



FREDERICKTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT KNOX COUNTY JUNE 30, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Fredericktown Local School District Knox County 117 Columbus Road Fredericktown, Ohio 43019

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fredericktown Local School District, Knox County, Ohio (the School District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying 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 School District, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund 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 School District, 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 - Accounting Basis

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis 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 States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Efficient • Effective • Transparent

Fredericktown Local School District Knox County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

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 School District'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 School District'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 School District'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.

Fredericktown Local School District Knox County Independent Auditor's Report Page 3

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted to opine on the financial statements as a whole that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements.

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

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied to the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, this schedule is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

We applied no procedures to management's discussion & analysis as listed in the table of contents. Accordingly, we express no opinion or any other assurance on them.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 13, 2024, on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. 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 School District'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 School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

November 13, 2024

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Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Unaudited

The discussion and analysis of Fredericktown Local School District's financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

Highlights

Key highlights for fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- Net position increased from the prior fiscal year due to a decrease in disbursements primarily related to Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) grants, which funded various purchases in the prior year. In addition, a number of veteran teaching staff retired, and new staff members were hired at lower step rates with lower insurance rates.
- During fiscal year 2024, the School District purchased curriculum, chromebooks, 1 school bus, marquee, public announcement system, updated access controllers, updated security and supplies for students.
- Certificated employees received a 2.5 percent increase in base salary, and non-certificated employees also received a 2.5 percent increase in base salary.

Using the Basic Financial Statements

This annual report is presented in a format consistent with the presentation requirements of Government Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, as applicable to the School District's cash basis of accounting.

Report Components

The statement of net position and the statement of activities provide information about the cash activities of the School District as a whole.

Fund financial statements provide a greater level of detail. Funds are created and maintained on the financial records of the School District as a way to segregate money whose use is restricted to a particular specified purpose. These statements present financial information by fund, presenting funds with the largest balances or most activity in separate columns.

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of the School District's government-wide and fund financial statements and provide expanded explanation and detail regarding the information reported in the statements.

Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting is a set of guidelines that determine when financial events are recorded. The School District has elected to present its financial statements on a cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. Under the School District's cash basis of accounting, receipts and disbursements are recorded when cash is received or paid.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Unaudited

As a result of using the cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable) are not recorded in the financial statements. Therefore, when reviewing the financial information and discussion within this report, the reader must keep in mind the limitations resulting from the use of the cash basis of accounting.

Reporting the School District as a Whole

The statement of net position and the statement of activities reflect how the School District did financially during fiscal year 2024, within the limitations of cash basis accounting. The statement of net position presents the cash balances and investments of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year end. The statement of activities compares cash disbursements with program receipts for each governmental program. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services and grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. General receipts and interest are all receipts not classified as program receipts. The comparison of cash disbursements with program receipts identifies how each governmental function draws from the School District's general receipts.

These statements report the School District's cash position and the changes in cash position. Keeping in mind the limitations of the cash basis of accounting, you can think of these changes as one way to measure the School District's financial health. Over time, increases or decreases in the School District's cash position is one indicator of whether the School District's financial health is improving or deteriorating. When evaluating the School District's financial condition, you should also consider other nonfinancial factors as well, such as the School District's property tax base, the condition of the School District's capital assets, the extent of the School District's debt obligations, the reliance on non-local financial resources for operations and the need for continued growth in the major local receipt sources such as property taxes.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, all School District activities are classified as governmental. Most of the School District's programs and services are reported here including instruction, support services, operation and maintenance, pupil transportation, operation of food service and extracurricular activities.

Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds

Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the School District's major funds – not the School District as a whole. The School District establishes separate funds to better manage its many activities and to help demonstrate that money that is restricted as to how it may be used is being spent for the intended purpose. The funds of the School District are split into two categories: governmental and proprietary.

Governmental Funds – Most of the School District's activities are reported in governmental funds. The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed view of the School District's governmental operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or less financial resources that can be spent to finance the School District's programs. The School District's significant governmental funds are presented on the financial statements in separate columns. The information for nonmajor funds (funds whose activity or balances are not large enough to warrant separate reporting) is combined and presented in total in a single column. The School District's major governmental funds are the general fund and the capital maintenance capital project fund. The programs reported in governmental funds are closely related to those reported in the governmental activities section of the entity-wide statements.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Unaudited

Proprietary Funds – When the School District charges customers for the services it provides, these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. When the services are provided to the general public, the activity is reported as an enterprise fund. The School District has no enterprise funds. When the services are provided to other departments of the School District, the service is reported as an internal service fund. The School District has one internal service fund for self-insurance.

The School District as a Whole

Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for fiscal year 2024 compared to fiscal year 2023 on a cash basis:

(Table 1) **Net Position**

	Governmental Activities				
	2024 2023 Chan				
Assets					
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$13,634,837	\$12,016,306	\$1,618,531		
Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents	3,896,336	3,818,396	77,940		
Total Assets	\$17,531,173	\$15,834,702	\$1,696,471		
Net Position					
Restricted	\$1,608,054	\$1,728,136	(\$120,082)		
Unrestricted	15,923,119	14,106,566	1,816,553		
Total Net Position	\$17,531,173	\$15,834,702	\$1,696,471		

Net position increased from the prior fiscal year due to the increase in receipts and a decrease in disbursements. The increase in receipts was mainly due to an increase in property tax valuations as well as an increase in State funding from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce.

The decrease in disbursements was primarily due to spending less in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) grant dollars than the prior year. The School District also had a number of employees retire and were replaced with new staff at lower step rates. In addition, a number of these new staff members either declined insurance due to their age being under 26 or enrolling in single insurance and not a family plan which offset the employer share of insurance coverage.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Unaudited

Table 2 shows the change in net position for fiscal year 2024 compared to fiscal year 2023 for governmental activities:

(Table 2) **Change in Net Position**

	Governmental Activities			
	2024	2023	Change	
Receipts				
Program Receipts:				
Charges for Services and Sales	\$712,304	\$724,415	(\$12,111)	
Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest	2,366,988	4,003,982	(1,636,994)	
Capital Grants and Contributions	26,435	26,958	(523)	
Total Program Receipts	3,105,727	4,755,355	(1,649,628)	
General Receipts:				
Property Taxes	5,949,754	5,169,895	779,859	
Grants and Entitlements	8,083,949	7,148,767	935,182	
Unrestricted Contributions	2,500	2,750	(250)	
Investment Earnings/Interest	580,987	253,598	327,389	
Miscellaneous	128,309	97,477	30,832	
Total General Receipts	14,745,499	12,672,487	2,073,012	
Total Receipts	17,851,226	17,427,842	423,384	
Disbursements				
Instruction:				
Regular	6,561,444	6,868,054	306,610	
Special	2,577,041	2,482,931	(94,110)	
Vocational	162,717	160,568	(2,149)	
Support Services:				
Pupil	824,810	847,067	22,257	
Instructional Staff	406,644	311,456	(95,188)	
Board of Education	86,195	79,307	(6,888)	
Administration	1,187,851	1,061,991	(125,860)	
Fiscal	436,987	398,664	(38,323)	
Business	1,104	2,784	1,680	
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,054,676	1,681,442	626,766	
Pupil Transportation	788,441	874,843	86,402	
Central	128,625	125,759	(2,866)	
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	574,954	545,930	(29,024)	
Extracurricular Activities	715,339	733,303	17,964	
Debt Service	647,927	693,574	45,647	
Total Disbursements	16,154,755	16,867,673	712,918	
Change in Net Position	1,696,471	560,169	1,136,302	
Net Position Beginning of Year	15,834,702	15,274,533	560,169	
Net Position End of Year	\$17,531,173	\$15,834,702	\$1,696,471	

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Unaudited

Grants and entitlements are the School District's largest source of receipts, followed by property taxes. The School District carefully monitors both these receipts and uses both a five-year forecast and a spending plan to predict future receipts and disbursements of the School District. Property taxes receipts rose primarily due to an increase in assessed values.

Some of the significant disbursements during fiscal year 2024 were in the categories of regular and special instruction. Regular and special instruction disbursements are primarily salary and benefit costs for the School District's teachers. Salary and benefit costs decreased due to the School District spending less in ESSER grants than the prior year despite 2.5 percent step increases in base salary for certificated and noncertificated employees

Governmental Activities

If you look at the statement of activities on page 15, you will see that the first column lists the major services provided by the School District. The next column identifies the costs of providing these services. The major program disbursements for governmental activities are for instruction and support services. The next three columns of the statement entitled program receipts identify amounts paid by people who are directly charged for the service and grants received by the School District that must be used to provide a specific service. The net receipts (disbursements) column compares the program receipts to the cost of the service. This "net cost" amount represents the cost of the service which ends up being paid from money provided by local taxpayers, unrestricted grants and other miscellaneous receipts. These net costs are paid from the general receipts which are presented at the bottom of the statement. A comparison between the total cost of services and the net cost is presented in Table 3.

(Table 3) **Total and Net Cost of Program Services**

	Total Cost	Net Cost	Total Cost	Net Cost
	of Service	of Service	of Service	of Service
	2024	2024	2023	2023
Instruction	\$9,301,202	\$7,552,162	\$9,511,553	\$6,424,075
Support Services:				
Pupil and Instructional Staff	1,231,454	1,231,454	1,158,523	1,138,279
Board of Education, Administration,				
Fiscal and Business	1,712,137	1,712,137	1,542,746	1,538,406
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,054,676	440,054	1,681,442	868,013
Pupil Transportation	788,441	788,441	874,843	728,641
Central	128,625	122,633	125,759	120,359
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	574,954	68,866	545,930	85,700
Extracurricular Activities	715,339	485,354	733,303	515,271
Debt Service	647,927	647,927	693,574	693,574
Total Disbursements	\$16,154,755	\$13,049,028	\$16,867,673	\$12,112,318

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Unaudited

The School District's Funds

Information about the School District's major funds starts on page 16. Total governmental funds had an increase in total receipts from the prior fiscal year, primarily due a full year of collections on increased property tax valuations. The decrease in disbursements for total governmental funds was primarily due to School District spending less in ESSER grants than the prior year. The net change for fiscal year 2024 was an increase in fund balance.

The general fund had a decrease in fund balance for fiscal year 2024 due to the increase in receipts, despite an increase in disbursements. The increase in receipts was primarily related to the growth in investment earnings/interest receipts and property taxes due to rising interest rates and assessed values, respectively. The increase in disbursements was mainly due to a rise in regular and special instruction, which was tied to the outsourcing of speech services, as well as the increase in salaries. In addition, the general fund transferred \$2,000,000 to create the capital maintenance capital projects fund for future acquisition, construction, or improvement of fixed assets for the School District.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The School District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

During fiscal year 2024, the School District amended its general fund budget a few times to allow for changes to the budget.

For the general fund, the final budget receipts estimate was higher than the original budget estimate. Actual receipts were lower than the final estimate, due to lower than anticipated interest receipts.

The final appropriations estimate was higher than the original appropriations. Actual disbursements were less than anticipated. This difference is due to the fact that the School District did not spend what it anticipated in every disbursement category, especially instruction and pupil, instructional staff, fiscal, and operation and maintenance of plant support services.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

The School District maintains a listing of its capital assets. These records are not required to be presented in the financial statements.

Debt

At June 30, 2024, the School District's outstanding debt included \$2,225,338 in general obligation bonds issued for improvements to buildings and structures, \$53,171 in energy conservation notes and a \$327,000 financed purchase balance pertaining to School District construction. The School District's overall debt margin was \$23,036,942 with an unvoted debt margin of \$276,904 at June 30, 2024. For further information regarding the School District's debt, refer to Note 11 to the basic financial statements.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Unaudited

Current Issues

The School District has been with United Health Care and United Medical Resources since November 1, 2012. Over the last 5 years, the School District has experienced a 2 percent average increase in medical premiums annually, compared to 5.75 percent in years prior to the change in medical providers and third-party administrators. The School District maintains a \$35,000 individual claim limit per month for internal pool and \$500,000 for stop loss insurance. With the School District's change in medical providers and third-party administrators, the School District was able to observe a 0 percent increase in medical premiums in fiscal years 2019, 2021 and 2022, 3.55 percent in 2023 and was able to take premium holidays for the staff and the Board in fiscal years 2019, 2021 and 2023. The increase in medical premiums was 2.53 percent in fiscal year 2020, 0 percent in fiscal year 2021, 0 percent in fiscal year 2022, 3.55 percent in fiscal year 2024.

The end of fiscal year 2022 marked the expiration of the three-year contracts for teachers and classified employees. In August 2022, new labor agreements were approved for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2025, with salary increases set at 2.5 percent for fiscal years 2023, 2024 and 2025.

School districts dependent upon property taxes are hampered by a lack of revenue growth and must regularly return to the voters to maintain a constant level of service. Property taxes increased slightly in fiscal years 2019 and 2020, due to increases in real property values, while agricultural values decreased slightly in fiscal years 2019 and 2020. The County had a reappraisal for tax year 2020, which resulted in the School District hitting the 20-mill floor. This generated new revenue for the School District. Personal property increased 8 percent and commercial property increased 12 percent. Management must plan expenses accordingly, staying within the School District's five-year plan. The County went through a revaluation in 2023, which resulted in a 19.95 percent increase in residential, along with agriculture.

In conclusion, the School District's systems of budgeting and internal controls are well-regarded. All of the School District's financial abilities will be needed to meet the challenges of the future.

Performance Index

The School District received Stars in all areas for the 2023 Ohio School Report Card. Gap Closing received 5 Stars, Achievement received 4 Stars, Progress received 3 Stars, Graduation Rate receive 5 Stars, and Improving At-Risk K-3 Reader received 3 Stars. Committed to providing a top-notch educational experience for every student, the staff has embraced the Ohio Improvement Process as a means to make educational decisions using data. Teacher Based Teams (TBTs) meet weekly to review formative data and to plan next steps in instruction, remediation, and enrichment. With this approach, the dedicated staff at the School District will continue to improve the overall growth and achievement of our students. Our motto in Fredericktown is "Every Day, Everyone Learning and Adapting to Excel in a Changing World." Our staff is committed, focused, and has worked to build strong learning communities in our buildings. These learning communities initiated quarterly assessments, analyzed data, and emphasized critical thinking and problem solving. Our curriculum team worked diligently on aligning the curriculum to the State standards. Most importantly, we have students who care about their education and a community that supports our schools.

Management's Discussion and Analysis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Unaudited

Contacting the School District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our parents, citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Heather Darnold, Treasurer at Fredericktown Local School District, 117 Columbus Road, Fredericktown, Ohio 43019 or e-mail at hdarnold@fredschools.com.

Basic Financial Statements	

Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis June 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
Assets	444 644 044
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$13,634,837
Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents	3,896,336
Total Assets	\$17,531,173
Net Position	
Restricted for:	¢422 010
Capital Projects	\$432,910
Debt Service	350,605
Food Service Operations	267,718
Classroom Maintenance	282,521
Scholarships	184,739
Other Purposes	89,561
Unrestricted	15,923,119
Total Net Position	\$17,531,173

Fredericktown Local School District Statement of Activities - Cash Basis For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

			Program Receipts		Net Receipts (Disbursements) and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$6,561,444	\$321,361	\$373,636	\$0	(\$5,866,447)
Special	2,577,041	0	1,013,133	0	(1,563,908)
Vocational	162,717	0	40,910	0	(121,807)
Support Services:	024.010	0	0	0	(024.010)
Pupil Instructional Staff	824,810	0	0	0	(824,810)
Board of Education	406,644 86,195	0	0	0	(406,644) (86,195)
Administration	1,187,851	0	0	0	(1,187,851)
Fiscal	436,987	0	0	0	(436,987)
Business	1,104	0	0	0	(1,104)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,054,676	0	588,187	26,435	(440,054)
Pupil Transportation	788,441	0	0	0	(788,441)
Central	128,625	0	5,992	0	(122,633)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	574,954	160,958	345,130	0	(68,866)
Extracurricular Activities	715,339	229,985	0	0	(485,354)
Debt Service:	,	,			, , ,
Principal Retirement	565,679	0	0	0	(565,679)
Interest	82,248	0	0	0	(82,248)
Total	\$16,154,755	\$712,304	\$2,366,988	\$26,435	(13,049,028)
		General Receipt Property Taxes L			
		General Purpo			5,287,867
		Capital Outlay	,		234,342
		Debt Service			368,959
		Classroom Fac	cilities Maintenance		58,586
			ements not Restricted	d	
		to Specific Pro	-		8,083,949
		Unrestricted Con			2,500
		Investment Earni	ngs/Interest		580,987
		Miscellaneous			128,309
		Total General Re	eceipts		14,745,499
		Change in Net Po	osition		1,696,471
		Net Position Beg	inning of Year		15,834,702
		Net Position End	of Year		\$17,531,173

Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis Governmental Funds June 30, 2024

	General	Capital Maintenance	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$10,026,783	\$2,000,000	\$1,608,054	\$13,634,837
Fund Balances Restricted Committed Assigned Unassigned	\$0 0 3,572,643 6,454,140	\$0 2,000,000 0	\$1,608,054 0 0	\$1,608,054 2,000,000 3,572,643 6,454,140
Total Fund Balances	\$10,026,783	\$2,000,000	\$1,608,054	\$13,634,837

Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Cash Balances to Net Position of Governmental Cash Activities June 30, 2024

Total Governmental Funds Balances	\$13,634,837
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:	
An internal service fund is used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds. The assets of the internal service fund are included in governmental activities in the statement of net position.	3,896,336
Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$17,531,173

Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances - Cash Basis Governmental Funds For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	General	Capital Maintenance	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts	General	Widilitellance	1 unus	Tunus
Property Taxes	\$5,287,867	\$0	\$661,887	\$5,949,754
Intergovernmental	8,715,320	0	1,757,824	10,473,144
Investment Earnings/Interest	472,774	0	138	472,912
Tuition and Fees	311,406	0	0	311,406
Extracurricular Activities	16,259	0	213,726	229,985
Contributions and Donations	2,500	0	4,228	6,728
Charges for Services	260	0	160,958	161,218
Rentals	9,695	0	0	9,695
Miscellaneous	32,510		1,848	34,358
Total Receipts	14,848,591	0	2,800,609	17,649,200
Disbursements	_		_	
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	5,703,454	0	798,458	6,501,912
Special	2,224,310	0	329,679	2,553,989
Vocational	159,425	0	2,511	161,936
Support Services:				
Pupil	806,153	0	15,012	821,165
Instructional Staff	265,236	0	139,680	404,916
Board of Education	86,195	0	0	86,195
Administration	1,177,793	0	0	1,177,793
Fiscal	417,768	0	14,711	432,479
Business	1,104	0	0	1,104
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	900,222	0	151,385	1,051,607
Pupil Transportation	685,466	0	95,000	780,466
Central	122,570	0	5,992	128,562
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	0	0	569,048	569,048
Extracurricular Activities	505,157	0	206,413	711,570
Debt Service:	303,137	U	200,413	711,570
Principal Retirement	50,679	0	515,000	565,679
Interest	4,446	0	77,802	82,248
interest	4,440		77,802	82,248
Total Disbursements	13,109,978	0	2,920,691	16,030,669
Excess of Receipts Over				
(Under) Disbursements	1,738,613	0	(120,082)	1,618,531
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Transfers In	0	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
Transfers Out	(2,000,000)	0	0	(2,000,000)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(2,000,000)	2,000,000	0	0
Net Change in Fund Balances	(261,387)	2,000,000	(120,082)	1,618,531
Fund Balances Beginning of Year	10,288,170	0	1,728,136	12,016,306
Fund Balances End of Year	\$10,026,783	\$2,000,000	\$1,608,054	\$13,634,837

Reconciliation of the Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds

\$1,618,531

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

The internal service fund used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds is not reported in the district-wide statement of activities. Governmental fund disbursements and the related internal service fund receipts are eliminated. The net receipts (disbursements) of the internal service fund is allocated among the governmental activities.

77,940

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities

\$1,696,471

Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis General Fund For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Budgeted .	Amounts		
	Original	Final	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Receipts	Φ4.0 2 0.6 2 0	#5.007.067	05.007.067	Φ0
Property Taxes	\$4,829,620	\$5,287,867	\$5,287,867	\$0
Intergovernmental	6,950,034	8,715,129	8,715,320	191
Interest	115,000	502,375	472,774	(29,601)
Tuition and Fees	239,000	255,231	255,231	0
Contributions and Donations	300	2,500	2,500	0
Charges for Services	0	260	260	0
Rentals	8,700	8,700	9,695	995
Miscellaneous	20,000	32,477	32,510	33
Total Receipts	12,162,654	14,804,539	14,776,157	(28,382)
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction:	(242 00 ((4(2 072	5 (50 (22	002 440
Regular	6,342,096	6,462,073	5,659,633	802,440
Special Venetional	2,889,245	2,668,928	2,228,924	440,004
Vocational	183,900	189,890	155,501	34,389
Support Services: Pupil	933,350	1,049,949	809,635	240,314
Instructional Staff	575,019	544,708	316,914	227,794
Board of Education	94,400	126,638	86,270	40,368
Administration	1,335,500	1,361,901	1,180,763	181,138
Fiscal	583,400	599,043	417,768	181,275
Business	45,800	16,612	1,104	15,508
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,166,900	1,129,235	902,382	226,853
Pupil Transportation	905,800	895,455	685,466	209,989
Central	217,570	221,962	123,564	98,398
Extracurricular Activities	569,520	576,106	492,690	83,416
Debt Service:	,	,	,	,
Principal Retirement	51,000	50,679	50,679	0
Interest	5,000	5,321	4,446	875
Total Disbursements	15,898,500	15,898,500	13,115,739	2,782,761
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	(3,735,846)	(1,093,961)	1,660,418	2,754,379
Other Financing Sources (Uses) Transfers Out	0	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	0
Net Change in Fund Balance	(3,735,846)	(3,093,961)	(339,582)	2,754,379
Fund Balance Beginning of Year	10,036,334	10,036,334	10,036,334	0
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	65,665	65,665	65,665	0
Fund Balance End of Year	\$6,366,153	\$7,008,038	\$9,762,417	\$2,754,379

Statement of Fund Net Position - Cash Basis Internal Service Fund June 30, 2024

	Insurance		
Assets Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents	\$3,896,336		
Net Position Unrestricted	\$3,896,336		

Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Net Position - Cash Basis Internal Service Fund For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Insurance	
Operating Receipts Charges for Services	\$2,258,993	
Other	93,951	
Total Operating Receipts	2,352,944	
Operating Disbursements Purchased Services Claims	956,735 1,426,344	
Total Operating Disbursements	2,383,079	
Operating Loss	(30,135)	
Non-Operating Receipts		
Investment Earnings/Interest	108,075	
Change in Net Position	77,940	
Net Position Beginning of Year	3,818,396	
Net Position End of Year	\$3,896,336	

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 1 – Reporting Entity

Fredericktown Local School District (the "School District") is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The School District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. The School District provides educational services as authorized by State and Federal agencies.

The School District was established in 1876. The School District serves an area of approximately 94 square miles. It encompasses most of the northwest quadrant of Knox County, including the Village of Fredericktown and portions of surrounding townships. In addition, a small portion of Morrow County is included in the School District boundaries. It is staffed by 53 classified employees and 90 certificated employees who provide services to 1,167 students and other community members. The School District currently operates 3 instructional buildings and 2 support buildings.

Primary Government

A reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the basic financial statements of the School District are not misleading. The primary government of the School District consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For Fredericktown Local School District, this includes the agencies and departments that provide the following services: general operations, food service and student-related activities of the School District.

Component Units

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. The School District is also financially accountable for any organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the primary government. The School District has no component units.

Other Organizations

The School District participates in the Metropolitan Educational Technology Association, a jointly governed organization, and the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program and the Jefferson Health Plan, both insurance purchasing pools. These organizations are presented in Note 14 to the basic financial statements.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting Portion of this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

Basis of Presentation

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

Government-Wide Financial Statements The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. The activity of the internal service fund is eliminated to avoid "doubling up" revenues and expenses. The statements distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. The School District, however, has no business-type activities.

The government-wide statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the School District's general receipts.

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

Proprietary fund statements distinguish operating transactions from nonoperating transactions. Operating receipts generally result from exchange transactions such as charges for services directly relating to the fund's principal services. Operating disbursements include costs of sales and services and administrative costs. The fund statements report all other receipts and disbursements as nonoperating.

Fund Accounting

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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Governmental Funds The School District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The School District's major governmental funds are the general fund and the capital maintenance capital projects fund.

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

Capital Maintenance Fund The Capital Maintenance fund is used to account for and report monies transferred from the general fund that are committed for the acquisition, construction and improvements to the School District.

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

Proprietary Funds The School District classifies funds financed primarily from user charges for goods or services as proprietary. The School District only has an internal service fund.

Internal Service Fund The internal service fund accounts for and supports the financing of services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the School District on a cost reimbursement basis. The School District's only internal service fund is a self-insurance fund that accounts for medical, surgical, and dental claims for School District employees.

Basis of Accounting

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

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

Budgetary Process

All funds are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the fund level. The Treasurer has been given the authority to allocate Board appropriations to the function and object level within all funds without resolution by the Board of Education.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original and final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original and final appropriations were passed by the Board.

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

Cash and Cash Equivalents

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

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

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

During fiscal year 2024, the School District invested in U.S. treasury notes, a money market account, U.S. treasury bills, negotiable certificates of deposit, federal home loan bank notes, federal farm credit bank notes and STAR Ohio. Investments are reported at cost, except for the money market account and STAR Ohio. The School District's money market account investment is recorded at the amount reported by Northern Institutional Funds at June 30, 2024.

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

For 2024, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours advance notice for deposits and withdrawals of \$100 million or more is appreciated. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million per day.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, identified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2024 amounted to \$472,774, which includes \$140,484 assigned from other School District funds.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The School District participates in the Jefferson Health Plan insurance consortium for self-insurance. These monies are reflected on the statement of net position as "cash and cash equivalents with fiscal agents." The Jefferson County Educational Service Center serves as the fiscal agent for the insurance consortium.

Inventory and Prepaid Items

The School District reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

Capital Assets

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

Accumulated Leave

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

Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The School District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

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

Long-Term Obligations

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

Leases and SBITAs

The School District is the lessee (as defined by GASB 87) in various leases related to equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease payables are not reflected under the School District's modified cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The School District has entered into noncancelable SBITA contracts (as defined by GASB 96) for several types of software including contracts related to financial systems, scheduling, grading systems and various other software. Subscription liabilities are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. Subscription disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes includes resources restricted for athletics and music, student activities, and student instruction. The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" 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 resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

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

Assigned Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. These amounts are assigned by the School District Board of Education. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the School District Board of Education or State statute. State statue authorizes the Treasurer to assign fund balance to purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated. The School District Board of Education assigned fund balance for public school support and to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the fiscal year 2025 budget.

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.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The School District applies restricted resources first when expenditures 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 expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

Note 3 – Compliance

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

Note 4 – Budgetary Basis of Accounting

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The statement of receipts, disbursements and changes in fund balance – budget and actual – budgetary basis presented for the general fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis is outstanding year end encumbrances which are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed, or assigned fund balance (cash basis). The encumbrances outstanding at year end (budgetary basis) amounted to \$68,256 for the general fund. Also, the uniform school supplies, latchkey, and public school support funds are included with the general fund on the statement of assets and fund balances, as they do not have a committed or restricted receipt source. The net changes in fund balance for these funds were \$4,535, \$1,612, and \$3,792, respectively.

Note 5 – Deposits and Investments

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

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

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

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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Protection of the School District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institution's 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.

Interim monies held by the School District can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

- 1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
- 2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
- 3. Written repurchase agreements in securities listed above provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
- 4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met:
- 5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
- 6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
- 7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAROhio); and
- 8. Certain bankers' acceptances (for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time, if training requirements have been met.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

Cash with Fiscal Agents

At June 30, 2024, the School District's self-insurance internal service fund had a balance of \$3,896,336 with the Jefferson Health Plan, a claims servicing pool (see Note 14). The money is held by the claims servicer in a pooled account that is representative of numerous entities and therefore cannot be classified by risk under GASB Statement 3. The classification of cash and cash equivalents and investments for the Jefferson Health Plan as a whole may be obtained from the Plan's fiscal agent, the Jefferson County Educational Service Center. To obtain financial information, write to the Jefferson Health Plan, Steubenville, Ohio 43952.

Investments

The fair value of these investments is not materially different from measurement value. As of June 30, 2024, the School District had the following investments:

	Measurement		Standard & Poor's	Percent of Total
Investment	Amount	Maturity	Rating	Investments
U.S. Treasury Notes	\$1,221,863	Less than one year	N/A	15.35 %
Money Market Account	39,905	Average 36 days	AAAm	N/A
U.S. Treasury Bills	2,995,260	Less than one year	AA+	37.63
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	1,418,217	Less than one year	N/A	17.82
Federal Home Loan Bank Notes	1,227,369	Less than one year	AA+	15.42
Federal Farm Credit Bank Notes	449,446	Less than one year	AA+	5.65
STAR Ohio	608,193	Average 46.5 days	AAAm	N/A
Total Investments	\$7,960,253			

Interest Rate Risk As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses caused by rising interest rates, the School District's investment policy requires that operating funds be invested primarily in short-term investments maturing within five years from the date of purchase and that the School District's investment portfolio be structured so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations and/or long-term debt payments. The stated intent of the policy is to avoid the need to sell securities prior to maturity.

Credit Risk Investments of the School District carry ratings as indicated in the preceding table. The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment credit risk beyond the requirements in State statutes. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization and that the money market account be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally statistical rating organization.

Concentration of Credit Risk The School District places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 6 - Fund Balances

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the government funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented as follows:

			Other	Total
		Capital	Governmental	Governmental
Fund Balances	General	Maintenance	Funds	Funds
Restricted for:				
Capital Projects	\$0	\$0	\$432,910	\$432,910
Debt Service	0	0	350,605	350,605
Food Service Operations	0	0	267,718	267,718
Classroom Maintenance	0	0	282,521	282,521
Scholarships	0	0	184,739	184,739
Other Purposes:				
Athletics and Music	0	0	51,121	51,121
Student Activities	0	0	36,776	36,776
Student Instruction	0	0	1,664	1,664
Total Restricted	0	0	1,608,054	1,608,054
Committed for Capital Projects	0	2,000,000	0	2,000,000
Assigned to:				
Fiscal Year 2025 Operations	3,473,126	0	0	3,473,126
Purchases on Order:				
Student Instruction	6,897		0	6,897
Support Services	61,359		0	61,359
Public School Support	31,261	0	0	31,261
Total Assigned	3,572,643	0	0	3,572,643
Unassigned	6,454,140	0	0	6,454,140
Total Fund Balances	\$10,026,783	\$2,000,000	\$1,608,054	\$13,634,837

Note 7 – Property Taxes

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenues received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien on December 31, 2022, were levied after April 1, 2023, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Knox and Morrow Counties. The County Auditors periodically advance to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the Counties by June 30, 2024, are available to finance fiscal year 2025 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2024 taxes were collected are:

	2023 Second Half Collections		2024 First Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Real Estate Public Utility Personal	\$181,289,970 16,500,180	91.66 % 8.34	\$260,224,860 16,678,880	93.98 % 6.02
Total	\$197,790,150	100.00 %	\$276,903,740	100.00 %
Full Tax Rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$45.96		\$44	.27

During fiscal year 2024, the tax rate decreased mainly due to a decrease in the bond retirement rate. The bond retirement rate decreased due to the increase in assessed valuation so that the bond levy would meet its collection amount in order to provide for debt payments.

Property Tax Abatements

For fiscal year 2024, the School District's property taxes were reduced by \$726 under various enterprise zone agreements entered into by Wayne Township and the Village of Fredericktown.

Note 8 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability

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

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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

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

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes pension costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the retirement systems to amortize unfunded pension liabilities within 30 years. If the pension amortization period exceeds 30 years, each retirement system's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension/OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The net pension/net OPEB liability (asset) are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 9 for the required OPEB disclosures.

School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description – School District non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits, 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	Eligible to
	Retire on or before	Retire on or after
	August 1, 2017 *	August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially Reduced Benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit

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

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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost of living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. New benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. The COLA is indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5 percent and with a floor of 0 percent. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The Retirement Board approved a 2.5 percent COLA for calendar year 2023.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. For fiscal year 2024, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$297,760 for fiscal year 2024.

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2023, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 1 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2024 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2019. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3307.67(E) the STRS Ohio Retirement Board may adjust the COLA upon a determination by the board's actuary that a change will not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 34 years of service credit at any age.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

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

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 11.09 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. The remaining 2.91 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

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

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The 2024 employer and employee contribution rate of 14 percent was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For 2024, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$836,244 for fiscal year 2024.

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Measurement Date	0.044763700%	0.044233150%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.044784000%	0.043370130%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.000020300%	-0.000863020%	
Proportionate Share of the			
Net Pension Liability	\$2,473,425	\$9,525,582	\$11,999,007

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. Future benefits for all current plan members were projected through 2137.

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2023, are presented below:

Inflation	2.4 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.0 percent, on or after
	April 1, 2018, COLAs for future
	retirees will be delayed for three
	years following commencement
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of
	System expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
	(Level Percent of Payroll)

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five-year period ended June 30, 2020.

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating an arithmetic weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. As of June 30, 2023:

	Target	Long-Term Expected
Asset Class	Allocation	Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	0.75 %
US Equity	24.75	4.82
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	5.19
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	5.98
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	2.24
Private Equity	12.00	7.49
Real Estate/Real Assets	17.00	3.70
Private Debt/Private Credit	5.00	5.64
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate The total pension liability for 2023 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent. The discount rate determination did not use a municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 21-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarially determined contribution rate for fiscal year 2023 was 14 percent. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability. The annual money weighted rate of return, calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, for fiscal year 2023 was 6.90 percent.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate.

	Current		
	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share			
of the net pension liability	\$3,650,649	\$2,473,425	\$1,418,838

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2023, actuarial valuation are presented below:

Inflation 2.50 percent

Salary increases From 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent
based on service

Investment Rate of Return 7.00 percent, net of investment
expenses, including inflation

Discount Rate of Return 7.00 percent
Payroll Increases 3.00 percent

Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) 0.0 percent, effective July 1, 2017

Post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

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:

	Target	Long-Term Expected
Asset Class	Allocation *	Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00%	6.60%
International Equity	22.00	6.80
Alternatives	19.00	7.38
Fixed Income	22.00	1.75
Real Estate	10.00	5.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	1.00
Total	100.00%	

^{*} Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan

^{** 10} year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent, and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

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, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share		(,,,,,,)	
of the net pension liability	\$14,648,236	\$9,525,582	\$5,193,217

Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the School Employees Retirement System or the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio have an option to choose Social Security or the School Employees Retirement System. As of June 30, 2024, five members of the Board of Education have elected Social Security. The Board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages.

Note 9 - Defined Benefit OPEB Plans

See Note 8 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. 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. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The Health Care program is financed through a combination of employer contributions, recipient premiums, investment returns, and any funds received on behalf of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. The System's goal is to maintain a health care reserve account with a 20-year solvency period in order to ensure that fluctuations in the cost of health care do not cause an interruption in the program. However, during any period in which the 20-year solvency period is not achieved, the System shall manage the Health Care Fund on a pay-as-you-go basis.

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2024, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$32,251.

The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$32,251 for fiscal year 2024.

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description – The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Health care premiums were reduced by a Medicare Part B premium credit beginning in 2023. 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. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the School District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/Asset:			
Current Measurement Date	0.046077900%	0.044233150%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.045847900%	0.043370130%	
Change in Proportionate Share	-0.000230000%	-0.000863020%	
Proportionate Share of the: Net OPEB Liability Net OPEB (Asset)	\$759,109 0	\$0 (860,274)	\$759,109 (860,274)

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2023, are presented below:

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	June 30, 2023
Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of
	investment expense
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
	(Level Percent of Payroll)
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected	
to be Depleted	2048
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	3.86 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.69 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate,	-
Measurement Date	4.27 percent
Prior Measurement Date	4.08 percent
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	•
Medical Trend Assumption	
Measurement Date	6.75 to 4.40 percent
Prior Measurement Date	7.00 to 4.40 percent

Mortality rates among healthy retirees were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent 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 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table. Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five-year period ended June 30, 2020.

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 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021. 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 long-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. 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 SERS health care plan follows the same asset allocation and long-term expected real rate of return for each major asset class as the pension plan, see Note 8.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2023, was 4.27 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2023, was 4.08 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50 percent of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be depleted in 2048 by SERS'actuaries. The Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate was used in the determination of the single equivalent interest rate for both the June 30, 2022, and the June 30, 2023, total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index Rate was 3.86 percent at June 30, 2023, and 3.69 percent at June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.27%) and higher (5.27%) than the current discount rate (4.27%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate.

	Current	
1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
(3.27%)	(4.27%)	(5.27%)
\$970,357	\$759,109	\$592,530
	Current	
1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
(5.75% decreasing	(6.75% decreasing	(7.75% decreasing
to 3.40%)	to 4.40%)	to 5.40%)
\$557.691	\$759,109	\$1,026,014
	(3.27%) \$970,357 1% Decrease (5.75% decreasing	1% Decrease (3.27%) Discount Rate (4.27%) \$970,357 \$759,109 Current Trend Rate (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%)

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2023, actuarial valuation compared to the prior year are presented below:

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5 percent	Varies by service from 2.5 percent
	to 8.5 percent	to 8.5 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment	7.00 percent, net of investment
	expenses, including inflation	expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent	3 percent
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	7.00 percent
Health Care Cost Trends		
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	7.50 percent initial	7.50 percent initial
	4.14 percent ultimate	3.94 percent ultimate
Medicare	-10.94 percent initial	-68.78 percent initial
	4.14 percent ultimate	3.94 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	-11.95 percent initial	9.00 percent initial
	4.14 percent ultimate	3.94 percent ultimate
Medicare	1.33 percent initial	-5.47 percent initial
	4.14 percent ultimate	3.94 percent ultimate

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

Healthy retirees post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

The STRS health care plan follows the same asset allocation and long-term expected real rate of return for each major asset class as the pension plan, see Note 8.

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$728,109	\$860,274	\$975,375
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$980,716	\$860,274	\$715,203

Note 10 – Contingencies

Grants

The School District receives financial assistance from Federal and State agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds; however, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2024, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

School Foundation

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. DEW finalized the impact of the enrollment adjustments for the June 30, 2024, foundation funding period for the School District noting the financial impact was immaterial and therefore will not be disclosed.

Litigation

As of June 30, 2024, the School District was not party to any legal proceedings.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 11 – Debt

Changes in long-term obligations of the School District during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

	Principal Outstanding 6/30/2023	Additions	Reductions	Principal Outstanding 6/30/2024	Amounts Due in One Year
Governmental Activities					
General Obligation Bonds					
2016 Refunding Bonds:					
Term Bonds	\$2,650,000	\$0	(\$415,000)	\$2,235,000	\$425,000
Unamortized Accounting Loss	(11,849)	0	2,187	(9,662)	0
Total General Obligation Bonds	2,638,151	0	(412,813)	2,225,338	425,000
Other Long-Term Obligations					
2010 Energy Conservation Notes	103,850	0	(50,679)	53,171	53,171
Financed Purchase	427,000	0	(100,000)	327,000	104,000
Total Other Long-Term Obligations	530,850	0	(150,679)	380,171	157,171
Total Governmental Activities	\$3,169,001	\$0	(\$563,492)	\$2,605,509	\$582,171

On September 8, 2016, the School District issued \$2,840,000 in voted general obligation term bonds with an interest rate of 2.5 percent. The proceeds were used to current refund \$2,840,000 of outstanding 2006 refunding school bonds which had interest rates ranging from 4.125 percent to 4.25 percent. The bonds were issued for a twelve-year period with final maturity at December 1, 2028.

Optional Redemption The term bonds are subject to redemption at the option of the School District, either in whole or in part, in such order of maturity as the School District shall determine, on any date on or after December 1, 2024, at a redemption price equal to 100 percent of the principal amount redeemed plus, in each case, accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

Mandatory Redemption The term bonds maturing on December 1, 2028, are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption at a redemption price of 100 percent of the principal amount to be redeemed, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption, on December 1 in the years and in the respective principal amounts as follows:

Year	Amount
2024	\$425,000
2025	440,000
2026	445,000
2027	455,000
Total	\$1,765,000

The remaining principal amount of \$470,000 will be paid at the stated maturity on December 1, 2028.

In fiscal year 2010, a \$600,000 energy conservation note was issued for the purpose of purchasing and installing energy conservation measures throughout the School District. This debt was issued at a 3.94 to 4.85 percent interest rate and will be fully repaid in fiscal year 2025.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The School District has entered into a financed purchase agreement related to the construction of various school buildings where ownership of the underlying asset transfers to the School District by the end of the contract. The School District disbursed \$116,739 to pay these costs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

All general obligation bonds will be paid from property taxes from the bond retirement fund. Energy conservation notes will be paid from the general fund. The building financed purchase will be paid from the building capital projects fund.

The School District's overall debt margin was \$23,036,942 with an unvoted debt margin of \$276,904 at June 30, 2024. Principal and interest requirements to retire general obligation bonds, long-term notes, and financed purchase outstanding at June 30, 2024, are as follows:

	General Oblig	gation Bonds				
Fiscal Year	Ter	m	Energy Conse	vation Notes	Financed	Purchase
Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2025	\$425,000	\$50,562	\$53,171	\$1,948	\$104,000	\$12,210
2026	440,000	39,750	0	0	109,000	7,481
2027	445,000	28,688	0	0	114,000	2,531
2028	455,000	17,437	0	0	0	0
2029	470,000	5,875	0	0	0	0
Total	\$2,235,000	\$142,312	\$53,171	\$1,948	\$327,000	\$22,222

Note 12 – Risk Management

Property and Liability

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2024, the School District contracted with the Ohio School Plan for various types of insurance as follows:

	Coverage
Type of Coverage	Amount
Property (Replacement Cost)	\$62,215,826
Crime Coverage - Employee Theft	1,000,000
General Liability:	
Aggregate	5,000,000
Per Occurrence	3,000,000
Employers' Liability (Ohio Stop Gap)	3,000,000
Fiduciary Liability Coverage	3,000,000
Security and Law Enforcement Liability Coverage	3,000,000
Legal Liability Coverage	3,000,000
Auto Liability	3,000,000

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

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Employee Benefits

Insurance is offered to employees through a self-insurance internal service fund. Monthly premiums for the cost of claims are remitted to the fiscal agent who in turn pays the claims on the School District's behalf. The actuarial liability at June 30, 2024, of \$288,077, which is based on an estimate provided by the third-party administrator, includes unpaid claim costs and estimates of costs relating to incurred but not reported claims. The estimate was not affected by incremental claim adjustment expense and does not include other allocated or unallocated claim adjustment expenses. A comparison of self-insurance fund cash and investment to the actuarially-measured liability as of June 30 follows:

	Cash and	Actuarial
Year	Investments	Liability
2023	\$3,818,396	\$484,591
2024	3,896,336	288,077

Workers' Compensation

For fiscal year 2024, the School District participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 14). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. Sedgwick provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

Note 13 – Set-Aside Requirements

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

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

	Capital
	Improvements
Set-Aside Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$0
Current Year Set-Aside Requirement	254,680
Current Year Offsets	(325,971)
Total	(\$71,291)
Set-Aside Balance Carried Forward to Future Fiscal Years	\$0
Set-Aside Balance as of June 30, 2024	\$0

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Although the School District had offsets during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount to below zero for the capital acquisition set-aside, this amount may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirement for future years. This negative balance is therefore not presented as being carried forward to future years.

Note 14 – Jointly Governed Organization and Insurance Purchasing Pools

Jointly Governed Organization

The School District is a participant in the Metropolitan Educational Technology Association (META), which is a jointly governed organization, created as a regional council of governments pursuant to Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. META operates as, and has all the powers of, a data acquisition site/information technology center pursuant to applicable provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. The organization was formed for the purpose of identifying, developing, and providing to members and non-members innovative educational and technological services and products, as well as expanded opportunities for cooperative purchasing. The General Assembly of META consists of one delegate from every member school district. The delegate is the superintendent of the school district or the superintendent's designee. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the General Assembly. The General Assembly exercises total control over the operation of META including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. The School District paid \$63,535 to META during fiscal year 2024 for services. Financial information can be obtained from Ashley Widby, CFO, 100 Executive Drive, Marion, Ohio 43302.

Insurance Purchasing Pools

Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP) The School District participates in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three-member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President Elect, and the Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the program. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

Jefferson Health Plan The School District participates in the Jefferson Health Plan, a risk-sharing, claims servicing, and insurance purchasing pool composed of approximately 123 members, including two insurance consortiums. Each participant appoints a member of the insurance plans' assembly. The Plan's business and affairs are conducted by a nine-member Board of Directors elected from the assembly. The plan offers medical, prescription, vision, and dental coverage to the members on a self-insured basis, as well as the opportunity to participate in the group purchasing of life insurance coverage. The medical coverage plan provides each plan participant the opportunity to choose a self-insurance deductible limit that can range from \$35,000 to \$100,000 under which the individual member is responsible for all claims through the claims servicing pool. Plan participants also participate in a shared risk internal pool for individual claims between the self-insurance deductible limit and \$1,500,000, and all claims between the deductible and the \$1,500,000 are paid from the internal shared risk pool. The internal pool is not owned by the participants. All participants pay a premium rate that is actuarially calculated based on the participants' actual claims experience, which are utilized for the payment of claims within the claims servicing pool up to the self-insurance deductible limit; and for this portion of the plan, all plan participants retain their own risk. All participants pay an additional fee for participation in the internal pool that is based on the claims of the internal pool in aggregate and is not based on individual claims experience. In the event of a deficiency in the internal pool, participants would be charged a higher rate for participation, and

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

in the event of a surplus, the internal pool pays dividends to the participants. For all individual claims exceeding \$1,500,000, stop loss coverage is purchased, as well as for an annual total plan aggregate claims amount. All plan participants also pay a monthly administration fee for fiscal services and third-party administrative services. The plan also purchases fully insured life insurance for plan participants provided by United Medical Resources.

Note 15 – Encumbrances

Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At fiscal year end, the amount of encumbrances expected to be honored upon performance by the vendor in the next fiscal year were as follows:

General	\$68,256
Other Governmental Funds	324,609
Total Governmental Funds	\$392,865

Note 16 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency ended in April 2023. During fiscal year 2024, the School District received COVID-19 funding. The School District will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.

Note 17 – Change in Basis of Accounting, Change to or within the Financial Reporting Entity and Adjustment to Net Position/Fund Equity

Change in Accounting Principle

For fiscal year 2024, GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections* was effective. This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

Change to or within the Financial Reporting Entity

For fiscal year 2024, the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Programs (ESSER) special revenue fund presentation was changed from major to nonmajor. This change had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance as the ESSER fund had a zero fund balance as of June 30, 2023.

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FREDERICKTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT KNOX COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education & Workforce		
Child Nutrition Cluster:		
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution):		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	\$ 21,884
Cash Assistance		
School Breakfast Program	10.553	83,577
COVID-19 - National School Lunch Program	10.555	37,060
National School Lunch Program	10.555	224,493
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		367,014
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		367,014
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Passed Through Ohio Department of Education & Workforce		
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund:		
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER)	04 40511	E71 706
Total COVID-19 - Education Stabilization Fund	84.425U	571,706
Total COVID-19 - Education Stabilization Fund		571,706
Special Education Cluster:		
Special Education - Grants to States	84.027A	329,679
Special Education - Preschool Grants	84.173A	6,890
Total Special Education Cluster		336,569
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	292,968
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	54,229
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	22,209
Total U.S. Department of Education		1,277,681
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY Passed Through Ohio Office of Budget and Management		
COVID-19 - State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	167,024
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		\$ 1,811,719

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

FREDERICKTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT KNOX COUNTY

NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS 2 CFR 200.510(b)(6) FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE A - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Fredericktown Local School District, Knox County, (the School District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2024. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the School District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the School District.

NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

NOTE C - INDIRECT COST RATE

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

NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE E - FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

The School District reports commodities consumed on the Schedule at the entitlement value. The School District allocated donated food commodities to the respective program that benefitted from the use of those donated food commodities.



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

Fredericktown Local School District Knox County 117 Columbus Road Fredericktown, Ohio 43019

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fredericktown Local School District, Knox County, (the School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 13, 2024, wherein we noted the School District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing 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 School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District'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 School District'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 were not identified.

Efficient • Effective • Transparent

Fredericktown Local School District Knox County Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School District'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 an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2024-001.

School District's Response to Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The School District'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 School District'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 School District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

November 13, 2024



65 East State Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov 800-282-0370

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

Fredericktown Local School District Knox County 117 Columbus Road Fredericktown, Ohio 43019

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Fredericktown Local School District's, Knox County, (School District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Fredericktown Local School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. Fredericktown Local School District's major federal programs are identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Fredericktown Local School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

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Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

The School District's Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the School District's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School District's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the School District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 School District's compliance with the compliance requirements
 referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the
 circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the School District's internal control over compliance relevant to the
 audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and
 report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the
 purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over
 compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

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Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of this testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Keith Faber Auditor of State Columbus, Ohio

November 13, 2024

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FREDERICKTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT KNOX COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS 2 CFR § 200.515 JUNE 30, 2024

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	AL # 84.425 – Education Stabilization Fund AL #84.010 – Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
(d)(1)(ix)	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	No

FREDERICKTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT KNOX COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS 2 CFR § 200.515 JUNE 30, 2024 (Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001

Noncompliance - Annual Financial Report

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

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

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

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

Officials' Response: See Corrective Action Plan.

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None noted.



FREDERICKTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

117 Columbus Road, Fredericktown, OH 43019 Phone: 740.694.2956 Fax: 740.694.0956 www.fredericktownschools.com

Every day, everyone learning and adapting to excel in a changing world

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS 2 CFR 200.511(b) JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2023-001	Annual Financial Reporting (first issued in FY09)	Not Corrected	The Board of Education has chosen to continue to file OCBOA. See Finding 2024-001.

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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2 CFR § 200.511(c) JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number: 2024-001

Planned Corrective Action: The Board of Education approved the recommendation that

Fredericktown Local School District not prepare GAAP statements for an estimated savings to the School District of \$8,000 per year. The School District continues to monitor, update, and track capital assets. Local Government Services continues to assist with the GAAP look-a-like reports and the Management Discussion and

Analysis.

Anticipated Completion Date: Reassess Annually

Responsible Contact Person: Heather Darnold, Treasurer





FREDERICKTOWN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

KNOX 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 12/3/2024

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