

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

**SINGLE AUDIT**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**



**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2023**

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Hicksville Exempted Village School District  
Defiance County  
958 East High Street  
Hicksville, Ohio 43526-1258

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 Hicksville Exempted Village School District, Defiance County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the 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 District, as of June 30, 2023, 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 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 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.

***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 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 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 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.

***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted to opine on the financial statements as a whole that collectively comprise the 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 Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 8, 2024, on our consideration of the 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 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

February 8, 2024

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**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS  
JUNE 30, 2023

		<u>Governmental Activities</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$	6,756,930
Cash with escrow agent		<u>108,594</u>
 Total assets		 <u>6,865,524</u>
<b>Net position</b>		
Restricted for:		
Capital projects		1,540,797
Classroom facilities maintenance		84,138
Debt service		319,941
State funded programs		11,103
Federally funded programs		213,136
Food service operations		169,888
Extracurricular activities		262,589
Other purposes		7,740
Unrestricted		<u>4,256,192</u>
 Total net position	 \$	 <u>6,865,524</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Program Receipts</u>			<u>Net Receipts (Disbursements) and Changes in Net Position</u>
		<u>Charges for Services and Sales</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Contributions</u>	
<b>Governmental activities</b>					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 6,010,282	\$ 118,877	\$ 377,958		\$ (5,513,447)
Special	1,950,870	96,028	1,038,170		(816,672)
Vocational	118,695		13,540		(105,155)
Other	104,288		80,842		(23,446)
Support services:					
Pupil	1,001,822		351,816		(650,006)
Instructional staff	710,314		93,775		(616,539)
Board of education	51,599		850		(50,749)
Administration	993,599	9,589	5,566		(978,444)
Fiscal	397,110				(397,110)
Operations and maintenance	1,184,082	296	2,116		(1,181,670)
Pupil transportation	319,441		10,829		(308,612)
Central	7,321				(7,321)
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	498,375	238,404	277,458		17,487
Other non-instructional services	19,610	690	19,169		249
Extracurricular activities	726,192	285,906	23,118		(417,168)
Facilities acquisition and construction	213,613			\$ 204,858	(8,755)
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	758,000				(758,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	184,824				(184,824)
<b>Total governmental activities</b>	<u>\$ 15,250,037</u>	<u>\$ 749,790</u>	<u>\$ 2,295,207</u>	<u>\$ 204,858</u>	<u>(12,000,182)</u>
		<b>General receipts</b>			
		Property taxes levied for:			
		General purposes		2,216,667	
		Debt service		498,372	
		Capital outlay		170,006	
		Classroom facilities maintenance		42,501	
		Income taxes levied for:			
		General purposes		2,317,264	
		Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs		6,857,183	
		Investment earnings		167,098	
		Miscellaneous		47,784	
		<b>Total general receipts</b>		<u>12,316,875</u>	
		Change in net position		316,693	
		<b>Net position at beginning of year</b>		<u>6,548,831</u>	
		<b>Net position at end of year</b>		<u>\$ 6,865,524</u>	

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2023

	<u>General</u>	<u>Academic and Athletic Building</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Assets</b>				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,195,118	\$ 901,864	\$ 1,659,948	\$ 6,756,930
Cash with escrow agent		108,594		108,594
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>\$ 4,195,118</u>	<u>\$ 1,010,458</u>	<u>\$ 1,659,948</u>	<u>\$ 6,865,524</u>
<b>Fund balances</b>				
Restricted:				
Debt service			\$ 319,941	\$ 319,941
Capital improvements		\$ 1,010,458	530,339	1,540,797
Classroom facilities maintenance			84,138	84,138
Food service operations			169,888	169,888
State funded programs			11,103	11,103
Federally funded programs			213,136	213,136
Extracurricular activities			262,589	262,589
Other purposes			7,740	7,740
Committed:				
Capital improvements			107,983	107,983
Assigned:				
Student instruction	\$ 165,914			165,914
Student and staff support	334,055			334,055
Extracurricular activities	20,503			20,503
Facilities acquisition and construction	1,404			1,404
School supplies	818			818
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>3,672,424</u>		<u>(46,909)</u>	<u>3,625,515</u>
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<u>\$ 4,195,118</u>	<u>\$ 1,010,458</u>	<u>\$ 1,659,948</u>	<u>\$ 6,865,524</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	General	Academic and Athletic Building	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Receipts</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 2,216,667		\$ 710,879	\$ 2,927,546
Income taxes	2,317,264			2,317,264
Intergovernmental	7,616,263		1,697,721	9,313,984
Investment earnings	166,979	\$ 119		167,098
Tuition and fees	184,917			184,917
Extracurricular	23,679		271,070	294,749
Rental income	296			296
Charges for services	24,617		238,404	263,021
Contributions and donations	16,166		33,086	49,252
Miscellaneous	38,037		7,566	45,603
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>12,604,885</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>2,958,726</b>	<b>15,563,730</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	5,619,575		390,707	6,010,282
Special	1,539,530		411,340	1,950,870
Vocational	118,695			118,695
Other	26,482		77,806	104,288
Support services:				
Pupil	894,891		106,931	1,001,822
Instructional staff	618,511		91,803	710,314
Board of education	50,899		700	51,599
Administration	993,599			993,599
Fiscal	385,938		11,172	397,110
Operations and maintenance	1,054,813		129,269	1,184,082
Pupil transportation	308,756		10,685	319,441
Central	7,321			7,321
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations			498,375	498,375
Other non-instructional services	889		18,721	19,610
Extracurricular activities	440,161		286,031	726,192
Facilities acquisition and construction	4,635		208,978	213,613
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	332,000		426,000	758,000
Interest and fiscal charges	50,482		134,342	184,824
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<b>12,447,177</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>2,802,860</b>	<b>15,250,037</b>
Excess of receipts over disbursements	157,708	119	155,866	313,693
<b>Other financing sources</b>				
Sale/loss of assets			3,000	3,000
Net change in fund balances	157,708	119	158,866	316,693
<b>Fund balances at beginning of year</b>	<b>4,037,410</b>	<b>1,010,339</b>	<b>1,501,082</b>	<b>6,548,831</b>
<b>Fund balances at end of year</b>	<b>\$ 4,195,118</b>	<b>\$ 1,010,458</b>	<b>\$ 1,659,948</b>	<b>\$ 6,865,524</b>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGET BASIS  
GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
<b>Receipts</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 2,199,576	\$ 2,199,576	\$ 2,216,667	\$ 17,091
Income taxes	2,136,151	2,136,151	2,317,264	181,113
Intergovernmental	7,588,975	7,633,469	7,616,263	(17,206)
Investment earnings	55,000	55,000	166,979	111,979
Tuition and fees	127,000	127,000	141,803	14,803
Extracurricular			690	690
Rental income	3,072	3,072	296	(2,776)
Charges for services	43,500	43,500	24,617	(18,883)
Contributions and donations	2,500	2,500	7,437	4,937
Miscellaneous	22,600	27,600	30,234	2,634
<b>Total receipts</b>	<u>12,178,374</u>	<u>12,227,868</u>	<u>12,522,250</u>	<u>294,382</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Personal services - employee salaries and wages	6,885,538	7,445,696	7,266,279	179,417
Employees' retirement and insurance benefits	3,017,807	3,093,422	2,882,734	210,688
Purchased services	1,422,842	1,539,215	1,586,662	(47,447)
Supplies and materials	395,554	503,528	426,739	76,789
Capital Outlay	174,200	313,925	121,567	192,358
Miscellaneous objects	142,440	206,211	190,049	16,162
Principal retirement	332,000	332,000	332,000	
Interest and fiscal charges	50,482	50,482	50,482	
<b>Total disbursements</b>	<u>12,420,863</u>	<u>13,484,479</u>	<u>12,856,512</u>	<u>627,967</u>
Net change in fund balance	(242,489)	(1,256,611)	(334,262)	922,349
<b>Fund balance at beginning of year</b>	3,557,430	3,557,430	3,557,430	
<b>Prior year encumbrances appropriated</b>	<u>432,233</u>	<u>432,233</u>	<u>432,233</u>	
<b>Fund balance at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 3,747,174</u>	<u>\$ 2,733,052</u>	<u>\$ 3,655,401</u>	<u>\$ 922,349</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

**NOTE 1 – REPORTING ENTITY**

Hicksville Exempted Village School District (the District) is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. Hicksville Exempted Village School District is an exempted village school district as defined by § 3311.04 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The District provides educational services as authorized by state statute and federal guidelines. The Board oversees the operations of the District’s instructional/support facilities staffed by 41 non-certified and 83 certified teaching personnel who provide services to 871 students and other community members.

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

**A. Primary Government**

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

**B. Jointly Governed Organizations and Purchasing Pools**

The District participates in four jointly governed organizations and three group purchasing pools. These organizations include the Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA); the Northern Buckeye Education Council; the Four County Career Center; the State Support Team Region 1 (SSTR1); the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP), Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiative Consortium (OHI) Insurance Benefits Program; the Ohio SchoolComp Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan; and the Ohio School Plan. These organizations are presented in Notes 16 and 17 to the basic financial statements.

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

**NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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

**A. Basis of Presentation**

The District’s basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position, 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 – Cash Basis and the Statement of Activities – Cash Basis display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts, or other non-exchange transactions.

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the District at fiscal year end. The Statement of Activities – Cash Basis compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the 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 District’s general receipts.

**Fund Financial Statements**

During the fiscal year, the District segregates transactions related to certain 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 District at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

**B. Fund Accounting**

The 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. All funds of the District are reported as governmental funds. The District has no proprietary or fiduciary funds.

**Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds are those funds through which most governmental functions are typically financed, primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g., grants), and other non-exchange transactions. The following are the District’s major governmental funds:

General Fund – The General Fund accounts for and reports all financial resources not accounted for in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Academic and Athletic Building Fund – The Athletic and Academic Building Fund accounts for and reports the proceeds of debt issued in 2020 and disbursements related to the cost of constructing a new academic and athletic facility.

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

**C. Basis of Accounting**

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code 117-2-03(B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with GAAP, the District chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

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 presentations report budgetary cash disbursements when a commitment is made (i.e. when an encumbrance is approved). The difference between disbursements reported in the fund and government-wide statements and disbursements reported in the budgetary statements is due to current year encumbrances being added to disbursements reported in the budgetary statements.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraphs.

**D. Budgetary Process**

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

The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of budgetary control selected by the Board is at the fund-object level for the General Fund and at the fund level for all other funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education.

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

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment throughout the 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.

**E. Cash and Investments**

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

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



**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

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

During fiscal year 2023, the District invested in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio), negotiable certificates of deposit, federal agency securities, commercial paper, U.S. Treasury Notes, and a U.S. Treasury money market mutual fund. Investments are reported at cost, except for STAR Ohio and the money market mutual fund. The money market mutual fund is recorded at the amount reported by U.S. Bank at June 30, 2023.

STAR 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 District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides and NAV per share that approximates fair value.

There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million per day, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2023 amounted to \$166,979, which includes \$66,239 assigned from other District funds.

**F. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

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

**G. 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.

**H. Interfund Activity**

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular cash disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

**I. 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 District's cash basis of accounting.

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

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability and net OPEB 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.

**K. Long-Term Obligations**

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

**L. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)**

For fiscal year 2023, GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements* (SBITAs) was effective. This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

The District has SBITAs under noncancelable arrangements (as defined by GASB 96). SBITA payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

**M. Net Position**

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for food service, music and athletic programs, and federal and state grants restricted to cash disbursements for specified purposes. All other net position that does not meet the definition of restricted are reported as unrestricted net position. The 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 is available.

**N. Fund Balance**

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in 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 are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of interfund loans.

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

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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 District Board of Education. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the 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 District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. These amounts are assigned by the District’s Board of Education. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the District Board of Education or a District official designated by that authority by resolution or by State statute. State statute authorizes the District’s Treasurer to assign fund balances for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

Unassigned – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund balance.

The District first applies restricted resources when an expenditure is 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 can be used.

**O. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans**

The District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 10 and 11, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

**NOTE 3 – ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

**A. Change in Accounting Principles**

For fiscal year 2023, the District has implemented GASB Statement No. 91, “Conduit Debt Obligations”, GASB Statement No. 94, “Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements”, GASB Statement No. 96, “Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements”, certain questions and answers of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 and certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, “Omnibus 2022”.

GASB Statement No. 91 provides a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations by issuers and eliminate diversity in practice associated with (1) commitments extended by issuers, (2) arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations, and (3) related note disclosures. This Statement achieves those objectives by clarifying the existing definition of a conduit debt obligation; establishing that a conduit debt obligation is not a liability of the issuer; establishing standards for accounting and financial reporting of additional commitments and voluntary commitments extended by issuers and arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations; and improving required note disclosures. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 91 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

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GASB Statement No. 94 is to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public partnership arrangements (PPPs). As used in this Statement, a PPP is an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contracts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide public services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 94 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 96 provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users (governments). This Statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards for SBITAs are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended. The notes to the basic financial statements include the disclosure requirements under the Statement.

GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 99 to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

**B. Compliance**

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

**C. Deficit Fund Balances**

Fund balances at June 30, 2023 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
ESSER Grant Fund	\$ 31,666
21st Century Grant Fund	11,150
Title III Fund	843
Preschool Disabilities Grant Fund	3,250

The General Fund is liable for any deficit in these funds and provides transfers when cash is required. The deficit fund balances resulted from advance spending of approved grant monies.

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**NOTE 4 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

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

Active deposits are public deposits necessary to meet current demands upon the District treasury. Such monies must be maintained either as cash in the 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.

Protection of the 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 institutions participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

Interim monies held by the District may 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 obligation or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, or local governments, 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 through eligible institutions; and
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio), and;

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

**A. Cash on Hand**

At year end, the District had \$400 in undeposited cash on hand, included on the financial statements as part of "Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

**B. Cash with Escrow Agent**

At June 30, 2023, the District had \$108,594 on deposit with an escrow agent for retainage held before being paid to contractors.

**C. Deposits with Financial Institutions**

At June 30, 2023, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$1,400,415 and the bank balance was \$1,586,159. Of the bank balance, \$831,861 was covered by FDIC, \$239,695 was covered by specific collateral pledged by the financial institution, and \$514,603 was covered by pooled collateral through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS). Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the District to a successful claim by FDIC.

**D. Investments**

As of June 30, 2023, the District had the following investments:

Measurement/ Investment Type	Measurement Value	Investment Maturities			% of Total	Investment Ratings	
		Less than 1 Year	1-2 Years	More than 2 Years		Moody's	Standard & Poor's
<i>Cost:</i>							
FFCB notes	\$ 814,664	\$ 674,825	\$ 139,839		15.21	Aaa	AA+
FHLB notes	579,056	399,056		\$ 180,000	10.81	Aaa	AA+
FHLMC notes	284,851	149,851		135,000	5.32	Aaa	AA+
FNMA notes	300,000	220,000		80,000	5.60	Aaa	AA+
U.S. Treasury notes	203,688		103,688	100,000	3.80	Aaa	AA+
Negotiable CD's	1,003,877	350,476	504,625	148,776	18.74	n/a	n/a
Commercial paper	893,575	893,575			16.68	P-1	A-1 or A-1+
U.S. Treasury money market mutual fund	9,479	9,479			0.18	n/a	AAAm
<i>Amortized Cost:</i>							
STAR Ohio	1,266,925	1,266,925			23.66	n/a	AAAm
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,356,115</b>	<b>\$ 3,964,187</b>	<b>\$ 748,152</b>	<b>\$ 643,776</b>	<b>100.00</b>		

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Except for STAR Ohio, which is measured at net asset value (NAV), the District reports its investments at cost.

*Interest Rate Risk:* Interest rate risk arises because the potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The investment policy restricts the Treasurer from investing in any securities other than those identified in the Ohio Revised Code and that all investments must mature within five years from the date of investment for securities with fixed rates and within two years from the date of investment for securities with variable rates. State statute limits investments in commercial paper to a maximum maturity of 270 days from the date of the purchase.

*Credit Risk:* The 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 standard rating service and the money market mutual fund be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized standard ratings service.

*Custodial Credit Risk:* For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The negotiable CD's are covered by FDIC. The federal agency securities and commercial paper are exposed to custodial credit risk as they are uninsured, unregistered, and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent but not in the District's name. The District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirements in ORC 135.14(M)(2) which states, "Payment for investments shall be made only upon the delivery of securities representing such investments to the treasurer, investing authority, or qualified trustee. If the securities transferred are not represented by a certificate, payment shall be made only upon receipt of the confirmation of transfer from the custodian by the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee."

*Concentration of Credit Risk:* The District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer other than for commercial paper and banker's acceptances. The percentage of each investment type held by the District is included in the table above.

**E. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position**

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the note above to cash and investments as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2023:

<u>Cash and Investments Per Note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 1,400,415
Investments	5,356,115
Cash with escrow agent	108,594
Cash on hand	400
Total	<u><u>\$ 6,865,524</u></u>
 <u>Cash and Investments Per Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis</u>	
Governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 6,865,524</u></u>

**NOTE 5 – 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 – Budget Basis presented for the General Fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The primary difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis is outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as a component of assigned fund balance (cash basis).

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In addition, as part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, “Fund Balance Reporting,” certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate Special Revenue Funds are considered part of the General Fund on the cash basis. For the District this includes the following funds: Uniform School Supplies, Elementary School Incentives, Laptop Services, and Public School Support.

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the cash basis statement to the budgetary basis statement for the General Fund:

**Net Change in Fund Cash Balance**

	<u>General Fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ (334,262)
Funds budgeted elsewhere	44,058
Outstanding encumbrances	447,912
Cash basis	<u>\$ 157,708</u>

**NOTE 6 – PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis, while the District’s fiscal year runs from July through June. First-half tax collections are received by the 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 within the District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2023 represent collections of calendar year 2022 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2023 were levied after April 1, 2022, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2022, 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.

Public utility property tax receipts received in calendar year 2023 represent collections of calendar year 2022 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2023 became a lien on December 31, 2021, were levied after April 1, 2022, 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 District receives property taxes from Defiance County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2023 are available to finance fiscal year 2023 operations. The amount available for advance can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

The assessed values upon which fiscal year 2023 taxes were collected are:



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	2022 Second Half Collections		2023 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 105,876,490	90.85	\$ 107,288,030	90.54
Public utility personal	10,668,560	9.15	11,211,900	9.46
Total	<u>\$ 116,545,050</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 118,499,930</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$38.05		\$38.00	

**NOTE 7 – INCOME TAXES**

The District levies a voted tax of .75 percent for general operations and .75 percent for permanent improvements on the income of residents and of estates. The general operating tax was effective on January 1, 1992 and is a continuing tax. The permanent improvement tax was effective on January 1, 2020 and is effective for five years. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts are recorded in the General Fund.

**NOTE 8 – TAX ABATEMENTS**

Defiance County provides tax abatements through Community Reinvestment Area and Enterprise Zone agreements. Under the agreements, various businesses receive up to 100 percent abatement of property taxes in exchange for attracting or retaining jobs within the County. The agreements affect the property tax receipts collected and distributed to the District. Under the agreements, the District’s property taxes were reduced by \$146,823 during fiscal year 2023.

**NOTE 9 – RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. Comprehensive**

The District maintains comprehensive insurance coverage with private carriers for real property, building contents, liability, cyber, pollution, and violence. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. In addition, real property contents are fully insured. For fiscal year 2023, the District participated in the Ohio School Plan (the Plan), an insurance purchasing pool.

The District maintains fleet insurance with the Plan. Each participant enters into an individual agreement with the Plan for insurance coverage and pays annual premiums to the Plan based on the types and limits of coverage and deductibles selected by the participant. Settled claims have not exceeded the amount of commercial coverage in any of the past three years, and there has been no significant reduction in the amount of insurance coverage from last year.

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**B. Employee Insurance Benefits Program**

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan, Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiative Consortium (OHI) Insurance Benefits Program (the Program), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of school districts within Defiance, Fulton, Henry, and Williams Counties and other eligible governmental entities. The District pays monthly premiums to the OHI for the benefits offered to its employees, which includes health, dental, vision, and life insurance plans. Northern Buckeye Health Plan is responsible for the management and operations of the Program. The agreement for the Program provides for additional assessments to participants if the premiums are insufficient to pay the program costs for the fiscal year. Upon withdrawal from the Program, a participant is responsible for any claims not processed and paid and any related administrative costs.

**C. Workers' Compensation Group Program**

The District participates in the Ohio SchoolComp Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The GRP is co-sponsored by the Ohio School Boards Association and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the 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 and each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the state based its individual rate. Participants receive a BWC rebate or assessment based on the performance of the group 12 months after the Policy Year, 24 months after the Policy Year and 36 months after the Policy Year. BWC evaluates performance by comparing costs and reserves for all participant claims incurred during the Policy Year to total premium paid to BWC.

**NOTE 10 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

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

***Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

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 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.

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

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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 11 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

Plan Description – The District’s 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](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on 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.

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.

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Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the 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, 2023, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14 percent. For fiscal year 2023, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$220,061 for fiscal year 2023.

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

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

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

The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation 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, an 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. 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 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

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

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12 percent of the 14 percent member rate is deposited into the member's DC Plan 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 after termination of employment at age 50 and after termination of employment.

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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 2023 employer and employee contribution rate of 14 percent was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For 2023, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The District’s contractually required contribution to STRS was \$900,546 for fiscal year 2023.

***Net Pension Liability***

The net pension liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the 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:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.03854900%	0.04367225%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	0.03734830%	0.04436150%	
Change in proportionate share	-0.00120070%	0.00068925%	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,020,087	\$ 9,861,618	\$ 11,881,705

***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.

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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, 2022, are presented below:

	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.4 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent 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 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 using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS’ *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

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

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Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>	

**Discount Rate** – The total pension liability for 2022 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment 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.

**Sensitivity of the 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.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,973,471	\$ 2,020,087	\$ 1,216,873

**Actuarial Assumptions – STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation are presented below:

	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary Increases	From 2.5 percent to 12.5 percent based on age
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

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For 2022, 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.

For 2021, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Tables with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Tables, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Tables with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 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:

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected Real 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 %	

\* Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

\*\*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.

**Discount Rate** – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2022. 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 the rates described previously. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.



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***Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate*** – The following table represents the 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 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 assumption:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 14,897,314	\$ 9,861,618	\$ 5,602,977

***Changes Between Measurement Date and Reporting Date*** – STRS approved a one-time 1.00 percent cost-of-living adjustment to eligible benefit recipients effective July 1, 2023. It is unknown what effect this change will have on the net pension liability.

**NOTE 11 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

See Note 10 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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

**Health Care Plan Description** – The 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](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. 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 the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2023, this amount was \$25,000.

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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 2023, the District’s surcharge obligation was \$25,807.

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 District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$25,807 for fiscal year 2023.

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

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

Funding Policy – 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, 2023, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

***Net OPEB Liability (Asset)***

The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability (asset) used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the 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) prior measurement date	0.03987090%	0.04367225%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) current measurement date	0.03833940%	0.04436150%	
Change in proportionate share	-0.00153150%	0.00068925%	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset)	\$ 538,289	\$ (1,148,667)	\$ (610,378)

***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.

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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, 2022, are presented below:

	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	
Wage Increases	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted	2044
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	3.69 percent
Prior Measurement Date	1.92 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	
Measurement Date	4.08 percent
Prior Measurement Date	2.27 percent
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	
Medicare	5.125 to 4.40 percent
Pre-Medicare	6.75 to 4.40 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	7.00 to 4.40 percent

Mortality rates 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.

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

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The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial 5-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board in 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 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 capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 20, 2022 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

**Discount Rate** – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2022, was 4.08 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2022, was 2.27 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 become insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination of the SEIR for both the June 30, 2022 and the June 30, 2021 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 is 3.69 percent at June 30, 2022 and 1.92 percent at June 30, 2021.

**Sensitivity of the 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 (3.08 percent) and higher (5.08 percent) than the current discount rate (4.08 percent). Also shown is what SERS’ net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00 percent decreasing to 3.40 percent) and higher (8.00 percent decreasing to 5.40 percent) than the current rate.

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	1% Decrease (3.08%)	Current Discount Rate (4.08%)	1% Increase (5.08%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 668,563	\$ 538,289	\$ 433,123
	1% Decrease (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%)	Current Trend Rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.40%)	1% Increase (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 415,118	\$ 538,289	\$ 699,171

***Actuarial Assumptions – STRS***

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation compared with the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation are presented below:

	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021
Projected Salary Increases	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 12.50 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00 percent, net of investment 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 3.94 percent ultimate	5.00 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	-68.78 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	-16.18 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	9.0 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	6.50 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	-5.47 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	29.98 percent initial 4 percent ultimate

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

For 2022, 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.

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

For 2021, healthy retirees the mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Tables with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Tables with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022, 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:

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected Real 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 %	

\* Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

\*\*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.

**Discount Rate** – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on those 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, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund 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, 2022.

**Sensitivity of the 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, 2022, 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.

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset)	\$ (1,061,912)	\$ (1,148,667)	\$ (1,222,980)
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset)	\$ (1,191,447)	\$ (1,148,667)	\$ (1,094,667)

**NOTE 12 – COMPENSATED ABSENCES**

Employees earn vacation at rates specified under State of Ohio law and based on credited service. Clerical, Technical, and Maintenance and Operation employees with one or more years of service are entitled to vacation ranging from 10 to 20 days. Employees with less than one year of service earn .38 vacation days per 26 bi-weekly pays, not to exceed 10 days. Employees are permitted to carry over vacation leave earned in the current year into the next year.

All employees are entitled to a sick leave credit equal to one and one-quarter days for each month of service (earned on a pro-rated basis for less than full-time employees). This sick leave will either be absorbed by time off due to illness or injury or, within certain limitations, be paid to the employee upon retirement. The amount paid to an employee upon retirement is limited to 27 percent of the accumulated sick leave to a maximum of 60 days.

Effective July 1, 2006, the total vacation time that an employee can accumulate at any given time can be no greater than one year plus the current year. Carryover of vacation time will be limited to no more than one year's accumulation of vacation time.

**NOTE 13 – LONG-TERM DEBT**

The changes in the District's long-term debt obligations during fiscal year 2023 were as follows:

	Balance 06/30/22	Additions	Reductions	Balance 06/30/23	Due Within One Year
<u>General Obligation Bonds:</u>					
Series 2021 Refunding	\$ 5,894,000		\$ (426,000)	\$ 5,468,000	\$ 430,000
<u>Other Obligations:</u>					
Note Payable - Financed Purchase	2,837,000		(332,000)	2,505,000	338,000
Total	\$ 8,731,000		\$ (758,000)	\$ 7,973,000	\$ 768,000

**General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021 Refunding**

On January 20, 2021, the District issued \$5,920,000 in School Improvement General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021. The bonds were issued to refund the general obligation bonds, series 2006 and a portion of the general obligation bonds, series 2014. This refunding was undertaken to reduce total future debt service payments by \$743,272 and resulted in an economic gain of \$594,585.

The bond issue consisted of \$4,715,000 in term bonds, interest rate 2.53 percent, maturing December 1, 2031 and \$1,205,000 of term bonds, interest rate 1.75 percent, maturing December 1, 2033. The bonds will be retired with proceeds of a voted property tax levy from the Bond Retirement Fund (a Nonmajor Governmental Fund).

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

The scheduled principal and interest requirements to retire the bonds are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 430,000	\$ 123,522	\$ 553,522
2025	440,000	112,523	552,523
2026	453,000	101,235	554,235
2027	464,000	89,643	553,643
2028	475,000	77,773	552,773
2029-2033	2,605,000	202,406	2,807,406
2034	601,000	5,259	606,259
Total	<u>\$ 5,468,000</u>	<u>\$ 712,361</u>	<u>\$ 6,180,361</u>

***Note Payable – Financed Purchase***

On May 10, 2020, the District approved a \$3,500,000 (1.89 percent) note payable agreement through The Andover Bank for construction of a new academic/athletic building as well as new roadways for the building. The Andover Bank has a mortgage on the portion of the District’s land and the Elementary/Middle/High School which the District is leasing from The Andover Bank until the debt has been paid off. Principal and interest payments will be paid from the General Fund. The note payable agreement matures on December 1, 2029.

The scheduled principal and interest requirements to retire the note payable are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 338,000	\$ 44,150	\$ 382,150
2025	345,000	37,696	382,696
2026	351,000	31,119	382,119
2027	358,000	24,419	382,419
2028	364,000	17,596	381,596
2029-2030	749,000	14,222	763,222
Total	<u>\$ 2,505,000</u>	<u>\$ 169,202</u>	<u>\$ 2,674,202</u>

***Legal Debt Margin***

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9 percent of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1 percent of the property valuation of the District. The code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1 percent of the property valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District’s legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530 which became effective March 30, 2006.

In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District’s legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2023, are a voted debt margin of \$5,505,087 (including available Debt Service funds of \$319,941) and an unvoted debt margin of \$118,368.



**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

**NOTE 14 – SET-ASIDE REQUIREMENTS**

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

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

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2022	
Current year set-aside requirement	\$ 197,005
Current year offsets	<u>\$ (197,005)</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2023	<u><u>                    </u></u>

**NOTE 15 – CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grantors may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

**B. Litigation**

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

**NOTE 16 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS**

**A. Northwest Ohio Computer Association**

The District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA). NWOCA is an association of educational entities within the boundaries of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member educational entities. NWOCA is governed by the Northern Buckeye Education Council and its participating members.

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

The NWOCA Assembly consists of a superintendent from each participating educational entity and a representative from the fiscal agent. The Assembly elects the Council. NWOCA is governed by a Council chosen from two representatives from each of the six counties in which the member educational entities are located and the representative from the member educational entity serving as fiscal agent for NWOCA. The degree of control exercised by any participating educational entity is limited to its representation on the Board. All payments made by the District for services received are made to the Northern Buckeye Education Council. Total disbursements made by the District to NWOCA during this fiscal year were \$84,080 for various services. Financial information can be obtained from Tammy Butler, who serves as Treasurer, at 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

**B. Northern Buckeye Education Council**

The Northern Buckeye Education Council (the NBEC) was established in 1979 to foster cooperation among school districts located in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood Counties. NBEC is organized under Ohio laws as a regional council of governments pursuant to a written agreement entered into by its member educational entities and bylaws adopted by the representatives of the member educational entities. NBEC is governed by an elected Board consisting of two representatives from each of the six counties in which the member educational entities are located. The Board is elected from an Assembly consisting of a representative from each participating educational entity. The District paid \$250 to NBEC during this fiscal year for a membership fee. To obtain financial information write to the Northern Buckeye Education Council, Tammy Butler, who serves as Treasurer, at 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

**C. Four County Career Center**

The Four County Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of five representatives from the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center, one each from the counties of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, and Williams and one additional representative; one representative from each of the city districts; and one representative from each of the exempted village districts. The Four County Career Center possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. Total disbursements made by the District to Four County Career Center during this fiscal year were \$0. To obtain financial information write to the Four County Career Center, Connie Nicely, who serves as Treasurer, at 22-900 State Route 34, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

**D. State Support Team Region 1**

The State Support Team Region 1 (SSTR1) provides specialized core work related to building regional capacity for district, building, and community school implementation of the Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) at a high level. The service region of the SSTR1 includes Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood Counties. House Bill 115 established the Educational Regional Service System and required the creation of a coordinated, integrated, and aligned system to support state and school district efforts to improve school effectiveness and student achievement. Resulting from House Bill 115, the Ohio Department of Education established a 16-region system consisting of a State Support Team for each of the 16 regions, which has a fiscal agent for each region. The fiscal agent for the SSTR1 is the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West. The SSTR1 Executive Director and Single Point of Contact is Lynn McKahan. Contact information is available at [www.sstr1.org](http://www.sstr1.org). Financial information can be obtained from the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West, 2275 Collingwood, Toledo, Ohio 43620.

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

**NOTE 17 – GROUP PURCHASING POOLS**

**A. Employee Insurance Benefits Program**

The District participates in a group health insurance pool through the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP), Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiative Consortium (OHI) Insurance Benefits Program. NBHP is a joint self-insurance arrangement created pursuant to the authority vested in Ohio Rev. Code Section 9.833. The Plan is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of educational entities located throughout the State. The Plan is governed by OHI and its participating members. The District contributed a total of \$1,703,357 to Northern Buckeye Health Plan, Northwest Division of OHI for all employee insurance benefits during this fiscal year. Financial information for the period can be obtained from Charlie LeBoeuf, Treasurer, at 201 East 5th Street, Suite 2100, Cincinnati, Ohio 43502.

**B. Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan**

The District participates in the Ohio SchoolComp Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP). The GRP is co-sponsored by the Ohio School Boards Association and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. Sedgwick provides administration services for the GRP. The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The District pays a fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

**C. Ohio School Plan**

The District belongs to the Ohio School Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized, jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to approximately 300 Ohio schools (Members).

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, general liability, educator’s legal liability, automobile and violence coverages, modified for each member’s needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the member’s specific deductible.

The Plan issues its own policies and reinsures the Plan with reinsurance carriers. The Plan retains the first \$150,000 of property losses subject to an annual aggregate. The Plan retains the first \$150,000 of casualty losses. (See the Plan’s audited financial statements on their website for more details.) The individual members are responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

The Plan’s audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2022 and 2021 (the latest information available):

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Assets	\$ 17,878,913	\$ 16,691,066
Liabilities	11,253,693	7,777,013
Net position	6,625,220	8,914,053

You can read the complete audited financial statements for The Ohio School Plan at the Plan’s website, [www.ohioschoolplan.org](http://www.ohioschoolplan.org) under “Financials”.

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023  
(Continued)

**NOTE 18 – OTHER COMMITMENTS**

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

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General Fund	\$ 449,024
Academic and Athletic Building Fund	234,468
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	<u>440,217</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,123,709</u>

HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> Program / Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Provided to Subrecipients	Total Federal Expenditures
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b> <i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
<u>Child Nutrition Cluster:</u>			
School Breakfast Program Cash Assistance	10.553		\$ 29,473
National School Lunch Program Cash Assistance	10.555		273,766
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)	10.555		29,288
COVID-19 National School Lunch Program	10.555		23,258
Total National School Lunch Program			<u>326,312</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			<u>355,785</u>
COVID-19 Pandemic EBT Administrative Costs	10.649		628
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			<u>356,413</u>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY</b> <i>Passed Through Ohio Office of Budget and Management</i>			
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027		11,500
Total U.S. Department of the Treasury			<u>11,500</u>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b> <i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education</i>			
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010		156,023
<u>Special Education Cluster:</u>			
Special Education Grants to States	84.027		187,524
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Special Education Grants to States	84.027X		7,074
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	\$ 9,235	9,235
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173X		3,250
Total Special Education Cluster		<u>9,235</u>	<u>207,083</u>
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	84.287		156,161
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	6,056	6,056
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367		26,483
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424		10,821
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II)	84.425D		260,822
American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER)	84.425U		257,540
American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Homeless Children and Youth (ARP - HCY)	84.425W		3,173
Total Education Stabilization Fund			<u>521,535</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education		15,291	<u>1,084,162</u>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>		<u>\$ 15,291</u>	<u>\$ 1,452,075</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023**

**NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Hicksville Exempted Village School District, Defiance County, Ohio (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2023. 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 District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the 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 District has elected to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

**NOTE D – SUBRECIPIENTS**

The District passes certain federal awards received from the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to other governments or not-for-profit agencies (subrecipients). As Note B describes, the District reports expenditures of Federal awards to subrecipients when paid in cash.

As a pass-through entity, the District has certain compliance responsibilities, such as monitoring its subrecipients to help assure they use these subawards as authorized by laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and that subrecipients achieve the award's performance goals.

**NOTE E – CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

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

**NOTE F – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM**

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

**NOTE G – TRANSFERS BETWEEN PROGRAM YEARS**

Federal regulations require schools to obligate certain federal awards by June 30. However, with ODE's consent, schools can transfer unobligated amounts to the subsequent fiscal year's program. The District transferred the following amounts from 2023 to 2024 programs:

Hicksville Exempted Village School District  
 Defiance County  
 Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards  
 Page 2

<u>Program Title</u>	<u>AL Number</u>	<u>Amt. Transferred</u>
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	\$ 752
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	4,853
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	24,021
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER)	84.425U	230,984
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - Homeless Children and Youth (ARP - HCY)	84.425W	510
COVID-19 American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - Homeless Targeted Support (ARP - HTS)	84.425W	14,641

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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**

Hicksville Exempted Village School District  
Defiance County  
958 East High Street  
Hicksville, Ohio 43526-1258

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 Hicksville Exempted Village School District, Defiance County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 8, 2024, wherein we noted the 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 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 District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 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.

***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the 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 2023-001.

***District's Response to Finding***

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



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

February 8, 2024

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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Columbus, Ohio 43215  
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(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

Hicksville Exempted Village School District  
Defiance County  
958 East High Street  
Hicksville, Ohio 43526-1258

To the Board of Education:

### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

#### *Opinion on Each Major Federal Program*

We have audited Hicksville Exempted Village School District, Defiance County, Ohio's, (the 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 Hicksville Exempted Village School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. Hicksville Exempted Village 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, Hicksville Exempted Village 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, 2023.

#### *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 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 District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

### ***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

The 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 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 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 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 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 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 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.

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

February 8, 2024

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**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
DEFIANCE COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
2 CFR § 200.515  
JUNE 30, 2023**

**1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

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

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2023-001**

**Noncompliance**

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

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

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

**Officials' Response:**

See Corrective Action Plan

<b>3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS</b>
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None



# Hicksville Exempted Village Schools

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## SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS 2 CFR 200.511(b) JUNE 30, 2023

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2022-001	This finding was first reported in 2007. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B) for reporting on a basis other than generally accepted accounting principles.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2023-001 in this report.	This finding reoccurred since management believes reporting on a basis other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.

*Pursuing excellence*

*Building strong foundations*

*Inspiring bright futures*

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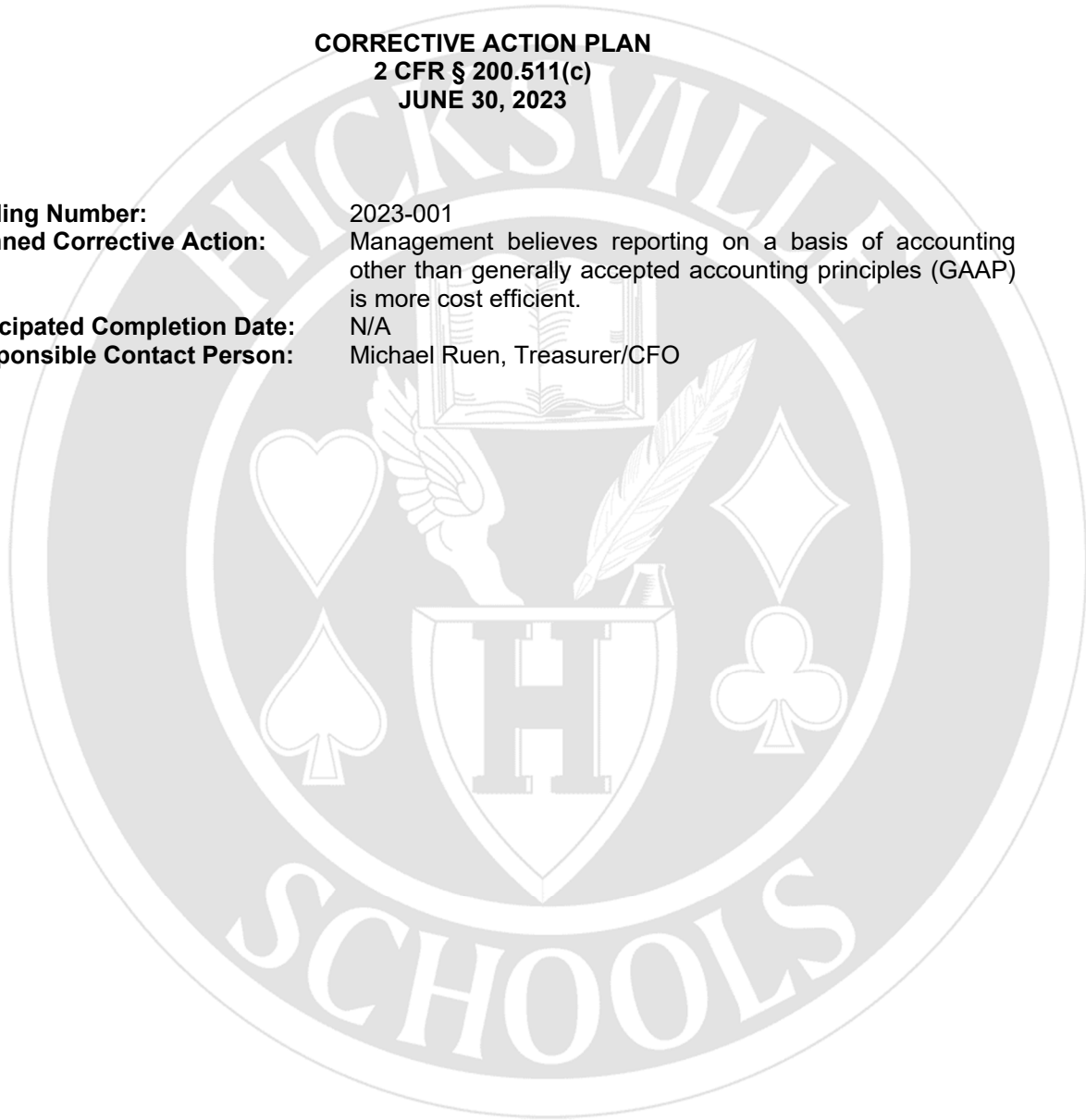
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## CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2 CFR § 200.511(c) JUNE 30, 2023

**Finding Number:** 2023-001  
**Planned Corrective Action:** Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.  
**Anticipated Completion Date:** N/A  
**Responsible Contact Person:** Michael Ruen, Treasurer/CFO



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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**HICKSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**DEFIANCE COUNTY**

**AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

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



**Certified for Release 2/20/2024**

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

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