



CLARK SCHAEFER HACKETT
BUSINESS ADVISORS

**CEDAR CLIFF LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
GREENE COUNTY, OHIO**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 and 2023

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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Columbus, Ohio 43215
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Board of Education
Cedar Cliff Local School District
248 North Main Street
Cedarville, Ohio 45314

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Cedar Cliff Local School District, Greene County, prepared by Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co., for the audit period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Cedar Cliff Local School District 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

December 16, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Education
Cedar Cliff Local School District
248 North Main Street
Cedarville, Ohio 45314

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Cedar Cliff Local School District (the "District"), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position for the years then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis for Opinions

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

Emphasis of Matter – Change in Accounting Principle

As described in Note 18 to the financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023, the District changed the presentation of its annual financial report from presenting its basic financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America to the cash basis of accounting. We did not modify our opinions regarding this matter.

Emphasis of Matter – Accounting Basis

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 25, 2024 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.

Springfield, Ohio
October 25, 2024

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
June 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
Cash Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash, cash equivalents and investments	\$ 8,414,675
Restricted Assets:	
Cash and investments with fiscal agent	6,180,643
Total Cash Assets	\$ 14,595,318
Net Cash Position:	
Restricted for:	
Debt service	\$ 6,958,177
Capital improvements	959,454
Facilities maintenance	282,556
Student activities	157,160
Food service operations	184,711
State/Federal education grants	6,403
Unrestricted	6,046,857
Total Net Cash Position	\$ 14,595,318

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio
Statement of Activities - Cash Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Cash Disbursements	Program Cash Receipts		Net (Disbursements) Receipt and Changes in Net Cash Position
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 3,586,850	\$ 87,858	\$ 111,544	\$ (3,387,448)
Special	1,294,836	97,942	211,227	(985,667)
Student intervention services	5,103	-	-	(5,103)
Other	70,467	-	26,586	(43,881)
Support Services:				
Pupils	636,373	-	86,012	(550,361)
Instructional staff	413,114	-	32,360	(380,754)
Board of education	42,447	-	-	(42,447)
Administration	821,548	-	-	(821,548)
Fiscal	406,284	-	-	(406,284)
Operation and maintenance of plant	988,565	10,785	59,871	(917,909)
Pupil transportation	349,907	-	-	(349,907)
Central	157,781	-	-	(157,781)
Operation of non-instructional services	234,036	143,037	102,968	11,969
Extracurricular activities	611,350	289,733	40,026	(281,591)
Capital Outlay	80,577	-	-	(80,577)
Debt Service:				
Principal	30,000	-	-	(30,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	548,374	-	219,537	(328,837)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 10,277,612	\$ 629,355	\$ 890,131	(8,758,126)
General Cash Receipts:				
Property Taxes Levied for:				
General purposes				2,814,933
Debt service				557,776
Capital projects				221,721
Income Taxes Levied for:				
General purposes				1,348,027
Capital projects				293,129
Facility maintenance				43,878
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific purposes				4,658,544
Interest				429,641
Miscellaneous				12,869
Total General Receipts				10,380,518
Change in Net Cash Position				1,622,392
Net Cash Position Beginning of Year, Restated				12,972,926
Net Cash Position End of Year				\$ 14,595,318

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2024

	General	Bond Retirement Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash, cash equivalents, and investments	\$ 6,047,370	\$ 777,534	\$ 1,589,771	\$ 8,414,675
Restricted Assets:				
Cash and investments with fiscal agent	<u>-</u>	<u>6,180,643</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,180,643</u>
Total Cash Assets	<u>\$ 6,047,370</u>	<u>\$ 6,958,177</u>	<u>\$ 1,589,771</u>	<u>\$ 14,595,318</u>
Fund Cash Balances:				
Restricted for:				
Debt service	\$ -	\$ 6,958,177	\$ -	\$ 6,958,177
Capital improvements	-	-	959,454	959,454
Facilities maintenance	-	-	282,556	282,556
Student activities	-	-	157,160	157,160
Food service operations	-	-	184,711	184,711
State/Federal education grants	-	-	6,403	6,403
Committed for:				
Severance payments	129,312	-	-	129,312
Workers' compensation payments	42,829	-	-	42,829
Assigned for:				
Extracurricular activities	25,170	-	-	25,170
Future disbursements	15,146	-	-	15,146
Unassigned	<u>5,834,913</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(513)</u>	<u>5,834,400</u>
Total Fund Cash Balances	<u>\$ 6,047,370</u>	<u>\$ 6,958,177</u>	<u>\$ 1,589,771</u>	<u>\$ 14,595,318</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio

Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	General	Bond Retirement Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash Receipts:				
Property and other local taxes	\$ 2,814,933	\$ 557,776	\$ 221,721	\$ 3,594,430
Income tax	1,348,027	-	337,007	1,685,034
Intergovernmental	4,369,206	508,941	621,502	5,499,649
Interest	203,163	216,406	10,072	429,641
Tuition and fees	149,916	-	-	149,916
Extracurricular activities	65,441	-	260,176	325,617
Customer sales and services	-	-	143,037	143,037
Gifts and donations	21,053	-	27,973	49,026
Miscellaneous	23,293	-	361	23,654
Total Cash Receipts	8,995,032	1,283,123	1,621,849	11,900,004
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,336,297	-	250,553	3,586,850
Special	1,086,154	-	208,682	1,294,836
Student intervention services	5,103	-	-	5,103
Other	70,467	-	-	70,467
Support Services:				
Pupils	551,226	-	85,147	636,373
Instructional staff	341,420	-	71,694	413,114
Board of education	42,447	-	-	42,447
Administration	820,348	-	1,200	821,548
Fiscal	386,301	7,941	12,042	406,284
Operation and maintenance of plant	657,254	-	331,311	988,565
Pupil transportation	349,907	-	-	349,907
Central	157,781	-	-	157,781
Operation of non-instructional services	-	-	234,036	234,036
Extracurricular activities	304,146	-	307,204	611,350
Capital Outlay	-	-	80,577	80,577
Debt Service:				
Principal	-	30,000	-	30,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	548,374	-	548,374
Total Cash Disbursements	8,108,851	586,315	1,582,446	10,277,612
Excess of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	886,181	696,808	39,403	1,622,392
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Transfers in	-	-	100,000	100,000
Transfers out	(100,000)	-	-	(100,000)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(100,000)	-	100,000	-
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance	786,181	696,808	139,403	1,622,392
Fund Cash Balance, Beginning of Year	5,261,189	6,261,369	1,450,368	12,972,926
Fund Cash Balance, End of Year	\$ 6,047,370	\$ 6,958,177	\$ 1,589,771	\$ 14,595,318

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Private Purpose Trust Fund
Additions:	
Gifts and donations	\$ <u>17,500</u>
Total Additions	<u>17,500</u>
Deductions:	
Payments in accordance with trust agreements	<u>17,500</u>
Total Deductions	<u>17,500</u>
Change in Net Cash Position	-
Net Cash Position, Beginning of Year	<u>-</u>
Net Cash Position, End of Year	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

Cedar Cliff Local School District (the "School District") is a body politic and corporate for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The School District operates under a locally-elected five-member Board form of government and provides educational services as authorized by State statute and federal guidelines.

The School District serves an area of approximately 49 square miles. The School District operates one instructional/support facility in which services are provided to 551 students and other community members.

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For the School District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the School District. Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. The School District does not have any component units.

The School District is associated with four jointly governed organizations and one insurance purchasing pool. These organizations are discussed in Notes 10 and 11 to the basic financial statements. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

- Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA)
- Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC)
- Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association (SOITA)
- Greene County Career Center

Insurance Purchasing Pool:

- Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative's Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP)

These financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant GASB pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. The following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

Basis of Presentation

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

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for any fiduciary funds. These statements usually distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental activities (primarily supported by taxes and intergovernmental receipts) and those that are considered business-type activities (primarily supported by fees and charges). However, for fiscal year 2024 the School District had no business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the School District is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services and grants, contributions, and interest restricted to meeting the operational and capital needs of a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the School District's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements

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

Fund Accounting

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The various funds of the School District are categorized as governmental and fiduciary funds.

Governmental Funds

The School District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other non-exchange transactions as governmental funds. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

Bond Retirement Fund - The bond retirement fund is used to account for financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned for disbursements for the payment of general long-term debt principal, interest, and related costs.

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

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds, and custodial. The School District's only fiduciary fund is a private purpose trust which accounts for various college scholarship programs for students.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Basis of Accounting

The School District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the School District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are reported when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of the cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed and provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods and services received but not yet paid, and certain accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in the financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, cash received by the School District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in pooled cash, cash equivalents and investments". All investments of the cash management pool are considered to be cash and cash equivalents for financial reporting purposes.

During fiscal year 2024, the School District's investments consisted of STAR Ohio, negotiable certificates of deposits, securities of Federal Agencies, and a money market mutual fund.

STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but adopted GASB Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants". The School District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides the NAV per share that approximates fair value.

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

Following Ohio statutes, the Board has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2024 was \$203,163, which included \$57,012 assigned from other School District funds.

Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations on their use change the nature or normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, laws of other governments, or imposed by enabling legislation. Restricted assets in the Bond Retirement Fund include amounts required to be deposited in a mandatory sinking fund by the School District's Qualified School Construction Bond agreement.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Budgetary Process

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget indicates the projected receipts and disbursements for those funds receiving tax monies. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the legal level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level for all funds. Budgetary allocations at levels below the legal level of control are made by the Treasurer.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the school year with the restriction that appropriations may not exceed estimated revenues. The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the School District.

Capital Assets

Acquisition of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. The financial statements do not report these assets.

Compensated Absences

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting used by the School District.

Long-Term Obligations

Cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest are reported when disbursements are made. The School District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension and OPEB plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 7 and 8, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

Leases and Subscription Based Information Technology Agreements (SBITAs)

The School District is a party to various agreements which would be classified as leases or SBITAs. However, due to the basis of accounting utilized to prepare the financial statements, assets and liabilities for these agreements are not presented. Lease and subscription disbursements are recognized when paid.

Pension Systems

For purposes of measuring the net pension and OPEB assets and liabilities, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension systems. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension systems report investments at fair value. The School District's net pension and OPEB assets and liabilities are not reported on the cash basis financial statements, rather information regarding these items is limited to note disclosures (see Notes 7 and 8).

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws, or regulations of other governments. The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable – The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. The School District did not have any fund balance classified as nonspendable at fiscal year-end.

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

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

Assigned – Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Education.

Unassigned – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

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

Interfund Activity

Transfers and advances within governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the statement of activities. Payments for interfund services provided and used are not eliminated.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. If there is an intention for repayment, the flows of cash or goods between funds are reported as interfund advances. Both interfund transfers and advances are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statement.

NOTE 2 – COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Compliance

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03(B), requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the School District prepared its financial statement on a cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying financial statements omit assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time.

Accountability

At June 30, 2024, the Title VI-B Grant Fund and the Title I Grant Fund, both non-major special revenue funds, reported deficit balances of \$131 and \$382, respectively, due to federal cash management regulations. The School District had submitted a request for grant funding at year-end, but the actual funding was not received until after the beginning of the subsequent period.

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

Inactive Monies – These monies have been identified by the Board of Education as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposits maturing no later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

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

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

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio or Ohio local governments;
5. Time certificates of deposits or savings or deposits accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in (1) or (2);
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio); and
8. Bankers' acceptances and commercial paper if training requirements have been met.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

Cash on Hand

At fiscal year-end, the School District had \$50 in un-deposited cash on hand which is included on the balance sheet of the School District as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

Restricted Cash and Investments with Fiscal Agent

At fiscal year-end, the School District had \$6,180,643 shown as restricted assets: cash and investments with fiscal agent in the bond retirement fund. This restricted cash is the balance in the mandatory sinking fund required by the Qualified School Construction Bonds and is managed separate from the pooled investments.

Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District's deposits may not be returned to it. Protection of the School District's deposits is provided by the federal deposit insurance corporation as well as qualified securities pledged by the institution holding the assets. By Ohio law, financial institutions must collateralize all public deposits as follows:

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

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

At fiscal year end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$567,709 and the bank balance was \$635,655. Federal depository insurance covered \$250,000 of the bank balance at year end, while the pooled collateral methods noted above covered the remaining deposits.

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

Investments

The School District's investment policy authorizes the Treasurer to make investments of available monies from the funds of the School District in securities authorized by State law.

Investment Type	Measurement Value	Maturity Dates in Years			% of Portfolio
		Less than 1	1 to 3	More than 3	
Negotiable CDs	\$ 3,090,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 1,271,000	\$ 1,319,000	39.4%
FHLB	250,000	-	250,000	-	3.2%
STAR Ohio	4,431,592	4,431,592	-	-	56.4%
Money Market Mutual Fund	75,374	75,374	-	-	1.0%
Total	\$ 7,846,966	\$ 5,006,966	\$ 1,521,000	\$ 1,319,000	

Interest Rate Risk – The Ohio Revised Code and School District policy require that investments mature within five (5) years of settlement date, unless they are matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Credit Risk – The School District's investment policy limits investments to those authorized by State statute. At June 30, 2024, the School District's Investments carried the following ratings by Standard and Poor's: Federal Agency security – AA+; money market mutual fund and STAR Ohio – AAAm. The School District's negotiable certificates of deposits were not rated; however, the entire balance is covered by FDIC.

Custodial Credit Risk – For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. \$3,090,000 of the negotiable certificate of deposits was covered by FDIC. The School District's investment policy does not address investment custodial risk beyond the requirement the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the treasurer or qualified trustee.

Concentration of Credit Risk – The School District's places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer.

NOTE 4 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real estate and public utility property located in the School District. Real property taxes collected during 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023 on assessed values as of January 1, 2023, the lien date.

Assessed values are established by the county auditor at 35 percent of appraised market value. All property is required to be reappraised every six years, and equalization adjustments are made in the third year following reappraisal. The last reappraisal was completed in 2019. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. The first payment is due January 20, with the remainder payable on June 20.

NOTE 4 - PROPERTY TAXES (continued)

Public utility tangible personal property taxes collected in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on assessed values determined as of December 31 of the second year preceding the tax collection year, the lien date. Certain public tangible personal property is currently assessed at 100 percent of its true value. Public utility personal property taxes are payable on the same dates as real property described previously.

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

	2024 First Half Collections		2023 Second Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/residential and other real estate property	\$ 149,305,340	93.23%	\$ 112,715,270	91.98%
Public utility real property	10,835,380	6.77%	9,828,760	8.02%
Total	\$ 160,140,720	100.00%	\$ 122,544,030	100.00%
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$37.50		\$40.50	

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the County, including the School District. The County Auditor periodically remits to the School District its portion of the taxes collected.

NOTE 5 - INCOME TAXES

The School District levies a voted tax of one percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was effective on January 1, 1991 and is a continuing tax. The School District's residents also approved a .25% income tax for capital projects purposes in November 2009 with an effective date of January 2010. The School District authorized an annual portion of the .25% income tax to be earmarked to satisfy the maintenance of completed facilities in the Maintenance Fund. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts in the amount of \$1,348,027 and \$337,007 was credited to the general and non-major governmental funds, respectively, during fiscal year 2024.

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Property and Liability

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, thefts-of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2024, the School District contracted with the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for property, fleet insurance, liability insurance and inland coverage.

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

Coverage limits provided by Liberty Mutual Insurance as of June 30, 2024 follows:

Buildings and Contents - replacement cost (\$5,000 deductible)	\$ 50,499,630
Inland Marine Coverage (\$500 deductible)	714,240
Boiler and Machinery (\$1,000 deductible)	50,499,630
Monies and Securities	10,000
Automobile Liability	1,000,000
Uninsured Motorists	1,000,000
General Liability Per Occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate	2,000,000
Umbrella	3,000,000
Violent Event Response Coverage	1,000,000
Data Compromise	50,000

There have been no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year and settlements have not exceeded coverage for any part of the last three years.

Workers' Compensation

For fiscal year 2024, the School District participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative's Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), a workers' compensation insurance purchasing pool (Note 11). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP.

Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund". This "equity pooling" arrangement insures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Integrated Comp Incorporated provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

Medical Benefits

The School District provides life insurance, dental insurance, and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to most employees through CoreSource. Medical/surgical benefits are provided through United Health Care of Ohio. Vision insurance is provided through Vision Service Plan of Ohio. Dental insurance is provided through Delta Dental.

NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability 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.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

The net pension liability represents the School District'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 has not been reported in the accompanying financial statements, however, information on the net pension liability has been disclosed below. 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.

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

GASB Statement No. 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.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14% 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% for plan members and 14% 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, and Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the 14% was allocated to only three of the funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund and Medicare B Fund).

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$193,472 for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

School District licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 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 (CO) Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307.

The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. The calculation will be 2.2% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. For members who were eligible to retire on July 1, 2015, the annual benefit is the greater of the benefit amount calculated upon retirement under the new benefit formula or the frozen benefit amount as of July 1, 2015. Effective August 1, 2021 to July 1, 2023, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 34 years of service credit at any age or 5 years of service credit and age 65. Retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 30 years of service credit at any age; or 29 years of service credit and age 55; or 5 years of service credit and age 60. Effective August 1, 2023 to July 1, 2028, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 34 years of service credit at any age or 5 years of service credit at age 65. Retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 30 years of service credit at any age; or 29 years of service credit and age 55; or 5 years of service credit and age 60. Effective on or after August 1, 2028, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 35 years of service credit at any age or 5 years of service credit and age 65. Retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 30 years of service credit at any age or 5 years of service credit and age 60.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 11.09% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS Ohio. The remaining 2.91% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liabilities. 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 CO Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the CO Plan, 12% of the 14% member rate is deposited into the member's DC account and the remaining 2% is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the CO Plan payment

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

is payable to a member on or after age 60 with 5 years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50 and after termination of employment.

New members who choose the DC Plan or CO 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 Ohio plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's CO Plan account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS Ohio bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS Ohio therefore has included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB Statement No. 68 reporting purposes.

A DB or CO Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. New members on or after July 1, 2013 must have at least 10 years of qualifying service credit to apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance.

Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, plan members were required to contribute 14% of their annual covered salary. The School District was required to contribute 14%; the entire 14% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2024 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$512,743 for fiscal year 2024.

Net Pension Liability

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

Following is information related to the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 1,793,273	\$ 5,552,144	\$ 7,345,417
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Year	0.0324544%	0.0257820%	
Prior Year	<u>0.0358163%</u>	<u>0.0251709%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.0033619%</u>	<u>0.0006111%</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 termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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 consider the employee's entire career with the employer and take into consideration the benefits, if any, paid to the employee after termination of employment until the death of the employee and any applicable contingent annuitant. In many cases actuarial calculations reflect several decades of service with the employer and the payment of benefits after termination.

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

Inflation	2.40 percent
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.00 percent, on and after 4/1/2018, COLA's for future retirees will be delayed for 3 years following retirement.
Investment rate of return	7.00 percent net of investment expense, including inflation.
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Health Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Mortality among contingent survivors were based upon the PUB-2010 General Amount Weighed Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females. The PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table was used for active members. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020 adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021.

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted averaged 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.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	2.00%	0.75%
US equity	24.75%	4.82%
Non-US equity developed	13.50%	5.19%
Non-US equity emerging	6.75%	5.98%
Fixed income/global bonds	19.00%	2.24%
Private equity	12.00%	7.49%
Real estate/real assets	17.00%	3.70%
Private debt/private credit	<u>5.00%</u>	5.64%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

Discount Rate – Total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.0%. 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 earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.0%). 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 District’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.0%, 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 (6.0%), or one percentage point higher (8.0%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District’s proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,646,779	\$ 1,793,273	\$ 1,074,356

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5% to 8.5%
Payroll increases	3.00%
Investment rate of return, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses
Discount rate of return	7.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%

Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

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

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation *</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return**</u>
Domestic equity	26.00%	6.60%
International equity	22.00%	6.80%
Alternatives	19.00%	7.38%
Fixed income	22.00%	1.75%
Real estate	10.00%	5.75%
Liquidity reserves	<u>1.00%</u>	1.00%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

* - Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

** - 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25%, and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio's investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.0% as of June 30, 2023. 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's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.0% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – The following table presents the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.0%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.0%) or one-percentage-point higher (8.0%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 8,537,969	\$ 5,552,144	\$ 3,026,953

Social Security System

All employees not covered by SERS or STRS have an option to choose Social Security or SERS/STRS. As of June 30, 2024, four of the members of the Board of Education has elected social security. The Board's liability is 6.2% of wages paid.

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB)

Net OPEB Asset or Liability

The net OPEB asset or liability represents an asset for, or 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.

The net OPEB asset or liability represents the School District'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. Neither the net OPEB asset nor liability has been reported in the accompanying financial statements, however, information on these amounts is disclosed below. The net OPEB asset or liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments, health care cost trend rates and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

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

GASB Statement No. 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 asset or liability. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB asset or 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.

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

Health Care Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

SERS' Health Care program provides health care benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986 need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981 do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and, therefore, enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute.

Funding Policy—State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2024, there was no portion allocated to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, the minimum compensation amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$23,945.

Health Care Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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 Board to offer this plan.

Coverage under the current program includes hospitalization, physicians' fees and prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of the monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code, the Retirement Board has discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the associated health care costs will be absorbed by the Plan. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

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

Net OPEB Asset/Liability

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

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

The following is information related to the School District’s proportionate share of the OPEB asset or liability:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net:			
OPEB Asset	\$ -	\$ 501,424	\$ 501,424
OPEB Liability	550,906	-	550,906
Proportion of the Net OPEB Asset/Liability:			
Current Year	0.0334400%	0.0257820%	
Prior Year	<u>0.0363923%</u>	<u>0.0251709%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.0029523%</u>	<u>0.0006111%</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 consider the employee’s entire career with the employer and 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, prepared as of June 30, 2023, are presented below:

Investment rate of return:	7.00% of net investment expense, including inflation
Wage inflation:	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%
Municipal bond index rate:	
Current measurement date	3.86%
Prior measurement date	3.69%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense:	
Current measurement date	4.27%
Prior measurement date	4.08%
Medical Trend Assumption:	6.75% - 4.40%

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Health Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Mortality among contingent survivors were based upon the PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females. The PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table was used for active members. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020 adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021.

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted averaged of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00%	0.75%
US equity	24.75%	4.82%
Non-US equity developed	13.50%	5.19%
Non-US equity emerging	6.75%	5.98%
Fixed income/global bonds	19.00%	2.24%
Private equity	12.00%	7.49%
Real estate/real assets	17.00%	3.70%
Private debt/private credit	5.00%	5.64%
Total	100.00%	

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2023 was 4.27%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and SERS at the state statute contribution rate of 1.5% of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be depleted in 2048 by SERS' actuaries. 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, 2048 and the Municipal Bond Index rate of 3.86% as of June 30, 2023 (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 discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and 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 calculated using the discount rate of 4.27%, as well as what the School District's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.27%) and one percentage point higher (5.27%) than the current rate.

Rate	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
	3.27%	4.27%	5.27%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 704,215	\$ 550,906	\$ 430,015

The following table presents the net OPEB liability calculated using current health care cost trend rates, as well as what the School District's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and one percentage point higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rates.

Rate	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
	5.75% decreasing to 3.40%	6.75% decreasing to 4.40%	7.75% decreasing to 5.40%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 404,731	\$ 550,906	\$ 744,606

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5% to 8.5%			
Payroll increases	3.00%			
Investment rate of return:	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation			
Discount rate of return:	7.00%			
Health care cost trends:	Current measurement date		Prior measurement date	
	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>
Medical:				
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	4.14%	7.50%	3.94%
Medicare	-10.94%	4.14%	-68.78%	3.94%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	-11.95%	4.14%	9.00%	3.94%
Medicare	1.33%	4.14%	-5.47%	3.94%

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

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

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation *	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return **
Domestic equity	26.00%	6.60%
International equity	22.00%	6.80%
Alternatives	19.00%	7.38%
Fixed income	22.00%	1.75%
Real estate	10.00%	5.75%
Liquidity reserves	<u>1.00%</u>	1.00%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

* - Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

** - 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25%, and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio's investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.0% as of June 30, 2023. 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 projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members as of June 30, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets of 7.0% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate and the Health Care Cost Trend Rates – The following table presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset) calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.0%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.0%) and one percentage point higher (8.0%) than the current rate. Also shown is the net OPEB (asset) as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower and one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates:

Rate	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
	6.00%	7.00%	8.00%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 424,390	\$ 501,424	\$ 568,513

School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	1% Decrease in Trend Rates	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase in Trend Rates
	\$ 571,626	\$ 501,424	\$ 416,867

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS

The activity of the School District’s long-term obligations during fiscal year 2024 was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1, 2023</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>Due within</u> <u>One Year</u>
General Obligation Bonds:					
2011 QSCB Bonds	\$ 7,910,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,910,000	\$ -
<i>Direct Placement:</i>					
2021 Refunding Bonds	<u>3,330,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>3,300,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
Total Long-Term Obligations	<u>\$ 11,240,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 30,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,210,000</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>

Qualified School Construction Bonds

Proceeds from the bonds will be used for the purpose of constructing additions to and renovating and improving existing school buildings and facilities. These bonds were issued on April 15, 2011. The bonds consisted of \$7,910,000 in current bonds with an interest rate of 6.04 percent. The bonds are not subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption, the School District has agreed to make deposits annually on December 1 of each year, into a sinking fund account to be held by the Paying Agent for payment of the principal amount of the bonds at maturity. The bonds are being retired through the Bond Retirement fund. Payments shall be made to the Paying Agent by the School District annually in the amounts needed so that the balance in the sinking fund (after taking into account the interest earned on such fund) shall equal, but not exceed, the mandatory sinking fund balance on the dates listed that follow:

<u>Calendar</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>Mandatory Sinking</u> <u>Fund Balance</u>
2024	\$ 6,778,900
2025	7,338,850
2026	7,910,000

2021 Refunding Bonds

On August 25, 2021, the School District issued \$3,380,000 of refunding bonds to provide resources to purchase U.S. Government securities that were placed, along with cash payments by the School District, in an irrevocable trust for the purpose of generating sufficient resources to satisfy the debt service requirements of \$3,380,000 of the 2015 general obligation refunding bonds. These “Cinderella” bonds were originally issued as taxable bonds carrying an interest rate of 2.78 percent which automatically converted to tax-exempt bonds having an interest rate of 2.13 percent as of the date the previously refunded 2015 bonds were paid off at the call date of June 1, 2023. Therefore, effective as of July 1, 2023, the interest component of this issue has been modified in the accompanying debt service schedule. The 2021 refunding bonds have a maturity date of December 2035.

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Required Debt Service – General Obligation Bonds

The scheduled payments of principal and interest on general obligation debt outstanding at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 40,000	\$ 547,628	\$ 587,628
2026	40,000	546,776	586,776
2027	7,950,000	307,042	8,257,042
2028	330,000	64,220	394,220
2029	330,000	57,191	387,191
2030-2034	1,765,000	175,778	1,940,778
2035-2036	755,000	16,135	771,135
Total	<u>\$ 11,210,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,714,770</u>	<u>\$ 12,924,770</u>

Legal Debt Limits

At June 30, 2024, the School District's overall legal debt limit was \$14,412,665 and the un-voted debt limit was \$160,141.

NOTE 10 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Miami Valley Educational Computer Association

The School District is a participant in the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA), which is a computer consortium. MVECA is an association of public school districts within the geographic area determined by the Ohio Department of Education. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member school districts. The governing board of MVECA consists of two representatives from each of the participating members. The School District paid MVECA \$50,995 for services provided during the year. Financial information can be obtained from MVECA located at 330 Enon Road, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of over 126 public school districts in 18 counties. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC shall forfeit its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group. During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are made from the general fund. During fiscal year 2024, the School District paid \$837,807 to SOEPC. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

NOTE 10 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

Greene County Career Center

The Greene County Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the seven participating school districts' elected Boards, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. To obtain financial information, write to the Greene County Career Center, Georgia Lewis, who serves as Treasurer, at 2960 W. Enon Rd., Xenia, OH 45385. During fiscal year 2024, the School District paid \$1,079 to the Greene County Career Center.

Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association

The Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association (SOITA) is a not-for-profit corporation. The purpose of the corporation is to serve the educational needs of the area through television programming for the advancement of educational programs. The Board of Trustees is comprised of twenty-one representatives of SOITA member's schools or institutions. Nineteen representatives are elected from within the counties by the qualified members within the counties, i.e., Auglaize, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clinton, Darke, Fayette, Greene, Hamilton, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and Warren. Montgomery, Greene, and Butler Counties elect two representatives per area. All others elect one representative per area. One at-large non-public representative is elected by the non-public school SOITA members in the State-assigned SOITA service area. One at-large higher education representative is elected by higher education SOITA members from within the State-assigned SOITA service area.

All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOITA. Upon dissolution, the net position shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Payments to SOITA are made from the General Fund. The School District paid \$960 to SOITA during the fiscal year. To obtain financial information, write to Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association at 1205 East Fifth Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402.

NOTE 11 – INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative's Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The School District participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative's Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP). The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a 14 member committee consisting of various EPC representatives that are elected by the general assembly. Either the superintendent or treasurer from each participating school district serves on the general assembly. Each fiscal year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

NOTE 12 - CONTINGENCIES

Grants

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

Litigation

The School District is involved in no material litigation as either plaintiff or defendant.

NOTE 12 – CONTINGENCIES (continued)

School Foundation

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by school districts throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, additional ODE adjustments for fiscal year 2024 are not finalized. As a result, the impact of future FTE adjustments, on the fiscal year 2024 foundation funding is not determinable at this time. Management does not believe any such adjustment would have a significant effect on the School Foundation received for the current fiscal year.

NOTE 13 – INTERFUND ACTIVITY

Transfers

The following is a summary of the School District's transfers in and out for all funds for fiscal year 2024:

Fund	Transfer In	Transfer Out
General Fund	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Other Governmental Funds	100,000	-
Total All Funds	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000

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

NOTE 14 – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SET-ASIDE

The School District is required by State statute to annually set-aside certain general fund revenue amounts, as defined by statutory formula, for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. This amount must be carried forward to be used for the same purpose in future years. Disbursements exceeding the set-aside requirement may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

The following cash-basis information describes the change in the fiscal year-end set-aside amount for capital improvements as required by State statute.

Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$ -
Current Year Set-aside Requirement	123,158
Current Year Offsets:	
Permanent Improvement Tax Proceeds	(541,371)
Maintenance Fund Tax Proceeds	(43,878)
Excess Carryover from Prior Year	(3,592,529)
Total	\$ (4,054,620)
Balance Carried forward to FY 2025	\$ (3,592,529)
Set-aside Reserve Balance June 30, 2024	\$ -

NOTE 14 – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SET-ASIDE (continued)

Although the School District had qualifying disbursements during the year that further reduced the set-aside below zero due to current year offsets, the extra amounts may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirements of future years. As such, there was no need to present information concerning such disbursements.

NOTE 15 – COMMITMENTS - ENCUMBRANCES

At year end the School District had the following amounts encumbered for future purchase obligations:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General Fund	\$ 15,146
Non-major Governmental Funds	<u>3,318</u>
	<u>\$ 18,464</u>

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Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
June 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities
Cash Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash, cash equivalents and investments	\$ 7,119,828
Restricted Assets:	
Cash and investments with fiscal agent	5,853,098
Total Cash Assets	\$ 12,972,926
Net Cash Position:	
Restricted for:	
Debt service	\$ 6,261,369
Capital improvements	751,879
Facilities maintenance	351,142
Student activities	177,460
Food service operations	172,742
State/Federal education grants	6,601
Unrestricted	5,251,733
Total Net Cash Position	\$ 12,972,926

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio
Statement of Activities - Cash Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Cash Disbursements	Program Cash Receipts		Net (Disbursements) Receipt and Changes in Net Cash Position Governmental Activities
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	
Governmental Activities				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 3,401,351	\$ 74,166	\$ 117,220	\$ (3,209,965)
Special	1,219,570	149,985	218,167	(851,418)
Student intervention services	3,006	-	-	(3,006)
Other	50,290	-	-	(50,290)
Support Services:				
Pupils	741,460	-	90,902	(650,558)
Instructional staff	336,697	-	15,062	(321,635)
Board of education	20,736	-	-	(20,736)
Administration	731,225	-	-	(731,225)
Fiscal	420,751	-	-	(420,751)
Operation and maintenance of plant	951,726	11,583	86,966	(853,177)
Pupil transportation	405,839	-	-	(405,839)
Central	32,117	-	-	(32,117)
Operation of non-instructional services	223,051	137,101	102,116	16,166
Extracurricular activities	511,812	242,228	100,591	(168,993)
Capital Outlay	24,232	-	-	(24,232)
Debt Service:				
Principal	15,000	-	-	(15,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	565,256	-	516,140	(49,116)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 9,654,119	\$ 615,063	\$ 1,247,164	(7,791,892)
General Cash Receipts:				
Property Taxes Levied for:				
General purposes				2,455,081
Debt service				636,816
Capital projects				225,148
Income Taxes Levied for:				
General purposes				1,400,935
Capital projects				306,356
Facility maintenance				43,878
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific purposes				3,807,296
Interest				288,217
Miscellaneous				160,114
Total General Receipts				9,323,841
Change in Net Cash Position				1,531,949
Net Cash Position Beginning of Year, Restated				11,440,977
Net Cash Position End of Year				\$ 12,972,926

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2023

	General	Bond Retirement Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash, cash equivalents, and investments	\$ 5,261,189	\$ 408,271	\$ 1,450,368	\$ 7,119,828
Restricted Assets:				
Cash and investments with fiscal agent	<u>-</u>	<u>5,853,098</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,853,098</u>
Total Cash Assets	<u>\$ 5,261,189</u>	<u>\$ 6,261,369</u>	<u>\$ 1,450,368</u>	<u>\$ 12,972,926</u>
Fund Cash Balances:				
Restricted for:				
Debt service	\$ -	\$ 6,261,369	\$ -	\$ 6,261,369
Capital improvements	-	-	751,879	751,879
Facilities maintenance	-	-	351,142	351,142
Student activities	-	-	177,460	177,460
Food service operations	-	-	172,742	172,742
State/Federal education grants	-	-	6,601	6,601
Committed for:				
Severance payments	105,173	-	-	105,173
Workers' compensation payments	40,859	-	-	40,859
Assigned for:				
Extracurricular activities	16,415	-	-	16,415
Emergency operating levy	100,822	-	-	100,822
Future expenditures	8,558	-	-	8,558
Subsequent appropriations	492,335	-	-	492,335
Unassigned	<u>4,497,027</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,456)</u>	<u>4,487,571</u>
Total Fund Cash Balances	<u>\$ 5,261,189</u>	<u>\$ 6,261,369</u>	<u>\$ 1,450,368</u>	<u>\$ 12,972,926</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio

Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General	Bond Retirement Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Cash Receipts:				
Property and other local taxes	\$ 2,455,081	\$ 636,816	\$ 225,148	\$ 3,317,045
Income tax	1,400,935	-	350,234	1,751,169
Intergovernmental	3,780,426	516,140	652,303	4,948,869
Interest	113,559	168,218	6,440	288,217
Tuition and fees	195,217	-	-	195,217
Extracurricular activities	55,313	-	215,849	271,162
Customer sales and services	-	-	137,101	137,101
Gifts and donations	15,118	-	90,473	105,591
Miscellaneous	171,697	-	-	171,697
Total Cash Receipts	8,187,346	1,321,174	1,677,548	11,186,068
Cash Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,133,749	-	267,602	3,401,351
Special	989,593	-	229,977	1,219,570
Student intervention services	3,006	-	-	3,006
Other	50,290	-	-	50,290
Support Services:				
Pupils	655,109	-	86,351	741,460
Instructional staff	310,622	-	26,075	336,697
Board of education	20,736	-	-	20,736
Administration	729,916	-	1,309	731,225
Fiscal	401,659	8,689	10,403	420,751
Operation and maintenance of plant	661,370	-	290,356	951,726
Pupil transportation	292,610	-	113,229	405,839
Central	32,117	-	-	32,117
Operation of non-instructional services	-	-	223,051	223,051
Extracurricular activities	299,259	-	212,553	511,812
Capital Outlay	-	-	24,232	24,232
Debt Service:				
Principal	-	15,000	-	15,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	565,256	-	565,256
Total Cash Disbursements	7,580,036	588,945	1,485,138	9,654,119
Excess of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements	607,310	732,229	192,410	1,531,949
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Advances in	176,463	150,000	-	326,463
Advances out	(150,000)	(150,000)	(26,463)	(326,463)
Transfers in	-	-	9,490	9,490
Transfers out	(9,490)	-	-	(9,490)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	16,973	-	(16,973)	-
Net Change in Fund Cash Balance	624,283	732,229	175,437	1,531,949
Fund Cash Balance, Beginning of Year - Restated	4,636,906	5,529,140	1,274,931	11,440,977
Fund Cash Balance, End of Year	\$ 5,261,189	\$ 6,261,369	\$ 1,450,368	\$ 12,972,926

Cedar Cliff Local School District
Greene County, Ohio
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	Private Purpose Trust Fund
Additions:	
Gifts and donations	\$ <u>17,500</u>
Total Additions	<u>17,500</u>
Deductions:	
Payments in accordance with trust agreements	<u>17,500</u>
Total Deductions	<u>17,500</u>
Change in Net Cash Position	-
Net Cash Position, Beginning of Year	<u>-</u>
Net Cash Position, End of Year	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

Cedar Cliff Local School District (the "School District") is a body politic and corporate for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The School District operates under a locally-elected five-member Board form of government and provides educational services as authorized by State statute and federal guidelines.

The School District serves an area of approximately 49 square miles. The School District operates one instructional/support facility in which services are provided to 562 students and other community members.

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure that the financial statements are not misleading. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For the School District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the School District. Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District is financially accountable. The School District is financially accountable for an organization if the School District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the School District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the School District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or the School District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. The School District does not have any component units.

The School District is associated with four jointly governed organizations and one insurance purchasing pool. These organizations are discussed in Notes 10 and 11 to the basic financial statements. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

- Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA)
- Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC)
- Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association (SOITA)
- Greene County Career Center

Insurance Purchasing Pool:

- Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative's Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP)

These financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant GASB pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. The following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

Basis of Presentation

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

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for any fiduciary funds. These statements usually distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental activities (primarily supported by taxes and intergovernmental receipts) and those that are considered business-type activities (primarily supported by fees and charges). However, for fiscal year 2023 the School District had no business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the School District is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services and grants, contributions, and interest restricted to meeting the operational and capital needs of a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the School District's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements

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

Fund Accounting

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The various funds of the School District are categorized as governmental and fiduciary funds.

Governmental Funds

The School District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other non-exchange transactions as governmental funds. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

Bond Retirement Fund - The bond retirement fund is used to account for financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned for expenditures for the payment of general long-term debt principal, interest, and related costs.

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

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds, and custodial. The School District's only fiduciary fund is a private purpose trust which accounts for various college scholarship programs for students.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Basis of Accounting

The School District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Except for modifications having substantial support, receipts are recorded in the School District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are reported when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of the cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed and provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods and services received but not yet paid, and certain accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in the financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

To improve cash management, cash received by the School District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in pooled cash, cash equivalents and investments". All investments of the cash management pool are considered to be cash and cash equivalents for financial reporting purposes.

During fiscal year 2023, the School District's investments consisted of STAR Ohio, negotiable certificates of deposits, securities of Federal Agencies, and a money market mutual fund.

STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but adopted GASB Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants". The School District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides the NAV per share that approximates fair value.

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

Following Ohio statutes, the Board has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2023 was \$113,559, which included \$24,326 assigned from other School District funds.

Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations on their use change the nature or normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, laws of other governments, or imposed by enabling legislation. Restricted assets in the Bond Retirement Fund include amounts required to be deposited in a mandatory sinking fund by the School District's Qualified School Construction Bond agreement.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Budgetary Process

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget indicates the projected receipts and disbursements for those funds receiving tax monies. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the legal level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level for all funds. Budgetary allocations at levels below the legal level of control are made by the Treasurer.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the school year with the restriction that appropriations may not exceed estimated revenues. The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the School District.

Capital Assets

Acquisition of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. The financial statements do not report these assets.

Compensated Absences

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting used by the School District.

Long-Term Obligations

Cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest are reported when disbursements are made. The School District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension and OPEB plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 7 and 8, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

Leases and Subscription Based Information Technology Agreements (SBITAs)

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

The School District is a party to various agreements which would be classified as leases or SBITAs. However, due to the basis of accounting utilized to prepare the financial statements, assets and liabilities for these agreements are not presented. Lease and subscription disbursements are recognized when paid.

Pension Systems

For purposes of measuring the net pension and OPEB assets and liabilities, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension systems. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension systems report investments at fair value. The School District's net pension and OPEB assets and liabilities are not reported on the cash basis financial statements, rather information regarding these items is limited to note disclosures (see Notes 7 and 8).

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws, or regulations of other governments. The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Fund Balance

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

Nonspendable – The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. The School District did not have any fund balance classified as nonspendable at fiscal year-end.

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

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

Assigned – Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the Board of Education.

Unassigned – Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

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

Interfund Activity

Transfers and advances within governmental activities are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements.

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the statement of activities. Payments for interfund services provided and used are not eliminated.

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. If there is an intention for repayment, the flows of cash or goods between funds are reported as interfund advances. Both interfund transfers and advances are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statement.

NOTE 2 – COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Compliance

Ohio Administrative Code, Section 117-2-03(B), requires the School District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the School District prepared its financial statement on a cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying financial statements omit assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time.

Accountability

At June 30, 2023, the Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, the Title I Grant Fund, the Title IV-A Grant Fund, and the Title II-A Grant Fund, all non-major special revenue funds, reported deficit balances of \$4,204, \$4,608, \$248, and \$396, respectively, due to federal cash management regulations. The School District had submitted a request for grant funding at year-end, but the actual funding was not received until after the beginning of the subsequent period.

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

Inactive Monies – These monies have been identified by the Board of Education as not required for use within the current five year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposits maturing no later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

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

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

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio or Ohio local governments;
5. Time certificates of deposits or savings or deposits accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in (1) or (2);
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio); and
8. Bankers' acceptances and commercial paper if training requirements have been met.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions.

Cash on Hand

At fiscal year-end, the School District had \$50 in un-deposited cash on hand which is included on the balance sheet of the School District as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

Restricted Cash and Investments with Fiscal Agent

At fiscal year-end, the School District had \$5,853,098 shown as restricted assets: cash and investments with fiscal agent in the bond retirement fund. This restricted cash is the balance in the mandatory sinking fund required by the Qualified School Construction Bonds and is managed separate from the pooled investments.

Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District's deposits may not be returned to it. Protection of the School District's deposits is provided by the federal deposit insurance corporation as well as qualified securities pledged by the institution holding the assets. By Ohio law, financial institutions must collateralize all public deposits as follows:

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

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

At fiscal year end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$2,667,054 and the bank balance was \$2,676,458. Federal depository insurance covered \$250,000 of the bank balance at year end, while the pooled collateral methods noted above covered the remaining deposits.

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

Investments

The School District's investment policy authorizes the Treasurer to make investments of available monies from the funds of the School District in securities authorized by State law.

Investment Type	Measurement	Maturity Dates in Years			% of Portfolio
	Value	Less than 1	1 to 3	More than 3	
Negotiable CDs	\$ 2,958,750	\$ 250,000	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 1,458,750	66.5%
FHLB	250,000	-	250,000	-	5.6%
STAR Ohio	1,108,824	1,108,824	-	-	24.9%
Money Market Mutual	135,200	135,200	-	-	3.0%
Total	<u>\$ 4,452,774</u>	<u>\$ 1,494,024</u>	<u>\$ 1,500,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,458,750</u>	

Interest Rate Risk – The Ohio Revised Code and School District policy require that investments mature within five (5) years of settlement date, unless they are matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Credit Risk – The School District's investment policy limits investments to those authorized by State statute. At June 30, 2023, the School District's Investments carried the following ratings by Standard and Poor's: Federal Agency security – AA+; money market mutual fund – AAA; and STAR Ohio – AAAM. The School District's negotiable certificates of deposits were not rated; however, the entire balance is covered by FDIC.

Custodial Credit Risk – For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. \$2,958,750 of the negotiable certificate of deposits was covered by FDIC. The School District's investment policy does not address investment custodial risk beyond the requirement the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the treasurer or qualified trustee.

Concentration of Credit Risk – The School District's places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer.

NOTE 4 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real estate and public utility property located in the School District. Real property taxes collected during 2023 were levied after April 1, 2022 on assessed values as of January 1, 2022, the lien date.

Assessed values are established by the county auditor at 35 percent of appraised market value. All property is required to be reappraised every six years, and equalization adjustments are made in the third year following reappraisal. The last reappraisal was completed in 2019. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. The first payment is due January 20, with the remainder payable on June 20.

NOTE 4 - PROPERTY TAXES (continued)

Public utility tangible personal property taxes collected in one calendar year are levied in the preceding calendar year on assessed values determined as of December 31 of the second year preceding the tax collection year, the lien date. Certain public tangible personal property is currently assessed at 100 percent of its true value. Public utility personal property taxes are payable on the same dates as real property described previously.

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

	2023 First Half Collections		2022 Second Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/residential and other real estate property	\$ 112,715,270	91.98%	\$ 109,604,230	92.36%
Public utility real property	9,828,760	8.02%	9,069,990	7.64%
Total	\$ 122,544,030	100.00%	\$ 118,674,220	100.00%
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	<u>\$40.50</u>		<u>\$40.62</u>	

The County Treasurer collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts in the County, including the School District. The County Auditor periodically remits to the School District its portion of the taxes collected.

NOTE 5 - INCOME TAXES

The School District levies a voted tax of one percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was effective on January 1, 1991 and is a continuing tax. The School District's residents also approved a .25% income tax for capital projects purposes in November 2009 with an effective date of January 2010. The School District authorized an annual portion of the .25% income tax to be earmarked to satisfy the maintenance of completed facilities in the Maintenance Fund. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts in the amount of \$1,400,935 and \$350,234 was credited to the general and non-major governmental funds, respectively, during fiscal year 2023.

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Property and Liability

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, thefts-of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2023, the School District contracted with the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for property, fleet insurance, liability insurance and inland coverage.

NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

Coverage limits provided by Liberty Mutual Insurance as of June 30, 2023 follows:

Buildings and Contents - replacement cost (\$2,500 deductible)	\$ 48,908,345
Inland Marine Coverage (\$250/\$500 deductible)	506,257
Boiler and Machinery (\$1,000 deductible)	48,908,345
Monies and Securities	10,000
Automobile Liability	1,000,000
Uninsured Motorists	1,000,000
General Liability Per Occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate	2,000,000
Umbrella	3,000,000
Violent Event Response Coverage	1,000,000
Data Compromise	50,000

There have been no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year and settlements have not exceeded coverage for any part of the last three years.

Workers' Compensation

For fiscal year 2023, the School District participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative's Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), a workers' compensation insurance purchasing pool (Note 11). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP.

Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund". This "equity pooling" arrangement insures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Integrated Comp Incorporated provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP.

Medical Benefits

The School District provides life insurance, dental insurance, and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to most employees through CoreSource. Medical/surgical benefits are provided through United Health Care of Ohio. Vision insurance is provided through Vision Service Plan of Ohio. Dental insurance is provided through Delta Dental.

NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability 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.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

The net pension liability represents the School District'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.

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

GASB Statement No. 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.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

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

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14% 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% for plan members and 14% 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, and Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the 14% was allocated to only three of the funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund and Medicare B Fund).

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$184,191 for fiscal year 2023.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

School District licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS' fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 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 (CO) Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307.

The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. The calculation will be 2.2% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. For members who were eligible to retire on July 1, 2015, the annual benefit is the greater of the benefit amount calculated upon retirement under the new benefit formula or the frozen benefit amount as of July 1, 2015. Effective August 1, 2021 to July 1, 2023, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 34 years of service credit at any age or 5 years of service credit and age 65. Retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 30 years of service credit at any age; or 29 years of service credit and age 55; or 5 years of service credit and age 60. Effective on or after August 1, 2023, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 35 years of service credit at any age or 5 years of service credit at age 65. Retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 30 years of service credit at any age or 5 years of service credit and age 60.

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

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.53% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS Ohio. The remaining 4.47% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liabilities. Effective July 1, 2022, 2.91% of salaries are used to pay for unfunded liabilities. 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 CO Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the CO Plan, 12% of the 14% member rate is deposited into the member's DC account and the remaining 2% is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the CO Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with 5 years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50 and after termination of employment.

New members who choose the DC Plan or CO 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 Ohio plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's CO Plan account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS Ohio bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS Ohio therefore has included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB Statement No. 68 reporting purposes.

A DB or CO Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. New members on or after July 1, 2013 must have at least 10 years of qualifying service credit to apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance.

Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, plan members were required to contribute 14% of their annual covered salary. The School District was required to contribute 14%; the entire 14% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2023 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$484,672 for fiscal year 2023.

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 1,937,224	\$ 5,595,523	\$ 7,532,747
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Year	0.0358163%	0.0251709%	
Prior Year	<u>0.0352917%</u>	<u>0.0246776%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.0005246%</u>	<u>0.0004933%</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 termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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 consider the employee's entire career with the employer and take into consideration the benefits, if any, paid to the employee after termination of employment until the death of the employee and any applicable contingent annuitant. In many cases actuarial calculations reflect several decades of service with the employer and the payment of benefits after termination.

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

Inflation	2.40 percent
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.00 percent, on and after 4/1/2018, COLA's for future retirees will be delayed for 3 years following retirement.
Investment rate of return	7.00 percent net of System expenses
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Health Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Mortality among contingent survivors were based upon the PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females. The PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table was used for active members. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020 adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021.

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted averaged 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.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00%	-0.45%
US equity	24.75%	5.37%
Non-US equity developed	13.50%	6.22%
Non-US equity emerging	6.75%	8.22%
Fixed income/global bonds	19.00%	1.20%
Private equity	11.00%	10.05%
Real estate/real assets	16.00%	4.87%
Multi-asset strategies	4.00%	3.39%
Private debt/private credit	3.00%	5.38%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

Discount Rate – Total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.0%. 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 earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.0%). 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 District’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.0%, 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 (6.0%), or one percentage point higher (8.0%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,851,501	\$ 1,937,224	\$ 1,166,958

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases:	
Current measurement period	Varies by service from 2.5% to 8.5%
Prior measurement period	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
Payroll increases	3.00%
Investment rate of return, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses
Discount rate of return	7.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%

Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation are based on the results of the latest available actual experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation *</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return**</u>
Domestic equity	26.00%	6.60%
International equity	22.00%	6.80%
Alternatives	19.00%	7.38%
Fixed income	22.00%	1.75%
Real estate	10.00%	5.75%
Liquidity reserves	<u>1.00%</u>	1.00%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

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

** - 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio's investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.0% as of June 30, 2022. 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's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.0% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.

NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – The following table presents the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.0%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.0%) or one-percentage-point higher (8.0%) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 8,452,798	\$ 5,595,523	\$ 3,179,153

Social Security System

All employees not covered by SERS or STRS have an option to choose Social Security or SERS/STRS. As of June 30, 2023, four of the members of the Board of Education has elected social security. The Board's liability is 6.2% of wages paid.

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB)

Net OPEB Asset or Liability

The net OPEB asset or liability represents an asset for, or 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.

The net OPEB asset or liability represents the School District'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 asset or liability calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments, health care cost trend rates and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

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

GASB Statement No. 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 asset or liability. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB asset or 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.

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

Health Care Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

SERS' Health Care program provides health care benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986 need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981 do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and, therefore, enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute.

Funding Policy—State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2023, there was no portion allocated 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 2023, the minimum compensation amount was \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2023, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$24,685.

Health Care Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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 Board to offer this plan.

Coverage under the current program includes hospitalization, physicians' fees and prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of the monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code, the Retirement Board has discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the associated health care costs will be absorbed by the Plan. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy—Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Net OPEB Asset/Liability

The net OPEB asset or liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB asset or liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB asset or liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. The following is information related to the School District's proportionate share of the OPEB asset or liability:

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net:			
OPEB Asset	\$ -	\$ 651,758	\$ 651,758
OPEB Liability	510,952	-	510,952
Proportion of the Net OPEB Asset/Liability:			
Current Year	0.0363923%	0.0251709%	
Prior Year	<u>0.0363500%</u>	<u>0.0246776%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.0000423%</u>	<u>0.0004933%</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 consider the employee's entire career with the employer and 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, prepared as of June 30, 2022 follow:

Investment rate of return:	7.00% of net investment expense, including inflation
Wage inflation:	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%
Municipal bond index rate:	
Current measurement date	3.69%
Prior measurement date	1.92%
Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense:	
Current measurement date	4.08%, including price inflation
Prior measurement date	2.27%, including price inflation
Health Care Cost Trend Rate:	
Medicare	5.125% to 4.40%
Pre-Medicare	6.75% to 4.40%
Medical Trend Assumption:	
Current measurement date	7.00% - 4.40%

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Health Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Mortality among contingent survivors were based upon the PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females. The PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table was used for active members. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020 adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021.

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

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	2.00%	-0.45%
US equity	24.75%	5.37%
Non-US equity developed	13.50%	6.22%
Non-US equity emerging	6.75%	8.22%
Fixed income/global bonds	19.00%	1.20%
Private equity	11.00%	10.05%
Real estate/real assets	16.00%	4.87%
Multi-asset strategies	4.00%	3.39%
Private debt/private credit	<u>3.00%</u>	5.38%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2022 was 4.08%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and SERS at the state statute contribution rate of 1.5% of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from 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, 2044. 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, 2043 and the Municipal Bond Index rate of 3.69% as of June 30, 2022 (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 discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and 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 calculated using the discount rate of 4.08%, as well as what the School District's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.08%) and one percentage point higher (5.08%) than the current rate.

Rate	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
	3.08%	4.08%	5.08%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 634,610	\$ 510,952	\$ 411,126

The following table presents the net OPEB liability calculated using current health care cost trend rates, as well as what the School District's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%) and one percentage point higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rates.

Rate	Current		
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
	6.00% decreasing to 3.40%	7.00% decreasing to 4.40%	8.00% decreasing to 5.40%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 394,035	\$ 510,952	\$ 663,663

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Salary increases				
Current measurement date	Varies by service from 2.5% to 8.5%			
Prior measurement date	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65			
Payroll increases	3.00%			
Investment rate of return:	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation			
Discount rate of return:	7.00%			
Health care cost trends:	<u>Current measurement date</u>		<u>Prior measurement date</u>	
	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>
Medical:				
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	3.94%	5.00%	4.00%
Medicare	-68.78%	3.94%	-16.18%	4.00%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	9.00%	3.94%	6.50%	4.00%
Medicare	-5.47%	3.94%	29.98%	4.00%

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

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

NOTE 8 – POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS OTHER THAN PENSION (OPEB) (continued)

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation are based on the results of the latest available actual experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation *	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return **
Domestic equity	26.00%	6.60%
International equity	22.00%	6.80%
Alternatives	19.00%	7.38%
Fixed income	22.00%	1.75%
Real estate	10.00%	5.75%
Liquidity reserves	<u>1.00%</u>	1.00%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

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

** - 10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS Ohio's investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.0% as of June 30, 2022. 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 projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets of 7.0% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate and the Health Care Cost Trend Rates – The following table presents the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.0%, as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.0%) and one percentage point higher (8.0%) than the current rate. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower and one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates:

Rate	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
	6.00%	7.00%	8.00%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 602,533	\$ 651,758	\$ 693,924
	1% Decrease in Trend Rates	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase in Trend Rates
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 676,032	\$ 651,758	\$ 621,119

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS

The activity of the School District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2023 was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1, 2022</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>Due within</u> <u>One Year</u>
General Obligation Bonds:					
2011 QSCB Bonds	\$ 7,910,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,910,000	\$ -
<i>Direct Placement:</i>					
2021 Refunding Bonds	<u>3,345,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>3,330,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>
Total Long-Term Obligations	<u>\$ 11,255,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 15,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,240,000</u>	<u>\$ 30,000</u>

Qualified School Construction Bonds

Proceeds from the bonds will be used for the purpose of constructing additions to and renovating and improving existing school buildings and facilities. These bonds were issued on April 15, 2011. The bonds consisted of \$7,910,000 in current bonds with an interest rate of 6.04 percent. The bonds are not subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption, the School District has agreed to make deposits annually on December 1 of each year, into a sinking fund account to be held by the Paying Agent for payment of the principal amount of the bonds at maturity. The bonds are being retired through the Bond Retirement fund. Payments shall be made to the Paying Agent by the School District annually in the amounts needed so that the balance in the sinking fund (after taking into account the interest earned on such fund) shall equal, but not exceed, the mandatory sinking fund balance on the dates listed that follow:

<u>Calendar</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>Mandatory Sinking</u> <u>Fund Balance</u>
2023	\$ 6,229,929
2024	6,778,900
2025	7,338,850
2026	7,910,000

2021 Refunding Bonds

On August 25, 2021, the School District issued \$3,380,000 of refunding bonds to provide resources to purchase U.S. Government securities that were placed, along with cash payments by the School District, in an irrevocable trust for the purpose of generating sufficient resources to satisfy the debt service requirements of \$3,380,000 of the 2015 general obligation refunding bonds. These "Cinderella" bonds were originally issued as taxable bonds carrying an interest rate of 2.78 percent which automatically converted to tax-exempt bonds having an interest rate of 2.13 percent as of the date the previously refunded 2015 bonds were paid off at the call date of June 1, 2023. Therefore, effective as of July 1, 2023, the interest component of this issue has been modified in the accompanying debt service schedule. The 2021 refunding bonds have a maturity date of December 2035.

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM DEBT OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Required Debt Service – General Obligation Bonds

The scheduled payments of principal and interest on general obligation debt outstanding at June 30, 2023 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$ 30,000	\$ 548,374	\$ 578,374
2025	40,000	547,628	587,628
2026	40,000	546,776	586,776
2027	7,950,000	307,042	8,257,042
2028	330,000	64,220	394,220
2029-2033	1,730,000	213,000	1,943,000
2034-2036	1,120,000	36,104	1,156,104
Total	<u>\$ 11,240,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,263,144</u>	<u>\$ 13,503,144</u>

Legal Debt Limits

At June 30, 2023, the School District's overall legal debt limit was \$11,028,963 and the un-voted debt limit was \$122,544.

NOTE 10 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Miami Valley Educational Computer Association

The School District is a participant in the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA), which is a computer consortium. MVECA is an association of public school districts within the geographic area determined by the Ohio Department of Education. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member school districts. The governing board of MVECA consists of two representatives from each of the participating members. The School District paid MVECA \$39,895 for services provided during the year. Financial information can be obtained from MVECA located at 330 Enon Road, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of over 126 public school districts in 18 counties. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC shall forfeit its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group. During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are made from the general fund. During fiscal year 2023, the School District paid \$804,395 to SOEPC. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

NOTE 10 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

Greene County Career Center

The Greene County Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the seven participating school districts' elected Boards, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. To obtain financial information, write to the Greene County Career Center, Eva Anderson, who serves as Treasurer, at 2960 W. Enon Rd., Xenia, OH 45385. During fiscal year 2023, the School District did not make any disbursements to the Greene County Career Center.

Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association

The Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association (SOITA) is a not-for-profit corporation. The purpose of the corporation is to serve the educational needs of the area through television programming for the advancement of educational programs. The Board of Trustees is comprised of twenty-one representatives of SOITA member's schools or institutions. Nineteen representatives are elected from within the counties by the qualified members within the counties, i.e., Auglaize, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Clinton, Darke, Fayette, Greene, Hamilton, Logan, Mercer, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and Warren. Montgomery, Greene, and Butler Counties elect two representatives per area. All others elect one representative per area. One at-large non-public representative is elected by the non-public school SOITA members in the State-assigned SOITA service area. One at-large higher education representative is elected by higher education SOITA members from within the State-assigned SOITA service area.

All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOITA. Upon dissolution, the net position shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Payments to SOITA are made from the General Fund. The School District did not make any payments to SOITA during the fiscal year. To obtain financial information, write to Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association at 1205 East Fifth Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402.

NOTE 11 – INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative's Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The School District participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative's Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP). The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a 14 member committee consisting of various EPC representatives that are elected by the general assembly. Either the superintendent or treasurer from each participating school district serves on the general assembly. Each fiscal year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

NOTE 12 - CONTINGENCIES

Grants

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2023, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

NOTE 12 – CONTINGENCIES (continued)

Litigation

The School District is involved in no material litigation as either plaintiff or defendant.

School Foundation

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by school districts throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. The results of the FY2023 FTE review by ODE resulted in no significant changes to the School District’s State Foundation payments for the fiscal year.

NOTE 13 – INTERFUND ACTIVITY

Transfers

The following is a summary of the School District’s transfers in and out for all funds for fiscal year 2023:

Fund	Transfer In	Transfer Out
General Fund	\$ -	\$ 9,490
Other Governmental Funds	9,490	-
Total All Funds	\$ 9,490	\$ 9,490

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

Advances

The following is a summary of the School District’s advances in and out for all funds for fiscal year 2023:

Fund	Advances In	Advances Out
General Fund	\$ 176,463	\$ 150,000
Bond Retirement Fund	150,000	150,000
Other Governmental Funds	-	26,463
Total All Funds	\$ 326,463	\$ 326,463

Advances represent the temporary transfer of cash resources with the expectation of repayment. During the current year, advances out from the other governmental funds represented repayment of prior year advance made from the general fund, while the advances out from General Fund to other Bond Retirement Fund were made at provide temporary financing of debt service, which was returned during the fiscal year once the interest rebate from the QSCB bonds was received.

NOTE 14 – COMMITMENTS - ENCUMBRANCES

At year end the School District had the following amounts encumbered for future purchase obligations:

Fund	Year-End Encumbrances
General Fund	\$ 8,558
Non-major Governmental Funds	99,412
	\$ 107,970

NOTE 15 – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SET-ASIDE

The School District is required by State statute to annually set-aside certain general fund revenue amounts, as defined by statutory formula, for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. This amount must be carried forward to be used for the same purpose in future years. Expenditures exceeding the set-aside requirement may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year. The following cash-basis information describes the change in the fiscal year-end set-aside amount for capital improvements as required by State statute.

Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2022	\$ -
Current Year Set-aside Requirement	127,638
Current Year Offsets:	
Permanent Improvement Tax Proceeds	(558,375)
Maintenance Fund Tax Proceeds	(43,878)
Excess Carryover from Prior Year	(3,592,529)
Total	\$ (4,067,144)
Balance Carried forward to FY 2024	\$ (3,592,529)
Set-aside Reserve Balance June 30, 2023	\$ -

Although the School District had qualifying disbursements during the year that further reduced the set-aside below zero due to current year offsets, the extra amounts may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirements of future years. As such, there was no need to present information concerning such disbursements.

NOTE 16 – CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the School District implemented two new Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements, neither of which had any effect on the School District's cash basis financial statements.

GASB Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements*, provides financial reporting guidance for issues related to public-private and public-public partnership arrangements (PPPs). A PPP is defined as an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contacts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction.

NOTE 16 – CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES (continued)

GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, provides; 1) definition of a subscription-based information technology arrangement (SBITA), 2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset – an intangible asset – and a corresponding subscription liability, 3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementing costs of a SBITA, and 4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA.

NOTE 17 – COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency ended in April 2023. During fiscal year 2023, the School District received COVID-19 funding. The School District will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.

NOTE 18 – PRIOR PERIOD RESTATEMENT

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the School District elected to change the method of accounting used in financial reporting from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) to the cash basis of accounting, a basis of accounting other than GAAP. Under the cash basis of accounting, receipts are recorded in the School District's financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are reported when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

The change to the cash basis of accounting had the following effect on the School District's net position/fund balances at June 30, 2022, as previously reported:

	Governmental Activities		
Net Position at 6/30/22, as previously reported	\$ 17,044,944		
Adjustments:			
Prior year fair value adjustment	75,296		
Less: Assets and deferred outflows	(31,211,989)		
Plus: Liabilities and deferred inflows	25,532,726		
Net Position at 6/30/22, as previously restated	\$ 11,440,977		
	General Fund	Bond Retirement	Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Fund Balance at 6/30/22, as previously reported	\$ 4,567,251	\$ 5,557,291	\$ 1,361,819
Adjustments:			
Prior year fair value adjustment	58,943	16,353	-
Prior year negative cash adjustments	25,598	-	(25,598)
Less: Assets	(3,126,743)	(641,251)	(561,845)
Plus: Liabilities and deferred inflows	3,111,857	596,747	500,555
Fund Balance at 6/30/22, as restated	\$ 4,636,906	\$ 5,529,140	\$ 1,274,931

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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**

Board of Education
Cedar Cliff Local School District
248 North Main Street
Cedarville, Ohio 45314

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Cedar Cliff Local School District (the "District"), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 25, 2024, wherein we noted the District changed the presentation of its annual financial report from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America to the cash basis of accounting for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

District's Response to Findings

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

Purpose of This Report

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

Clark, Schaefer, Hackett & Co.

Springfield, Ohio
October 25, 2024

Finding Number 2024-001:

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-3(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Cedar Cliff Local School District has elected to prepare and submit its annual financial report on the cash basis of accounting. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources, fund equities/net position, and disclosures that, while presumed material, cannot be determined at this time.

Management Response:

Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.



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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



CEDAR CLIFF LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREENE COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 12/26/2024

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

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov