



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2024**

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FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Fort Frye Local School District
Washington County
PO Box 1149
Beverly, Ohio 45715

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

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

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the School District, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

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

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) General Fund are 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 in the audit of 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, these schedules are 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 July 14, 2025 on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

July 14, 2025

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**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
JUNE 30, 2024**

| | Governmental Activities |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Assets: | |
| Equity in pooled cash and investments | \$ 22,884,959 |
| Restricted cash | 178 |
| Total assets | <u><u>\$ 22,885,137</u></u> |
| Net position: | |
| Restricted for: | |
| State funded programs | \$ 356,498 |
| Federally funded programs | 56,178 |
| Food service operations | 199,628 |
| Student activities | 121,309 |
| Other purposes | 31,804 |
| Unrestricted | <u>22,119,720</u> |
| Total net position | <u><u>\$ 22,885,137</u></u> |

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

| | Disbursements | Program Receipts | | | Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position | | |
|--|----------------------|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | Charges for Services and Sales | Operating Grants and Contributions | Capital Grants and Contributions | Governmental Activities | | |
| Governmental activities: | | | | | | | |
| Instruction: | | | | | | | |
| Regular | \$ 5,903,398 | \$ 68,517 | \$ 114,970 | \$ - | \$ (5,719,911) | | |
| Special | 2,699,072 | 335,430 | 1,078,324 | - | (1,285,318) | | |
| Vocational | 436,093 | - | 101,704 | - | (334,389) | | |
| Other | 5,001 | - | - | - | (5,001) | | |
| Support services: | | | | | | | |
| Pupil | 552,546 | - | 267,331 | - | (285,215) | | |
| Instructional staff | 1,247,524 | - | 231,361 | - | (1,016,163) | | |
| Board of education | 48,844 | - | - | - | (48,844) | | |
| Administration | 1,599,160 | - | - | - | (1,599,160) | | |
| Fiscal | 687,671 | - | - | - | (687,671) | | |
| Business | 143,590 | - | - | - | (143,590) | | |
| Operations and maintenance | 1,722,773 | - | 23,592 | - | (1,699,181) | | |
| Pupil transportation | 1,087,232 | - | 77,256 | 90,000 | (919,976) | | |
| Central | 285,832 | - | - | - | (285,832) | | |
| Operation of non-instructional services: | | | | | | | |
| Food service operations | 814,126 | 170,134 | 461,214 | - | (182,778) | | |
| Other non-instructional services | 123,380 | - | 110,890 | - | (12,490) | | |
| Extracurricular activities | 580,714 | 353,437 | 11,829 | - | (215,448) | | |
| Facilities acquisition and construction | 4,959,878 | - | - | - | (4,959,878) | | |
| Total governmental activities | \$ 22,896,834 | \$ 927,518 | \$ 2,478,471 | \$ 90,000 | (19,400,845) | | |

General receipts:

Property taxes levied for:

General purposes 9,079,662

Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs 5,826,161

Investment earnings 917,778

Miscellaneous 23,770

Total general receipts 15,847,371

Change in net position (3,553,474)

Net position at beginning of year 26,438,611

Net position at end of year \$ 22,885,137

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024

| | General | Permanent Improvement | Nonmajor Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Assets: | | | | |
| Equity in pooled cash and investments | \$ 13,793,567 | \$ 8,825,830 | \$ 262,882 | \$ 22,882,279 |
| Restricted assets: | | | | |
| Equity in pooled cash and investments | 178 | - | - | 178 |
| Total assets | <u>\$ 13,793,745</u> | <u>\$ 8,825,830</u> | <u>\$ 262,882</u> | <u>\$ 22,882,457</u> |
| Fund balances: | | | | |
| Nonspendable: | | | | |
| Unclaimed monies | \$ 178 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 178 |
| Restricted: | | | | |
| Food service operations | - | - | 199,628 | 199,628 |
| Non-public schools | - | - | 21,314 | 21,314 |
| State funded programs | - | - | 335,184 | 335,184 |
| Federally funded programs | - | - | 56,411 | 56,411 |
| Extracurricular | - | - | 121,309 | 121,309 |
| Other purposes | - | - | 31,393 | 31,393 |
| Assigned: | | | | |
| Student instruction | 18,821 | - | - | 18,821 |
| Student and staff support | 148,599 | - | - | 148,599 |
| Facilities acquisition and construction | 425,309 | - | - | 425,309 |
| Subsequent year's appropriations | 1,898,664 | - | - | 1,898,664 |
| Capital projects | - | 8,825,830 | - | 8,825,830 |
| Other purposes | 52,050 | - | - | 52,050 |
| Unassigned (deficit) | <u>11,250,124</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(502,357)</u> | <u>10,747,767</u> |
| Total fund balances | <u>\$ 13,793,745</u> | <u>\$ 8,825,830</u> | <u>\$ 262,882</u> | <u>\$ 22,882,457</u> |

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
JUNE 30, 2024

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Total governmental fund balances | \$ 22,882,457 |
|---|---------------|

*Amounts reported for governmental activities on the
statement of net position are different because:*

An internal service fund is used by management to charge the
costs of insurance to individual funds. The assets
of the internal service fund are included in
governmental activities on the statement of net position. 2,680

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Net position of governmental activities | <u>\$ 22,885,137</u> |
|--|----------------------|

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

| | General | Permanent Improvement | Nonmajor Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Receipts: | | | | |
| Property taxes | \$ 9,079,662 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 9,079,662 |
| Intergovernmental | 6,701,401 | - - | 1,657,318 | 8,358,719 |
| Investment earnings | 917,778 | - - | 1,045 | 918,823 |
| Tuition and fees | 403,947 | - - | - - | 403,947 |
| Extracurricular | 58,149 | - - | 295,288 | 353,437 |
| Charges for services | - - | - - | 170,134 | 170,134 |
| Contributions and donations | 13,925 | - - | 34,868 | 48,793 |
| Miscellaneous | 9,845 | - - | - - | 9,845 |
| Total receipts | 17,184,707 | - - | 2,158,653 | 19,343,360 |
| Disbursements: | | | | |
| Current: | | | | |
| Instruction: | | | | |
| Regular | 5,335,552 | - - | 436,588 | 5,772,140 |
| Special | 2,077,368 | - - | 581,523 | 2,658,891 |
| Vocational | 416,736 | - - | 9,984 | 426,720 |
| Other | 5,001 | - - | - - | 5,001 |
| Support services: | | | | |
| Pupil | 418,338 | - - | 126,601 | 544,939 |
| Instructional staff | 619,699 | - - | 620,019 | 1,239,718 |
| Board of education | 48,844 | - - | - - | 48,844 |
| Administration | 1,563,693 | - - | - - | 1,563,693 |
| Fiscal | 674,499 | - - | - - | 674,499 |
| Business | 143,590 | - - | - - | 143,590 |
| Operations and maintenance | 1,659,144 | - - | 39,270 | 1,698,414 |
| Pupil transportation | 1,038,131 | 9,776 | 10,000 | 1,057,907 |
| Central | 285,832 | - - | - - | 285,832 |
| Operation of non-instructional services: | | | | |
| Food service operations | - - | - - | 801,243 | 801,243 |
| Other non-instructional services | - - | - - | 123,376 | 123,376 |
| Extracurricular activities | 239,194 | - - | 341,520 | 580,714 |
| Facilities acquisition and construction | 1,354,827 | 3,605,051 | - - | 4,959,878 |
| Total disbursements | 15,880,448 | 3,614,827 | 3,090,124 | 22,585,399 |
| Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements | 1,304,259 | (3,614,827) | (931,471) | (3,242,039) |
| Other financing sources (uses): | | | | |
| Transfers in | - - | 1,000,000 | 18,465 | 1,018,465 |
| Transfers (out) | (1,218,465) | - - | - - | (1,218,465) |
| Total other financing sources (uses) | (1,218,465) | 1,000,000 | 18,465 | (200,000) |
| Net change in fund balances | 85,794 | (2,614,827) | (913,006) | (3,442,039) |
| Fund balances at beginning of year | 13,707,951 | 11,440,657 | 1,175,888 | 26,324,496 |
| Fund balances at end of year | \$ 13,793,745 | \$ 8,825,830 | \$ 262,882 | \$ 22,882,457 |

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

| | | |
|---|----|--------------------|
| Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds | \$ | (3,442,039) |
| <i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the</i> | | |
| An internal service fund used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds is not reported in the district-wide statement of activities. Governmental fund disbursements and the related internal service fund receipts are eliminated. The net receipts (disbursement) of the internal service fund is allocated among the governmental activities. | | <u>(111,435)</u> |
| Change in net position of governmental activities | \$ | <u>(3,553,474)</u> |

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
PROPRIETARY FUND
JUNE 30, 2024

| | <u>Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund</u> |
|--|--|
| Assets: | |
| Equity in pooled cash and investments | <u>\$ 2,680</u> |
| Net position: | |
| Unrestricted | <u>\$ 2,680</u> |

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND
CHANGES IN NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
PROPRIETARY FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

| | <u>Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund</u> |
|--|---|
| Operating receipts: | |
| Sales/charges for services | <u>\$ 2,838,924</u> |
| Operating disbursements: | |
| Purchased services | 1,003,199 |
| Claims | <u>2,147,160</u> |
| Total operating disbursements | <u>3,150,359</u> |
| Operating income (loss) | <u>(311,435)</u> |
| Nonoperating receipts: | |
| Transfer in | <u>200,000</u> |
| Change in net position | (111,435) |
| Net position at beginning of year | <u>114,115</u> |
| Net position at end of year | <u>\$ 2,680</u> |

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fort Frye Local School District (the “School District”) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution of the laws of the State of Ohio.

The School District operates under a locally-elected five-member Board form of government and provides educational services as authorized by State statute and federal guidelines. This Board of Education controls the School District’s 5 instruction/support facilities staffed by 67 classified employees and 79 certified personnel, who provided services to 889 students and other community members.

Reporting Entity

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

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

Parochial School - Within the School District boundaries, St. John Central Elementary School is operated through the Steubenville Catholic Diocese. Current State legislation provides funding to this parochial school. These monies are received and disbursed on behalf of the parochial school by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the School District, as directed by the parochial school. This activity is reflected in a special revenue fund for financial reporting purposes.

The School District participates in four jointly governed organizations and one insurance purchasing pool. These organizations are the Metropolitan Educational Technology Association, the Washington County Career Center, the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools, the Ohio Coalition of Equity and Adequacy of School Funding, and the Ohio SchoolComp Group Retro Plan. These organizations are presented in Notes 11 and 12 to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in Note 2.C., these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School District’s accounting policies.

A. Basis of Presentation

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The activity of the internal service fund is eliminated to avoid "doubling up" receipts and disbursements. The statements distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts, or other nonexchange transactions.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services and grants, contributions, and interest restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of 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 or draws from the School District's general receipts.

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

B. Fund Accounting

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the School District are divided into two categories, governmental and proprietary.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the School District are financed. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

Permanent improvement – This fund accounts for the acquisition, construction or improvement of capital facilities of governmental activities.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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

Other governmental funds of the School District are used to account for:

Nonmajor special revenue funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

PROPRIETARY FUND

Proprietary fund reporting focuses on the determination of the changes in net position and financial position. The School District has one proprietary fund, an internal service fund.

Internal service fund - The internal service fund accounts for the financing of services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the School District on a cost reimbursement basis. The School District's only internal service fund accounts for the operation of the School District's self-insurance program for medical insurance.

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 School District's financial statements are prepared 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.

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.

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.

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 disbursements 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 level for all funds. Budgetary allocations at the function and object level within all funds are made by the Treasurer.

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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

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 School District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and investments" on the financial statements.

Investments were limited to, U.S. Treasury notes, negotiable certificates of deposit (CDs), U.S. government money market, Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB) securities, and Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC) securities. In accordance with the cash basis of accounting, all School District investments are reported at cost.

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 2024 were \$917,778 which includes \$410,023 of interest assigned from other School District funds.

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

F. Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations on their use change the nature or normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Restricted assets represent amounts required by State statute to be set aside for unclaimed monies.

G. Inventory and Prepaid Items

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

H. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. The financial statements do not report these assets. Depreciation is not recorded on these capital assets.

I. Interfund Receivables/Payables

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

J. Accumulated Leave

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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

K. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension and OPEB Plans

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

L. 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.

M. Long-Term Debt

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

N. Leases

The School District is the lessee in various leases related to equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease payables are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

O. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation or 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 operations, music and athletic programs, and federal and state grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes. All other net position that does not meet the definition of restricted are reported as unrestricted net position. The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

P. Fund Balance

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

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

Restricted - Fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints placed on the use of 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.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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

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

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the School District Board of Education or a School District official delegated authority by resolution or State statute. State statute authorizes the School District's Treasurer to assign fund balance 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 used only to report a deficit balance.

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

Q. Internal Transactions

Transfers and advances within governmental activities are eliminated. Internal allocations of overhead disbursements from one program to another or within the same program are eliminated on the Statement of Activities. Payments of interfund services provided and used are not eliminated.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. 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 in the financial statements.

R. Intergovernmental Receipts

Unrestricted intergovernmental receipts received on the basis of entitlement are recorded as receipts when the entitlement is received.

S. Receipts and Disbursements

In the Statement of Activities, receipts that are derived directly from each activity or from parties outside the School District's taxpayers are reported as program receipts. The School District has the following program receipts: charges for services, operating grants and contributions, and capital grants and contributions. All other governmental receipts are reported as general. All taxes are classified as general receipts even if restricted for a specific purpose.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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

T. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the District and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during fiscal year 2024.

U. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

The District has Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) under noncancelable arrangements. SBITA payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2024, the School District has implemented certain paragraphs of GASB Implementation Guide No. 2021-1, certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "Omnibus 2022", GASB Statement No. 100, "Accounting Changes and Error Corrections - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62" and Implementation Guide No. 2023-1.

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 School District.

GASB Statement No. 99 is 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 School District.

GASB Statement No. 100 is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 100 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Implementation Guide 2023-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2023-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

B. Compliance

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the School District prepared its 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 School District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the School District.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

C. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2024 included the following individual fund deficits:

| <u>Nonmajor governmental funds</u> | <u>Deficit</u> |
|--|----------------|
| Vocational Education Enhancement | \$ 3,126 |
| Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) | 463,190 |
| IDEA, Part B | 5,981 |
| Title I, Disadvantaged Children | 29,582 |
| Supporting Effective Instruction | 478 |

The deficit fund balances resulted from a lag between disbursements made by the School District and reimbursements from grantors and are allowable under Ohio Revised Code Section 3315.20.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions.
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio and STAR Plus);
7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one-hundred-eighty days and two-hundred-seventy days, respectively, in an amount not to exceed forty percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any one time; and,
8. Under certain circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest rating classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

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

A. Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the School District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the OPCS, a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102% of the deposits being secured or a reduced rate set by the Treasurer of State.

At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$17,567,429 and the bank balance was \$17,921,420. Of the School District's bank balance, \$316,770 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$17,604,650 was covered by eligible securities to the School District and deposited with qualified trustee by the financial institution.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

B. Investments

As of June 30, 2024, the School District had the following investments:

| Investment type | Measurement Value | Investment Maturities | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | | 6 months or less | 7 to 12 months | Greater than 24 months |
| U.S. Government money market | \$ 1,198,923 | \$ 1,198,923 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Negotiable CDs | 490,000 | 490,000 | - | - |
| U.S. Treasury notes | 1,635,785 | - | 1,635,785 | - |
| FFCB | 1,000,000 | - | - | 1,000,000 |
| FHLMC | 993,000 | - | - | 993,000 |
| Total | \$ 5,317,708 | \$ 1,688,923 | \$ 1,635,785 | \$ 1,993,000 |

The weighted average of maturity of investments is 1.44 years.

Interest Rate Risk: The School District has no investment policy beyond State statute that addresses interest rate risk. State statute requires that an investment mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. State statute limits investments in commercial paper to a maximum maturity of 180 days from the date of purchase. Repurchase agreements are limited to 30 days and the fair value of the securities must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least 2 percent and be marked to market daily.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The negotiable CDs are covered by FDIC. The U.S. Treasury notes are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent but not in the School District's name.

The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in ORC 135.14(M)(2) which states "Payment for investments shall be made only upon delivery of securities representing such investments to the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee. If the securities transferred are not represented by a certificate, payment shall be made only upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian by the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee."

Credit Risk: The negotiable CDs are fully covered by FDIC and are not rated. The federal government money market funds carry a rating of AAAm by Standard and Poor's. The School District's investments in U.S. Treasury notes were rated AA+ and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk: The School District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the School District at June 30, 2024:

| <u>Investment type</u> | <u>Measurement</u> | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>Value</u> | <u>% of total</u> |
| U.S. Government money market funds | \$ 1,198,923 | 22.55 |
| Negotiable CDs | 490,000 | 9.21 |
| U.S. Treasury notes | 1,635,785 | 30.76 |
| FFCB | 1,000,000 | 18.81 |
| FHLMC | 993,000 | 18.67 |
| Total | <u>\$ 5,317,708</u> | <u>100.00</u> |

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

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the note above to cash and investments reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2024:

| <u>Cash and investments per note</u> |
|---|
| Carrying amount of deposits |
| Investments |
| Total |
| <u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u> |
| Governmental activities |
| Total |

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2024 represents collections of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at thirty-five percent of appraised fair value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. 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 revenue received in calendar 2024 represents collections of calendar year 2023 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien December 31, 2022, were levied after April 1, 2023 and are collected in 2024 with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at thirty-five percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAXES – (Continued)

House Bill No. 66 was signed into law on June 30, 2005. House Bill No. 66 phased out the tax on tangible personal property of general businesses, telephone and telecommunications companies, and railroads. The tax on general business and railroad property was eliminated in calendar year 2009, and the tax on telephone and telecommunications property was eliminated in calendar year 2010. The tax was phased out by reducing the assessment rate on the property each year. The bill replaced the revenue lost by the School District due to the phasing out of the tax. In calendar years 2006-2010, the School District was fully reimbursed for the lost revenue. In calendar years 2011-2017, the reimbursements were phased out. On June 30, 2011, House Bill No. 153 was signed into law, which further reduced the amounts of these reimbursements.

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

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

| | 2023 Second Half Collections | | 2024 First Half Collections | |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
| Agricultural/residential and other real estate | \$ 133,142,670 | 47.62 | \$ 133,061,990 | 48.30 |
| Public utility personal | <u>146,479,640</u> | <u>52.38</u> | <u>142,432,500</u> | <u>51.70</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 279,622,310</u> | <u>100.00</u> | <u>\$ 275,494,490</u> | <u>100.00</u> |
| Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation | \$ 42.82 | | \$ 42.82 | |

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The School District is exposed to various risks related to torts, theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2024, the School District contracted with Dietz, Futrell & Walters Insurance Inc. for general liability, vehicle and property insurance. The types and amounts of coverage, provided by their carrier, Aronaut, are as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Buildings and Contents - Replacement Cost | \$62,896,800 |
| Crime (\$1,000 deductible): | |
| Employee Theft | 100,000 |
| Forgery or Alteration | 100,000 |
| Inside Premises | 30,000 |
| Outside Premises | 30,000 |
| Liability: | |
| Bodily Injury and Property Damage | 1,000,000 |
| Personal and Advertising Injury | 1,000,000 |
| General Aggregate Limit | 3,000,000 |
| Completed Operations Aggregate Limit | 3,000,000 |
| Employers' - Stop Gap - Bodily Injury | 1,000,000 |
| Educational Legal - Errors and Omissions (\$5,000 deductible): | |
| Injury Limit | 1,000,000 |
| Aggregate Limit | 1,000,000 |
| Automobile Liability: | |
| Liability | 1,000,000 |
| Medical Payments - Each Person | 5,000 |
| Uninsured Motorists | 1,000,000 |
| Deductibles: | |
| Comprehensive | 1,000 |
| Collision | 1,000 |

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

B. Workers' Compensation

The School District participates in the Ohio SchoolComp Group Retro Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (See Note 12). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participants is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all participants in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated, and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to participants that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of CompManagement, Inc. provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT – (Continued)

C. Employee Benefits

Health insurance is offered to employees through a self-insurance internal service fund. Monthly premiums for the cost of claims are remitted to the fiscal agent who in turn pays the claims on the School District's behalf.

The School District provides life insurance and accidental death and disbursement insurance to most employees through Metropolitan Educational Council in the amount of \$25,000 for its employees.

Dental coverage is provided through Delta Dental.

NOTE 7 - 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 obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

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

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

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

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

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description - The School 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, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3309. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about SERS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it will be indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0%. In 2023, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2024.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14.00% 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 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00%. For fiscal year 2024, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$355,639 for fiscal year 2024.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 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% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS Ohio. The remaining 4.47% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

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

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.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$797,356 for fiscal year 2024.

Net Pension Liability

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date | 0.058139200% | 0.039332460% | |
| Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date | <u>0.059464000%</u> | <u>0.039132620%</u> | |
| Change in proportionate share | <u>0.001324800%</u> | <u>-0.000199840%</u> | |
| Proportionate share of the net pension liability | \$ 3,285,690 | \$ 8,427,185 | \$ 11,712,875 |

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and plan members to that point. The projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes does not explicitly incorporate the potential effects of legal or contractual funding limitations. Future benefits for all current plan members were projected through 2137.

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, are presented below:

Wage inflation:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Current measurement date | 2.40% |
| Prior measurement date | 2.40% |

Future salary increases, including inflation:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Current measurement date | 3.25% to 13.58% |
| Prior measurement date | 3.25% to 13.58% |

COLA or ad hoc COLA:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Current measurement date | 2.00% |
| Prior measurement date | 2.00% |

Investment rate of return:

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Current measurement date | 7.00% net of system expenses |
| Prior measurement date | 7.00% net of system expenses |

Discount rate:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Current measurement date | 7.00% |
| Prior measurement date | 7.00% |

Actuarial cost method

Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

In 2023, 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

In the prior measurement date, 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in the SERS' Statement of Investment Policy. Ohio Revised Code Section (ORC) 3309.15 and the Board-adopted Investment Policy govern investment activity at SERS. 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.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate
- Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, 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%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

| | Current | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | 1% Decrease | Discount Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability | \$ 4,849,514 | \$ 3,285,690 | \$ 1,968,470 |

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation are presented below:

| | June 30, 2023 | June 30, 2022 |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Inflation | 2.50% | 2.50% |
| Projected salary increases | Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50% | Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50% |
| Investment rate of return | 7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation | 7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation |
| Discount rate of return | 7.00% | 7.00% |
| Payroll increases | 3.00% | 3.00% |
| Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) | 0.00% | 0.00% |

For the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% 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% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For the prior measurement date, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% 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% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

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

| 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 | <u><u>100.00 %</u></u> | |

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% 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% as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with 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, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

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

- The following table represents the net pension liability as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

| | Current | | |
|---|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| | 1% Decrease | Discount Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability | \$ 12,959,146 | \$ 8,427,185 | \$ 4,594,387 |

Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate remained at 7.00% for June 30, 2023 valuation. Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, 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 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$44,985.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$44,985 for fiscal year 2024.

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 or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, 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, 2023, 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 School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the School District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|--|---------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Proportion of the net OPEB | | | |
| liability/asset prior measurement date | 0.059607100% | 0.039332460% | |
| Proportion of the net OPEB | | | |
| liability/asset current measurement date | <u>0.061230300%</u> | <u>0.039132620%</u> | |
| Change in proportionate share | <u>0.001623200%</u> | <u>-0.000199840%</u> | |
| Proportionate share of the net | | | |
| OPEB liability | \$ 1,008,735 | \$ - | \$ 1,008,735 |
| Proportionate share of the net | | | |
| OPEB asset | \$ - | \$ (761,075) | \$ (761,075) |

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022 are presented below:

Wage inflation:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Current measurement date | 2.40% |
| Prior measurement date | 2.40% |

Future salary increases, including inflation:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Current measurement date | 3.25% to 13.58% |
| Prior measurement date | 3.25% to 13.58% |

Investment rate of return:

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Current measurement date | 7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation |
| Prior measurement date | 7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation |

Municipal bond index rate:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Current measurement date | 3.86% |
| Prior measurement date | 3.69% |

Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Current measurement date | 4.27% |
| Prior measurement date | 4.08% |

Medical trend assumption:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Current measurement date | 6.75 to 4.40% |
| Prior measurement date | 7.00 to 4.40% |

In 2023, the following mortality assumptions were used:

Healthy Retirees - 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females.

Disabled Retirees - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females.

Contingent Survivors - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females.

Actives - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

Mortality Projection - Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

In the prior measurement date, 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

The long-term expected rate of return is reviewed as part of the regular experience studies prepared every five years for SERS. The most recent five-year experience study was performed for the period covering fiscal years 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a long-normal distribution analysis in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00%, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The 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 asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

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

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates - The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability, what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.27%) and higher (5.27%) than the current discount rate (4.27%). Also shown is what the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%).

| | Current | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | 1% Decrease | Discount Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability | \$ 1,289,453 | \$ 1,008,735 | \$ 787,379 |
| | 1% Decrease | Trend Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability | \$ 741,083 | \$ 1,008,735 | \$ 1,363,411 |

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, compared with June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation, are presented below:

| | June 30, 2023 | | June 30, 2022 | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---------------|----------|
| | Initial | Ultimate | Initial | Ultimate |
| Inflation | 2.50% | 2.50% | | |
| Projected salary increases | Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50% | Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50% | | |
| Investment rate of return | 7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation | 7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation | | |
| Payroll increases | 3.00% | 3.00% | | |
| Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) | 0.00% | 0.00% | | |
| Discount rate of return | 7.00% | 7.00% | | |
| Blended discount rate of return | N/A | N/A | | |
| Health care cost trends | | | | |
| Medical | | | | |
| Pre-Medicare | 7.50% | 4.14% | 7.50% | 3.94% |
| Medicare | -10.94% | 4.14% | -68.78% | 3.94% |
| Prescription Drug | | | | |
| Pre-Medicare | -11.95% | 4.14% | 9.00% | 3.94% |
| Medicare | 1.33% | 4.14% | -5.47% | 3.94% |

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

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

For the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% 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% 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.

For the prior measurement date, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% 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% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate remained unchanged at 7.00% for the June 30, 2023 valuation.

Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience as well as benefit changes effective January 1, 2024.

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 | <u><u>100.00 %</u></u> | |

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% 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% as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on 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, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate - The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, 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%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) 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.

| | Current | | |
|---|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| | 1% Decrease | Discount Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset | \$ 644,151 | \$ 761,075 | \$ 862,904 |
| | 1% Decrease | Current Trend Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset | \$ 867,630 | \$ 761,075 | \$ 632,733 |

NOTE 9 - DEBT OBLIGATIONS

Currently, the School District has no outstanding debt.

The overall debt margin of the School District as of June 30, 2024, was \$24,794,504, with an unvoted debt margin of \$275,494.

NOTE 10 - SET-ASIDE REQUIREMENTS

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

| | <u>Capital Improvements</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Set-aside balance June 30, 2023 | \$ - |
| Current year set-aside requirement | 203,651 |
| Current year qualifying expenditures | - |
| Current year offsets | <u>(1,000,000)</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ (796,349)</u> |
| Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2025 | <u>\$ -</u> |
| Set-aside balance June 30, 2024 | <u>\$ -</u> |

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Metropolitan Educational Technology Association

The School District participates in the Metropolitan Educational Technology Association (META), formed from the merger of the Metropolitan Educational Council (MEC) and the Southwestern Ohio Voluntary Education Cooperative (SEOVEC) during fiscal year 2017, which is a jointly governed organization, created as a regional council of government pursuant to Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. META operates as, and has all the powers of, a data acquisition site/ information technology center pursuant to applicable provisions of the Ohio Revised Code. The organization was formed for the purpose of identifying, developing and providing to members and nonmembers innovative educational and technological services and products, as well as expanded opportunities for cooperative purchasing. The General Assembly of META consists one delegate from every member school district. The delegate is the superintendent of the school district or the superintendent's designee. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation of the General Assembly. The General Assembly exercises total control over the operation of META including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. During fiscal year 2024, the School District paid \$80,975 for services with META/MEC/SEOVEC. Financial information can be obtained from Metropolitan Educational Technology Association at 100 Executive Drive, Marion, Ohio 43302.

B. Washington County Career Center

The Washington County Career Center, a joint vocational school, is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the six participating school districts' elected boards and one representative from the Ohio Valley Educational Service Center's Board. The Board possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. To obtain financial information write to the Washington County Career Center Treasurer, at 21740 SR 676, Marietta, Ohio 45750.

C. Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools

The Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools (the "Coalition") is a jointly governed organization composed of 136 school districts and other educational institutions in the 35-County region of Ohio designated as Appalachia. The Coalition is operated by a Board which is composed of seventeen members. One elected and one appointed from each of the seven regions into which the 35 Appalachian counties are divided; and three from Ohio University College of Education. The Coalition provides various in-service training programs for school district administrative personnel; gathers data regarding the level of education provided to children in the region; cooperates with other professional groups to assess and develop programs designed to meet the needs of member districts; and provides staff development programs for school district personnel. The Coalition is not dependent on the continued participation of responsibility for the Coalition. The School District's membership fee was \$400 for fiscal year 2024. The financial information for the Coalition can be obtained from the Executive Director, at McCracken Hall, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS - (Continued)

D. The Ohio Coalition of Equity and Adequacy of School Funding

The Coalition of Equity and Adequacy of School Funding (the “Coalition”) is organized as a council of governments pursuant to Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Coalition was organized in 1990 to challenge the constitutionality of the Ohio school funding system. The Coalition is governed by a Steering Committee of 90 school district representatives. Though most of the members are superintendents, some treasurers, board members, and administrators also serve. Several persons serve as ex office members. The membership of the Coalition includes over 500 school districts throughout the State of Ohio. The Committee exercises total control over budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and the designation of management. Member school districts and joint vocational schools pay dues of \$0.05 per pupil. School districts and joint vocational schools may also pay supplemental dues in the amount of \$0.50 per pupil for K-12 districts and educational service centers pay dues of \$0.05 per pupil. The School District paid \$457 to the Coalition in fiscal year 2024. The Coalition is not dependent on the continued participation of the School District and the School District does not maintain an equity interest of financial responsibility for the Coalition. To obtain financial information write to Ohio Coalition of Equity and Adequacy of School Funding at 100 South Third Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

NOTE 12 - INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL

Ohio SchoolComp Group Retro Plan – The School District participates in the Ohio SchoolComp Group Retro Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The GRP’s business and affairs are conducted by an 11 member Board of directors. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as the coordinator of the program. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of the administering program.

NOTE 13 - ENCUMBRANCES

The School 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 School District’s commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

| <u>Fund</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| General | \$ 549,661 |
| Permanent improvement | 1,267,449 |
| Nonmajor governmental | <u>93,324</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 1,910,434</u> |

NOTE 14 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

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

B. Litigation

The School District is not party to any claims or lawsuits that would, in the School District’s opinion, have a material effect of the basic financial statements.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 14 - CONTINGENCIES - (Continued)

C. Foundation Funding

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Traditional districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the School District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODEW has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2024 Foundation funding for the School District. There was no significant financial statement impact as a result.

NOTE 15 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

During fiscal year 2024, the general fund transferred \$1,000,000 to the permanent improvement fund, \$200,000 to the self-insurance fund, and \$18,465 to the district managed student activity fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

Transfers are used to move receipts from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to disburse them and to use unrestricted receipts collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

All transfers made in fiscal year 2024 were in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16. Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements; therefore, no transfers are reported in the statement of activities.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

| | Budgeted Amounts | | Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis | Variance with Final Budget - Over (Under) Actual Amounts |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| | Original | Final | | |
| Budgetary receipts and other financing sources | \$ 23,989,417 | \$ 24,889,417 | \$ 17,136,286 | \$ (7,753,131) |
| Budgetary disbursements and other financing uses | <u>16,852,438</u> | <u>16,852,438</u> | <u>17,614,330</u> | <u>761,892</u> |
| Net change in fund balance | 7,136,979 | 8,036,979 | (478,044) | (8,515,023) |
| Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year | 12,146,463 | 12,146,463 | 12,146,463 | - |
| Prior year encumbrances appropriated | <u>1,463,209</u> | <u>1,463,209</u> | <u>1,463,209</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Budgetary fund balance at end of year | <u><u>\$ 20,746,651</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 21,646,651</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 13,131,628</u></u> | <u><u>\$ (8,515,023)</u></u> |

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budgetary Basis presented for the general fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis are as follows:

1. Outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as a cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (cash basis).
2. Some funds are included in the general fund (cash basis) but have separate legally adopted budgets (budgetary basis).

Adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations at the end of the year on the budgetary basis to the cash basis are as follows:

| | <u>General</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Budgetary basis | \$ (478,044) |
| Funds budgeted elsewhere | 17,078 |
| Encumbrances | <u>546,760</u> |
| Cash basis | <u>\$ 85,794</u> |

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. This includes the uniform school supplies fund, adult education fund, and the public school support fund.

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**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

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

| FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> Program / Cluster Title | Federal AL Number | Pass Through Entity Identifying Number | Total Federal Expenditures |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE | | | |
| <i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i> | | | |
| Child Nutrition Cluster | | | |
| Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution): | | | |
| National School Lunch Program | 10.555 | 2023/2024 | \$44,991 |
| Cash Assistance: | | | |
| School Breakfast Program | 10.553 | 2023/2024 | 128,428 |
| National School Lunch Program | 10.555 | 2023/2024 | 291,520 |
| COVID-19 National School Lunch Program | 10.555 | 2023/2024 | 30,733 |
| Cash Assistance Subtotal | | | <u>450,681</u> |
| Total Child Nutrition Cluster | | | <u>495,672</u> |
| Total U.S. Department of Agriculture | | | 495,672 |
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY | | | |
| <i>Passed through Ohio Facilities Construction Commission</i> | | | |
| COVID 19: Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds- Safety Grant | 21.027 | 2023 | <u>424,760</u> |
| Total U.S. Department of the Treasury | | | 424,760 |
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | | | |
| <i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i> | | | |
| Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies | 84.010A | 2023 | 42,851 |
| Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies | 84.010A | 2024 | 185,016 |
| Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies- Expanding Opportunities for Each Child Non-Competitive Grant | 84.010A | 2023 | <u>3,026</u> |
| Total Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies | | | <u>230,893</u> |
| Special Education Cluster: | | | |
| Special Education Grants to States | 84.027A | 2023 | 8,705 |
| Special Education Grants to States | 84.027A | 2024 | 313,567 |
| COVID-19: Special Education Grants to States | 84.027X | 2023 | <u>51,489</u> |
| Total Special Education - Grants to States | | | <u>373,761</u> |
| Special Education Preschool Grants | 84.173A | 2023 | <u>2,785</u> |
| Total Special Education Cluster | | | 376,546 |
| Supporting Effective Instruction in State Grants | 84.367A | 2024 | 19,895 |
| Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program | 84.424A | 2023 | 21,610 |
| Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program | 84.424A | 2024 | 2,500 |
| Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program- Stronger Connections Grant | 84.424F | 2024 | <u>50,417</u> |
| Total Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program | | | <u>74,527</u> |
| Education Stabilization Fund | | | |
| COVID 19: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund II | 84.425D | 2023 | 10,421 |
| COVID 19: American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund | 84.425U | 2024 | 461,745 |
| COVID 19: American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund | 84.425U | 2023 | 3,670 |
| COVID 19: American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund- Reaching Every Student | 84.425U | 2024 | 59,945 |
| COVID 19: American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund- Reaching Every Student | 84.425U | 2023 | 37,263 |
| COVID-19: American Rescue Plan – Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund –Homeless Children and Youth | 84.425W | 2023 | <u>7,831</u> |
| Total Education Stabilization Fund | | | <u>580,875</u> |
| Total U.S. Department of Education | | | <u>1,282,736</u> |
| Total Expenditures of Federal Awards | | | <u>\$2,203,168</u> |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this Schedule.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

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

NOTE A- BASIS OF PRESENTATION

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

NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

NOTE C - INDIRECT COST RATE

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

NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE E - FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

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

Fort Frye Local School District
Washington County
PO Box 1149
Beverly, Ohio 45715

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*, the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fort Frye Local School District, Washington County, Ohio (the School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 14, 2025, wherein we noted the School District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Fort Frye Local School District
Washington County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
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Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item 2024-001.

School District's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Corrective Action Plan. The School District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

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

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

July 14, 2025



65 East State Street
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**

Fort Frye Local School District
Washington County
PO Box 1149
Beverly, Ohio 45715

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Qualified and Unmodified Opinions

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

Qualified Opinion on the Education Stabilization Fund

In our opinion, except for the noncompliance described in the *Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions* section of our report, the Fort Frye Local School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the Education Stabilization Fund AL# 84.425 for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Unmodified Opinion on the Other Major Federal Program

In our opinion, Fort Frye Local School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its other major federal program identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Qualified and Unmodified Opinions

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*

Fort Frye Local School District

Washington County

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

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Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the School District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified and unmodified opinions on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Matters Giving Rise to Qualified Opinion on the Education Stabilization Fund

As described in findings 2024-002 and 2024-003 in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, the School District did not comply with requirements regarding the following:

| Finding # | Assistance Listing # | Program (or Cluster) Name | Compliance Requirement |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 2024-002 | 84.425 | Education Stabilization Fund | Equipment and Real Property Management |
| 2024-003 | 84.425 | Education Stabilization Fund | Reporting |

Compliance with such requirements is necessary, in our opinion, for the School District to comply with the requirements applicable to that program.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

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

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

- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the School District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

Other Matters

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School District's responses to the noncompliance findings identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying Corrective Action Plan. The School District's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses.

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. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2024-002 and 2024-003 to be material weaknesses.

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.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School District's responses to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audit described in the accompanying Corrective Action Plan. The School District's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Fort Frye Local School District

Washington County

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

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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

Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM

Chief Deputy Auditor

July 14, 2025

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2024**

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

| | | |
|---------------------|---|--|
| (d)(1)(i) | Type of Financial Statement Opinion | Unmodified |
| (d)(1)(ii) | Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)? | No |
| (d)(1)(ii) | Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)? | No |
| (d)(1)(iii) | Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)? | Yes |
| (d)(1)(iv) | Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs? | Yes |
| (d)(1)(iv) | Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs? | No |
| (d)(1)(v) | Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion | Unmodified for all major programs except for Education Stabilization Fund, which we qualified. |
| (d)(1)(vi) | Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)? | Yes |
| (d)(1)(vii) | Major Programs (list): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child Nutrition Cluster AL# 10.555/10.553• Education Stabilization Fund AL# 84.425 | |
| (d)(1)(viii) | Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs | Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others |
| (d)(1)(ix) | Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520? | No |

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

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001

Noncompliance

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

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

FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY

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

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

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001(Continued)

Noncompliance - Ohio Rev. Code §117.38 (Continued)

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

Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 the School District may be fined and subject to various other administrative remedies for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the School District's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the School District.

To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the School District should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Officials' Response: See Corrective Action Plan.

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

| | |
|---|--|
| Finding Number: | 2024-002 |
| Assistance Listing Number and Title: | AL # 84.425 Education Stabilization Fund |
| Federal Award Identification Number / Year: | 2024 |
| Federal Agency: | US Department of Education |
| Compliance Requirement: | Equipment and Real Property Management |
| Pass-Through Entity: | Ohio Department of Education and Workforce |
| Repeat Finding from Prior Audit? | No |

Noncompliance and Material Weakness

2 CFR § 3474.1 gives regulatory effect to the Department of Education for 2 CFR § 200.313(d)(1) which provides that property records must be maintained that include a description of the property, a serial number or other identification number, the source of funding for the property (including the Federal award identification number), who holds title, the acquisition date, cost of the property, percentage of Federal participation in the project costs for the Federal award under which the property was acquired, the location, use and condition of the property, and any ultimate disposition data including the date of disposal and sales price of the property.

The School District purchased HVAC equipment in the amount of \$1,032,599 using COVID 19: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds in FY 22; however, they failed to add these assets to their capital asset listing due to a failure in adequately designed controls and still have not updated this in the capital asset records as of June 30, 2024. They also have not performed an inventory count in the past 2 years. The failure to properly record assets can lead to difficulties maintaining accountability for the related assets.

The Treasurer and Superintendent should monitor transactions and ensure that all capital additions are properly documented in the capital asset records.

**FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
WASHINGTON COUNTY**

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

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS (Continued)

FINDING NUMBER 2024-002 (Continued)

Noncompliance and Material Weakness - Continued

Officials' Response: See Corrective Action Plan.

| | |
|--|---|
| Finding Number: | 2024-003 |
| Assistance Listing Number and Title: | AL # 84.425 Education Stabilization Fund |
| Federal Award Identification Number / Year: | 2024 |
| Federal Agency: | US Department of Education |
| Compliance Requirement: | Reporting |
| Pass-Through Entity: | Ohio Department of Education and Workforce |
| Repeat Finding from Prior Audit? | No |

Noncompliance and Material Weakness

2 CFR § 3474.1 provides the Department of Education (DOE) adopts the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance in 2 CFR part 200, except for 2 CFR § 200.102(a) and 2 CFR § 200.207(a). Thus, this part gives regulatory effect to the OMB guidance and supplements the guidance as needed for the DOE.

As documented by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Office of Federal and State Grants Management, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce requires school districts to submit the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 2024 grant Final Expenditure Report (FER) by December 2, 2024. School Districts must complete the FER at the end of each fiscal year for the prior state fiscal year's Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief expenditures. All expenses reported on the FER should be paid. There should be no encumbered amounts.

The Treasurer and Superintendent approved and submitted the Final Expenditure Report for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 2024 grant and the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 2024- Reaching Every Student grant on September 27, 2024. However, the expenditures in this submission included the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 2023 grants expenditures as well as the 2024 grants. Therefore, the Final Expenditure Report for the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 2024 grant and the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 2024- Reaching Every Student grant submitted to the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce were overstated by \$3,670 and \$37,263, respectively.

The School District should review the Final Expenditure Report before submission to help ensure all required amounts are included.

Officials' Response: See Corrective Action Plan.

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Fort Frye Local School District

Office of the Treasurer

510 Fifth Street, P.O. Box 1149 ~ Beverly, OH 45715-1149
Phone (740) 984-8260 ~ FAX (740) 984-4614

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

| Finding Number | Finding Summary | Status | Additional Information |
|----------------|---|-----------------|---|
| 2023-001 | Material noncompliance citation was issued under Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B) for not preparing the annual financial report pursuant to generally accepted accounting principles. | Not Corrected | The School District has chosen the most cost-effective financial reporting system available. The additional cost associated with the GAAP financial statements would be a direct burden upon instructional resources. |
| 2023-002 | Material Weakness relating to financial reporting due to material audit adjustments. | Fully Corrected | N/A |
| 2023-003 | Noncompliance and Material Weakness pertaining to Site Claim Reporting for AL # 10.555/10.553 Child Nutrition Cluster. | Fully Corrected | N/A |

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Fort Frye Local School District

Office of the Treasurer

510 Fifth Street, P.O. Box 1149 ~ Beverly, OH 45715-1149
Phone (740) 984-8260 ~ FAX (740) 984-4614

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

2 CFR § 200.511(c)
JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number:

2024-001

Planned Corrective Action:

The District files on a cash basis as a cost savings to the District.

Anticipated Completion Date:

continuing

Responsible Contact Person:

Kaitlin Huck, Treasurer/CFO

Finding Number:

2024-002

Planned Corrective Action:

The District will update the capital asset listing.

Anticipated Completion Date:

6/30/26

Responsible Contact Person:

Kaitlin Huck, Treasurer/CFO

Finding Number:

2024-003

Planned Corrective Action:

The District will closely review the Final Expenditure Report for all

grants to ensure accuracy.

6/30/26

Anticipated Completion Date:

Kaitlin Huck, Treasurer/CFO

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



FORT FRYE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

WASHINGTON 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 7/24/2025

65 East State 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