all students of Clark County that will be the future of this County's workforce.

Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements of the Educational Service Center are not misleading. The primary government consists of all funds and departments, not legally separate from the Educational Service Center. For the Educational Service Center, this includes all general operations.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Educational Service Center is financially accountable. The Educational Service Center is financially accountable for an organization if the Educational Service Center appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing body and (1) the Educational Service Center is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Educational Service Center is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Educational Service Center is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Educational Service Center is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations for which the Educational Service Center approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. The Educational Service Center does not have any component units.

The Educational Service Center is associated with four jointly governed organizations and two insurance purchasing pools. These organizations include the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association, the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, the Clark County Family and Children First Council, the Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center, the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan, and the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan. Information about these organizations is presented in Notes 11 and 12 to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant GASB pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. The following are the more significant of the Educational Service Center's accounting policies.

A. Basis Of Presentation

The Educational Service Center's basic financial statements consist of government-wide 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 Educational Service Center as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the Educational Service Center at year-end. The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct disbursements and program receipts for each program or function of the Educational Service Center's governmental activities. Disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational requirements of a particular program. Receipts not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the Educational Service Center, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general receipts of the Educational Service Center.

Fund Financial Statements

During the year, the Educational Service Center segregates transactions related to certain 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 Educational Service Center at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Non-major funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

B. Fund Accounting

The Educational Service Center uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. All of the Educational Service Center's funds are classified as governmental funds.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds focus on the sources, uses, and balances of current cash financial resources. The Educational Service Center's major fund is:

> 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 is available to the Educational Service Center for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

The other governmental funds of the Educational Service Center account for grants and other resources of the Educational Service Center whose uses are restricted or committed to a particular purpose.

C. Basis of Accounting

The Education Service Center's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the Educational Service Center's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are reported when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

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

D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, cash received by the Educational Service Center is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through Educational Service Center records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in pooled cash, cash equivalents, and investments". All investments of the cash management pool are considered to be cash and cash equivalents for financial reporting purposes.

During fiscal year 2022, the Educational Service Center's investments were limited to funds invested in the State Treasury Assets Reserves of Ohio (STAR Ohio).

STAR Ohio, is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments with the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted GASB Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Participants". The Educational Service Center 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 the NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For fiscal year 2022, 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 for all deposits or withdrawals exceeding $100 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to $250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the $250 million limit. All accounts of the participants will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2022 was $2,330, which included $110 assigned from other Education Service Center funds.

E. Capital Assets and Depreciation

Acquisition of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. The financial statements do not report these assets.

F. Compensated Absences

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting used by the Educational Service Center.

G. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

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 are reported when disbursements are made.

H. Leases

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

The Educational Service Center is the lessee in various leases related to buildings under noncancelable leases. Lease payables are not reflected in the cash basis financial statements. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid. See Note 10 for additional information and descriptions of the Educational Service Center's lease agreements.

I. Pensions and Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)

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

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

J. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Educational Service Center or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws, or regulations of other governments. The Educational Service Center's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

K. Fund Balance

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

> Nonspendable – nonspendable fund balance includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.
>
> Restricted – fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints placed on the use of the 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. The restricted amount shown within the General Fund represents monies that are contractually obligated to be spent on programs or activities directly associated with the Springfield City School District.
>
> Committed – committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the Educational Service Center's governing board. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the governing board removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.
>
> Assigned – amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Educational Service Center 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 use established by the Educational Service Center's governing board.

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 balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

The Educational Service Center applies restricted resources first when disbursements are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when disbursements are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used. For the year ended June 30, 2022, the Educational Service Center did not report any fund balances meeting the definition of nonspendable.

L. Interfund Activity

Transfers and advances within governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the statement of activities. Payments for interfund services provided and used are not eliminated.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. If there is an intention for repayment, the flows of cash or goods between funds are reported as interfund advances. Both interfund transfers and advances 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 statement.

NOTE 3 – COMPLIANCE

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03(B), requires the Educational Service Center to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the Educational Service Center prepared its financial statement 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/deferred inflows or resource, liabilities/deferred outflows of resources, net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The Educational Service Center can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the Educational Service Center.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

State statutes require the classification of monies held by the Educational Service Center into three categories.

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

Inactive monies are public deposits that the Educational Service Center has identified as not required for use with the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive monies may be deposited or invested as certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or as 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 the certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit, or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

Protection of the Educational Service Center's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, by surety company bonds deposited with the treasurer by the financial institution or by a single collateral pool established by the financial institution to secure the repayment of all public money deposited with the institution.

Interim monies may be invested in the following obligations:

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;

Bonds, notes, debentures, or other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal governmental agencies or instrumentalities;

Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;

Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;

No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;

The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);

Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days from the date of purchase in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time;

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.

<u>Deposits</u>

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Educational Service Center will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party.

The Educational Service Center has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by:

Eligible securities pledged to the Educational Service Center and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the 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 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 State.

At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of the Educational Service Center's deposits was $3,138,179 and the bank balance was $3,156,427. Of the bank balance $1,250,988 was covered by federal deposit insurance and the remaining $1,905,439 was exposed to custodial credit risk as it was enrolled in the OPCS as of fiscal year end.

Investments

The Educational Service Center's only investment at June 30, 2022 was in STAR Ohio, an investment pool operated by the Ohio State Treasurer. STAR Ohio is an uninsured and uncollateralized investment since it is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. STAR Ohio had a NAV per share value of $276,328 at June 30, 2022 and was rated AAAm by Standard and Poors'.

NOTE 5 – STATE FUNDING

The Educational Service Center is funded by the State Department of Education for the cost of Part (A) of their Budget. This funding is provided from State resources.

Part (B) of the budget is provided by the school districts to which the Educational Service Center provides services and by the State Department of Education. Each school district's portion is determined by multiplying the average daily membership of the school district (the total number of students enrolled) by $6.50. This amount is deducted by the State Department of Education from that school district's resources provided under the State's Foundation Program. The Department of Education's portion is determined by multiplying the sum of the average daily memberships of all of the school districts served by the Educational Service Center. For fiscal year 2022, the funding for the Educational Service Center was a base amount of $356,250 plus an additional $24.72 per student in excess of 5,000 per student.

If additional funding is needed, and if a majority of the Boards of Educations of the school districts served by the Educational Service Center approve, the cost of Part (B) of the budget can be increased. The portion that is in excess of the original funding calculation is shared by all of the school districts served by the Educational Service Center through additional reductions in their resources provided through the State Foundation program. The State Board of Education initiates and supervises the procedure under which the school districts approve or disapprove the additional apportionment.

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The Educational Service Center is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft or, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2022, the Educational Service Center contracted with Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Liability, Fleet & Property Program (LFP) and Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. for property, general liability, professional and fleet insurance. Coverage provided by the LFP is as follows:

Insurance coverage provided includes the following:

Building and Contents – replacement cost ($3,500 deductible)	$250,000,000 Blanket limit
Boiler and Machinery ($3,500 deductible)	$250,000,000
Automobile Liability (no deductible)	1,000,000
Professional Liability ($10,000 deductible)	
Single Occurrence	1,000,000
Total per year (per member)	1,000,000
General Liability (no deductible)	
Per Occurrence	1,000,000
Total per year (per member)	3,000,000
Excess Liability/Umbrella (no deductible)	
Per Occurrence	5,000,000
Total per year (per member)	5,000,000
Pollution Legal Liability ($50,000 deductible)	
Per Occurrence	1,000,000
Total Aggregate Limit	5,000,000
Cyber Liability/Identity Theft ($25,000 deductible)	
Per Member Aggregate	1,000,000
Total Aggregate Limit (policy pool)	1,000,000

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

B. Workers' Compensation

For fiscal year 2022, the Educational Service Center participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 12). The plan is intended to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the Educational Service Center 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 insures 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. The firm of Integrated Comp Incorporated provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

C. Medical Benefits

For fiscal year 2022, the Educational Service Center participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan (MBP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 12). The intent of the MBP is to achieve the benefit of reduced health insurance premiums for the Educational Service Center by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the MBP. The health insurance experience of the participating school districts is calculated and a premium rate is applied to all school districts in the MBP. Each participant pays its health insurance premiums to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC). Participation in the MBP is limited to school districts that can meet the MBP's selection criteria.

NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Net Pension Liability

Pensions are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

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

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

GASB Statement No. 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Educational Service Centers' 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; or age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or age 60 with 25 years of service credit

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

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

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the Educational Service Center is required to contribute 14% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10% for plan members and 14% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, and Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, the 14% was allocated to only three of the funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund and Medicare B Fund).

The Educational Service Center's contractually required pension contribution to SERS was $370,599 for fiscal year 2022.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)
Educational Service Centers' 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 (CO) Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307.

The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation will be 2.2% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60. Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility will be 5 years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years of service credit regardless of age.

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

The CO Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the CO Plan, 12% of the 14% member rate is deposited into the member's DC account and the remaining 2% is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the CO Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with 5 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 50 and after termination of employment.

New members who choose the DC Plan or CO 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 Ohio plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's CO Plan account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS Ohio bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS Ohio therefore has included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB Statement No. 68 reporting purposes.

A DB or CO Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. New members on or after July 1, 2013 must have at least 10 years of qualifying service credit to apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance.

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

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, plan members were required to contribute 14% of their annual covered salary. The Educational Service Center was required to contribute 14%; the entire 14% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2022 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The Educational Service Center's contractually required pension contributions to STRS was $879,846 for fiscal year 2022.

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Educational Service Center's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Educational Service Center'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
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	$ 2,598,604	$ 6,069,735	$ 8,668,338
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Year	0.0704284%	0.0474721%	
Prior Year	0.0613008%	0.0457394%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0091276%	0.0017327%	

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 consider the employee's entire career with the employer and take into consideration the benefits, if any, paid to the employee after termination of employment until the death of the employee and any applicable contingent annuitant. In many cases actuarial calculations reflect several decades of service with the employer and the payment of benefits after termination.

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2021, are presented below:

Inflation:	
Current measurement period	2.40 percent
Prior measurement period	3.00 percent
Future salary increases, including inflation:	
Current measurement period	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Prior measurement period	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA:	
Current measurement period	2.00 percent, on and after 4/1/2018, COLA's for future retirees will be delayed for 3 years following retirement.
Prior measurement period	2.50 percent, on and after 4/1/2018, COLA's for future retirees will be delayed for 3 years following retirement.
Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement period	7.00 percent net of System expenses
Prior measurement period	7.50 percent net of System expenses
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Health Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020 adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021.

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 averaged of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00%	-0.33%
US equity	24.75%	5.72%
Non-US equity developed	13.50%	6.55%
Non-US equity emerging	6.75%	8.54%
Fixed income/global bonds	19.00%	1.14%
Private equity	11.00%	10.03%
Real estate/real assets	16.00%	5.41%
Multi-asset strategies	4.00%	3.47%
Private debt/private credit	3.00%	5.28%

Discount Rate – Total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.0%. 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 (7.0%). 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 Educational Service Center'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 7.0%, 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 (6.0%), or one percentage point higher (8.0%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
Educational Service Center's proportionate of the net pension liability	$ 4,323,438	$ 2,598,604	$ 1,143,975

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2021 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
Payroll increases	3.00%
Investment rate of return, including inflation:	
Current measurement period	7.00%, net of investment expenses
Prior measurement period	7.45%, net of investment expenses
Discount rate of return	
Current measurement period	7.00%
Prior measurement period	7.45%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%

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

The actuarial assumptions were based on the results of an actual 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:

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	100.00%	

* - 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and 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 7.00% as of June 30, 2021. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2021. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2021.

Sensitivity of the Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate –The following table presents the Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.00%) or one-percentage-point higher (8.00%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
Educational Service Center's proportionate of the net pension liability	$ 11,366,341	$ 6,069,735	$ 1,594,113

Social Security System
All employees not covered by SERS or STRS have an option to choose Social Security or SERS/STRS. As of June 30, 2022, one of the members of the Board of Education has elected social security. The Board's liability is 6.2% of wages paid.

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB)

Net OPEB Asset/Liability
OPEB is a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net OPEB asset or liability represents the Educational Service Center's proportionate share of each OPEB plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The net OPEB asset or liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, health care cost trend rates and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

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

GASB Statement No. 75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB asset or liability. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB asset or liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)
SERS' Health Care program provides health care 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 mot types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981 do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit.

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.

Funding Policy—State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2022, there was no portion allocated 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 2022, the minimum compensation amount was $25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2022, the Educational Service Center's surcharge obligation was approximately $39,000.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)
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 Board to offer this plan.

Coverage under the current program includes hospitalization, physicians' fees and prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries. This program allows STRS Ohio to recover part of the cost for providing prescription coverage since all eligible STRS health care plans include creditable prescription drug coverage. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy—Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Net OPEB Asset/Liability
The net OPEB asset/liability was measured as of June 30, 2021, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB asset/liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Educational Service Center's proportion of the net OPEB asset/liability was based on the Educational Service Center's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the proportionate share OPEB plans:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net:			
OPEB Asset	$ -	$ 1,000,910	$ 1,000,910
OPEB Liability	1,290,938	-	1,290,938
Proportion of the Net OPEB Asset/Liability:			
Current Year	0.0682104%	0.0474721%	
Prior Year	0.0589508%	0.0457394%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0092596%	0.0017327%	

Actuarial Assumptions – SERS

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

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

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. For a newly hired employee, actuarial calculations will consider the employee's entire career with the employer and 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, 2021, are presented below:

Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement date	7.00% of net investment expense, including inflation
Prior measurement date	7.50% of net investment expense, including inflation
Wage inflation:	
Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	3.00%
Future salary increases, including inflation	
Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Prior measurement date	3.50% to 18.20%
Municipal bond index rate:	
Current measurement date	1.92%
Prior measurement date	2.45%
Prior measurement date	2.63%, including price inflation
Medical Trend Assumption:	
Current measurement date	
Pre-Medicare	6.75% - 4.40%
Medicare	5.125% - 4.40%
Prior measurement date	
Pre-Medicare	7.00% - 4.75%
Medicare	5.25% - 4.75%

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Health Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020 adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021.

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 averaged of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00%	-0.33%
US equity	24.75%	5.72%
Non-US equity developed	13.50%	6.55%
Non-US equity emerging	6.75%	8.54%
Fixed income/global bonds	19.00%	1.14%
Private equity	11.00%	10.03%
Real estate/real assets	16.00%	5.41%
Multi-asset strategies	4.00%	3.47%
Private debt/private credit	3.00%	5.28%

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2021 was 2.27%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and SERS at the state statute contribution rate of 1.5% of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from 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, 2042. 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, 2041 and the Municipal Bond Index rate of 1.92% as of June 30, 2021 (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 Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and 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 calculated using the discount rate of 2.27%, as well as what the Educational Service Center's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (1.27%) and one percentage point higher (3.27%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Rate	1.27%	2.27%	3.27%
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	$ 1,599,628	$ 1,290,938	$ 1,044,334

The following table presents the net OPEB liability calculated using current health care cost trend rates, as well as what the Educational Service Center's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and one percentage point higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rates.

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Rate	5.75% decreasing to 3.40%	6.75% decreasing to 4.40%	7.75% decreasing to 5.40%
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	$ 993,916	$ 1,290,938	$ 1,687,667

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2021 actuarial valuation was determined using the following assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65	
Payroll increases	3.00%	
Investment rate of return:		
Current measurement date	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Prior measurement date	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Discount rate of return:		
Current measurement date	7.00%	
Prior measurement date	7.45%	
Health care cost trends:	Initial	Ultimate
Medical:		
Pre-Medicare	5.00%	4.00%
Medicare	-16.18%	4.00%
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	6.50%	4.00%
Medicare	29.98%	4.00%

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

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

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return *
Domestic equity	28.00%	7.35%
International equity	23.00%	7.55%
Alternatives	17.00%	7.09%
Fixed income	21.00%	3.00%
Real estate	10.00%	6.00%
Liquidity reserves	1.00%	2.25%
Total	100.00%	

* - 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and 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 OPEB liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2021. 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 of current plan members as of June 30, 2021. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets of 7.00% was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2021.

Sensitivity of the Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate and the Health Care Cost Trend Rates – The following table presents the Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) and one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower and one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Rate	6.00%	7.00%	8.00%
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	$ 844,614	$ 1,000,910	$ 1,131,473

	1% Decrease in Trend Rates	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase in Trend Rates
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	$ 1,126,183	$ 1,000,910	$ 846,000

NOTE 9 – OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation, personal and sick leave benefits are derived from Board policy and State laws. All twelve month certified employees earn twenty days of vacation per fiscal year, eleven month certified employees earn fifteen days of vacation per fiscal year and ten month certified employees earn ten days of vacation per fiscal year. Certified employees working less than ten months do not earn vacation time.

Support staff employees earn ten days of vacation after one year of service; after eight years of service they earn fifteen days of vacation; with fifteen years of service they earn twenty days of vacation and after twenty-five years of service they earn twenty-five days of vacation per year. Accumulated, unused vacation must be used by December of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which it is earned.

All employees earn three days of personal leave per fiscal year. Accumulated, unused personal leave does not carry beyond the contract in which it is earned.

All employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 250 days for all personnel. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fifth of accrued, but unused sick leave credit to a maximum of 45 days for all employees. Directors with two years experience with the Educational Service Center are eligible to be paid a maximum of 56 days of unused sick leave upon retirement.

B. Insurance Benefits

The Educational Service Center provides life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to most employees through Medical Life Insurance Company. Medical/surgical benefits are provided by United Health Care through Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan (MBP) (See Note 12). The employees' are required to contribute 20 percent of the premiums for medical/surgical benefits.

C. Pick-Up of Employees' Share of Retirement

The Educational Service Center contributes 14 percent of the employee wages to the State Teachers' Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio) and the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). The remaining 10 percent for SERS and 14 percent for STRS is paid by the employee with the exception of fully paid retirement for the Superintendent, Treasurer, and selected administrators as defined by their respective contracts.

NOTE 10 – LEASES

During the fiscal year, the Educational Service Center entered into a lease agreement with the Board of Education of the Greenon Local School District for the use of certain property of the Greenon Local School District to utilize as classroom space for the initial period August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022, which can be extended for additional period of one year. Annual rent payment of $27,243 shall be paid by the Educational Service Center in two equal installments. In addition, the Educational Service Center subleases certain office space for its administration and operations from the Community Improvement Corporation of Springfield and Clark County. This lease began in December 2019 and contained base rents of $52,538 for year one, $64,900 for year two, and $71,081 for year three. In addition, renewal of the agreement, if exercised by sublessee, base rent for renewal periods will be $77,263 for the first renewal period and adjusted by the Consumer Price Index for years after the initial renewal period.

In March of 2018, the Educational Service Center entered into an agreement with Perry Protech for copier leases for a 5-year term at $1,513.85/month. This lease agreement ends in fiscal year 2023 with $13,625 of future lease payments owed for that fiscal year.

NOTE 11 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Miami Valley Educational Computer Association

The Educational Service Center is a participant in the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA) which is a computer consortium. MVECA is an association of public schools within the boundaries of Clark, Clinton, Fayette, Greene and Highland Counties and Cities of Springfield, Wilmington, Washington Court House, Xenia and Hillsboro. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member districts.

The governing board of MVECA consists of five Superintendents and two Treasurers of member school districts, with four of the five Superintendents and both Treasurers elected by a majority vote of all member school districts except the Greene County Career Center. The fifth Superintendent is from the Greene County Career Center. The Educational Service Center paid MVECA $23,757 for services provided during the year. Financial information can be obtained from Thor Sage, who serves as Director, at 330 East Enon Road, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

The Educational Service Center participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC), and insurance purchasing pool 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, auditor's 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. During fiscal year 2022, the Educational Service Center paid SOEPC $747 in membership fees. Financial information can be obtained from Mr. Ken Swink, Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Director.

Clark County Family and Children First Council

The Clark County Family and Children First Council (the Council) is a voluntary association established to coordinate and integrate those services within Clark County which are available for families and children and to establish a comprehensive, coordinated, multi-disciplinary, interagency system for the delivery of such services in order to more effectively meet the needs of each of the members of the Council. The Board of Trustees is comprised of eighteen representatives of each of the members of the Council, including the Superintendents of the Clark County schools. All members are obligated to pay all dues as established by the Council to aid the financing of the operations and programs of the Council. Any member withdrawing from the Council must give one hundred eighty days written notice to the Council after formal action of the member's governing board. To obtain financial information, write to the Clark County Family and Children First Council, Leslie Crew, who serves as Executive Director, at 1345 Lagonda Road, Springfield, Ohio 45502.

Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center

The Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center (the Center) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the seven participating school districts' elected boards, which possess its own budgeting and taxing authority. One member is appointed from the following: Clark-Shawnee Local School District, Greenon Local School District, Northeastern Local School District, Northwestern Local School District, Southeastern Local School District, Tecumseh Local School District, and the Educational Service Center. One member is appointed from the Springfield City School District. To obtain financial information, write to the Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center, Julie Wallace, who serves as Treasurer, 1901 Selma Road, Springfield, Ohio 45505-4329.

NOTE 12 – INSURANCE POOLS

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The Educational Service Center participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP). The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a fourteen member committee consisting of various EPC representatives that are elected by the general assembly. Either the superintendent or treasurer from each participating school district serves on the general assembly. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan.

The Educational Service Center participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan (MBP). The MBP's business and affairs are conducted by an eleven member committee consisting of various MBP representatives that are elected by the general assembly. Either the superintendent or treasurer from each participating school district serves on the general assembly. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the MBP to cover the costs of administering the program.

NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES

The Educational Service Center received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies.

Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the Educational Service Center at June 30, 2022.

NOTE 14 – COMMITMENTS

At year end the Educational Service Center had a total of $57,831 encumbered for future purchase obligations, all of which is within the General Fund.

NOTE 15 – INTERFUND ACTIVITY

During fiscal year 2022, the general fund advanced $5,547 to the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, a nonmajor special revenue fund, to provide temporary funding until grant funding was received in the subsequent fiscal year.

NOTE 16 – DEFICIT FUND BALANCES

At June 30, 2022, the Educational Service Center reported deficit fund balances in the following nonmajor, special revenue funds: Miscellaneous State Grants Fund ($3,338); Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund ($139,600); Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund ($111,307); and IDEA Special Education Preschool Grant Fund ($35,762). In all cases, proper request(s) for funding have been submitted with Ohio Department of Education and were received in the subsequent fiscal year. Ohio Law permits negative cash fund balance if appropriate requests for funding have been submitted and payment is expected in the subsequent fiscal year. The Educational Service Center's pooled cash and cash equivalent (primarily the General Fund) covers the deficit balance(s) until grant funding is received.

NOTE 17 – 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. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June of 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During fiscal year 2022, the Educational Service Center 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 2022, the Educational Service Center received $766,591 in Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) and $77,956 in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding through the Ohio Department of Education.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE
AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Members of the Governing Board
Clark County Education Service Center
Springfield, Ohio

The Honorable Keith Faber
Auditor of State
State of Ohio

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clark County Educational Service Center, Clark County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 3, 2023, wherein we noted that the Center uses a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Center.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Center's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Center's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as **Findings 2022-001**.

Clark County Educational Service Center's Responses to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor of perform limited procedures on the Center's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The Center's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Center's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Zupka & Associates

Zupka & Associates
Certified Public Accountants

January 3, 2023

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

Finding 2022-001 – Noncompliance Finding – Annual Financial Report

Condition/Criteria
Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38(A) 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 Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38, requires the Center to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The Center prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, report on the basis of cash receipts and cash disbursements, 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.

Effect
Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38, the Center 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 Center's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the Center. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the Center should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Recommendation
We recommend the Center take the necessary steps to ensure the annual report is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Center Response
Due to the cost of a GAAP conversion, along with the cost associated with auditing the GAAP financial report, the Clark County Educational Service Center has chosen to prepare their financial statements using another comprehensive basis of accounting (OCBOA).

CLARK COUNTY EDUCATONAL SERVICE CENTER
CLARK COUNTY, OHIO
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

The prior audit report, as of June 30, 2021, included noncompliance findings.

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2021-001	Noncompliance - Annual Financial Report	Not Corrected	Repeated as Finding 2021-001

CLARK COUNTY
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
CLARK COUNTY, OHIO

AUDIT REPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

Zupka & Associates
Certified Public Accountants

CLARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER
CLARK COUNTY, OHIO
AUDIT REPORT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Members of the Governing Board
Clark County Educational Service Center
Springfield, Ohio

The Honorable Keith Faber
Auditor of State
State of Ohio

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clark County Educational Service Center, Clark County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clark County Educational Service Center as of June 30, 2021, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Center, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(B) requires the Center to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United State of America. Also, as discussed in Note 16 to the basic financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Center. Our opinion is not modified with respect to these matters.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards,* we

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 3, 2023, on our consideration of the Center's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Zupka & Associates

Zupka & Associates
Certified Public Accountants

January 3, 2023

Clark County Educational Service Center
Clark County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
June 30, 2021

	Governmental Activities
Cash Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	$ 3,050,345
Restricted Cash and Investments	741,217
Total Cash Assets	3,791,562
Net Cash Position:	
Restricted for:	
Specific Educational Programs	3,994
State Mandates	741,217
Unrestricted	3,046,351
Total Net Cash Position	$ 3,791,562

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Clark County Educational Service Center
Clark County, Ohio
Statement of Activities - Cash Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

	Cash Disbursements	Program Cash Receipts: Charges for Services and Sales	Program Cash Receipts: Operating Grants and Contributions	Net (Disbursement) Receipt and Change in Net Cash Position: Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	$ 303,896	$ -	$ -	$ (303,896)
Special	3,487,863	3,785,902	51,080	349,119
Vocational	7,078	-	-	(7,078)
Student Intervention Services	94,723	122,082	-	27,359
Support Services:				
Pupils	4,785,931	5,051,404	24,215	289,688
Instructional Staff	1,102,762	974,803	8,076	(119,883)
Board of Education	23,568	-	-	(23,568)
Administration	1,611,144	1,554,371	1,800	(54,973)
Fiscal	236,962	-	-	(236,962)
Business	26,292	-	10,000	(16,292)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	194,334	-	37,057	(157,277)
Central	151,910	-	51,457	(100,453)
Operation of Non-instructional Services	11,440	-	-	(11,440)
Total Governmental Activities	$ 12,037,903	$ 11,488,562	$ 183,685	(365,656)
General Cash Receipts				
Grants, Entitlements and Contributions not Restricted to Specific Programs				497,276
Interest				1,575
Miscellaneous				191,558
Total General Receipts				690,409
Change in Net Cash Position				324,753
Net Cash Position Beginning of Year				3,466,809
Net Cash Position End of Year				$ 3,791,562

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Clark County Educational Service Center
Clark County, Ohio
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2021

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash Assets:			
Equity in Pooled Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	$ 3,046,351	$ 3,994	$ 3,050,345
Restricted Cash and Investments	741,217	-	741,217
Total Cash Assets	$ 3,787,568	$ 3,994	$ 3,791,562
Fund Balances:			
Restricted for:			
Local Grant Programs	$ -	$ 3,994	$ 3,994
State Mandates	741,217	-	741,217
Committed for:			
Future Severence Cost	28,717	-	28,717
Assigned for:			
Subsequent Disbursements	50,984	-	50,984
Future Occupancy Cost	3,180	-	3,180
Unassigned	2,963,470	-	2,963,470
Total Fund Balances	$ 3,787,568	$ 3,994	$ 3,791,562

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Clark County Educational Service Center
Clark County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash Receipts:			
Intergovernmental	$ 497,276	$ 183,685	$ 680,961
Tuition and fees	204,886	-	204,886
Charges for Services	11,283,676	-	11,283,676
Interest	1,575	-	1,575
Miscellaneous	191,558	-	191,558
Total Receipts	12,178,971	183,685	12,362,656
Cash Disbursements:			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	303,896	-	303,896
Special	3,436,783	51,080	3,487,863
Vocational	7,078	-	7,078
Student intervention services	94,723	-	94,723
Support Services:			
Pupils	4,764,935	20,996	4,785,931
Instructional staff	1,093,018	9,744	1,102,762
Board of education	23,568	-	23,568
Administration	1,609,344	1,800	1,611,144
Fiscal	236,962	-	236,962
Business	16,292	10,000	26,292
Operation and maintenance of plant	157,277	37,057	194,334
Central	100,453	51,457	151,910
Operation of non-instructional services	11,440	-	11,440
Total Disbursements	11,855,769	182,134	12,037,903
Excess of Receipts Over(Under) Disbursements	323,202	1,551	324,753
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Advances in	1,729	-	1,729
Advances out	-	(1,729)	(1,729)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,729	(1,729)	-
Net Change in Fund Balance	324,931	(178)	324,753
Fund Balance, Beginning of Year	3,462,637	4,172	3,466,809
Fund Balance, End of Year	$ 3,787,568	$ 3,994	$ 3,791,562

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE REPORTING ENTITY

The Clark County Educational Service Center (the Educational Service Center) is located in Springfield, Ohio, the county seat. The Educational Service Center operates under a locally elected five-member Board form of government and provides educational services by state and federal agencies. The Board controls the Educational Service Center which provides various services to the staff and students of the six local school districts within Clark County.

The Educational Service Center was established in 1914 in response to recommendations from the Ohio State School Survey Commission. Senate Bill 9, passed on February 4, 1914, provided for the standardization of schools and established the county educational service centers.

Since 1914, county superintendents have been involved in various areas of administration and performed many services, which include, but are not limited to the following: cooperative programs, supervision, liaison between local school districts and the Ohio Department of Education, health insurance programs, and special education services. Many of those services have been initiated by the county office of education without being legislatively mandated.

The Educational Service Center consists of five elected board members, a superintendent, a treasurer, and employees. The Clark County Educational Service Center is a school district that was chartered July 21, 1989 by the State Board of Elections.

The Educational Service Center serves Springfield City Schools as well as six local school districts: Greenon Local, Northeastern Local, Northwestern Local, Southeastern Local, Clark-Shawnee Local and Tecumseh Local. It also works with the Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center and Global Impact STEM Academy to provide various services. Springfield City Schools and the Educational Service Center have entered into a city/county agreement to provide services in designated areas.

Under Senate Bill 140, county educational service centers are required to appoint business advisory councils. The Educational Service Center has appointed a Business Advisory Council, which is strictly voluntary on the part of the members. There is no financial responsibility of the Educational Service Center for this council. The Business Advisory Council has evolved to promote education from preschool through college/technical school. This consolidated group then joined with the Clark County Chamber of Commerce's "Moving Forward Student Achievement Committee" as many business groups were involved in both committees with the same goals of the best education for all students of Clark County that will be the future of this County's workforce.

Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements of the Educational Service Center are not misleading. The primary government consists of all funds and departments, not legally separate from the Educational Service Center. For the Educational Service Center, this includes all general operations.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Educational Service Center is financially accountable. The Educational Service Center is financially accountable for an organization if the Educational Service Center appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing body and (1) the Educational Service Center is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Educational Service Center is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Educational Service Center is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Educational Service Center is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations for which the Educational Service Center approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. The Educational Service Center does not have any component units.

The Educational Service Center is associated with four jointly governed organizations and two insurance purchasing pools. These organizations include the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association, the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative, the Clark County Family and Children First Council, the Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center, the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Worker's Compensation Group Rating Plan, and the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan. Information about these organizations is presented in Notes 11 and 12 to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant GASB pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. The following are the more significant of the Educational Service Center's accounting policies.

A. Basis Of Presentation

The Educational Service Center's basic financial statements consist of government-wide 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 Educational Service Center as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the Educational Service Center at year-end. The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct disbursements and program receipts for each program or function of the Educational Service Center's governmental activities. Disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational requirements of a particular program. Receipts not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the Educational Service Center, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general receipts of the Educational Service Center.

Fund Financial Statements

During the year, the Educational Service Center segregates transactions related to certain 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 Educational Service Center at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Non-major funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

B. Fund Accounting

The Educational Service Center uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. All of the Educational Service Center's funds are classified as governmental funds.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds focus on the sources, uses, and balances of current cash financial resources. The Educational Service Center's major fund is:

> 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 is available to the Educational Service Center for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

The other governmental funds of the Educational Service Center account for grants and other resources of the Educational Service Center whose uses are restricted or committed to a particular purpose.

C. Basis of Accounting

The Education Service Center's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the Educational Service Center's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are reported when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

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

D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, cash received by the Educational Service Center is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through Educational Service Center records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in pooled cash, cash equivalents, and investments". All investments of the cash management pool are considered to be cash and cash equivalents for financial reporting purposes.

During fiscal year 2021, the Educational Service Center's investments were limited to funds invested in the State Treasury Assets Reserves of Ohio (STAR Ohio).

STAR Ohio, is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments with the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted GASB Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Participants". The Educational Service Center 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 the NAV per share that approximates fair value.

For fiscal year 2021, 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 for all deposits or 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 participants will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board 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 $1,575, which included $14 assigned from other Education Service Center funds.

E. Capital Assets and Depreciation

Acquisition of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. The financial statements do not report these assets.

F. Compensated Absences

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting used by the Educational Service Center.

G. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

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 are reported when disbursements are made.

H. Pensions and Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)

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

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

I. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Educational Service Center or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws, or regulations of other governments. The Educational Service Center's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

J. Fund Balance

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

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

Restricted – fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints placed on the use of the 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 – committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the Educational Service Center's governing board. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the governing board removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned – amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Educational Service Center 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 use established by the Educational Service Center's governing board.

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 balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

The Educational Service Center applies restricted resources first when disbursements are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when disbursements are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used. For the year ended June 30, 2021, the Educational Service Center did not report any fund balances meeting the definition of nonspendable.

K. Interfund Activity

Transfers and advances within governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the statement of activities. Payments for interfund services provided and used are not eliminated.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. If there is an intention for repayment, the flows of cash or goods between funds are reported as interfund advances. Both interfund transfers and advances 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 statement.

NOTE 3 – COMPLIANCE

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03(B), requires the Educational Service Center to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the Educational Service Center prepared its financial statement 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/deferred inflows or resource, liabilities/deferred outflows of resources, net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The Educational Service Center can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the Educational Service Center.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

State statutes require the classification of monies held by the Educational Service Center into three categories.

> Active deposits are public deposits necessary to meet current demands on the treasury. Such monies must be maintained either as cash in the School Treasury, in depository accounts payable, withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.
>
> Inactive monies are public deposits that the Educational Service Center has identified as not required for use with the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive monies may be deposited or invested as certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or as 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 the certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit, or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

Protection of the Educational Service Center’s deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, by surety company bonds deposited with the treasurer by the financial institution or by a single collateral pool established by the financial institution to secure the repayment of all public money deposited with the institution.

Interim monies may be invested in the following obligations:

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;

Bonds, notes, debentures, or other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal governmental agencies or instrumentalities;

Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;

Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;

No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;

The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);

Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days from the date of purchase in an amount not to exceed twenty-five percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time;

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.

Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Educational Service Center will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At fiscal year-end, the Educational Service Center was not exposed to custodial credit risk.

The Educational Service Center has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by:

Eligible securities pledged to the Educational Service Center and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the 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 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 State.

At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of the Educational Service Center's deposits was $3,516,003 and the bank balance was $3,517,052. Of the bank balance $1,250,300 was covered by federal deposit insurance and the remaining $2,266,752 was exposed to custodial credit risk as it was enrolled in the OPCS as of fiscal year end.

Investments

The Educational Service Center's only investment at June 30, 2021 was in STAR Ohio, an investment pool operated by the Ohio State Treasurer. STAR Ohio is an uninsured and uncollateralized investment since it is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. STAR Ohio had a NAV per share value of $275,559 at June 30, 2021 and was rated AAAm by Standard and Poors'.

NOTE 5 – STATE FUNDING

The Educational Service Center is funded by the State Department of Education for the cost of Part (A) of their Budget. This funding is provided from State resources.

Part (B) of the budget is provided by the school districts to which the Educational Service Center provides services and by the State Department of Education. Each school district's portion is determined by multiplying the average daily membership of the school district (the total number of students enrolled) by $6.50. This amount is deducted by the State Department of Education from that school district's resources provided under the State's Foundation Program. The Department of Education's portion is determined by multiplying the sum of the average daily memberships of all of the school districts served by the Educational Service Center. For fiscal year 2021 the funding for educational service centers was $26.00 per student.

If additional funding is needed, and if a majority of the Boards of Educations of the school districts served by the Educational Service Center approve, the cost of Part (B) of the budget can be increased. The portion that is in excess of the original funding calculation is shared by all of the school districts served by the Educational Service Center through additional reductions in their resources provided through the State Foundation program. The State Board of Education initiates and supervises the procedure under which the school districts approve or disapprove the additional apportionment.

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The Educational Service Center is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft or, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2021, the Educational Service Center contracted with Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Liability, Fleet & Property Program (LFP) and Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. for property, general liability, professional and fleet insurance. Coverage provided by the LFP is as follows:

Insurance coverage provided includes the following:

Building and Contents – replacement cost ($5,000 deductible)	$350,000,000 Blanket limit
Boiler and Machinery ($3,500 deductible)	$250,000,000
Automobile Liability (no deductible)	1,000,000
Professional Liability ($10,000 deductible)	

Single Occurrence	1,000,000
Total per year (per member)	1,000,000
General Liability (no deductible)	
Per Occurrence	1,000,000
Total per year (per member)	3,000,000
Excess Liability/Umbrella (no deductible)	
Per Occurrence	5,000,000
Total per year (per member)	5,000,000
Pollution Legal Liability ($25,000 deductible)	
Per Occurrence	1,000,000
Total Aggregate Limit	5,000,000
Cyber Liability/Identity Theft ($15,000 deductible)	
Per Member Aggregate	1,000,000
Total Aggregate Limit (policy pool)	5,000,000

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

B. Workers' Compensation

For fiscal year 2021, the Educational Service Center participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 12). The plan is intended to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the Educational Service Center 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 insures 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. The firm of Integrated Comp Incorporated provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

C. Medical Benefits

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

NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Net Pension Liability

Pensions are a component of exchange transactions-–between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already occurred.

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

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

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

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Educational Service Center 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; or age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or age 60 with 25 years of service credit

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

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

Prior to January 1, 2018, on the anniversary of the initial date of retirement, the allowances of all retirees and survivors are increased 3% of the base benefit. On and after January 1, 2018, the allowance of all retirees and survivors may be increased by the annual rate of increase in the CPI-W, measured as of the June preceding the beginning of the applicable calendar year. The annual rate of increase shall not be less than 0% nor greater than 2.5%. COLAs were suspended for calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020. On and after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement. One year after an effective benefit date, a benefit recipient is entitled to a three percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). This same COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the Educational Service Center is required to contribute 14% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10% for plan members and 14% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, and Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, the 14% was allocated to only three of the funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund and Medicare B Fund).

The Educational Service Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was $339,461 for fiscal year 2021.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)
Educational Service Center 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 will be 2.2% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or at age 55 with 26 years of service, or 30 years of service regardless of age. Increases in age and service requirements increase effective August 1, 2015 and will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12% of the 14%-member rate goes to the DC Plan and 2% goes the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of services. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50 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 Ohio 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 Ohio bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS Ohio therefore has included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB Statement No. 68 reporting purposes.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. New members on or after July 1, 2013, must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit 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, 2021, plan members were required to contribute 14% of their annual covered salary. The Educational Service Center was required to contribute 14%; the entire 14% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2021 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The Educational Service Center's contractually required contribution to STRS was $841,550 for fiscal year 2021.

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 Educational Service Center's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Educational Service Center'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
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	$ 4,054,564	$ 11,067,307	$ 15,121,871
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Year	0.0613008%	0.0457394%	
Prior Year	0.0437974%	0.0408246%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0175034%	0.0049148%	

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 consider the employee's entire career with the employer and 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	2.50 percent
Investment rate of return	7.50 percent of net investment expense, including inflation
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal

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 for active members. 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.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2010 to 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 averaged of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00%	1.85%
US stocks	22.50%	5.75%
Non-US stocks	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	100.00%	

Discount Rate - The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.5%. 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%). 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 Educational Service Center'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%, 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%), or one percentage point higher (8.5%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current Discount Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 5,554,258	$ 4,054,564	$ 2,796,293

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2020, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

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

Post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disability 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 were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Domestic equity	28.00%	7.35%
International equity	23.00%	7.55%
Alternatives	17.00%	7.09%
Fixed income	21.00%	3.00%
Real estate	10.00%	6.00%
Liquidity reserves	1.00%	2.25%
Total	100.00%	

* - 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and 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% as of June 30, 2020. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS’ fiduciary net position was projected to be 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% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2020.

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

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability	$ 15,757,919	$ 11,067,307	$ 7,092,405

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSIONS (OPEB)

Net OPEB Asset/Liability

OPEB are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net OPEB asset or liability represents the Educational Service Center's proportionate share of each OPEB plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The net OPEB asset or liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, health care cost trend rates and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting this estimate annually.

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

GASB Statement No. 75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB liability. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

Health Care Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

The Educational Service Center contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB Statement No. 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

Funding Policy—State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2021, there was no portion allocated 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, the minimum compensation amount was $23,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2021, the Educational Service Center's surcharge obligation was $23,455.

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

Funding Policy—Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% 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 Asset/Liability
The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2020, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Educational Service Center's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the Educational Service Center's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share OPEB plans:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset (Liability)	$ (1,281,194)	$ 803,869	$ (477,325)
Proportion of the Net OPEB Asset/Liability:			
Current Year	0.0589508%	0.0457394%	
Prior Year	0.0430218%	0.0408246%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0159290%	0.0049148%	

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

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

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. For a newly hired employee, actuarial calculations will consider the employee's entire career with the employer and 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, 2020, are presented below:

Investment rate of return	7.50% of net investment expense, including inflation
Inflation	3.00%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.50% to 18.20%
Municipal bond index rate:	
Prior measurement date	3.13%
Measurement date	2.45%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:	
Prior measurement date	3.22%
Measurement date	2.63%
Medical Trend Assumption:	
Pre-Medicare	7.00% - 4.75%
Medicare	5.25% - 4.75%

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

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

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

The target 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 in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00%	1.85%
US stocks	22.50%	5.75%
Non-US stocks	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	100.00%	

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2021 was 2.63%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability at June 30, 2019 was 3.22%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and SERS 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 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, 2035. 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, 2034 and the Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index rate of 2.45% 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 Educational Service Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and 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 calculated using the discount rate of 2.63%, as well as what the Educational Service Center's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (1.63%) and one percentage point higher (3.63%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Rate	1.63%	2.63%	3.63%
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	$ 1,568,149	$ 1,281,194	$ 1,053,065

The following table presents the net OPEB liability calculated using current health care cost trend rates, as well as what the Educational Service Center's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.75%) and one percentage point higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.75%) than the current rates.

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Rate	6.00% decreasing to 3.75%	7.00% decreasing to 4.75%	8.00% decreasing to 5.75%
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	$ 1,008,843	$ 1,281,194	$ 1,645,397

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS
The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2020 actuarial valuation was determined using the following assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65	
Payroll increases	3.00%	
Investment rate of return	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Discount rate of return	7.45%	
Health care cost trends:	Initial	Ultimate
Medical:		
Pre-Medicare	5.00%	4.00%
Medicare	-6.69%	4.00%
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	6.50%	4.00%
Medicare	11.87%	4.00%

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 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, claim curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% 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% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return *
Domestic equity	28.00%	7.35%
International equity	23.00%	7.55%
Alternatives	17.00%	7.09%
Fixed income	21.00%	3.00%
Real estate	10.00%	6.00%
Liquidity reserves	1.00%	2.25%
Total	100.00%	

* - 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and 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 OPEB liability was 7.45% as of June 30, 2020. 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 of current plan members as of June 30, 2020. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets of 7.45% was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2020.

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
	6.45%	7.45%	8.45%
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	$ 699,419	$ 803,869	$ 892,492

	1% Decrease in Trend Rates	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase in Trend Rates
Educational Service Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	$ 886,991	$ 803,869	$ 702,615

NOTE 9 – OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation, personal and sick leave benefits are derived from Board policy and State laws. All twelve month certified employees earn twenty days of vacation per fiscal year, eleven month certified employees earn fifteen days of vacation per fiscal year and ten month certified employees earn ten days of vacation per fiscal year. Certified employees working less than ten months do not earn vacation time.
Support staff employees earn ten days of vacation after one year of service; after eight years of service they earn fifteen days of vacation; with fifteen years of service they earn twenty days of vacation and after twenty-five years of service they earn twenty-five days of vacation per year. Accumulated, unused vacation must be used by December of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which it is earned.

All employees earn three days of personal leave per fiscal year. Accumulated, unused personal leave does not carry beyond the contract in which it is earned.

All employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 250 days for all personnel. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fifth of accrued, but unused sick leave credit to a maximum of 45 days for all employees. Directors with two years experience with the Educational Service Center are eligible to be paid a maximum of 56 days of unused sick leave upon retirement.

B. Insurance Benefits

The Educational Service Center provides life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to most employees through Medical Life Insurance Company. Medical/surgical benefits are provided by United Health Care through Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan (MBP) (See Note 12). The employees' are required to contribute 20 percent of the premiums for medical/surgical benefits.

C. Pick-Up of Employees' Share of Retirement

The Educational Service Center contributes 14 percent of the employee wages to the State Teachers' Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio) and the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). The remaining 10 percent for SERS and 14 percent for STRS is paid by the employee with the exception of fully paid retirement for the Superintendent, Treasurer, and selected administrators as defined by their respective contracts.

NOTE 10 – LEASES

During the fiscal year, the Educational Service Center had an agreement with the Clark County Board of Developmental Disabilities for the lease of certain property to use for classroom space at a cost of $13,625 per year. In addition, the Educational Service Center subleases certain office space for its administration and operations from the Community Improvement Corporation of Springfield and Clark County. This lease began in December 2019 and contained base rents of $52,538 for year one, $64,900 for year two, and $71,081 for year three. In addition, renewal of the agreement, if exercised by sublessee, base rent for renewal periods will be $77,263 for the first renewal period and adjusted by the Consumer Price Index for years after the initial renewal period.

In March of 2018, the Educational Service Center entered into an agreement with Perry Protech for copier leases for a 5-year term at $1,513.85/month. Future lease payments to Perry Protech are as follows:

Year	Amount
2022	$ 18,166
2023	13,625
Total	$ 31,791

NOTE 11 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Miami Valley Educational Computer Association

The Educational Service Center is a participant in the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA) which is a computer consortium. MVECA is an association of public schools within the boundaries of Clark, Clinton, Fayette, Greene and Highland Counties and Cities of Springfield, Wilmington, Washington Court House, Xenia and Hillsboro. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member districts.

The governing board of MVECA consists of five Superintendents and two Treasurers of member school districts, with four of the five Superintendents and both Treasurers elected by a majority vote of all member school districts except the Greene County Career Center. The fifth Superintendent is from the Greene County Career Center. The Educational Service Center paid MVECA $15,873 for services provided during the year. Financial information can be obtained from Thor Sage, who serves as Director, at 330 East Enon Road, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

The Educational Service Center participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC), and insurance purchasing pool 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, auditor's 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. Financial information can be obtained from Mr. Ken Swink, Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Director.

Clark County Family and Children First Council

The Clark County Family and Children First Council (the Council) is a voluntary association established to coordinate and integrate those services within Clark County which are available for families and children and to establish a comprehensive, coordinated, multi-disciplinary, interagency system for the delivery of such services in order to more effectively meet the needs of each of the members of the Council. The Board of Trustees is comprised of eighteen representatives of each of the members of the Council, including the Superintendents of the Clark County schools. All members are obligated to pay all dues as established by the Council to aid the financing of the operations and programs of the Council. Any member withdrawing from the Council must give one hundred eighty days written notice to the Council after formal action of the member's governing board. To obtain financial information, write to the Clark County Family and Children First Council, Leslie Crew, who serves as Executive Director, at 1345 Lagonda Road, Springfield, Ohio 45502.

Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center

The Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center (the Center) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the seven participating school districts' elected boards, which possess its own budgeting and taxing authority. One member is appointed from the following: Clark-Shawnee Local School District, Greenon Local School District, Northeastern Local School District, Northwestern Local School District, Southeastern Local School District, Tecumseh Local School District, and the Educational Service Center. One member is appointed from the Springfield City School District. To obtain financial information, write to the Springfield-Clark County Career Technology Center, Brad McKee, who serves as Treasurer, 1901 Selma Road, Springfield, Ohio 45505-4329.

NOTE 12 – INSURANCE POOLS

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The Educational Service Center participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP). The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a fourteen member committee consisting of various EPC representatives that are elected by the general assembly. Either the superintendent or treasurer from each participating school district serves on the general assembly. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan.

The Educational Service Center participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan (MBP). The MBP's business and affairs are conducted by an eleven member committee consisting of various MBP representatives that are elected by the general assembly. Either the superintendent or treasurer from each participating school district serves on the general assembly. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the MBP to cover the costs of administering the program.

NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES

Grants

The Educational Service Center received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies.

Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the Educational Service Center at June 30, 2021.

NOTE 14 – COMMITMENTS

At year end the Educational Service Center had a total of $50,984 encumbered for future purchase obligations, all of which is within the General Fund.

NOTE 15 – INTERFUND ACTIVITY

During fiscal year 2021, the Parent Mentor State Grant, a nonmajor special revenue fund, returned the $1,729 advance made by the General Fund in the previous fiscal year. The advance to the Parent Mentor State Grant was initially made to provide temporary funding until grant funding was received.

NOTE 16 – 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. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June of 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During fiscal year 2021, the Educational Service Center 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 Educational Service Center received $98,514 in Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funding.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE
AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

Members of the Governing Board
Clark County Education Service Center
Springfield, Ohio

The Honorable Keith Faber
Auditor of State
State of Ohio

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Clark County Educational Service Center, Clark County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 3, 2023, wherein we noted that the Center uses a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the Center.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Center's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Center's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed one instance of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as **Findings 2021-001**.

Clark County Educational Service Center's Responses to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor of perform limited procedures on the Center's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The Center's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Center's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Zupka & Associates

Zupka & Associates
Certified Public Accountants

January 3, 2023

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

Finding 2021-001 – Noncompliance Finding – Annual Financial Report

Condition/Criteria

Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38(A) 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 Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38, requires the Center to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The Center prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, report on the basis of cash receipts and cash disbursements, 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.

Effect

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38, the Center 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 Center's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the Center. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the Center should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Recommendation

We recommend the Center take the necessary steps to ensure the annual report is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Center Response

Due to the cost of a GAAP conversion, along with the cost associated with auditing the GAAP financial report, the Clark County Educational Service Center has chosen to prepare their financial statements using another comprehensive basis of accounting (OCBOA).

CLARK COUNTY EDUCATONAL SERVICE CENTER
CLARK COUNTY, OHIO
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

The prior audit report, as of June 30, 2020, included noncompliance findings.

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2020-001	Noncompliance - Annual Financial Report	Not Corrected	Repeated as Finding 2021-001

The prior audit report, as of June 30, 2020, included management letter recommendations. Management letter recommendations as of June 30, 2020, have been corrected, repeated, or procedures instituted to prevent occurrences in this audit period.

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

CLARK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

CLARK 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 3/21/2023