



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**WARREN COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
WARREN COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2024**

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WARREN COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
WARREN COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2024

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Warren County Educational Service Center  
Warren County  
1879 Deerfield Road  
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

To the Board of Education:

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Warren County Educational Service Center, Warren County, Ohio (Center), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Warren County Educational Service Center, Warren County, Ohio as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

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

#### ***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 Center's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

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

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

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

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

***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.

***Supplementary information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

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

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 25, 2025, on our consideration of the Center'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 Center's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio  
February 25, 2025

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**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**  
**(Unaudited)**

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The discussion and analysis of Warren County Educational Service Center's (Center) financial performance provides an overall review of the Center's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Center's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the notes to the basic financial statements and financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Center's performance.

### **Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for 2024 are as follows:

- Net Position of governmental activities increased \$10,233,297 which represents a 79 % increase from 2023.
- General revenues accounted for \$3,030,598 in revenue or 5% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$53,923,768 or 95% of total revenues of \$56,954,366.
- The Center had \$46,721,069 in expenses related to governmental activities; These expenses were offset by \$53,923,768 in program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues of \$3,030,598 can also be used to provide for these programs if needed.

### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the Center as a financial whole, an entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

The *Statement of Net Position* and *Statement of Activities* provide information about the activities of the whole Center, presenting both an aggregate view of the Center's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the Center's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. The General Fund is the only major fund of the Center.

### **Government-wide Financial Statements**

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the Center to provide programs and activities, the view of the Center as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during 2024?" The Government-wide Financial Statements answers this question. These statements include *all assets and outflows of resources*, and *liabilities and inflows of resources* using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Center's *net position* and changes in the net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the Center as a whole, the financial position has

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024  
(Unaudited)**

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improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, both financial and non-financial.

In the Government-wide Financial Statements, the Center presents:

- Governmental Activities – All of the Center's programs and services are reported here including instruction, support services, operation of non-instructional services, and extracurricular activities.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The analysis of the Center's major funds begins on the balance sheet. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the Center's major funds. The Center uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the Center's most significant funds.

**Governmental Funds** All of the Center's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called *modified accrual* accounting, which measures cash and all other *financial assets* that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed *short-term view* of the Center's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental *activities* (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental *funds* is reconciled in the financial statements.

**Fiduciary Funds** Fiduciary Funds are used to account for resources held for the benefits of parties outside the government. Fiduciary Funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Center's own programs.

**The Center as a Whole**

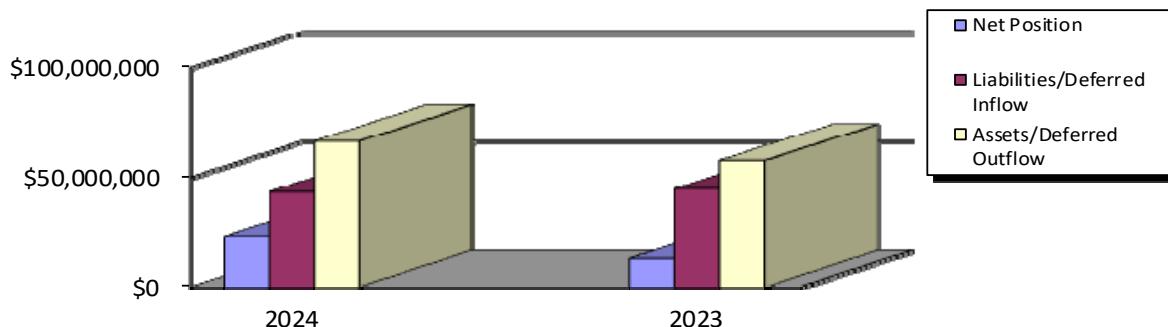
As stated previously, the Statement of Net Position looks at the Center as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the Center's net position for 2024 compared to 2023:

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**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**  
(Unaudited)

**Table 1**  
**Net Position**

	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023
Assets:		
Current and Other Assets	\$42,255,572	\$32,957,206
Net OPEB Asset	2,373,089	3,195,999
Capital Assets	<u>12,810,877</u>	<u>10,942,992</u>
Total Assets	<u>57,439,538</u>	<u>47,096,197</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources:		
Pension	7,739,699	9,748,377
OPEB	<u>1,176,247</u>	<u>762,391</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>8,915,946</u>	<u>10,510,768</u>
Liabilities:		
Other Liabilities	4,267,824	3,907,090
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>33,831,396</u>	<u>34,044,129</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>38,099,220</u>	<u>37,951,219</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:		
Pension	2,277,118	3,070,122
OPEB	<u>2,867,694</u>	<u>3,707,469</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>5,144,812</u>	<u>6,777,591</u>
Net Position:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	12,810,877	10,942,992
Restricted	2,451,589	3,373,287
Unrestricted	<u>7,848,986</u>	<u>(1,438,124)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$23,111,452</u>	<u>\$12,878,155</u>



Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2024, the Center's liabilities and deferred inflows of resources were exceeded by assets and deferred outflows of resources by \$23,111,452.

At year-end, capital assets represented 22% of total assets. Capital assets include land, buildings and

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**  
**(Unaudited)**

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improvements, and equipment. Net investment in capital assets at June 30, 2024, was \$12,810,877. These capital assets are used to provide services to the students and are not available for future spending.

A portion of the Center's net position, \$2,451,589 represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they must be used. The external restriction will not affect the availability of fund resources for future use.

Current and other assets increased from 2023 to 2024 mainly due to an increase in equity in pooled cash and investments. Total assets also increased from the prior year due to an increase in current assets and capital assets. Long-term liabilities decreased mainly due to an increase in Net Pension Liability.

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

**Table 2**  
**Changes in Net Position**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Revenues:		
Program Revenues		
Charges for Services	\$50,514,287	\$45,745,562
Operating Grants and Contributions	3,409,481	2,890,456
General Revenues:		
Grants and Entitlements	789,862	743,838
Other	2,240,736	1,062,503
Total Revenues	<u>56,954,366</u>	<u>50,442,359</u>
Program Expenses:		
Instruction	16,451,324	14,743,311
Support Services:		
Pupil and Instructional Staff	20,890,151	20,120,934
School Administrative, General		
Administration, Fiscal and Business	5,826,279	5,718,960
Operations and Maintenance	1,293,763	2,391,841
Pupil Transportation	443,064	362,812
Central	1,744,409	1,969,950
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	<u>72,079</u>	<u>69,849</u>
Total Program Expenses	<u>46,721,069</u>	<u>45,377,657</u>
Change in Net Position	10,233,297	5,064,702
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>12,878,155</u>	<u>7,813,453</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u>\$23,111,452</u>	<u>\$12,878,155</u>

The Center revenues are mainly from three sources: charges for services and sales, operating grants and contributions, and grants and entitlements. Charges for service revenues are generated by providing services to districts. The Center and a district enter an agreement specifying the type and amount of service for a period of time, generally not exceeding a school year. Operating grant revenues are awarded to the Center by various state and federal agencies. Grants and entitlements revenues are given directly to the Center and are calculated based on the ADM of the districts.

The Center's revenues are demonstrated by the following graph:

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**  
**(Unaudited)**

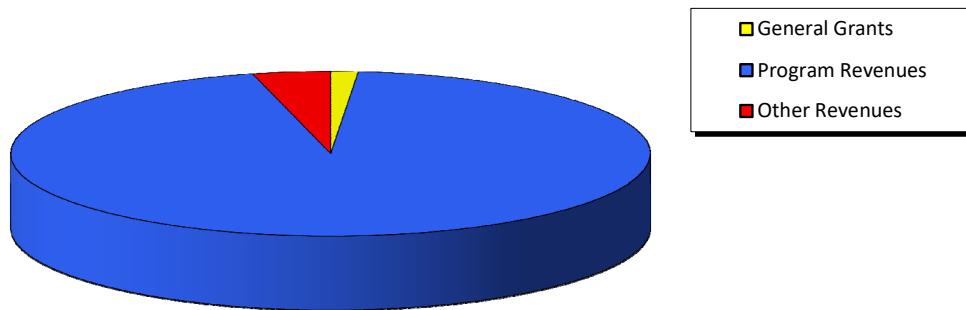
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**Governmental Activities**

**Revenue Sources**

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	<u>2024</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
General Grants	\$789,862	1.4%
Program Revenues	53,923,768	94.7%
Other Revenues	2,240,736	3.9%
Total Revenue Sources	<u><u>\$56,954,366</u></u>	<u><u>100.0%</u></u>



Instruction comprises 35% of governmental program expenses. Support services expenses were 64% of governmental program expenses. All other expenses including interest and fiscal charges were 1%. Interest expense was attributable to the outstanding capital lease and borrowing for capital projects.

Total revenues increased primarily due to an increase in charges for services. Overall expenses for the current fiscal year increased when compared to 2023 primarily due to changes related to instruction.

**Governmental Activities**

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table 3 shows, for government activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by unrestricted State entitlements.

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**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**  
(Unaudited)

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**Table 3**  
**Governmental Activities**

	Total Cost of Services		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	
	2024		2023	
	\$16,451,324	\$14,743,311	\$2,826,010	\$2,751,986
Instruction				
Support Services:				
Pupil and Instructional Staff	20,890,151	20,120,934	990,027	(562,489)
School Administrative, General				
Administration, Fiscal and Business	5,826,279	5,718,960	726,309	(476,721)
Operations and Maintenance	1,293,763	2,391,841	2,339,151	1,543,102
Pupil Transportation	443,064	362,812	123,778	103,197
Central	1,744,409	1,969,950	196,438	(94,943)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	72,079	69,849	986	(5,771)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	<u>\$46,721,069</u>	<u>\$45,377,657</u>	<u>\$7,202,699</u>	<u>\$3,258,361</u>

**The Center's Major Funds**

The Center has one major governmental funds: the General Fund. Assets of the fund comprised \$37,640,446 (88%) of the total \$42,614,409 governmental fund assets.

**General Fund:** Fund balance at June 30, 2024 was \$33,980,409, including \$30,824,376 of unassigned balance. Fund balance increased \$5,162,849 from 2023. The primary reason for the increase in the fund balance was due to an increase in charges for services revenue.

**Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

***Capital Assets***

At the end of fiscal 2024, the Center had \$12,810,877 invested in land, buildings and improvements and equipment. Table 4 shows fiscal 2024 balances compared to 2023:

**Table 4**  
**Capital Assets at June 30**  
(Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023
Land	\$765,416	\$765,416
Construction in Progress	1,693,152	908,188
Buildings and Improvements	9,198,246	8,598,786
Equipment	<u>1,154,063</u>	<u>670,602</u>
Total Net Capital Assets	<u>\$12,810,877</u>	<u>\$10,942,992</u>

Overall, capital assets increased due to current year additions being greater than depreciation expense and disposals.

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Management's Discussion and Analysis  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024  
(Unaudited)**

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See Note 5 to the Basic Financial Statements for further details on the Center's capital assets.

***Debt***

At June 30, 2024, the Center had no general obligation debt outstanding.

**For the Future**

The Warren County ESC is financially stable through careful management and growth in student programs and services. The revenue of the Center will typically only grow through the expansion of programs and services. There will be reasonable inflationary adjustments to service costs but those must always be balanced against market forces and the financial conditions of client districts.

Looking into the future, the Center must continue to make strategic investments to position itself to grow programs and services. That growth is needed to fund the cost of current programming and staffing levels and to meet the growing enrollments in Warren County and the Southwest Ohio region.

**Contacting the Center's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Educational Service Center's finances and to show the Educational Service Center's accountability for the money it received. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, contact the Treasurer of Warren County Educational Service Center, 1879 Deerfield Road, Lebanon, Ohio 45036.

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Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Statement of Net Position  
 June 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$41,516,615
Receivables:	
Accounts	145,123
Intergovernmental	562,513
Prepaid	31,321
Nondepreciable Capital Assets	2,458,568
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	10,352,309
Net OPEB Asset	<u>2,373,089</u>
 Total Assets	<u>57,439,538</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources:	
Pension	7,739,699
OPEB	<u>1,176,247</u>
 Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>8,915,946</u>
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	427,163
Accrued Wages and Benefits	3,748,576
Unearned Revenue	92,085
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	244,949
Due In More Than One Year:	
Net Pension Liability	30,383,812
Net OPEB Liability	1,175,378
Other Amounts	<u>2,027,257</u>
 Total Liabilities	<u>38,099,220</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:	
OPEB	2,867,694
Pension	<u>2,277,118</u>
 Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>5,144,812</u>
Net Position:	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	12,810,877
Restricted for:	
State Grants	57,679
Other Grants	20,821
Net OPEB Asset	2,373,089
Unrestricted	<u>7,848,986</u>
 Total Net Position	<u>\$23,111,452</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Statement of Activities  
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position Governmental Activities		
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions			
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>						
Instruction:						
Regular	\$11,246,552	\$11,987,457	\$816,078	\$1,556,983		
Special	5,163,861	5,824,113	0	660,252		
Adult/Continuing	40,911	643,315	6,371	608,775		
Support Services:						
Pupil	20,887,720	19,780,972	2,097,462	990,714		
Instructional Staff	2,431	1,744	0	(687)		
General Administration	128,116	147,169	0	19,053		
School Administration	4,232,037	4,519,118	201,286	488,367		
Fiscal	1,417,361	1,553,878	74,447	210,964		
Business	48,765	56,690	0	7,925		
Operations and Maintenance	1,293,763	3,520,468	112,446	2,339,151		
Pupil Transportation	443,064	473,534	93,308	123,778		
Central	1,744,409	1,932,764	8,083	196,438		
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	72,079	73,065	0	986		
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$46,721,069</b>	<b>\$50,514,287</b>	<b>\$3,409,481</b>	<b>7,202,699</b>		

**General Revenues:**

Grants and Entitlements, Not Restricted	789,862
Unrestricted Contributions	1,000
Investment Earnings	1,698,823
Other Revenues	540,913
<b>Total General Revenues</b>	<b>3,030,598</b>
Change in Net Position	10,233,297
Net Position - Beginning of Year	12,878,155
<b>Net Position - End of Year</b>	<b>\$23,111,452</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

## Warren County Educational Service Center

## Balance Sheet

## Governmental Funds

June 30, 2024

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets:</b>			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$37,107,246	\$4,409,369	\$41,516,615
<b>Receivables:</b>			
Accounts	145,123	0	145,123
Intergovernmental	0	562,513	562,513
Interfund	358,837	0	358,837
Prepaid	29,240	2,081	31,321
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>37,640,446</b>	<b>4,973,963</b>	<b>42,614,409</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Accounts Payable	160,364	266,799	427,163
Accrued Wages and Benefits	3,499,673	248,903	3,748,576
Interfund Payable	0	358,837	358,837
Unearned Revenue	0	92,085	92,085
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>3,660,037</b>	<b>966,624</b>	<b>4,626,661</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources:</b>			
Grants	0	31,590	31,590
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31,590</b>	<b>31,590</b>
<b>Fund Balances:</b>			
Nonspendable	29,240	2,081	31,321
Restricted	0	88,419	88,419
Committed	0	20,821	20,821
Assigned	3,126,793	4,071,509	7,198,302
Unassigned	30,824,376	(207,081)	30,617,295
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>33,980,409</b>	<b>3,975,749</b>	<b>37,956,158</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$37,640,446</b>	<b>\$4,973,963</b>	<b>\$42,614,409</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balance to  
 Net Position of Governmental Activities  
 June 30, 2024

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Total Governmental Fund Balance	\$37,956,158
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	
Capital assets used in the operation of Governmental Funds	12,810,877
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.	
Intergovernmental	31,590
Some liabilities reported in the statement of net position do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in governmental funds.	
Compensated Absences	(2,272,206)
Deferred outflows and inflows or resources related to pensions and OPEB are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	7,739,699
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	(2,277,118)
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	1,176,247
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	<u>(2,867,694)</u>
	3,771,134
Long-term liabilities and net OPEB assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.	
Net OPEB Asset	2,373,089
Net Pension Liability	(30,383,812)
Net OPEB Liability	<u>(1,175,378)</u>
	<u>(29,186,101)</u>
Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$23,111,452</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Statement of Revenues, Expenditures  
 and Changes in Fund Balance  
 Governmental Funds  
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Tuition and Fees	\$170,970	\$0	\$170,970
Investment Earnings	1,698,823	0	1,698,823
Intergovernmental	796,524	3,547,786	4,344,310
Charges for Services	50,160,981	164,336	50,325,317
Other Revenues	499,912	60,000	559,912
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>53,327,210</b>	<b>3,772,122</b>	<b>57,099,332</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	10,331,287	834,622	11,165,909
Special	4,994,188	0	4,994,188
Adult/Continuing	0	8,720	8,720
Support Services:			
Pupil	18,045,755	2,497,775	20,543,530
Instructional Staff	1,802	0	1,802
General Administration	128,049	0	128,049
School Administration	3,776,543	199,783	3,976,326
Fiscal	1,335,738	38,978	1,374,716
Business	48,765	0	48,765
Operations and Maintenance	2,759,409	702,364	3,461,773
Pupil Transportation	333,386	216,743	550,129
Central	1,661,517	18,883	1,680,400
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	62,850	8,810	71,660
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>43,479,289</b>	<b>4,526,678</b>	<b>48,005,967</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>9,847,921</b>	<b>(754,556)</b>	<b>9,093,365</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>			
Transfers In	0	4,685,072	4,685,072
Transfers (Out)	(4,685,072)	0	(4,685,072)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(4,685,072)</b>	<b>4,685,072</b>	<b>0</b>
Net Change in Fund Balance	5,162,849	3,930,516	9,093,365
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	28,817,560	45,233	28,862,793
<b>Fund Balance - End of Year</b>	<b>\$33,980,409</b>	<b>\$3,975,749</b>	<b>\$37,956,158</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes  
 in Fund Balance of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities  
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

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Net Change in Fund Balance - Total Governmental Funds \$9,093,365

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

Governmental funds report capital asset additions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount of the difference between capital asset additions and depreciation in the current period.

Capital assets used in governmental activities	2,312,394
Depreciation Expense	<u>(431,254)</u>
	1,881,140

Governmental funds only report the disposal of assets to the extent proceeds are received from the sale. In the statement of activities, a gain or loss is reported for each disposal. The amount of the proceeds must be removed and the gain or loss on the disposal of capital assets must be recognized. This is the amount of the difference between the proceeds and the gain or loss. (13,255)

Governmental funds report center pension and OPEB contributions as expenditures. However in the Statement of Activities, the cost of pension and OPEB benefits earned net of employee contributions are reported as pension and OPEB expense.

Center pension contributions	3,294,250
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions - Pensions	(3,716,802)
Center OPEB contributions	25,285
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions - OPEB	<u>140,941</u>
	(256,326)

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.

Intergovernmental	(144,966)
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Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Compensated Absences	<u>(326,661)</u>
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Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$10,233,297</u>
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See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Warren County Educational Service Center

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position

Fiduciary Fund

June 30, 2024

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	Custodial Fund
Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	<u>\$147,738</u>
Total Assets	<u>147,738</u>
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	<u>8,216</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>8,216</u>
Net Position:	
Restricted for Individuals, Organizations, and Other Governments	<u>139,522</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$139,522</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

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	Custodial Fund
Additions:	
Intergovernmental	\$108,770
Other	<u>13,000</u>
Total Additions	<u>121,770</u>
Deductions:	
Pupil	60,780
Fiscal	<u>7,594</u>
Total Deductions	<u>68,374</u>
Change in Net Position	53,396
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>86,126</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u><u>\$139,522</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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**Note 1 - Description of the Center**

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The Warren County Educational Service Center (the “Center”) is located in Lebanon, Ohio, the county seat. The Center supplies supervisory, special education, administrative, and other services to all Warren County School Districts. Other school districts outside Warren County are served on an individual contract basis for various services. The Center furnishes leadership and consulting services designed to strengthen the school districts in areas they are unable to finance or staff independently.

The Warren County Educational Service Center operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms.

**Reporting Entity**

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

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Center is financially accountable. The Center is financially accountable for an organization if the Center appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the Center is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Center is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the Center is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the Center is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the Center, in that the Center approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. Based on this criterion, the Center has no discretely presented component unit in the basic financial statements.

During fiscal year 2024, the Center was the fiscal agent for the Warren County Family and Children First Council (the FCFC). The FCFC is a separate agency which provides services to qualified Warren County families. The Center maintains Council funds in a separate Custodial Fund.

As of June 30, 2024, the Center served as fiscal agent for Greater Ohio Virtual School (GOVS) which is a charter schools established under chapter 3314 of the Ohio Revised Code. GOVS is not considered a part of the Center.

The Center is associated with three jointly governed organizations and two insurance purchasing pools. These organizations are:

**Jointly Governed Organizations:**

- Southwest Ohio Computer Association (SWOCA)
- Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC)
- Southwest Ohio Council of Governments

**Insurance Purchasing Pools:**

- Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan
- Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Workers' Compensation GRP

Information about these organizations is presented in Notes 10 and 13 to the basic financial statements.

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

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

**Measurement Focus**

**Government-wide Financial Statements**

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

The government-wide statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the Center are included on the statement of net position. Fiduciary Funds are not included in government-wide statements.

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the Center's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the Center, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the Center.

**Fund Financial Statements**

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets, current liabilities, and deferred inflows generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

**Fund Accounting**

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

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**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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**Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds focus on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is reported as fund balance. The following is the Center's major governmental fund:

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

**Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the Center under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the Center's own programs. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The Center has a custodial fund for the FCFC. The Center's only fiduciary funds are Custodial funds.

**Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred inflows of resources, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

**Revenues – Exchange and Non-exchange Transactions**

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. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the Center, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal year end.

Nonexchange transactions, in which the Center receives value without directly giving equal value in return, included grants, entitlements and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the Center must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Center on a reimbursement basis. On

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at year end: charges for services, grants and interest.

**Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources**

In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB are reported on the governmental-wide statement of net position. For more pension and OPEB related information, see Notes 7 and 8.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the Center, deferred inflows of resources include grants, OPEB, and pension. These amounts are deferred and recognized as inflows of resources in the period the amounts become available. Grants have been recorded as deferred inflows on the governmental fund financial statements. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB are reported on the government-wide statement of net position. For more pension and OPEB information, see Notes 7 and 8.

**Expenses/Expenditures**

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. However, debt service expenditures, as well as any expenditures related to compensated absences, are recorded only when payment is due. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in the governmental funds.

**Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments**

To improve cash management, cash received by the Center is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments" on the financial statements.

Investments are reported at fair value which is based on quoted market prices.

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

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hour advance notice is appreciated for deposits and withdrawals of \$25 million or more. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$100 million per day, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$100 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

RedTree Investment Group focuses solely on the investment needs of school districts, municipal organizations, and other public entities. The RedTree investment team is highly experienced, averaging 20 years in the investment industry. They currently assist with over 300 public entities and advise on over \$9 billion in public funds. Redtree Investment Group is an SEC registered investment adviser located in Cincinnati, OH. RedTree Investment Group and its representatives are in compliance with the current filing requirements imposed upon registered investment advisers by those states in which RedTree Investment Group maintains clients. RedTree utilizes a custodial bank (US Bank) to maintain and process all investing activities.

Following Ohio statutes, the Center has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during the current fiscal year amounted to \$1,698,823.

For presentation on the financial statements, all investments and deposits are reported as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments."

**Prepaid Items**

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2024, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which the services are consumed.

**Leased Assets**

A leased asset is a lessee's right to use an asset over the life of a lease. The asset is calculated as the initial amount of the lease liability, plus any lease payments made to the lessor before the lease commencement date, plus any initial direct costs incurred, minus any lease incentives received. The amortization period of the leased asset is from the lease commencement date to the earlier of the end of the lease term or the end of the useful life of the asset. At the termination of the lease, the leased asset and associated lease liability are removed from the books of the lessee. The difference between the two amounts is accounted for as a gain or loss at that time.

**Capital Assets**

General capital assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All 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 values as of the date received. The Center maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The Center does not possess any

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; 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.

All reported capital assets are depreciated except land. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is allocated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Buildings and Improvements	10 - 50 years
Equipment	5 - 20 years

**Compensated Absences**

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from Board Policy and State laws. Classified employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per fiscal year, depending upon length of service. Vacation days may not be carried over. All full-time certificated and classified employees are entitled to three days personal leave per year, which does not accumulate from one year to the next. Teachers do not earn vacation time. Eleven and twelve month certified staff earn two weeks to four weeks, respectively.

Teachers, administrators and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of 200 days. Upon retirement, payment is made for 32.5 percent of the first 200 days of total sick leave accumulation (a maximum of 65 days).

**Health Care Benefits**

The Center provides life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to full-time employees and other employees who work 30 hours or more per week per Board policy through Securian Life.

Medical, prescription and surgical benefits are provided through Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield and CVS Caremark through the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan.

The Center provides full-time employees and those who work 30 hours or more dental insurance through Delta Dental. Vision insurance is provided through VSP Vision Care.

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

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to 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.

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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**Net Position**

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation less outstanding debt used to acquire capital assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the Center or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

The Center applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available. Of the Center's \$2,451,589 in restricted net position, none was restricted by enabling legislation.

**Interfund Activity**

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

On fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund receivables/payables." These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities column on the Statement of Net Position.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund (internal) activity has been eliminated from the government-wide statement of activities. The interfund services provided and used are not eliminated in the process of consolidation.

**Fund Balance**

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting*, the Center classifies its fund balance based on the purpose for which the resources were received and the level of constraint placed on the resources. The following categories are used:

Nonspendable – resources that are not in spendable form (inventory) or have legal or contractual requirements to maintain the balance intact.

Restricted – resources that have external purpose restraints imposed on them by providers, such as creditors, grantors, or other regulators.

Committed – resources that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government at its highest level of decision making authority, the Governing Board. Formal action by the Board of Education is needed to commit or rescind resources.

Assigned – resources that are intended to be used for specific purposes as approved through the Center's formal purchasing procedure by the Treasurer.

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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Unassigned – residual fund balance within the General Fund that is not restricted, committed, or assigned. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance resulting from incurred expenditures for specific purposes exceeding amounts which had been restricted, committed or assigned for said purposes.

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

**Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles 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.

**Note 3 - Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments**

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The Center maintains a cash and investment pool used by all funds. Each fund type's portion of this pool is displayed on the combined balance sheet as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments."

State statute requires the classification of monies held by the Center into three categories:

Active Monies - Those monies required to be kept in a "cash" or "near cash" status for immediate use by the Center. Such monies must by law be maintained either as cash in the Center treasury, in depository accounts payable or withdrawable on demand.

Inactive Monies – Those monies not required for use within the current two year period of designated depositories. Ohio law permits inactive monies to be deposited or invested as certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designated depositories, or as savings or deposit accounts, including, but not limited to passbook accounts.

Interim Monies – Those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim monies held by the Center can be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States.
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities.

**Warren County Educational Service Center**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days.
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met.
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions.
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).
8. Certain bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

Protection of the Center's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, or by the financial institutions participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution.

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

**Deposits**

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Center will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. As of June 30, 2024, \$1,837,571 of the Center's bank balance of \$2,087,571 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and collateralized.

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

Eligible securities pledged to the Center and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105% of the deposits being secured; or

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
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Participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102% of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

**Investments**

As of June 30, 2024, the Center had the following investments:

	<b>Fair Value</b>	<b>Fair Value Hierarchy</b>	<b>Weighted Average Maturity (Years)</b>
U.S. Treasury notes	\$3,426,559	Level 2	3.36
Negotiable CDs	7,743,815	Level 2	2.02
Municipal Bonds	258,041	Level 2	0.97
Discount Commercial Paper	1,741,776	Level 2	0.24
Federal National Mortgage Assoc	206,978	Level 2	0.81
Federal Farm Credit Bank	1,896,777	Level 2	3.66
Federal Home Loan Mortgage - Discount Note	140,949	Level 2	1.44
Federal Home Loan Bank	2,166,970	Level 2	1.39
STAR Ohio	22,202,531	N/A	0.13
Money Market Funds	54,407	N/A	0.00
	<b>\$39,838,803</b>		
Portfolio Weighted Average Maturity			1.03

The Center categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs. Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The above table identifies the Center's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2024. STAR Ohio is reported at its share price (Net Asset Value per share).

**Interest Rate Risk** - In accordance with the investment policy, the Center manages its exposure to declines in fair values by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio to three years.

**Credit Risk** – It is the Center's policy to limit its investments that are not obligations of the U.S. Government or obligations explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government to investments which have the highest credit quality rating issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The Center's investments in U.S. Agency note, U.S. Agency notes, and Municipal Bonds were rated AAA by Standard & Poor's, and Aaa by Moody's Investors Service. Commercial Paper was rated and A-1+ by Standard & Poor's and P-1 by Moody's Investors Service. Investments in STAR Ohio were rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's. Money Market Funds and Negotiable CDs are not rated.

**Concentration of Credit Risk** – The Center places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer. The Center has invested 9% in U.S Treasury notes, 1% in Federal National Mortgage Assoc.,

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
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1% in Money Market Funds, 4% in Discount Commercial Paper, 18% in Negotiable CDs, 55% in STAR Ohio, 5% in Federal Farm Credit Bank, 1% in Federal Home Loan Mortgage-Discount Note, 5% in Federal Home Loan Bank, and 1% in Municipal Bonds.

Custodial Credit Risk is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Center will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. All of the Center's securities are either insured and registered in the name of the Center or at least registered in the name of the Center.

**Note 4 – Receivables**

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Receivables at June 30, 2024, consisted of accounts, intergovernmental grants, and interfund. All receivables are considered collectible in full, due to the stable condition of State programs, and the current year guarantee of federal funds.

**Note 5 - Capital Assets**

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

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Governmental Activities</b>				
<b><i>Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated</i></b>				
Land	\$765,416	\$0	\$0	\$765,416
Construction in Progress	908,188	1,484,594	699,630	1,693,152
<b><i>Capital Assets, Being Depreciated</i></b>				
Buildings and Improvements	9,817,551	855,327	0	10,672,878
Equipment	1,179,791	672,103	40,113	1,811,781
Totals at Historical Cost	<u>12,670,946</u>	<u>3,012,024</u>	<u>739,743</u>	<u>14,943,227</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Buildings and Improvements	1,218,765	255,867	0	1,474,632
Equipment	509,189	175,387	26,858	657,718
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>1,727,954</u>	<u>431,254</u>	<u>26,858</u>	<u>2,132,350</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$10,942,992</u>	<u>\$2,580,770</u>	<u>\$712,885</u>	<u>\$12,810,877</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

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**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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Instruction:	
Regular	\$75,094
Special	48,604
Other Instruction	32,190
Support Services:	
Pupil	13,030
Instructional Staff	629
School Administration	201,384
Fiscal	6,276
Operations and Maintenance	18,355
Pupil Transportation	2,359
Central	<u>33,333</u>
Total Depreciation Expense	<u><u>\$431,254</u></u>

**Note 6 - Long-Term Liabilities**

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	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Due In One Year
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>					
Compensated Absences	\$1,956,312	\$564,942	\$249,048	\$2,272,206	\$244,949
Net Pension Liability	31,176,934	0	793,122	30,383,812	0
Net OPEB Liability	910,883	264,495	0	1,175,378	0
Total Long-Term Obligations	<u>\$34,044,129</u>	<u>\$829,437</u>	<u>\$1,042,170</u>	<u>\$33,831,396</u>	<u>\$244,949</u>

Compensated Absences will be paid from the fund from which the person is paid. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability and net OPEB liability; however, employer pension and OPEB contributions are made from the fund benefitting from their service.

**Note 7 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

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

**Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability (Asset)**

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

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represent the Center'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.

**Warren County Educational Service Center**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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Ohio Revised Code limits the Center's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Center cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the Center 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 8 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

**Plan Description**

Center non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3309. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about SERS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

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

**Funding Policy**

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

The Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$439,979 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount \$0 is reported as accrued wages and benefits.

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

**Plan Description**

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

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

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

**Warren County Educational Service Center**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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the STRS Ohio Retirement Board may adjust the COLA upon a determination by the board's actuary that a change will not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 34 years of service credit at any age.

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

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

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

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

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

**Funding Policy**

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

The Center's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$2,854,271 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount \$236,904 is reported as accrued wages and benefits.

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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**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 Center's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Center's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$4,107,232	\$26,276,580	\$30,383,812
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Measurement Date	0.07433210%	0.12201837%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.06911750%	0.12342945%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.00521460%	-0.00141108%	
Pension Expense	\$530,493	\$3,186,310	\$3,716,802

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b><u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u></b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$176,537	\$957,989	\$1,134,526
Changes of assumptions	29,094	2,164,019	2,193,113
Changes in employer proportionate share of net pension liability	277,479	840,331	1,117,810
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	439,979	2,854,271	3,294,250
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$923,089</u>	<u>\$6,816,610</u>	<u>\$7,739,699</u>
<b><u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u></b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$0	\$58,308	\$58,308
Changes of assumptions	0	1,628,884	1,628,884
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	57,731	78,752	136,483
Changes in employer proportionate share of net pension liability	0	453,443	453,443
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$57,731</u>	<u>\$2,219,387</u>	<u>\$2,277,118</u>

\$3,294,250 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

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Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2025	\$181,698	\$312,483	\$494,181
2026	(78,667)	(922,340)	(1,001,007)
2027	319,290	2,551,853	2,871,143
2028	3,058	(199,044)	(195,986)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$425,379</b>	<b>\$1,742,952</b>	<b>\$2,168,331</b>

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

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

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

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.40%	2.40%
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%	3.25% to 13.58%
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.00%, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement	2.00%, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
Investment Rate of Return	7.00% net of system expenses	7.00% net of system expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

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

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

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

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

**Discount Rate**

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

**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate**

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

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

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	1% Decrease 6.00%	Current Discount Rate 7.00%	1% Increase 8.00%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$6,062,064	\$4,107,232	\$2,460,658

**Changes Between the Measurement Date and the Report Date**

Governor DeWine signed HB33 in July 2023 authorizing SERS to implement a Contribution Based Benefit Cap beginning August 1, 2024. Any effect on the net pension liability is unknown.

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2023, actuarial valuation compared to those used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation are presented below:

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected Salary Increases	From 2.50% to 8.50% based on service	From 2.50% to 8.50% based on age
Investment Rate of Return	7.00% net of investments expense, including inflation	7.00% net of investments expense, 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%

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

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

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

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**Warren County Educational Service Center****Notes to the Basic Financial Statements****For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Asset Class	Target Allocation *	Long-Term Expected 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	<u>1.00%</u>	1.00%
Total	<u><u>100.00%</u></u>	

\* Final target weights reflected 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 percent as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate**

The following table presents the Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.00 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease 6.00%	Current Discount Rate 7.00%	1% Increase 8.00%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$40,407,564	\$26,276,580	\$14,325,634

**Changes Between the Measurement Date and the Report Date**

In March 2024, the STRS Board made the eligibility rule requiring 34 years of service for an unreduced retirement permanent, effective June 1, 2024. Eligibility for a reduced retirement benefit has been lowered from 30 to 29 years of service. The effect of these changes on the net pension liability is currently unknown.

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit OPEB Plans**

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

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

**Health Care Plan Description**

The Center contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981, do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

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

**Funding Policy**

State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2024, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the Center's surcharge obligation was \$25,285.

**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
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The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14.00% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$25,285 for fiscal year 2024.

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

**Plan Description**

The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Health care premiums were reduced by a Medicare Part B premium credit beginning in 2023. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

**Funding Policy**

Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

**Net OPEB Liabilities (Assets), OPEB Expense (Income), 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 used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Center's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the Center's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$1,175,378	\$0	\$1,175,378
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	0	(2,373,089)	(2,373,089)
<b>Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/Asset:</b>			
Current Measurement Date	0.07134550%	0.12201837%	
Prior Measurement Date	<u>0.06487720%</u>	<u>0.12342945%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.00646830%	-0.00141108%	
OPEB Expense	(\$73,824)	(\$67,117)	(\$140,941)

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

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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	SERS	STRS	Total
<b><u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u></b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$2,448	\$3,699	\$6,147
Changes of assumptions	397,430	349,590	747,020
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	9,110	4,235	13,345
Changes in employer proportionate share of net OPEB liability	300,961	83,489	384,450
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	25,285	0	25,285
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$735,234</b>	<b>\$441,013</b>	<b>\$1,176,247</b>
<b><u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u></b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$606,186	\$361,959	\$968,145
Changes of assumptions	333,819	1,565,730	1,899,549
Changes in employer proportionate share of net OPEB liability	0	0	0
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$940,005</b>	<b>\$1,927,689</b>	<b>\$2,867,694</b>

\$25,285 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability (adjustment to net OPEB asset) in the 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	(\$108,181)	(\$635,225)	(\$743,406)
2026	(106,171)	(306,399)	(412,570)
2027	(62,443)	(117,067)	(179,510)
2028	(25,922)	(163,939)	(189,861)
2029	(8,670)	(150,262)	(158,932)
Thereafter	81,331	(113,784)	(32,453)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$230,056)</b>	<b>(\$1,486,676)</b>	<b>(\$1,716,732)</b>

**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.

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

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.40%	2.40%
Future Salary Increases, Including Inflation	3.25% to 13.58%	3.25% to 13.58%
Investment Rate of Return	7.00% net of investment expense	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted	2048	2044
Municipal Bond Index Rate:		
Measurement Date	3.86%	3.69%
Prior Measurement Date	3.69%	1.92%
Single Equivalent Interest Rate (SEIR), net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:		
Measurement Date	4.27%	4.08%
Prior Measurement Date	4.08%	2.27%
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	6.75% to 4.40%	7.00% to 4.40%

Mortality rates among healthy retirees were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table. Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

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

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a long-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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(expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The 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. As of June 30, 2023:

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

**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates**

The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.27%) and higher (5.27%) than the current discount rate (4.27%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate.

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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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	1% Decrease (3.27%)	Current Discount Rate (4.27%)	1% Increase (5.27%)
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$1,502,469	\$1,175,378	\$917,453
	1% Decrease (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%)	Current Trend Rate (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%)	1% Increase (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%)
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$863,510	\$1,175,378	\$1,588,646

**Changes Between Measurement Date and Reporting Date**

In September 2023, the SERS Board changed minimum compensation to \$30,000 from \$25,000 for purposes of the surcharge. Any effect on the net OPEB liability is unknown.

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
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%
Discount Rate of Return	7.00%	7.00%
Health Care Cost Trends:		
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	7.50% initial, 4.14% ultimate	7.50% initial, 3.94% ultimate
Medicare	-10.94% initial, 4.14% ultimate	-68.78% initial, 3.94% ultimate
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	-11.95% initial, 4.14% ultimate	9.00% initial, 3.94% ultimate
Medicare	1.33% initial, 4.14% ultimate	-5.47% initial, 3.94% ultimate

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

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

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation *	Long-Term Expected 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	<u>1.00%</u>	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 actual rate of return, without net value added by management.

**Discount Rate**

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

**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset) to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate**

The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

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**Warren County Educational Service Center  
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
Proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset)	(\$2,008,509)	(\$2,373,089)	(\$2,690,599)
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset)	(\$2,705,333)	(\$2,373,089)	(\$1,972,906)

**Changes Between the Measurement Date and the Reporting date**

In March, 2024, the STRS Board made changes to the eligibility for the maximum health care premium subsidy, going into effect initially with the January 2025 benefit. In May, 2024, the Board aligned the eligibility for the health care premium subsidy with the changes to pension eligibility made in March 2024. The effect on the net OPEB liability (asset) is unknown at this time.

**Note 9 - Contingent Liabilities**

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**Grants**

The Center receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, state and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds.

However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on any of the financial statements of the individual fund types included herein or on the overall financial position of the Center as of June 30, 2024.

**Litigation**

The Center's attorney estimates that all other potential claims against the Center not covered by insurance resulting from all other litigation would not materially affect the financial statements of the Center.

**Note 10 - Risk Management**

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The Center 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 Center contracted with American Family Home Insurance Company for property. Coverages provided are as follows:

Building and Contents (\$1,000 deductible)	\$63,166,466
Automobile Liability (\$1,000 deductible)	1,000,000
Uninsured Motorists Liability (\$1,000 deductible)	1,000,000

**Warren County Educational Service Center**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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<i>General Liability:</i> Each Occurrence	\$1,000,000
Aggregate Limit	3,000,000
Fire Damage Limit - Any One Event	500,000
<i>Employee Benefits Liability:</i> Each Occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate Limit	2,000,000
<i>Employer's Liability:</i> Each Occurrence	1,000,000
Disease - Each Employee	1,000,000
Disease - Policy Limit	1,000,000
<i>Excess Liability – Umbrella Form</i> Each Occurrence	5,000,000
Aggregate Limit	5,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years.

For fiscal year 2024, the Center also participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Medical Benefits Plan (MBP), an insurance purchasing pool. The intent of the MBP is to achieve the benefit of reduced health insurance premiums for the Center by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the MBP. The health insurance experience of the participating school districts/centers is calculated and a premium rate is applied to all school districts/centers in the MBP. Each participant pays their health insurance premiums to the EPC. Participation in the MBP is limited to school districts/centers that can meet the MBP's selection criteria.

For fiscal year 2024, the Center also participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the Center by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts/centers is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts/centers in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated, and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund." This "equity pooling" arrangement ensures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts/centers that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm Hunter Consulting, Inc. provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

**Warren County Educational Service Center**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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**Note 11 - State Funding**

The Center is funded by the State Department of Education for the cost of Part (A) of their budget. This funding is provided from both State and local resources.

Part (B) of the budget is provided by the school districts to which the Center provides services and by the State Department of Education. Each school district's portion is determined by multiplying the average daily membership of the school district (the total number of students enrolled) by \$6.50. This amount is deducted by the State Department of Education from that school district's resources provided under the State's Foundation Program. The Department of Education's portion is determined by multiplying the sum of average daily memberships of all of the school districts served by the Center by \$24.72 multiplied by a proration factor. This amount is provided from State resources.

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

**Note 12 - Interfund Transactions**

Interfund transactions at June 30, 2024, consisted of the following interfund receivables and interfund payables:

	Interfund		Transfers	
	Receivable	Payable	In	Out
General Fund	\$358,837	\$0	\$0	\$4,685,072
Other Governmental Funds	0	358,837	4,685,072	0
Total All Funds	<u><u>\$358,837</u></u>	<u><u>\$358,837</u></u>	<u><u>\$4,685,072</u></u>	<u><u>\$4,685,072</u></u>

Interfund balances/transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budget authorizations; to segregate and to return money to the fund from which it was originally provided once a project is completed.

**Note 13 - Jointly Governed Organization**

**Southwest Ohio Computer Association**

The Center is a participant in the Southwest Ohio Computer Association (SWOCA), which is a computer consortium. SWOCA is an association of public schools and educational service centers within the boundaries of Butler, Preble, and Warren Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions among member school districts/centers. The governing board of SWOCA consists of the superintendent (or the superintendent's designee) from each member

**Warren County Educational Service Center**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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district/center. Financial information can be obtained from the fiscal agent, Butler Tech, 3603 Hamilton-Middletown Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

**Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council**

The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of 283 school districts, boards of developmental disabilities, and educational service centers in 47 counties (45 in Ohio and 2 in Kentucky) with buying power of more than \$120 million. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain reduced prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools which includes medical insurance, dental insurance, life insurance, and workers compensation. All member districts/centers are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC.

Each member district/center has one voting representative. Title to any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts/centers by the fiscal agent. Any district/center withdrawing from the SOEPC shall forfeit its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group. During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative, the Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, Ohio 45377-1171.

**Southwest Ohio Council of Governments**

The Southwest Ohio Council of Governments (Council) was created pursuant to chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code by agreement of its members. The Council was formed in 2012 by the Center and the Warren County Board of Commissioners. The Council's purpose is to provide substitute teaching services for school districts in Warren and Butler Counties.

The Center serves as the Fiscal Officer for the Council. The Council's funds are maintained separately from the Center's funds.

**Note 14 – Related Party Transactions**

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Southwest Ohio Council of Governments provides substitute teaching and Paraprofessional/Behavior Interventionist services for the Center. Fees for these services for 2024 were \$10,314,707.

**Note 15 –Fund Balances**

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

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**Warren County Educational Service Center****Notes to the Basic Financial Statements****For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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Fund Balances	Other Governmental Funds		
	General	Funds	Total
<b>Nonspendable:</b>			
Prepays	\$29,240	\$2,081	\$31,321
<b>Total Nonspendable</b>	<b>29,240</b>	<b>2,081</b>	<b>31,321</b>
<b>Restricted for:</b>			
School Bus Driver Training	0	88,419	88,419
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>88,419</b>	<b>88,419</b>
<b>Committed to:</b>			
WCESC Scholarship	0	20,821	20,821
<b>Total Committed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,821</b>	<b>20,821</b>
<b>Assigned to:</b>			
Public School	82,781	0	82,781
Permanent Improvement	0	4,071,509	4,071,509
Encumbrances	3,044,012	0	3,044,012
<b>Total Assigned</b>	<b>3,126,793</b>	<b>4,071,509</b>	<b>7,198,302</b>
<b>Unassigned (Deficit)</b>	<b>30,824,376</b>	<b>(207,081)</b>	<b>30,617,295</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$33,980,409</b>	<b>\$3,975,749</b>	<b>\$37,956,158</b>

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**Note 16 – Implementation of New Accounting Principles**

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**New Accounting Principles**

For fiscal year 2024, the Center implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 100, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections; and portions of GASB Statement No. 99, Omnibus 2022.

GASB Statement No. 100 enhances 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 Center.

GASB Statement No. 99 addresses a variety of topics and includes clarification of provisions related to accounting and reporting of leases under GASB Statement No. 87, provides extension of the period which the London Interbank Offered Rate is considered appropriate benchmark interest rate, guidance on disclosure of nonmonetary transaction, accounting for pledges of future revenues when resources are not received by the pledging government under GASB Statement No. 48, and terminology updates related to certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 63 and No. 53. These topics under GASB Statement No. 99 provisions were implemented in a prior year.

Other topics in GASB Statement No. 99 includes classification of other derivative instruments within the scope of GASB Statement No. 53, clarification of provisions related to accounting and reporting of Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships under GASB Statement No. 94, and clarification of provisions to

**Warren County Educational Service Center**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**

**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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accounting and reporting of subscription-based information technology arrangements under GASB Statement No. 96. These topics under GASB Statement No. 99 provisions were implemented and did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Center.

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# **R**EQUIRED **S**UPPLEMENTARY **I**NFORMATION

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Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years (1)

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Year	Center's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	Center's Covered Payroll	Center'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	0.07433210%	\$4,107,232	\$2,940,814	139.66%	76.06%
2023	0.06911750%	3,738,412	2,590,436	144.32%	75.82%
2022	0.06510460%	2,402,171	2,246,864	106.91%	82.86%
2021	0.06561760%	4,340,086	2,300,407	188.67%	68.55%
2020	0.06605530%	3,952,204	2,266,074	174.41%	70.85%
2019	0.05679570%	3,252,795	1,929,526	168.58%	71.36%
2018	0.05547950%	3,314,778	1,758,393	188.51%	69.50%
2017	0.05393460%	3,947,515	1,681,921	234.70%	62.98%
2016	0.05849290%	3,337,662	2,096,305	159.22%	69.16%
2015	0.11762300%	5,952,833	3,452,417	172.43%	71.70%

(1) Amounts presented as of the Center's measurement date which is the prior fiscal year end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the Center's Contributions for Net Pension Liability  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

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Year	Center's Contractually Required Contribution	Center's Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Center's Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Center's Covered Payroll	Center's Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$439,979	(\$439,979)	\$0	\$3,142,707	14.00%
2023	411,714	(411,714)	0	2,940,814	14.00%
2022	362,661	(362,661)	0	2,590,436	14.00%
2021	314,561	(314,561)	0	2,246,864	14.00%
2020	322,057	(322,057)	0	2,300,407	14.00%
2019	305,920	(305,920)	0	2,266,074	13.50%
2018	260,486	(260,486)	0	1,929,526	13.50%
2017	246,175	(246,175)	0	1,758,393	14.00%
2016	235,469	(235,469)	0	1,681,921	14.00%
2015	276,293	(276,293)	0	2,096,305	13.18%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years (1)

Year	Center's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	Center's Covered Payroll	Center'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	0.12201837%	\$26,276,580	\$17,986,586	146.09%	80.02%
2023	0.12342945%	27,438,522	17,296,814	158.63%	78.88%
2022	0.12564483%	16,064,821	15,818,243	101.56%	87.78%
2021	0.12269458%	29,687,723	15,843,664	187.38%	75.50%
2020	0.10848864%	23,991,611	13,433,443	178.60%	77.40%
2019	0.09958375%	21,896,231	11,769,636	186.04%	77.30%
2018	0.09165220%	21,772,176	10,418,129	208.98%	75.30%
2017	0.09225696%	30,881,185	10,083,786	306.25%	66.80%
2016	0.08753436%	24,191,935	9,231,729	262.05%	72.10%
2015	0.07966238%	19,376,648	8,765,392	221.06%	74.70%

(1) Amounts presented as of the Center's measurement date which is the prior fiscal year end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the Center's Contributions for Net Pension Liability  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

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Year	Center's Contractually Required Contribution	Center's Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Center's Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Center's Covered Payroll	Center's Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$2,854,271	(\$2,854,271)	\$0	\$20,387,650	14.00%
2023	2,518,122	(2,518,122)	0	17,986,586	14.00%
2022	2,421,554	(2,421,554)	0	17,296,814	14.00%
2021	2,214,554	(2,214,554)	0	15,818,243	14.00%
2020	2,218,113	(2,218,113)	0	15,843,664	14.00%
2019	1,880,682	(1,880,682)	0	13,433,443	14.00%
2018	1,647,749	(1,647,749)	0	11,769,636	14.00%
2017	1,458,538	(1,458,538)	0	10,418,129	14.00%
2016	1,411,730	(1,411,730)	0	10,083,786	14.00%
2015	1,292,442	(1,292,442)	0	9,231,729	14.00%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Warren County Educational Service Center

Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of the Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability

School Employees Retirement System of Ohio

Last Eight Fiscal Years (1) (2)

Year	Center's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	Center's Covered Payroll	Center'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	0.07134550%	\$1,175,378	\$2,940,814	39.97%	30.02%
2023	0.06487720%	910,883	2,590,436	35.16%	30.34%
2022	0.06088490%	1,152,297	2,246,864	51.28%	24.08%
2021	0.06059650%	1,316,960	2,300,407	57.25%	18.17%
2020	0.06051780%	1,521,895	2,266,074	67.16%	15.57%
2019	0.05238510%	1,453,304	1,929,526	75.32%	13.57%
2018	0.05115040%	1,372,742	1,758,393	78.07%	12.46%
2017	0.04955430%	1,412,481	1,681,921	83.98%	11.49%

(1) The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2017 is not available.

(2) Amounts presented as of the Center's measurement date which is the prior fiscal year end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the Center's Contributions for Net OPEB Liability  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
Last Nine Fiscal Years (1) (2)

Year	Center's Contractually Required Contribution (2)	Center's Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Center's Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Center's Covered Payroll	Center's Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$25,285	(\$25,285)	\$0	\$3,142,707	0.80%
2023	24,412	(24,412)	0	2,940,814	0.83%
2022	12,724	(12,724)	0	2,590,436	0.49%
2021	10,272	(10,272)	0	2,246,864	0.46%
2020	3,480	(3,480)	0	2,300,407	0.15%
2019	14,638	(14,638)	0	2,266,074	0.65%
2018	14,703	(14,703)	0	1,929,526	0.76%
2017	4,064	(4,064)	0	1,758,393	0.23%
2016	3,182	(3,182)	0	1,681,921	0.19%

(1) The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2016 is not available.

(2) Includes surcharge.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Warren County Educational Service Center

Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of the Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)/Liability

State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio

Last Eight Fiscal Years (1) (2)

Year	Center's Proportion of the Net OPEB (Asset)/Liability	Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)/Liability	Center's Covered Payroll	Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)/Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB (Asset)/Liability
2024	0.12201837%	(\$2,373,089)	\$17,986,586	(13.19%)	168.52%
2023	0.12342945%	(3,195,999)	17,296,814	(18.48%)	230.73%
2022	0.12564483%	(2,649,119)	15,818,243	(16.75%)	174.73%
2021	0.12269458%	(2,156,356)	15,843,664	(13.61%)	182.13%
2020	0.10848864%	(1,796,832)	13,433,443	(13.38%)	174.74%
2019	0.09958375%	(1,600,209)	11,769,636	(13.60%)	176.00%
2018	0.09165220%	3,575,931	10,418,129	34.32%	47.10%
2017	0.09225700%	4,933,928	10,083,786	48.93%	37.30%

(1) The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2017 is not available.

(2) Amounts presented as of the Center's measurement date which is the prior fiscal year end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the Center's Contributions for Net OPEB (Asset)/Liability  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
Last Nine Fiscal Years (1)

Year	Center's Contractually Required Contribution	Center's Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Center's Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Center's Covered Payroll	Center's Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,387,650	0.00%
2023	0	0	0	17,986,586	0.00%
2022	0	0	0	17,296,814	0.00%
2021	0	0	0	15,818,243	0.00%
2020	0	0	0	15,843,664	0.00%
2019	0	0	0	13,433,443	0.00%
2018	0	0	0	11,769,636	0.00%
2017	0	0	0	10,418,129	0.00%
2016	0	0	0	10,083,786	0.00%

(1) The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2016 is not available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**Warren County Educational Service Center, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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**Note 1 - Net Pension Liability**

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**School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

**Changes in Benefit Terms:**

2023-2024: There were no changes in benefit terms since the prior measurement period.

2022: Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) increased from 0.50% to 2.50%.

2020-2021: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for this 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.

2018: SERS changed from a fixed 3.00% annual increase to a Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) based on the change in the Consumer Price Index Index (CPI-W), with a cap of 2.50% and a floor of 0.00%.

2014-2017: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for these fiscal years.

**Changes in Assumptions:**

2023-2024: The following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- (1) Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) was increased from 2.00% to 2.50% for calendar year 2024.

2022: The following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- (1) The assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.00% to 2.40%,
- (2) Payroll growth assumption was reduced from 3.50% to 1.75%,
- (3) Assumed real wage growth was increased from 0.50% to 0.85%,
- (4) Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) was reduced from 2.50% to 2.00%,
- (5) The discount rate was reduced from 7.50% to 7.00%,
- (6) Rates of withdrawal, compensation, participation, spouse coverage assumption, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, and,
- (7) Mortality among active members, service retirees and beneficiaries, and disabled members were updated.

2018-2021: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for these fiscal years.

2017: The following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- (1) The assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%,
- (2) Payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%,
- (3) Assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%,
- (4) Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience,
- (5) 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,
- (6) 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,
- (7) Mortality among disabled members was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for

**Warren County Educational Service Center, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement, and

- (8) The discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%.

2014-2016: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for these fiscal years.

**State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

**Changes in Benefit Terms:**

2019-2024: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for these fiscal years.

2018: STRS decreased the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to zero.

2014-2017: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for these fiscal years.

**Changes in Assumptions:**

2024: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for these fiscal years.

2023: The following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- (1) Post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table:
  - a. Adjusted 110.0% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020
- (2) Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table:
  - a. Adjusted 95.0% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020
- (3) Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table:
  - a. Projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020
- (4) Projected salary increases changed from 2.50% to 12.50% to 2.50% to 8.50%

2022: There were changes in assumptions since the prior measurement date, which the discount rate was adjusted to 7.00% from 7.45%.

2019-2021: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for these fiscal years.

2018: The following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- (1) The long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%,
- (2) The inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%,
- (3) The payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%,
- (4) 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,
- (5) The healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016, and
- (6) Rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future

**Warren County Educational Service Center, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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experience.

2014-2017: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for these fiscal years.

**Note 2 - Net OPEB (Asset)/Liability**

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**School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

**Changes in Benefit Terms:**

2024: Effective January 1, 2024, the non-Medicare disability health care subsidy amounts will change to reflect amounts equal to that of service retirees by years of service.

2017-2023: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for these fiscal years.

**Changes in Assumptions:**

2024: Amounts reported for the fiscal year incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

(1) Discount Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	4.08%
Measurement Date	4.27%

(2) Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	3.69%
Measurement Date	3.86%

(3) Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Prior Measurement Date	4.08%
Measurement Date	4.27%

(4) The assumption for percent of pre-Medicare eligible retirees who choose the Wraparound plan increased from 10% to 20%.

(5) The health care trend assumption on retiree premiums was updated to not apply trend to the \$35 surcharge.

(6) The morbidity factors were updated based on the Society of Actuaries' June 2013 research report Health Care Costs—From Birth to Death by Dale Yamamoto and from the ASOP 6 practice note developed by the American Academy of Actuaries.

(7) An assumption was added to assume that 15% of pre-65 retirees who waive will elect coverage upon Medicare eligibility.

2023: Amounts reported for the fiscal year incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

(1) Discount Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	2.27%
Measurement Date	4.08%

(2) Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	1.92%
Measurement Date	3.69%

(3) Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Prior Measurement Date	2.27%
Measurement Date	4.08%

(4) Health care trend rates were updated.

**Warren County Educational Service Center, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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2022: Amounts reported for the fiscal year incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

- (1) Discount Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	2.63%
Measurement Date	2.27%
- (2) Investment Rate of Return:

Prior Measurement Date	7.50%
Measurement Date	7.00%
- (3) Assumed Rate of Inflation:

Prior Measurement Date	3.00%
Measurement Date	2.40%
- (4) Payroll Growth Assumption:

Prior Measurement Date	3.50%
Measurement Date	1.75%
- (5) Assumed Real Wage Growth:

Prior Measurement Date	0.50%
Measurement Date	0.85%
- (6) Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	2.45%
Measurement Date	1.92%
- (7) Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Prior Measurement Date	2.63%
Measurement Date	2.27%
- (8) Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience.
- (9) Rate of health care participation for future retirees and spouses was updated to reflect recent.
- (10) Mortality among active members was updated to the following:
  - a. PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.
- (11) Mortality among service retired members was updated to the following:
  - a. 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.
- (12) Mortality among beneficiaries was updated to the following:
  - a. 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.
- (13) Mortality among disabled member was updated to the following:
  - a. 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.
- (14) Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

2021: Amounts reported for the fiscal year incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

- (1) Discount Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	3.22%
Measurement Date	2.63%

**Warren County Educational Service Center, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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(2) Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	3.13%
Measurement Date	2.45%

(3) Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Prior Measurement Date	3.22%
Measurement Date	2.63%

2020: Amounts reported for the fiscal year incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

(1) Discount Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	3.70%
Measurement Date	3.22%

(2) Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	3.62%
Measurement Date	3.13%

(3) Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Prior Measurement Date	3.70%
Measurement Date	3.22%

2019: Amounts reported for the fiscal year incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

(1) Discount Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	3.63%
Measurement Date	3.70%

(2) Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Prior Measurement Date	3.56%
Measurement Date	3.62%

(3) Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Prior Measurement Date	3.63%
Measurement Date	3.70%

2018: Amounts reported for the fiscal year incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

(1) Discount Rate:

Fiscal Year 2018	3.63%
Fiscal Year 2017	2.98%

(2) Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Fiscal Year 2018	3.56%
Fiscal Year 2017	2.92%

(3) Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Fiscal Year 2018	3.63%
Fiscal Year 2017	2.98%

2017: The following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- (1) The assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%,
- (2) Payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%,
- (3) Assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%,

**Warren County Educational Service Center, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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- (4) Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience,
- (5) 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,
- (6) 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, and
- (7) 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.

**State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

**Changes in Benefit Terms:**

2024: Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience as well as benefit changes effective January 1, 2024. The change in the subsidy percentage and the base amount for all retiree Non-Medicare Eligible (NME) participants, from 2.2% per year in last year's valuation to 2.5% per year, capped at 75%, as well as the unfreezing of the NME subsidy, the removal of the 6% cap on the year over year subsidy increase for Medicare Eligible (ME) participants, the changes in deductible and office visits copays for Aetna's Medicare Advantage plan, and updates in the medical and PBM vendor contracts. In addition, there were benefit changes related to the change in eligibility for unreduced Pension benefits.

2023: Salary increase rates were updated based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021 and were changed from age based to service based. Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience.

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.

2021: There was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year end 2021 premium based on June 30, 2020 enrollment distribution. 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.

2020: There was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2020 from 1.944% to 1.984% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased 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.

2019: The subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was increased from 1.900% to 1.944% per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be

**Warren County Educational Service Center, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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discontinued beginning January 1, 2020. The Board is extending the current Medicare Part B partial reimbursement program for one year. Under this program, benefit recipients currently enrolled in the STRS Ohio Health Care Program and Medicare Part B receive \$29.90 per month to reimburse a portion of the Medicare Part B premium. The reimbursement was set to be reduced to \$0 beginning January 1, 2020. This impacts about 85,000 benefit recipients.

2018: The subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.10% to 1.90% 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 1, 2019.

2017: There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for this fiscal year.

**Changes in Assumptions:**

2024: Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience as well as benefit changes effective January 1, 2024. The change in the subsidy percentage and the base amount for all retiree Non-Medicare Eligible (NME) participants, from 2.2% per year in last year's valuation to 2.5% per year, capped at 75%, as well as the unfreezing of the NME subsidy, the removal of the 6% cap on the year over year subsidy increase for Medicare Eligible (ME) participants, the changes in deductible and office visits copays for Aetna's Medicare Advantage plan, and updates in the medical and PBM vendor contracts. In addition, there were benefit changes related to the change in eligibility for unreduced Pension benefits.

2023: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for these fiscal years.

2022: There were changes in assumptions since the prior measurement date, which the discount rate was adjusted to 7.00% from 7.45%.

2021: There were changes in assumptions during the measurement year, which decreased the total OPEB liability by approximately \$0.26 billion. The assumption changes included changes in healthcare costs and trends.

2020: There were changes in assumptions during the measurement year, which increased the total OPEB liability by approximately \$0.04 billion. The assumption changes included changes in healthcare costs and trends.

2019: 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). Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated.

2018: 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) and the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. 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. The assumed

**Warren County Educational Service Center, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

2017: There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for this fiscal year.

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**WARREN COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
WARREN COUNTY  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> Program / Cluster Title	Assistance Listing Number	Pass Through Entity Identifying Number	Total Federal Expenditures
<b><u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</u></b>			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce:</i>			
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	3M00	\$129,269
COVID 19 Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund	84.425C	3HQ0	34,546
COVID 19 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - ARP	84.425U	3HS0	<u>1,044,374</u>
Total Educational Stabilization Fund			1,078,920
Special Education Cluster:			
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	3M00	<u>12,187</u>
Total Special Education Cluster			12,187
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities:</i>			
Special Education - Grants for Infants and Families	84.181	H181A210024	166,080
Special Education - Grants for Infants and Families	84.181	H181A220024	177,214
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities:</i>			
COVID-19 Special Education - Grants for Infants and Families	84.181X	H181X210024	<u>4,061</u>
Total Special Education - Grants for Infants and Families			347,355
Total U.S. Department of Education			<u>1,567,731</u>
<b><u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SERVICES</u></b>			
<i>Passed Through Warren County Department of Job and Family Services, Division of Human Services:</i>			
TANF Cluster:			
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	1601OHTANF	<u>730,276</u>
Total TANF Cluster			730,276
Total U.S. Department of Health & Human Services			<u>730,276</u>
<b><u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY</u></b>			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Facilities Construction Commission:</i>			
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	5CV3	100,000
Total U.S. Department of the Treasury			<u>100,000</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			<u>\$2,398,007</u>

See accompanying notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

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

**NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

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

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

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

**NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE**

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



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800-282-0370

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

Warren County Educational Service Center  
Warren County  
1879 Deerfield Road  
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Warren County Educational Service Center, Warren County, Ohio (the Center) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 25, 2025.

***Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Center's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) 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 Center's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control.

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

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

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

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Center's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Warren County Educational Service Center  
Warren County  
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over  
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters  
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*  
Page 2

***Purpose of This Report***

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



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio  
February 25, 2025



65 East State Street  
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800-282-0370

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

Warren County Educational Service Center  
Warren County  
1879 Deerfield Road  
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

To the Board of Education:

**Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program**

***Opinion on the Major Federal Program***

We have audited Warren County Educational Service Center's, Warren County, (the Center) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on Warren County Educational Service Center's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024. Warren County Educational Service Center's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Warren County Educational Service Center complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024.

***Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program***

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

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

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

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

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

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

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

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

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

### ***Report on Internal Control Over Compliance***

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

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

Warren County Educational Service Center

Warren County

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements

Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance

Required by the Uniform Guidance

Page 3

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

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



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio  
February 25, 2025

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WARREN COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
WARREN COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
2 CFR § 200.515  
JUNE 30, 2024

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency (ESSER) Fund
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
(d)(1)(ix)	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	Yes

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

None.

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None.



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



WARREN COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

WARREN COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 3/11/2025

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](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)