

THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

AUDIT REPORT

For the Year Ended June 30, 2018



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



Board of Directors
Academy for Urban Scholars
1808 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43203

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Academy for Urban Scholars, Franklin County, prepared by Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

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

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

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 14, 2019

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The Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County
1808 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43203

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Academy for Urban Scholars, Franklin County, Ohio (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the School's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Academy for Urban Scholars, Franklin County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2018, and the changes in financial position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 17 to the financial statements, during the year ended June 30, 2018, the School adopted new guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Other Matters

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 25, 2019, on our consideration of the School's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
January 25, 2019

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Unaudited)**

The discussion and analysis of the Academy for Urban Scholars (the School) financial performance provides an overall review of the School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of the reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 *Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments* issued June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current year and the prior year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

Financial Highlights

- In total, net position increased \$734,989, which represents a 29.8 percent increase from 2017. The increase is primarily due to changes in GASB 68 and 75 pension accruals.
- Total assets decreased \$60,945, which represents a 16.9 percent decrease from 2017. This was primarily due to a decrease in noncurrent assets from the previous year.
- Total Liabilities decreased \$1,371,545, which represents a 37.9 percent decrease from 2017. The decrease in liabilities is a direct result of changes in the net pension liability/OPEB related to pension accruals under GASB 68 and 75.

Using this Financial Report

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

The School uses enterprise presentation for all of its activities.

Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position answers the question of how the School did financially during 2018. This statement includes all assets and liabilities, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resources focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Unaudited)**

Table 1 provides a summary of the School's net position for fiscal years 2018 and 2017.

**(Table 1)
Statement of Net Position**

	2018	Restated 2017
Assets		
Current Assets	\$ 240,661	\$ 255,331
Noncurrent Assets	59,234	105,509
Total Assets	299,895	360,840
Deferred Outflows		
Pension Requirements	853,979	955,996
OPEB	15,395	-
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	869,374	955,996
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities	83,139	58,660
Long-Term Liabilities	2,161,066	3,557,090
Total Liabilities	2,244,205	3,615,750
Deferred Inflows		
Pension Requirements	461,055	170,580
OPEB	198,514	-
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	659,569	170,580
Net Position		
Investment in Capital Assets	43,458	86,443
Unrestricted	(1,777,963)	(2,555,937)
Total Net Position	\$(1,734,505)	\$(2,469,494)

In total, net position was \$(1,734,505) which represents a 29.8 percent increase from 2017. The increase is primarily due to changes in GASB 68 and 75 pension accruals. Total assets were \$299,895, which represents a 16.9 percent decrease from 2017. This was primarily due to a decrease in noncurrent assets from the previous year. Total Liabilities were \$2,244,205, which represents a 37.9 percent decrease from 2017. The decrease is primarily due to decreases in net pension liabilities from the prior year.

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal years 2017 and 2018, as well as a listing of revenues and expenses. The net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School as a whole, the financial position of the School. The cause of this may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the current laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In order to further understand what makes up the changes in net position for the current year, the following table gives readers further details regarding the results of activities for 2018 and 2017

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Unaudited)**

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

	2018	Restated 2017
Operating Revenues		
State Aid	\$ 2,392,622	\$ 2,355,024
Casino Aid	14,543	15,162
Facilities Funding	58,359	59,724
Other Operating	31,107	44,176
Non-Operating Revenue		
Federal Grants	786,226	305,550
Investment Income	223	201
Total Revenues	3,283,080	2,779,837
Operating Expenses		
Salaries	1,182,121	794,742
Fringe Benefits	434,464	526,747
Change in Net Pension and OPEB Liability	(816,208)	708,905
Purchased Services	1,565,493	1,522,238
Materials and Supplies	75,956	64,996
Depreciation	59,414	77,475
Other	41,792	21,083
Non-Operating Expenses		
Interest and Fiscal Charges	5,059	4,493
Total Expenses	2,548,091	3,720,679
Change in Net Position	\$ 734,989	\$ (940,842)

Operating revenues were \$2,496,631 which represents 76% of total revenue. Operating expenses were \$2,543,032 which represents 99% of total expenses. The schools' significant expense Purchased Services represents 62% of total expenses. Purchased services will be explained further in note 8.

The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the School at June 30, 2018 and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—An Amendment of GASB Statement 27*. For fiscal year 2018, the School adopted GASB Statement 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability* or *net OPEB liability*. GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Unaudited)**

pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to equal the School's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

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

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

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

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

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the School's statements include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability and net OPEB liability, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

As a result of implementing GASB 75, the School is reporting a net OPEB liability and deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to OPEB on the accrual basis of accounting. This implementation also had the effect of restating net position at June 30, 2017, from a deficit of \$1,760,589 to a deficit of \$2,469,494.

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Unaudited)**

Net Position, June 30, 2017	\$ (1,760,589)
Adjustments:	
Net OPEB Liability	(708,905)
Deferred Outflow-Payments Subsequent to Measurement Date	0
Restated Net Position, July 1, 2017	<u>\$ (2,469,494)</u>

The information necessary to restate the 2017 beginning balances and the 2017 OPEB expense amounts for the effects of the initial implementation of GASB 75 is not available. Therefore, 2017 functional expenses still include OPEB expense of \$577 computed under GASB 45. GASB 45 required recognizing pension expense equal to the contractually required contributions to the plan. Under GASB 75, OPEB expense represents additional amounts earned, adjusted by deferred inflows/outflows. The contractually required contribution is no longer a component of OPEB expense. Under GASB 75, the 2018 statements report negative OPEB expense of \$100,870. Consequently, in order to compare 2018 total program expenses to 2017, the following adjustments are needed:

Total 2018 Program Expenses under GASB 75	\$ 2,548,091
Negative OPEB Expense under GASB 75	100,870
2018 Contractually Required Contribution	577
Adjusted 2018 Program Expenses	2,649,538
Total 2017 Program Expenses under GASB 45	3,011,774
Decrease in Program Expenses not Related to OPEB	<u>\$ (362,236)</u>

In conclusion, the application of GASB Statement No. 68/75 requires the reader to perform additional calculations to determine the Academy's total net position at June 30, 2018 without the implementation of GASB Statement No. 68/75. This is an important exercise, as the State Pension Systems (STRS & SERS) collect, hold and distributes pensions to our employees, not the Academy. These calculations are as follows:

Total Net Position (with GASB 68/75)	\$(1,734,505)
GASB 68/75 Calculations:	
Add Deferred Inflows related to Pension/OPEB	659,569
Add Net Pension Liability/OPEB	2,157,094
Less Deferred Outflows related to Pension/OPEB	-869,374
Total Net Position (without GASB 68/75)	<u>\$ 212,784</u>

Budgeting Highlights

Unlike other public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided in the community school's contract with its Sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor does prescribe a budgetary process. The School has developed a one year spending plan and a five-year projection that is reviewed by the Board of Directors. The five-year projections are also submitted to the Sponsor and the Ohio Department of Education.

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Unaudited)**

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2018, the School had \$51,634, invested in capital assets, net of depreciation. The asset purchases were leasehold improvements, vehicles, computers and equipment. For more information on capital assets, see Note 6 in the notes to the basic financial statements.

Debt

At June 30, 2018, the School had \$2,244,205 in total liabilities which consisted of \$83,139 in current and \$2,161,066 in long term liabilities. The long term portion will be explained further in the notes to the basic financial statements.

Current Financial Issues

The Academy for Urban Scholars received revenue for 299 students in 2018 and continues to enroll students on a daily basis. State law governing community schools allows for the School to have open enrollment across traditional school district boundaries. The School receives its support almost entirely from State Aid. Per pupil revenue from State Aid for the School averaged \$8,002 in fiscal year 2018 with no increase in State Basic Aid planned in fiscal year 2018. The School receives additional revenues from grant subsidies.

On July 1, 2015, the School entered into an agreement with National Center for Urban Solutions, as its management company for the fiscal year to provide management services to the school. The school paid the Operator \$881,683 for the fiscal year.

On July 1, 2015, the School contracted with the Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (BCHF) as its sponsor. State law allows sponsors to assess the schools up to 3 percent of State revenues as an oversight fee. The school paid BCHF three percent of State Aid as its sponsorship fee in fiscal year 2018.

Contacting the School's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our readers with a general overview of the School's finances and to show the School's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact Brian G. Adams, Fiscal Officer for the Academy for Urban Scholars, 65 E. Wilson Bridge Road, Worthington, OH 43085 or e-mail at badams@ocscltd.com.

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2018**

Assets

Current Asset

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 160,518
Intergovernmental Receivable	50,143
Note Receivable	30,000

Total Current Assets	240,661
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Noncurrent Assets

Leasehold Deposits	7,600
Depreciable Capital Assets, net	51,634

Total Noncurrent Assets	59,234
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Total Assets	299,895
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DEFERRED OUTFLOWS

Pension Requirements	853,979
OPEB	15,395

Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	869,374
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Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	20,792
Intergovernmental Payable	58,143
Capital Leases Payable, due within one year	4,204

Total Current Liabilities	83,139
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Long-Term Liabilities:

Capital Leases Payable, due within more than one year	3,972
Net Pension Liability	1,732,755
Net OPEB Liability	424,339

Total Long-Term Liabilities	2,161,066
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Total Liabilities	2,244,205
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DEFERRED INFLOWS

Pension Requirements	461,055
OPEB	198,514

Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	659,569
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Net Position

Investment in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	43,458
Unrestricted	(1,777,963)

Total Net Position	\$(1,734,505)
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See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**Statement of Revenues,
Expenses and Changes in Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

Operating Revenues	
State Aid	\$ 2,392,622
Casino Aid	14,543
Facilities Funding	58,359
Other Operating	<u>31,107</u>
 Total Operating Revenues	 <u>2,496,631</u>
 Operating Expenses	
Salaries	1,182,121
Fringe Benefits	434,464
Change in Net Pension and OPEB Liability	(816,208)
Purchased Services	1,565,493
Materials and Supplies	75,956
Depreciation	59,414
Other	<u>41,792</u>
 Total Operating Expenses	 <u>2,543,032</u>
 Operating Income/(Loss)	 <u>(46,401)</u>
 Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	
Grants	786,226
Interest and Fiscal Charges	(5,059)
Investment Income	<u>223</u>
 Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	 <u>781,390</u>
 Change in Net Position	 734,989
 Net Position Beginning of Year-Restated	 <u>(2,469,494)</u>
 Net Position End of Year	 <u><u>\$(1,734,505)</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Cash Received from State of Ohio	\$2,453,663
Cash Received from Other Operating Sources	31,107
Cash Payments to Employees for Services	(1,182,121)
Cash Payments for Employee Benefits	(360,109)
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(1,703,138)
Other Cash Payments	<u>(41,792)</u>

Net Cash Used for Operating Activities (802,390)

Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities

Cash Received from Grants	812,037
Cash Payments for Fiscal Charges	<u>(2,596)</u>

Net Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities 809,441

Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities

Cash Payments for Capital Assets	(13,140)
Interest Paid-Capital Lease Payable	(2,463)
Principal Payments-Capital Lease Payable	<u>(3,288)</u>

Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Capital and Related Financing Activities (18,891)

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

Interest Income	<u>223</u>
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Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents (11,617)

Cash and Cash Equivalents Beginning of Year 172,135

Cash and Cash Equivalents End of Year \$ 160,518

Reconciliation of Operating Gain (Loss) to Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities

Operating Gain (Loss) \$ (46,401)

ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH USED FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Depreciation 59,414

Changes in Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Outflows of Resources:

Notes Receivable	(30,000)
Intergovernmental Receivable	(8,970)
Accounts Payable	(31,689)
Intergovernmental Liabilities	71,464
Net OPEB Liability	(284,566)
Deferred Outflows-OPEB	(15,395)
Deferred Inflows-OPEB	198,514
Net Pension Liability	(1,107,253)
Deferred Outflows-Pension	102,017
Deferred Inflows-Pension	<u>290,475</u>

Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities \$ (802,390)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018**

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL AND REPORTING ENTITY

The Academy for Urban Scholars (the School) is a federal 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, state nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Chapters 3314 and 1702 to maintain and provide a school exclusively for any educational, literary, scientific and related teaching service. The School, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school district. The School may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the School.

The School contracts with National Center of Urban Solutions as its operator to provide management services to the school. (see note 16 for details).

Effective July 1, 2016, the school contracted with Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (the Sponsor) for a term of 4 years, ending June 30, 2020.

The School operates under a self-appointing, five-member Board of Directors (the Board). The School's Code of Regulations specify that vacancies that arise on the Board will be filled by the appointment of a successor director by a majority vote of the then existing directors. The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract with the Sponsor, which include, but are not limited to, state-mandated provisions regarding student population, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admission standards, and qualifications of teachers. The facility is staffed with teaching personnel who provide services to 299 students.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

A. Basis of Presentation

The School's basic financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows. Enterprise fund reporting focuses on the determination of the change in net position, financial position and cash flows.

Auditor of State of Ohio Bulletin No. 2000-005 requires the presentation of all financial activity to be reported within one enterprise fund for year-end reporting purposes. Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent is that the costs (expenses) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Continued)**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities are included on the Statement of Net Position. Operating statements present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in total net position. The accrual basis of accounting is utilized for reporting purposes. Revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

C. Budgetary Process

Unlike traditional public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705, unless specifically provided in the School's contract with its Sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor requires a detailed school budget for each year of the contract. In addition, the Board adopted an operating budget at the beginning of fiscal year 2018. However, the budget does not have to follow the provisions of Ohio Rev. Code Section 5705, except for section 5705.391 as it relates to five-year forecasts.

D. Cash and Cash Equivalents

All cash received by the School is deposited in accounts in the School's name and reflected as Cash and Cash Equivalents on the Statement of Net Position. The School did not have any investments during fiscal year 2018.

E. Prepaid Items

The School records payments made to vendors for services that will benefit future periods as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and an expense is recorded in the year in which the services are consumed.

F. Intergovernmental Revenues

The School currently participates in the State Foundation Program. Revenues received from these programs are recognized as operating revenues (foundation and special education payments) in the accounting period in which they are earned and become measurable. Funding from these programs is listed as "State Aid" on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Change in Fund Net Position. Grants are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

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

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Continued)**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

F. Intergovernmental Revenues (Continued)

Resources where the timing requirement is not met are recorded as a liability to the funding source, and reported as a non-operating expense. Resources received prior to the period of use are deferred. Amounts awarded under the above programs for the 2018 school year totaled \$3,251,750.

G. Capital Assets and Depreciation

For purposes of recording capital assets, the Board has a capitalization threshold of \$1,000.

The capital assets are recorded on the accompanying Statement of Net Position at cost, net of accumulated depreciation of \$51,634. Depreciation is computed by the straight-line method over five years for "Equipment", five years for "Vehicles", five years for "Furniture and Fixtures", and ten years for "Leasehold Improvements".

Aside from those mentioned above, the School has no other capital assets.

H. Net Position

Net Position represent the difference between (all assets plus deferred outflows of resources) less (all liabilities, plus deferred inflows of resources). Net Position are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use, either through enabling legislation adopted by the School or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or contracts. The School applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted Net Position are available. The School does not have any restricted net position at June 30, 2018.

I. Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the School's primary activities. For the School, these revenues are primarily State Aid payments. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the goods and services that are the primary activities of the School. Revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

J. Use of Estimates

In preparing the financial statements, management is sometimes required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Continued)**

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

K. Pensions

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

L. 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 represent 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. For the School, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the statement of net position for pension/OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension/OPEB are explained in Note 11 and 12.

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. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension/OPEB are reported on the statement of net position. (See Note 11 and 12).

3. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

A. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2018, the carrying amount of the School deposits are \$160,518 and its bank balance of \$202,083., all of which was covered by federal depository insurance based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures".

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the School's deposits may not be returned. The School has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of state statute. According to state law, public depositories must give security for all public funds on deposits. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105 percent of the carrying value of the deposits. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio Revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the federal reserve system, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the School.

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Continued)**

4. RECEIVABLE/PAYABLES/NOTES

At June 30, 2018, the School had an intergovernmental receivable in the amount of \$50,143 for monies for food service, state aid, and other federal and state grants due but not received by year end. The intergovernmental receivable is collectible in the next operating cycle. The School also loaned Academy of Urban Scholars-Youngstown \$30,000 and is listed as Note Receivable.

Accounts Payable in the amount of \$20,792 consists of obligations at June 30, 2018 incurred during the normal course of conducting operations. The School has Intergovernmental payables of \$58,143 primarily made up of amounts due for payroll taxes and retirement systems.

5. PREPAIDS/DEPOSITS

Deposits in the amount of \$ 7,600 represent leasehold deposits to the landlord during the execution of the lease.

6. CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

For the year ended June 30, 2018, the School's capital assets consisted of the following:

Capital Assets Being Depreciated:	Balance 6/30/2017	Additions	Deletions	Balance 6/30/2018
Leasehold Improvements	\$ 258,183	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 258,183
Computers & Equipment	140,958	13,140	-	154,098
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	<u>399,141</u>	<u>13,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>412,281</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Leasehold Improvements	(208,470)	(33,701)	-	(242,171)
Computers & Equipment	(92,762)	(25,714)	-	(118,476)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(301,232)</u>	<u>(59,415)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(360,647)</u>
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated Net	<u>\$ 97,909</u>	<u>\$ (46,275)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 51,634</u>

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

A. **Property and Liability** - The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft or damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. For the year ended 2018, the School contracted with the Hartford Insurance Company for the following insurance coverage:

Commercial General Liability per occurrence	\$ 1,000,000
Commercial General Liability aggregate	4,000,000
Director and Officers Liability	1,000,000
Employment Practices Liability	1,000

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Continued)**

7. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

B. Worker's Compensation

The School pays the State Worker's Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State. The School had paid all premiums as of June 30, 2018.

Settled claims have not exceeded commercial coverage in any year of the past three fiscal years, and there has not been a significant reduction in coverage from the prior fiscal year.

8. PURCHASED SERVICE EXPENSES

For the year ended June 30, 2018, the School's largest expense, purchased services consisted of the following:

	2018
Professional and Technical Services	\$ 1,151,171
Property Services	220,634
Travel Mileage/Meals	40,427
Communications	37,488
Utilities	18,391
Contracted Trade Services	62,295
Tuition Payments	7,142
Pupil Transportation	27,945
	\$ 1,565,493

9. CAPITALIZED LEASE OBLIGATIONS

The School entered into a capitalized lease for the acquisition of equipment. This capital lease has been recorded as a capital asset at the present value of the minimum lease payments as of the inception date. The capital lease is recorded as Equipment of \$8,200. The School paid \$5,752 in principal and interest for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018.

Fiscal Year	Capital Lease
2019	\$ 5,752
2020	4,304
Total	10,056
Less: Amount Representing Interest	(1,880)
Present Value of minimum payments	\$ 8,176

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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(Continued)**

10. OPERATING LEASES – LESSEE DISCLOSURE

Beginning February 2015, the School leased space located at 1895 East Broad Street from Kohr Royer, Griffith Inc. The term of the lease is for 5 years ending June 30, 2018. The School paid \$94,240 for fiscal year 2018.

11. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for pensions. Pensions are a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. Pensions are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension liability represents the School's proportionate share of each pension plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension liability 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 this estimate annually.

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

GASB 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in intergovernmental payables.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Continued)**

11. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire before August 1, 2017*	Eligible to Retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit Age 65 with 5 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

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on year of service; 2.2 percent for the first 30 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.

When a benefit recipient has received benefits for 12 months, an annual COLA is provided. This COLA is calculated on the base retirement benefit at the date of retirement and is not compounded. For those retiring prior to January 7, 2013, the COLA will continue to be a three percent simple annual COLA. For those retiring after January 7, 2013, beginning in calendar year 2019, the COLA will be based on the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index, capped at three percent.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School 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, 2018, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14 percent. SERS allocated 0.5 percent of employer contributions to the Health Care Fund for fiscal year 2018.

The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$48,805 for fiscal year 2018.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation was 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or at age 55 with 26 years of service, or 31 years of service regardless of age. Eligibility changes will

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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(Continued)**

11. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.5 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.5 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 goes to the DC Plan and the remaining 2 percent is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity after termination of employment at age 50 or later.

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. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. 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. 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. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, plan members were required to contribute 14 percent of their annual covered salary. The School was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2018 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$96,635 for fiscal year 2018.

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

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2017, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an independent actuarial valuation as of that date. The School employer allocation percentage of the net pension liability was based on the employer's share of employer contributions in the pension plan relative to the total employer

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(Continued)**

11. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

contributions of all participating employers. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	<u>STRS</u>	<u>SERS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 1,171,203	\$ 561,552	\$ 1,732,755
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Measurement Date	0.00493030%	0.00939870%	
Prior Measurement Date	<u>0.00484929%</u>	<u>0.01662510%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.00008101%</u>	<u>-0.00722640%</u>	
 Pension Expense	 \$ (794,206)	 \$ 224,885	 \$ (569,321)

Deferred outflows/inflows of resources represent the effect of changes in the net pension liability due to the difference between projected and actual investment earnings, differences between expected and actual actuarial experience, changes in assumptions and changes in the School's proportion of the collective net pension liability. The deferred outflows and deferred inflows are to be included in pension expense over current and future periods. The difference between projected and actual investment earnings is recognized in pension expense using a straight line method over a five year period beginning in the current year. Deferred outflows and deferred inflows resulting from changes in sources other than differences between projected and actual investment earnings are amortized over the average expected remaining service lives of all members (both active and inactive) using the straight line method. Employer contributions to the pension plan subsequent to the measurement date are also required to be reported as a deferred outflow of resources.

At June 30, 2018 the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>STRS</u>	<u>SERS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 45,225	\$ 24,168	\$ 69,393
Changes of Assumptions	256,155	29,038	285,193
Changes in Proportion and Differences between School Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	326,386	27,567	353,953
School Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	<u>96,635</u>	<u>48,805</u>	<u>145,440</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 724,401</u>	<u>\$ 129,578</u>	<u>\$ 853,979</u>
 Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 9,439	\$ 0	\$ 9,439
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	38,651	2,668	41,319
Changes in Proportion and Differences between School Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	<u>85,290</u>	<u>325,007</u>	<u>410,297</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 133,380</u>	<u>\$ 327,675</u>	<u>\$ 461,055</u>

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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(Continued)**

11. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

\$145,440 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from the School's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	STRS	SERS	Total
2019	\$ 146,367	\$ (79,013)	\$ 67,354
2020	198,941	(73,746)	125,195
2021	123,981	(107,662)	16,319
2022	25,097	13,519	38,616
	<u>\$ 494,386</u>	<u>\$ (246,902)</u>	<u>\$ 247,484</u>

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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, 2017, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.00 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.50 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

Mortality rates among active members were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females. Mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality

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11. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates and 110 percent of female rates. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2017 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2015. The assumed rate of inflation, payroll growth assumption and assumed real wage growth were reduced in the most recent actuarial valuation. The rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability updated to reflect recent experience and mortality rates were also updated.

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	1.00 %	0.50 %
US Stocks	22.50	4.75
Non-US Stocks	22.50	7.00
Fixed Income	19.00	1.50
Private Equity	10.00	8.00
Real Assets	15.00	5.00
Multi-Asset Strategies	10.00	3.00
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Discount Rate The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.50 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 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 (6.50 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.50 percent) than the current rate.

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11. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current Discount Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 779,288	\$ 561,552	\$ 379,153

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2017, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary Increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	0.00 percent effective July 1, 2017

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2017, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return**
Domestic Equity	28.00 %	7.35 %
International Equity	23.00	7.55
Alternatives	17.00	7.09
Fixed Income	21.00	3.00
Real Estate	10.00	6.00
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	2.25
Total	100.00 %	

*The target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2017. Target weights will be phased in over a 24-month period concluding on July 1, 2019.

**Ten year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment

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(Continued)**

11. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (Continued)

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 7.45 percent as of June 30, 2017. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes 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, 2017. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2017.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate The following table presents the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability as of June 30, 2017, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45 percent, as well as what the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.45 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.45 percent) than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease (6.45%)	Current Discount Rate (7.45%)	1% Increase (8.45%)
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 1,678,880	\$ 1,171,203	\$ 743,562

Assumption Changes since the Prior Measurement Date

The Retirement Board approved several changes to the actuarial assumptions in 2017. The long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent, the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75 percent to 2.50 percent, the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00 percent, and total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25 percent due to lower inflation. The healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016. Rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.

Benefit Term Changes since the Prior Measurement Date

Effective July 1, 2017, the COLA was reduced to zero.

12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS

Net OPEB Liability

The net OPEB liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for OPEB. OPEB is a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

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12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS (Continued)

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

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

GASB 75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB liability. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net OPEB liability* on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required OPEB contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in intergovernmental payables.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

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

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12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS (Continued)

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 2018, .5 percent of covered payroll 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 2018, this amount was \$23,700. 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 2018, the School's surcharge obligation was \$577.

The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$2,320 for fiscal year 2018.

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. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued effective January 1, 2020. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

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

The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2017, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the School'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:

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12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS (Continued)

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability			
Current Measurement Date	0.00864380%	0.00493030%	
Prior Measurement Date	<u>0.01577213%</u>	<u>0.00484929%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.00712833%</u>	<u>0.00008101%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 231,977	\$ 192,362	\$ 424,339
OPEB Expense	\$ (42,790)	\$ (58,080)	\$ (100,870)

At June 30, 2018, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ -	\$ 11,104	\$ 11,104
Changes in Proportionate Share and Differences between School Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	-	3,714	3,714
School Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	<u>577</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>577</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 577</u>	<u>\$ 14,818</u>	<u>\$ 15,395</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	\$ 613	\$ 8,222	\$ 8,835
Change in Assumptions	22,013	15,495	37,508
Changes in Proportionate Share and Differences between School Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	<u>152,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>152,171</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 174,797</u>	<u>\$ 23,717</u>	<u>\$ 198,514</u>

\$2,320 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from the School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

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(Continued)**

12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS (Continued)

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2019	\$ (63,110)	\$ (2,169)	\$ (65,279)
2020	(63,110)	(2,169)	(65,279)
2021	(47,999)	(2,169)	(50,168)
2022	(154)	(2,167)	(2,321)
2023	0	(113)	(113)
Thereafter	0	(112)	(112)
	<u>\$ (174,373)</u>	<u>\$ (8,899)</u>	<u>\$ (183,272)</u>

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2017, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.00 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.50 percent to 18.20 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate	
Measurement Date	3.56 percent
Prior Measurement Date	2.92 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate	
Measurement Date	3.63 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation
Prior Measurement Date	2.98 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation
Medical Trend Assumption	
Medicare	5.50 percent - 5.00 percent
Pre-Medicare	7.50 percent - 5.00 percent

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12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS (Continued)

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates and 110 percent of female rates. RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates set back five years.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five year period ended June 30, 2015.

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 2010 through 2015, and was adopted by the Board on April 21, 2016. 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 log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.50 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2015 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	1.00 %	0.50 %
US Stocks	22.50	4.75
Non-US Stocks	22.50	7.00
Fixed Income	19.00	1.50
Private Equity	10.00	8.00
Real Assets	15.00	5.00
Multi-Asset Strategies	<u>10.00</u>	3.00
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2017 was 3.63 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2017 was 2.98 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 state statute contribution rate of 2.00 percent of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and 0.50 percent of contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to present value the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and the Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index rate of 3.56 percent, as of June 30, 2017 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to present value the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the

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12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS (Continued)

discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (2.63 percent) and higher (4.63 percent) than the current discount rate (3.63 percent). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.5 percent decreasing to 4.0 percent) and higher (8.5 percent decreasing to 6.0 percent) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (2.63%)	Current Discount Rate (3.63%)	1% Increase (4.63%)
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 280,142	\$ 231,977	\$ 193,818
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 188,232	\$ 231,977	\$ 289,874

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2017, actuarial valuation are presented below:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Projected Salary Increases	12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.00 percent effective July 1, 2017
Blended Discount Rate of Return	4.13 percent
Health Care Cost Trends	6.00 percent to 11.00 percent, initial, 4.50 percent ultimate

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

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2017, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

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12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS (Continued)

Since the prior measurement date, the discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent 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 percent to 7.45 percent. 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 mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

Also since the prior measurement date, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019. Subsequent to the current measurement date, the date for discontinuing remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements was extended to January 2020.

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:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation*</u>	<u>Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return**</u>
Domestic Equity	28.00 %	7.35 %
International Equity	23.00	7.55
Alternatives	17.00	7.09
Fixed Income	21.00	3.00
Real Estate	10.00	6.00
Liquidity Reserves	<u>1.00</u>	2.25
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

*Ten year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent and does not include 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 4.13 percent as of June 30, 2017. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. The OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2037. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to determine the present value of the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2036 and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 3.58 percent as of June 30, 2017 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to determine the present value of the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The blended discount

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12. DEFINED BENEFIT OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT PLANS (Continued)

rate of 4.13 percent, which represents the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45 percent for the funded benefit payments and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 3.58 percent for the unfunded benefit payments, was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017. A blended discount rate of 3.26 percent which represents the long term expected rate of return of 7.75 percent for the funded benefit payments and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 2.85 percent for the unfunded benefit payments was used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2016.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate The following table represents the net OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 4.13 percent, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.13 percent) or one percentage point higher (5.13 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB liability 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.

	1% Decrease (3.13%)	Current Discount Rate (4.13%)	1% Increase (5.13%)
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 258,243	\$ 192,362	\$ 140,295
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 133,645	\$ 192,362	\$ 269,641

13. CONTINGENCES

A. Grants

Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of the School, any such adjustments will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the School.

B. Full Time Equivalency

School Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. However, there is an important nexus between attendance and enrollment for Foundation funding purposes. Community schools must provide documentation that clearly demonstrates students have participated in learning opportunities. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end.

Under Ohio Rev. Code Section 3314.08, ODE may also perform a FTE Review subsequent to the fiscal year end that may result in an additional adjustment to the enrollment information as well as claw backs of Foundation funding due to a lack of evidence to support student participation and other matters of noncompliance.

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13. CONTINGENCES (Continued)

B. Full Time Equivalency (Continued)

As of the date of this report, additional ODE adjustments for fiscal year 2018 are not finalized. As a result, the impact of future FTE adjustments on the fiscal year 2018 financial statements is not determinable, at this time. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or a liability of, the School.

In addition, the School's contracts with their Sponsor and Management Company require payment based on revenues received from the State. As discussed above, additional FTE adjustments for fiscal year 2018 are not finalized. Until such adjustments are finalized by ODE, the impact on the fiscal year 2018 financial statements, related to additional reconciliation necessary with these contracts, is not determinable. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or liability of, the School.

C. Litigation

The School is not a party to legal proceedings that, in the opinion of management, would have a material adverse effect on the financial statements

14. SPONSORSHIP FEES

The School contracted with the Buckeye Community Hope Foundation as its sponsor effective July 1, 2011. The School pays the Sponsor three percent of the State Aid. Total fee expense for fiscal year 2018 was \$71,182. The contract was for four years ending June 30, 2015. The Sponsor provides oversight, monitoring and technical assistance for the School. In June of 2015, the School signed a one year extension ending June 30, 2016. Effective July 1, 2016, the school contracted with the Sponsor for a term of 4 years, ending June 30, 2020.

15. TAX EXEMPT STATUS

The School was approved under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as a tax exempt organization.

16. AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL CENTER FOR URBAN SOLUTIONS (NCUS)

The School entered into a management agreement with the National Center for Urban Solutions. The term of the contract is for 5 years beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2021. NCUS is responsible and accountable to the School's Board of Directors for the administration and day-to-day operations of the school. Responsibilities include (but not limited to) student recruitment, budget development, personnel management, curriculum development/oversight, and facilities management. The school pays NCUS a fixed fee as follows, with a contractual maximum of 19% of state revenues:

\$28,500/ Month, Year 1 (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)
\$31,000/ Month, Year 2 & 3 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019)
\$33,000/ Month, Year 4 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020)
\$35,500/ Month, Year 5 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

The contract allows for reimbursement of expenses as well as additional fees for grant writing, e-rate, life coaching, counselling, etc. Total fees paid for fiscal year 2017 were \$921,724.

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17. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the School has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial reporting for Postemployment Benefits other than Pensions*, GASB Statement No. 81, *Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements*, GASB Statement No. 85, *Omnibus 2017* and GASB Statement No. 86, *Certain Debt Extinguishments*.

GASB Statement No. 81 requires that a government that receives resources pursuant to an irrevocable split-interest agreement recognize assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources at the inception of the agreement. Furthermore, it requires that a government recognize assets representing its beneficial interests in irrevocable split-interest agreements that are administered by a third party, if the government controls the present service capacity of the beneficial interests. This statement also requires that a government recognize revenue when the resources become applicable to the reporting period. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 81 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

GASB Statement No. 85 addresses a variety of topics including issues related to blending component units, goodwill, fair value measurement and application, and postemployment benefits. These changes were incorporated in the School's fiscal year 2018 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position.

GASB Statement No. 86 addresses the reporting and disclosure requirements of certain debt extinguishments including in-substance defeasance transactions and prepaid insurance associated with debt that is extinguished. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 86 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

GASB Statement No. 75 requires recognition of the entire net postemployment benefits other than pensions (other postemployment benefits or OPEB) liability and a more comprehensive measure of postemployment benefits expense for OPEB provided to the employees of state and local governmental employers through OPEB plans that are administered through trusts or equivalent arrangements. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 75 resulted in the inclusion of net OPEB liability and OPEB expense components on the accrual financial statements. See below for the effect on net position as previously reported.

Net Position, June 30, 2017	\$ (1,760,589)
Adjustments:	
Net OPEB Liability	(708,905)
Restated Net Position, July 1, 2017	\$ (2,469,494)

Other than employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date, the School made no restatement for deferred inflows/outflows of resources as the information needed to generate these restatements was not available.

**THE ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018
(Continued)**

18. MANAGEMENT COMPANY EXPENSES

For the year ended June 30, 2018, NCUS and its affiliates incurred the following expenses on behalf of the School.

The Academy of Urban Scholars-Columbus	Other Instruction (1400 and 1900 Function Codes)	Support Services (2000 Function Codes)	Total
<i>Direct expenses:</i>			
Salaries & wages (100 object codes)	\$ 285,895	\$ 95,922	\$ 381,817
Contracted craft or trade services (460 object codes)	-	64,742	64,742
<i>Indirect expenses:</i>			
Overhead	-	612,973	612,973
Total expenses	\$ 285,895	\$ 773,637	\$ 1,059,532

Note to the Schedule of Management Company Expenses: NCUS charges overhead and corporate rate of nineteen percent. Employee Benefits do not include pension expenses. Under management agreement with the School, the School is responsible for pension expenses for direct school staff.

19. LONG TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS

The School has the following Long-Term Debt Obligations:

	Restated Principal Outstanding			Principal Outstanding 6/30/2018	Amounts Due Within one year
	6/30/2017	Additions	Reductions		
Capital Lease	\$ 11,466	\$ -	\$ (3,289)	\$ 8,177	\$ 4,204
Net Pension Liability	2,840,008	-	(1,107,253)	1,732,755	-
Net OPEB Liability	708,905	-	(284,566)	424,339	-
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 3,560,379	\$ -	\$(1,395,108)	\$ 2,165,271	\$ 4,204

The Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
Last Five Fiscal Years (1)

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)					
School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.00493030%	0.00484929%	0.00563633%	0.00536512%	0.00536512%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 1,171,203	\$ 1,623,204	\$ 1,557,717	\$ 1,304,983	\$ 1,554,487
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 542,021	\$ 581,786	\$ 814,643	\$ 534,646	\$ 350,223
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	216.08%	279.00%	191.21%	244.08%	443.86%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	75.30%	66.80%	72.10%	74.70%	69.30%
School Employees Retirement System (SERS)					
School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.00939870%	0.01662510%	0.00991760%	0.00641600%	0.00641600%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 561,552	\$ 1,216,804	\$ 565,908	\$ 324,710	\$ 381,539
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 313,757	\$ 528,314	\$ 346,115	\$ 140,700	\$ 161,814
School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	178.98%	230.32%	163.50%	230.78%	235.79%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	69.50%	69.16%	71.70%	65.52%	65.52%

(1) Information prior to 2014 is not available.

The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which is the prior fiscal year.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability
Last Two Fiscal Years (1)

	2018	2017
<i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i>		
School's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.00864380%	0.01577213%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 231,977	\$ 449,564
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 313,757	\$ 528,314
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	73.94%	85.09%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	12.46%	11.49%
 <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i>		
School's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.00493030%	0.00484929%
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 192,362	\$ 259,341
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 542,021	\$ 581,786
School's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	35.49%	44.58%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	47.10%	37.30%

(1) Information prior to 2017 is not available.

Note: The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which is the prior fiscal year.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

The Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of School Contributions-Pensions
Last Seven Fiscal Years (1)

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)							
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 96,635	\$ 75,883	\$ 81,450	\$ 114,050	\$ 69,504	\$ 45,529	\$ 23,249
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(96,635)</u>	<u>(75,883)</u>	<u>(81,450)</u>	<u>(114,050)</u>	<u>(69,504)</u>	<u>(45,529)</u>	<u>(23,249)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 690,250	\$ 542,021	\$ 581,786	\$ 814,643	\$ 534,646	\$ 350,223	\$ 178,838
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%
School Employees Retirement System (SERS)							
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 48,805	\$ 43,926	\$ 73,964	\$ 45,618	\$ 19,501	\$ 22,395	\$ 17,267
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(48,805)</u>	<u>(43,926)</u>	<u>(73,964)</u>	<u>(45,618)</u>	<u>(19,501)</u>	<u>(22,395)</u>	<u>(17,267)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 361,519	\$ 313,757	\$ 528,314	\$ 346,115	\$ 140,700	\$ 161,814	\$ 128,379
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	13.50%	14.00%	14.00%	13.18%	13.86%	13.84%	13.45%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Contributions - OPEB
Last Seven Fiscal Years

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
School Employees Retirement System (SERS)							
Contractually Required Contribution (1)	\$ 577	\$ 0	\$ 3,366	\$ 3,239	\$ 1,036	\$ 254	\$ 647
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(577)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(3,366)</u>	<u>(3,239)</u>	<u>(1,036)</u>	<u>(254)</u>	<u>(647)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 348,607	\$ 313,757	\$ 528,314	\$ 346,115	\$ 140,700	\$ 161,814	\$ 128,379
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (1)	0.50%	0.00%	0.64%	0.94%	0.74%	0.16%	0.50%
State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)							
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,346	\$ 3,252	\$ 1,661
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(5,346)</u>	<u>(3,252)</u>	<u>(1,661)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 690,250	\$ 542,021	\$ 581,786	\$ 814,643	\$ 534,646	\$ 350,223	\$ 178,838
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%

(1) Includes surcharge

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County, Ohio**
*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Note 1 - Net Pension Liability

Changes in Assumptions - SERS

For fiscal year 2018, the SERS Board adopted the following assumption changes:

- Assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25 percent to 3.00 percent
- Payroll Growth Assumption was reduced from 4.00 percent to 3.50 percent
- Assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75 percent to 0.50 percent
- Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience.
- Mortality among active members was updated to the following:
 - RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females.
- 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 percent of male rates, and 110 percent of female rates.
- Mortality among disable member was updated to the following:
 - RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

Changes in Benefit Terms - SERS

For fiscal year 2018, the cost-of-living adjustment was changed from a fixed 3.00 percent to a cost-of-living adjustment that is indexed to CPI-W not greater than 2.50 percent with a floor of zero percent beginning January 1, 2018. In addition, with the authority granted the Board under HB 49, the Board has enacted a three-year COLA suspension for benefit recipients in calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Changes in Assumptions – STRS

For fiscal year 2018, the Retirement Board approved several changes to the actuarial assumptions in 2017. The long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent, the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75 percent to 2.50 percent, the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00 percent, and total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25 percent due to lower inflation. The healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016. Rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.

Changes in Benefit Terms - STRS

Effective for fiscal year 2018, the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) was reduced to zero.

**Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County, Ohio**
*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Note 2 - Net OPEB Liability

Changes in Assumptions – SERS

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

Municipal Bond Index Rate:

Fiscal year 2018	3.56 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.92 percent

Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation

Fiscal year 2018	3.63 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.98 percent

Changes in Assumptions – STRS

For fiscal year 2018, the discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent 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 percent to 7.45 percent. 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 mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

Also for fiscal year 2018, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

The Academy for Urban Scholars
Franklin County
1808 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43203

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Academy for Urban Scholars, Franklin County, Ohio (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 25, 2019. We noted the School adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the School'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, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School'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 determination of financial statement amounts. 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*.

However, we noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the School's management in a separate letter dated January 25, 2019.

Purpose of this Report

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



Charles E. Harris & Associates, Inc.
January 25, 2019

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



ACADEMY FOR URBAN SCHOLARS

FRANKLIN COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
MARCH 26, 2019**