



bhm cpa group, inc.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

NOBLE ACADEMY CLEVELAND
CUYAHOGA COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024



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Columbus, Ohio 43215
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800-282-0370

Board of Directors
Noble Academy Cleveland
1336 Basswood Rd
Schaumburg, IL 60173-4544

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Noble Academy Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, prepared by BHM CPA Group, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Faber".

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 02, 2025

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NOBLE ACADEMY CLEVELAND
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Noble Academy Cleveland
Cuyahoga County
1200 East 200th Street
Euclid, Ohio 44117

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Noble Academy Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio (the Academy), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy'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 financial position of Noble Academy Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio as of June 30, 2024, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

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 Academy, 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 opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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 Academy'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 opinion. 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 Academy'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 Academy'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.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and schedules of net pension and other post-employment benefit liabilities and pension and other post-employment benefit contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 31, 2024, on our consideration of the Academy'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 Academy'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 Academy's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

BHM CPA Group

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio
December 31, 2024

The discussion and analysis of Noble Academy - Cleveland's (the Academy) financial performance provides an overall review of the financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Readers should also review the financial statements and notes to enhance their understanding of the Academy's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- Total assets were \$5,400,495.
- Total liabilities were \$5,738,820.
- Total net position increased by \$368,585.

Using this Financial Report

This report consists of three parts: the MD&A, the basic financial statements, and notes to those statements. The basic financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows.

Reporting the Academy as a Whole

One of the most important questions asked about the Academy is, "As a whole, what is the Academy's financial condition as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, which appear first in the Academy's financial statements, report information on the Academy as a whole and its activities in a way that helps you answer this question. We prepare these statements to include all assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Academy's net position – the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, as reported in the Statement of Net Position – as one way to measure the Academy's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Academy's net position – as reported in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position – are indicators of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. The relationship between revenues and expenses is the Academy's operating results. However, the Academy's goal is to provide services to our students, not to generate profits as commercial entities do. One must consider many other non-financial factors, such as the quality of the education provided and the safety of the Academy, to assess the overall health of the Academy.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position report the activities of the Academy, which encompass all the Academy's services, including instruction and supporting services. Unrestricted state aid and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Table 1 provides a comparison of net position as of June 30, 2024 with net position as of June 30, 2023.

Table 1
Net Position

	2024	2023
Assets		
Current Assets	\$ 2,201,333	\$ 2,138,225
Net OPEB Asset	350,090	461,783
Capital Assets, Net	<u>2,849,072</u>	<u>2,179,901</u>
Total Assets	5,400,495	4,779,909
Deferred Outflows of Resources	1,244,570	1,586,224
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	758,694	432,670
Noncurrent Liabilities	<u>4,980,126</u>	<u>5,116,775</u>
Total Liabilities	5,738,820	5,549,445
Deferred Inflows of Resources	722,521	1,001,549
Net Position		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	2,074,925	1,353,694
Restricted for OPEB	350,090	116,186
Unrestricted	<u>(2,241,291)</u>	<u>(1,654,741)</u>
Total Net Position	\$ 183,724	\$ (184,861)

The net pension liability is reported pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 68, *“Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27.”* The net other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability/asset is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 75, *“Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions.”* For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the Academy’s actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability, and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB and the net OPEB asset.

GASB standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan’s *net pension liability* or *net OPEB liability*. GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio’s statewide pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset to equal the Academy’s proportionate share of each plan’s collective:

1. Present value of estimated future pension/OPEB benefits attributable to active and inactive employees’ past service.
2. Minus plan assets available to pay these benefits.

GASB notes that pension and OPEB obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the “employment exchange” – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the Academy is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer’s promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e., sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability or the net OPEB liability. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability are satisfied, these liabilities are separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the Academy’s statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan’s *change* in net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

Current and other assets increased primarily in cash and cash equivalents resulting primarily from the collection of federal grant funding. This increase in cash was partially offset by a decrease in intergovernmental receivables.

Capital assets increased as the Academy began a gym building construction project in fiscal 2024.

Current liabilities increased primarily in the area of accounts payable related to management company services and construction costs incurred and accrued at June 30, 2024.

Long-term liabilities decreased primarily due to a decrease in the Academy’s net pension liability. The net pension liability decreased \$95,334 from the prior year. These changes were the result of changes at the pension system level for the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) and the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). The net pension liability is outside of the control of the Academy. The Academy contributes its statutorily required contributions to the pension systems; however, it’s the pension systems that collect, hold and distribute pensions to Academy employees, not the Academy. See Note 6 for more detail. In addition, the Academy continued to make debt service payments thus reducing the long-term liability.

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for the fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

Table 2
Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

	2024	2023
<u>Operating Revenues</u>		
Foundation payments	\$ 3,002,406	\$ 2,604,827
Other revenue	76,962	96,098
Total operating revenues	3,079,368	2,700,925
<u>Operating Expenses</u>		
Salaries	2,531,246	2,587,548
Fringe benefits	782,093	803,251
Purchased services	1,290,867	1,366,673
Materials and supplies	123,611	183,684
Depreciation and amortization	287,143	294,680
Miscellaneous	172,564	144,674
Total operating expenses	5,187,524	5,380,510
Operating loss	(2,108,156)	(2,679,585)
<u>Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)</u>		
Restricted grants in aid - federal	579,397	2,411,814
State and other grants	1,939,370	1,142,504
Interest expense	(42,026)	(44,693)
Total nonoperating revenues	2,476,741	3,509,625
Change in net position	368,585	830,040
Net position, beginning of year (deficit)	(184,861)	(1,014,901)
Net position, end of year	\$ 183,724	\$ (184,861)

Overall, operating expenses decreased \$192,986 or 3.59%.

Salaries expense and fringe benefits expense remained comparable to the prior year.

Purchased services decreased primarily in the areas of management services costs and special education professional services expense.

Foundation support increased \$397,579. Foundation support is the primary support of the Academy, comprising 97.50% of operating revenue and 53.63% of total revenues. The Academy also received a significant portion of state and federal grants, which represent 44.99% of total revenue. Federal grant revenue decreased as the Academy reported revenues related to the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) and Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding in fiscal year 2023. State and other grant revenue increased due to Quality Community School funding in fiscal year 2024. Net position increased \$368,585.

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2024, the Academy had \$3,635,867 invested in land, building, improvements, equipment, intangible right-to-use assets, and school vehicles (\$2,849,072 net of accumulated depreciation/amortization).

Table 3 shows the balances at June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023.

Table 3
Capital Assets

	2024	2023
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated/Amortized:		
Land	\$ 375,500	\$ 375,500
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated/Amortized:		
Building	794,500	794,500
Improvements	2,122,258	1,213,654
Equipment Instructional	300,693	402,408
Equipment Office	25,016	20,866
Intangible Right-To-Use:		
Computer Software	-	7,796
School Vehicle	17,900	17,900
Total Capital Assets	3,635,867	2,832,624
Less: Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization:		
Building	(88,278)	(61,795)
Improvements	(462,107)	(308,994)
Equipment Instructional	(218,133)	(265,215)
Equipment Office	(7,609)	(3,943)
Intangible Right-To-Use:		
Computer Software	-	(3,898)
School Vehicle	(10,668)	(8,878)
Total Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization	(786,795)	(652,723)
Net Capital Assets	\$ 2,849,072	\$ 2,179,901

For more information on capital assets see Note 5 to the basic financial statements.

Debt

Table 4 shows the Academy's long-term debt obligations at June 30, 2024 and 2023.

Table 4
Long-Term Obligations

Name	2024	2023
Mortgage Payable	\$ 774,147	\$ 822,412
SBITA Payable	-	3,796
Total	\$ 774,147	\$ 826,208

For more information on outstanding debt see Note 10 to the basic financial statements.

Contacting the Academy's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and creditors with a general overview of the Academy's finances. Questions concerning any of the information in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to Ramazan Celep, Treasurer, Noble Academy-Cleveland, 1200 200th Street, Euclid, OH 44117.

Noble Academy - Cleveland

Statement of Net Position

June 30, 2024

ASSETS:*Current Assets:*

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,017,357
Accounts receivable	111,989
Intergovernmental receivable	36,199
Prepaid items	35,788
Total current assets	<u>2,201,333</u>

Noncurrent Assets:

Net OPEB asset	350,090
Nondepreciable/nonamortizable capital assets	375,500
Depreciable/amortizable capital assets, net	<u>2,473,572</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>3,199,162</u>

Total Assets 5,400,495**DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:**

Pension	1,114,290
OPEB	<u>130,280</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>1,244,570</u>

LIABILITIES:*Current Liabilities:*

Accounts payable	430,766
Accrued wages and benefits payable	249,660
Intergovernmental payable	27,407
Mortgage payable	50,861
Total current liabilities	<u>758,694</u>

Noncurrent Liabilities:

Net pension liability	4,168,471
Net OPEB liability	88,369
Mortgage payable	<u>723,286</u>
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>4,980,126</u>

Total Liabilities 5,738,820**DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:**

Pension	355,624
OPEB	<u>366,897</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>722,521</u>

NET POSITION:

Net investment in capital assets	2,074,925
Restricted for OPEB	350,090
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(2,241,291)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 183,724</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Noble Academy - Cleveland
 Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

OPERATING REVENUES:

Foundation payments	\$ 3,002,406
Other revenue	<u>76,962</u>
Total operating revenues	3,079,368

OPERATING EXPENSES:

Salaries	2,531,246
Fringe benefits	782,093
Purchased services	1,290,867
Materials and supplies	123,611
Depreciation and amortization	287,143
Miscellaneous	<u>172,564</u>
Total operating expenses	5,187,524

Operating loss (2,108,156)

NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES):

Restricted grants in aid - federal	579,397
State and other grants	1,939,370
Interest expense	<u>(42,026)</u>
Total nonoperating revenues	2,476,741
Change in net position	368,585
Net position (deficit), beginning of year	<u>(184,861)</u>
Net position, end of year	<u>\$ 183,724</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Noble Academy - Cleveland
 Statement of Cash Flows
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Cash received from State of Ohio	\$ 3,000,275
Other cash receipts	13,657
Cash payments to employees for services and benefits	(3,282,929)
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(1,064,158)
Other cash payments	<u>(172,564)</u>
Net cash (used in) operating activities	(1,505,719)

CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

Federal grants received	911,633
State and other grants received	<u>1,939,370</u>
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	2,851,003

CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

Principal paid on mortgage	(48,265)
Interest paid on mortgage	(42,025)
Principal paid on SBITA	(3,796)
Interest paid on SBITA	(204)
Payments for capital acquisitions	<u>(956,314)</u>

Net cash (used in) capital and related financing activities	(1,050,604)
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Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	294,680
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>1,722,677</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>2,017,357</u>

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Operating loss	\$ (2,108,156)
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ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Depreciation and amortization	287,143
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Changes in assets, liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, and deferred inflows of resources:

(Increase) in prepaid assets	(35,788)
(Increase) in accounts receivable	(63,305)
Increase in accounts payable	350,320
(Increase) in intergovernmental receivable	(1,571)
(Decrease) in accrued wages and benefits payable	(8,710)
(Decrease) in intergovernmental payable	(14,182)
Decrease in net OPEB asset	111,693
Decrease in deferred outflows of resources	341,654
(Decrease) in deferred inflows of resources	(279,028)
(Decrease) in net pension liability	(95,334)
Increase in net OPEB liability	9,545
Total adjustments	<u>602,437</u>

Net cash (used in) operating activities	<u>\$ (1,505,719)</u>
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See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACADEMY AND REPORTING ENTITY

Noble Academy - Cleveland, (the Academy), is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Chapters 3314 and 1702 to address the needs of students in grades K through eight in Cleveland. The Academy, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school and is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations.

The Academy may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the Academy. The Academy qualifies as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Management is not aware of any course of action or series of events that have occurred that might adversely affect the Academy's tax-exempt status.

The Academy was approved for operation under contract with the Buckeye Hope Foundation (the Sponsor) for a period of five years commencing March 15, 2006. In 2020, the original contract was extended until June 30, 2025.

The Academy operates under the direction of a self-appointed five-member Board of Trustees. The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract, which includes, but are not limited to, state mandated provisions regarding student population, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admission standards, and qualifications of teachers. In fiscal year 2024, the Academy employed 49 personnel for up to 339 students during the year.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic financial statements of the Academy have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental nonprofit organizations. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the Academy's accounting policies are described below.

A. Basis of Presentation

The Academy's basic financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Position; a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position; and a Statement of Cash Flows.

The Academy uses enterprise accounting to report its financial activities. Enterprise accounting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position, and cash flows.

B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by its measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the Academy are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Net Positions present increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total net position. The Statement of Cash Flows provides information about how the Academy finances and meets the cash flow needs of its enterprise activities.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. The full accrual basis of accounting is used for reporting purposes. Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. Revenues resulting from non-exchange transactions, in which the Academy receives value without directly giving equal value in return, such as grants, entitlements and donations are recognized in the period in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Unearned revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. Grants and entitlements received before eligibility requirements are met are recorded as unearned revenue. Expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

C. Budgetary Process

Community schools are statutorily required to adopt a budget by Ohio Revised Code 3314.032(C). However, unlike traditional public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the specific budgetary process and limits set forth in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided in the contract between the Academy and its Sponsor. The contract between the Academy and its Sponsor does not require the Academy to follow the provisions Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705; therefore, no budgetary information is presented in the basic financial statements.

The contract between the Academy and its Sponsor prescribes an annual budget requirement in addition to preparing a 5-year forecast, which is to be updated on an annual basis. Chapter 5705.391(A) of the Ohio Revised Code also requires the Academy to prepare a 5-year forecast, update it annually, and submit it to the Superintendent of Public Instruction at the Ohio Department of Education.

D. Cash

To improve cash management, all cash received by the Academy is pooled in a central bank account. Total cash amount at the end of the fiscal year is presented as "Cash and cash equivalents" in the Statement of Net Position. For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows and for presentation on the Statement of Net Position, any investment with an original maturity date less than 90 days is considered a cash equivalent and any investment with a maturity date greater than 90 days is considered an investment. The Academy did not have any investments during fiscal year 2024.

E. Capital Assets and Depreciation/Amortization

Capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition value as of the date received. The Academy maintains a capitalization threshold of one thousand dollars. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized. Improvements are capitalized. The Academy does not capitalize interest.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Capital Assets and Depreciation/Amortization

Capital assets, except land, are depreciated or amortized using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives. Improvements to capital assets are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Leasehold improvements are depreciated using the straight-line method over the life of the lease.

	<u>Useful Life</u>
Buildings	30 years
Improvements	5 to 10 years
Equipment Instructional	3 to 5 years
Equipment Office	5 to 10 years
School Vehicle	3 to 5 years

The Academy reports an intangible right-to-use computer software asset. The intangible asset is being amortized in a systematic and rational manner over the shorter of the contract term or the useful life of the underlying asset.

F. Intergovernmental Revenues

The Academy currently participates in the State Foundation Program, Special Education Program, and Federal CCIP Program. Revenues received from the State Foundation Program are recognized as operating revenues whereas revenues from the Federal CCIP Program, Special Education Program and other State Grants are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the Academy must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Academy on a reimbursement basis.

G. Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the Academy. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of the Academy. All revenues and expenses not meeting these definitions are reported as non-operating.

H. Compensated Absences

The Academy's policy indicates that all full-time employees are entitled to eight days of sick/personal leave in a school year. Also, Full time employees who have worked for the Academy for a total of 200 or more days during the contract year will be allowed nine days of paid sick or personal leave. Full time employees who have worked for the Academy 210 or more days during the contract year will be allowed ten days of paid sick or personal leave. All leave earned by employees must be used within the current school year and cannot be transferred to the next school year, and therefore, are not recorded as a liability. The Academy compensates its employees \$200 per day for each unused sick/personal day at the end of the year.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

I. Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use, either through enabling legislation adopted by the Academy or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or contracts. The Academy applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net positions are available. At the end of the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Academy reported restricted net position related to the net OPEB asset.

J. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

K. Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. See Notes 6 and 7 for deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. See Notes 6 and 7 for deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively.

L. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, net OPEB asset, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related pensions/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense, 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. Prepayments

Certain payments to vendors reflected the costs applicable to future accounting periods and were recorded as prepaid items in the financial statements. These items were reported as assets on the statement of net position using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amounts was recorded at the time of the purchase and the expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

3. ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2024, the Academy has implemented certain paragraphs from 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 balances previously reported by the Academy.

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 Academy.

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 Academy.

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 Academy.

4. DEPOSITS

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount and bank balance of the Academy deposits was \$2,017,357. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the remainder was uninsured and uncollateralized. There are no significant statutory restrictions regarding the deposit and investment of funds by the nonprofit corporation.

5. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Balance June 30, 2023	Additions	Deletions	Balance June 30, 2024
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated/Amortized:				
Land	\$ 375,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 375,500
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated/Amortized:				
Building	794,500	- -	- -	794,500
Improvements	1,213,654	908,604	- -	2,122,258
Equipment Instructional	402,408	43,560	(145,275)	300,693
Equipment Office	20,866	4,150	- -	25,016
Intangible Right-To-Use:				
Computer Software	7,796	- -	(7,796)	- -
School Vehicle	17,900	- -	- -	17,900
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated/Amortized	2,457,124	956,314	(153,071)	3,260,367
Total Capital Assets	2,832,624	956,314	(153,071)	3,635,867
Less: Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization:				
Building	(61,795)	(26,483)	- -	(88,278)
Improvements	(308,994)	(153,113)	- -	(462,107)
Equipment Instructional	(265,215)	(98,193)	145,275	(218,133)
Equipment Office	(3,943)	(3,666)	- -	(7,609)
Intangible Right-To-Use:				
Computer Software	(3,898)	(3,898)	7,796	- -
School Vehicle	(8,878)	(1,790)	- -	(10,668)
Total Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization	(652,723)	(287,143)	153,071	(786,795)
Net Capital Assets	\$ 2,179,901	\$ 669,171	\$ -	\$ 2,849,072

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset reported on the statement of net position represents a liability or asset to employees for pensions and OPEB, respectively.

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 Academy'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.

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

The Ohio Revised Code limits the Academy's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Academy cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the Academy 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 remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 7 for the required OPEB disclosures.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension/OPEB liability (asset)* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *accrued wages and benefits payable*.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description - The Academy'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.

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

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 Academy 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 Academy's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$25,639 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$1,203 is reported as *accrued wages and benefits payable*.

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. 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.

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

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.

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 Academy's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$342,456 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$25,228 is reported as *accrued wages and benefits payable*.

Net Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

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 Academy's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Academy's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

The following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.005533100%	0.017834050%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.005285000%</u>	<u>0.018000740%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000248100%</u>	<u>0.000166690%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 292,023	\$ 3,876,448	\$ 4,168,471
Pension expense	\$ 53,732	\$ 416,542	\$ 470,274

At June 30, 2024, the Academy reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 12,551	\$ 141,328	\$ 153,879
Changes of assumptions	2,069	319,247	321,316
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	21,332	249,668	271,000
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>25,639</u>	<u>342,456</u>	<u>368,095</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 61,591</u>	<u>\$ 1,052,699</u>	<u>\$ 1,114,290</u>

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 8,600	\$ 8,600
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	4,105	11,619	15,724
Changes of assumptions	-	240,300	240,300
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>10,019</u>	<u>80,981</u>	<u>91,000</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 14,124</u>	<u>\$ 341,500</u>	<u>\$ 355,624</u>

\$368,095 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from Academy contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2025	\$ 19,944	\$ 55,138	\$ 75,082
2026	(14,672)	(59,890)	(74,562)
2027	16,339	389,662	406,001
2028	<u>217</u>	<u>(16,167)</u>	<u>(15,950)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 21,828</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 368,743</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 390,571</u></u>

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.

6. 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 SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. Ohio Revised Code Section 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.

6. 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	<u>100.00 %</u>	

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 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% Increase
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	
Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 431,012	\$ 292,023	\$ 174,952

6. 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.

6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

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

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>100.00 %</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 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 Academy'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
Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,961,119	\$ 3,876,448	\$ 2,113,387

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.

7. DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 6 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The Academy 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.

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 Academy's surcharge obligation was \$2,904.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The Academy's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$2,904 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$2,904 is reported as *accrued wages and benefits payable*.

7. DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (Continued)

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 Liabilities/Assets, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

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 Academy's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the Academy's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.005614200%	0.017834050%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.005364000%</u>	<u>0.018000740%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000250200%</u>	<u>0.000166690%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 88,369	\$ -	\$ 88,369
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ 350,090	\$ 350,090
OPEB expense	\$ (9,234)	\$ (1,511)	\$ (10,745)

7. DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (Continued)

At June 30, 2024, the Academy reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 184	\$ 546	\$ 730
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	684	627	1,311
Changes of assumptions	29,879	51,576	81,455
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	42,301	1,579	43,880
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	2,904	-	2,904
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 75,952</u>	<u>\$ 54,328</u>	<u>\$ 130,280</u>
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 45,572	\$ 53,397	\$ 98,969
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments			-
Changes of assumptions	25,099	230,985	256,084
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	9,505	2,339	11,844
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 80,176</u>	<u>\$ 286,721</u>	<u>\$ 366,897</u>

\$2,904 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from Academy contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability/asset in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2025	\$ (7,092)	\$ (101,728)	\$ (108,820)
2026	(2,992)	(47,398)	(50,390)
2027	(985)	(18,271)	(19,256)
2028	234	(24,803)	(24,569)
2029	1,013	(22,676)	(21,663)
Thereafter	<u>2,694</u>	<u>(17,517)</u>	<u>(14,823)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (7,128)</u>	<u>\$ (232,393)</u>	<u>\$ (239,521)</u>

7. DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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

7. DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (Continued)

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.

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.

7. DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (Continued)

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>100.00 %</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.

Sensitivity of the Academy'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
Academy's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 112,961	\$ 88,369	\$ 68,977
<hr/>			
	Current		
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
Academy's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 64,922	\$ 88,369	\$ 119,440

7. DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB 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 actuarial valuation, compared with June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation, are presented below:

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	
		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%
Medicare	-10.94%	4.14%	-68.78%
Prescription Drug			
Pre-Medicare	-11.95%	4.14%	9.00%
Medicare	1.33%	4.14%	-5.47%

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

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.

7. DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (Continued)

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>100.00 %</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.

Sensitivity of the Academy'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
Academy's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 296,305	\$ 350,090	\$ 396,930
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Academy's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 399,104	\$ 350,090	\$ 291,053

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The Academy is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2024, the Academy contracted with The Hanover Insurance Company for property and general liability insurance with a \$1,000,000 single occurrence limit and \$3,000,000 annual aggregate and no deductible. There has been no reduction in coverage from the prior year. There have been no settlements exceeding coverage in any of the last three fiscal years and there has been no significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

B. Workers Compensation

The Academy pays the State Workers Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State. 100% of this premium was paid for fiscal year 2024.

9. EMPLOYEE MEDICAL AND DENTAL BENEFITS

The Academy has contracted with a private carrier to provide employee medical/surgical benefits. The Academy pays 70% of the monthly premium and the employee is responsible for the remaining 30%. The Academy has also contracted with private carriers to provide dental coverage. The Academy pays 70% of the monthly premium and the employee is responsible for the remaining 30%.

10. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The Academy's long-term obligations during the year consist of the following:

	Balance June 30, 2023	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2024	Amounts Due in One Year
Mortage Payable	\$ 822,412	\$ -	\$ (48,265)	\$ 774,147	\$ 50,861
SBITA Payable	3,796	-	(3,796)	-	-
Net pension liability	4,263,805	-	(95,334)	4,168,471	-
Net OPEB liability	78,824	9,545	-	88,369	-
Total	\$ 5,168,837	\$ 9,545	\$ (147,395)	\$ 5,030,987	\$ 50,861

Mortgage Loan

The Academy purchased the building located at 3403 Southern Blvd., Youngstown, OH 44507 for the total amount of \$1,170,000 from Euclid Properties LLC as of October 2020. The Academy paid \$234,000 as a down payment, received a \$936,000 mortgage loan from IFF. The mortgage loan from PNC Bank bears interest of 5.25 percent and will be paid in full in 5 years. The loan period started on December 1st, 2020. The following is a schedule of future debt service requirements on the mortgage loan:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	IFF Mortage		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 50,861	\$ 39,430	\$ 90,291
2026	723,284	18,698	741,982
	\$ 774,145	\$ 58,128	\$ 832,273

10. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS (Continued)

Subscription-Based Information Technology Agreement (SBITA) Payable

The Academy has entered into an arrangement for the right-to-use computer software. The Academy has reported an intangible capital asset and a corresponding SBITA liability for the future scheduled payments under the arrangement. The SBITA commenced in fiscal year 2021 and ended June 30, 2024. Principal and interest payments on the SBITA during fiscal year 2024 were \$3,796 and \$204, respectively.

Net Pension / Net OPEB Liability

See Note 6 and Note 7 for information on the Academy's net pension and OPEB liabilities.

11. PURCHASED SERVICES

Purchased service expenses during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

Type	Amount
Professional Services	\$ 765,350
Rent and Property Services	164,720
Travel Mileage/Meeting Expense	11,946
Advertising and Communications	23,802
Utility Services	76,817
Contracted Craft or Trade Services	207,694
Pupil Transportation	14,242
Other Purchased Services	26,296
Total	\$ 1,290,867

12. SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

The Academy is under contract for sponsorship services with the Buckeye Hope Foundation through June 30, 2025. The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of the Academy and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration or terminate the contract prior to its expiration. According to the contract, the Academy pays 3.0% of its foundation and certain other state revenues to the Sponsor. In fiscal year 2024, the Academy's compensation to the Sponsor was \$115,914.

13. MANAGEMENT COMPANY AGREEMENT

The Academy has contracted with Concepts Schools, Inc. to serve as the Academy's management company. The contract is renewed automatically every year in one-year terms unless the Academy or the management company decides otherwise. Under the terms of the current contract, the Academy shall automatically transfer ten percent (10%) of the funds received from the State when such funds are immediately available in the Academy's accounts as payment for management services. During fiscal year 2024, the Academy paid or accrued \$559,814 to Concept Schools for management services.

14. CONTINGENCIES

Grants

The Academy received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the Academy. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the Academy. In fiscal year 2024, the Academy recognized grants from State and Federal agencies of \$2,518,767.

15. RELATED PARTIES

The Board members for the Academy are also Board members for other Horizon Science Academy Schools that are managed by the same management company, Concept Schools, Inc.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Noble Academy - Cleveland

Schedules of the Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of the Academy's Proportionate Share of
the Net Pension Liability and
Academy Pension Contributions
School Employees Retirement System (SERS) of Ohio

Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year (1)	Academy's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	Academy's Covered Payroll	Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2024	0.005285000%	\$ 292,023	\$ 207,064	141.03%	76.06%
2023	0.005533100%	299,273	204,529	146.32%	75.82%
2022	0.004361600%	160,930	150,550	106.89%	82.86%
2021	0.003804900%	251,664	133,393	188.66%	68.55%
2020	0.003469400%	207,580	133,452	155.55%	70.85%
2019	0.003034300%	173,780	95,674	181.64%	71.36%
2018	0.004470100%	285,003	160,371	177.71%	69.50%
2017	0.003773100%	276,156	121,743	226.84%	62.98%
2016	0.002908600%	165,968	87,564	189.54%	69.16%
2015	0.002910000%	147,273	84,560	174.16%	71.70%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Academy's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ 25,639	\$ (25,639)	\$ -	\$ 183,136	14.00%
2023	28,989	(28,989)	-	207,064	14.00%
2022	28,634	(28,634)	-	204,529	14.00%
2021	21,077	(21,077)	-	150,550	14.00%
2020	18,675	(18,675)	-	133,393	14.00%
2019	18,016	(18,016)	-	133,452	13.50%
2018	12,916	(12,916)	-	95,674	13.50%
2017	22,452	(22,452)	-	160,371	14.00%
2016	17,044	(17,044)	-	121,743	14.00%
2015	11,541	(11,541)	-	87,564	13.18%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Academy's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Noble Academy - Cleveland

Schedules of the Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of the Academy's Proportionate Share of
the Net Pension Liability and
Academy Pension Contributions
State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) of Ohio

Last Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year (1)	Academy's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	Academy's Covered Payroll	Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2024	0.018000740%	\$ 3,876,448	\$ 2,465,814	157.21%	80.02%
2023	0.017834050%	3,964,531	2,287,764	173.29%	78.88%
2022	0.015582628%	1,992,379	1,922,793	103.62%	87.78%
2021	0.016456360%	3,981,854	1,986,029	200.49%	75.48%
2020	0.015997100%	3,537,651	1,874,536	188.72%	77.40%
2019	0.015929480%	3,502,535	1,827,529	191.65%	77.31%
2018	0.015739310%	3,738,907	1,732,486	215.81%	75.30%
2017	0.013638150%	4,565,100	1,464,964	311.62%	66.80%
2016	0.012038470%	3,327,081	1,256,014	264.89%	72.10%
2015	0.011764840%	2,861,616	1,202,046	238.06%	74.70%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Academy's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ 342,456	\$ (342,456)	\$ -	\$ 2,446,114	14.00%
2023	345,214	(345,214)	-	2,465,814	14.00%
2022	320,287	(320,287)	-	2,287,764	14.00%
2021	269,191	(269,191)	-	1,922,793	14.00%
2020	278,044	(278,044)	-	1,986,029	14.00%
2019	262,435	(262,435)	-	1,874,536	14.00%
2018	255,854	(255,854)	-	1,827,529	14.00%
2017	242,548	(242,548)	-	1,732,486	14.00%
2016	205,095	(205,095)	-	1,464,964	14.00%
2015	175,842	(175,842)	-	1,256,014	14.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Academy's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Noble Academy - Cleveland

Schedules of the Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of the Academy's Proportionate Share of
the Net OPEB Liability and
Academy OPEB Contributions
School Employees Retirement System (SERS) of Ohio

Last Eight and Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year (1) (2)	Academy's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	Academy's Covered Payroll	Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability
2024	0.005364000%	\$ 88,369	\$ 207,064	42.68%	30.02%
2023	0.005614200%	78,824	204,529	38.54%	30.34%
2022	0.004226600%	79,992	156,126	51.24%	24.08%
2021	0.003916800%	85,125	138,333	61.54%	18.17%
2020	0.003513200%	88,350	133,452	66.20%	15.57%
2019	0.002744400%	76,137	95,674	79.58%	13.57%
2018	0.004854400%	130,279	160,371	81.24%	12.46%
2017	0.003659590%	104,312	121,743	85.68%	11.49%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Academy's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ 2,904	\$ (2,904)	\$ -	\$ 183,136	2.00%
2023	3,520	(3,520)	-	207,064	1.70%
2022	3,444	(3,444)	-	204,529	1.68%
2021	982	(982)	-	150,550	0.65%
2020	2,367	(2,367)	-	133,393	1.77%
2019	2,613	(2,613)	-	133,452	1.96%
2018	478	(478)	-	95,674	0.50%
2017	2,710	(2,710)	-	160,371	1.69%
2016	1,148	(1,148)	-	121,743	0.94%
2015	2,222	(2,222)	-	87,564	2.54%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Academy's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Noble Academy - Cleveland

Schedules of the Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of the Academy's Proportionate Share of
the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset) and
Academy OPEB Contributions
State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) of Ohio

Last Eight and Ten Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year (1) (2)	Academy's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	Academy's Covered Payroll	Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability/(Asset)
2024	0.018000740%	\$ (350,090)	\$ 2,465,814	14.20%	168.52%
2023	0.017834050%	(461,783)	2,287,764	20.18%	230.73%
2022	0.015582628%	(328,547)	1,922,793	17.09%	174.73%
2021	0.016456360%	(289,220)	1,986,029	14.56%	182.10%
2020	0.015997100%	(264,950)	1,874,536	14.13%	174.74%
2019	0.015929480%	(255,970)	1,827,529	14.01%	176.00%
2018	0.015739310%	614,090	1,732,486	35.45%	47.10%
2017	0.013638150%	729,372	1,464,964	49.79%	37.30%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Academy's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,446,114	0.00%
2023	-	-	-	2,465,814	0.00%
2022	-	-	-	2,287,764	0.00%
2021	-	-	-	1,922,793	0.00%
2020	-	-	-	1,986,029	0.00%
2019	-	-	-	1,874,536	0.00%
2018	-	-	-	1,827,529	0.00%
2017	-	-	-	1,732,486	0.00%
2016	-	-	-	1,464,964	0.00%
2015	-	-	-	1,256,014	0.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the Academy's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

PENSION

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, SERS changed from a fixed 3% annual increase to a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), with a cap of 2.5% and a floor of 0%.
- For fiscal year 2019, with the authority granted the Board under Senate Bill 8, the Board has enacted a three year COLA delay for future benefit recipients commencing benefits on or after April 1, 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, SERS changed from a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 2.5% to 2.0%.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.

Change in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement and (h) the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50%-18.20% to 3.25%-13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.

NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS decreased the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to zero.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.

Changes in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (b) the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, (c) the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%, (d) total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25% due to lower inflation, (e) the healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016 and (f) rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: the projected salary increases went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.

Change in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to the following: RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement, (h) the municipal bond index rate increased from 2.92% to 3.56% and (i) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 2.98% to 3.63%.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate increased from 3.63% to 3.70%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.50%-5.00% to a range of 5.375%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.50%-5.00% to a range of 7.25%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate increased from 3.56% to 3.62% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 3.63% to 3.70%.
- For fiscal year 2020, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.375%-4.75% to a range of 5.25%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.25%-4.75% to a range of 7.00%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.62% to 3.13% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%.
- For fiscal year 2021, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.22% to 2.63% and (b) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.13% to 2.45%, and (c) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.22% to 2.63%.

NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50%-18.20% to 3.25%-13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 1.92% to 3.69%, (b) single equivalent interest rate went from 2.27% to 4.08% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 5.125% to 4.40% Medicare and 6.75% to 4.40% Pre-Medicare to 7.00% to 4.40%.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumptions affect the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 3.69% to 3.86%, (b) single equivalent interest rate went from 4.08% to 4.27% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 7.00% to 4.40% to 6.75% to 4.40%.

STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS reduced the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.
- For fiscal year 2019, STRS increased the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 1.9% to 1.944% per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.
- For fiscal year 2020, STRS increased the subsidy percentage from 1.944% to 1.984% effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.
- For fiscal year 2021, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- For fiscal year 2022, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022 from 2.055% to 2.100%. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in CY2022. The Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.

NOTE 1 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

Change in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB), (b) the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (c) valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified, (d) the percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased and (e) the assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability/asset since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13% to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB) and (b) decrease in health care cost trend rates from 6.00%-11.00% initial; 4.50% ultimate down to Medical Pre-Medicare 6.00% and Medicare 5.00% initial; 4.00% ultimate and Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare 8.00% and Medicare (5.23%) initial; 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2020, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 6.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 8.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate and (5.23%) initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2021, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to -6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%, (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (c) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical Medicare from -6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to -16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) projected salary increase went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by services from 2.50% to 8.50% and (b) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate; medical Medicare from -16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate to -68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate; Medicare from 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate to -5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 4.14% ultimate; medical Medicare from -68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate to -10.94% initial - 4.14% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate to -11.95% initial - 4.14% ultimate; Medicare from -5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 1.33% initial - 4.14% ultimate.



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

Noble Academy Cleveland
Cuyahoga County
1200 East 200th Street
Euclid, Ohio 44117

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of Noble Academy Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, (the Academy) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 31, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Academy'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 Academy's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy'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 Academy's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Academy'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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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 Academy'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 Academy's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

BHM CPA Group

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Portsmouth, Ohio
December 31, 2024

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



NOBLE ACADEMY CLEVELAND

CUYAHOGA 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 4/15/2025

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