

**AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT
LORAIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SINGLE AUDIT

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2024**



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Columbus, Ohio 43215
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Board of Education
Amherst Exempted Village School District
550 Milan Avenue
Amherst, Ohio 44001

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Amherst Exempted Village School District, Lorain County, prepared by Julian & Grube, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

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

April 23, 2025

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**AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
LORAIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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Independent Auditor's Report

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County
550 Milan Avenue
Amherst, Ohio 44001

To the Members of the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Amherst Exempted Village School District, Lorain County, Ohio, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Amherst Exempted Village School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Amherst Exempted Village School District, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards 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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 Amherst Exempted Village School District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Amherst Exempted Village School District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

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

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County
Independent Auditor's Report

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Amherst Exempted Village School District's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 24, 2025, on our consideration of the Amherst Exempted Village School 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 Amherst Exempted Village School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Amherst Exempted Village School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Julian & Grube, Inc.

Julian & Grube, Inc.
February 24, 2025

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Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Unaudited)*

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

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for 2024 are as follows:

- Net position decreased \$87,724 from 2023.
- Capital assets increased \$567,211 during fiscal year 2024.
- During the fiscal year, the School District issued \$19,100,000 of certificates of participation.

Using this Financial Report

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

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

Reporting the School District as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

While the basic financial statements contain the large number of funds used by the School District to provide programs and activities, the view of the School District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during fiscal year 2024?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities answer this question. These statements include all assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid. These two statements report the School District's net position and changes in net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School District as a whole, the financial position of the School District has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the School District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio which restrict revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs, and other factors.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Management's Discussion and Analysis

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

(Unaudited)

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, Governmental Activities include the School District's programs and services, including instruction, support services, extracurricular activities, and non-instructional services, i.e., food service operations.

Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. The School District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions; however, these fund financial statements focus on the School District's most significant funds. The School District's major governmental funds are the general and building funds.

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

Reporting the School District's Fiduciary Responsibilities

The School District acts in a trustee capacity as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units and/or other funds. These activities are reported in a custodial fund. The School District's fiduciary activities are reported in separate Statements of Fiduciary Net Position and Changes in Fiduciary Net Position. These activities are excluded from the School District's other financial statements because the assets cannot be utilized by the School District to finance its operations.

Recall that the Statement of Net Position provides the perspective of the School District as a whole.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Unaudited)

Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for 2024 compared to 2023:

Table 1
Net Position

| | Governmental Activities | | |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| | 2024 | 2023 | Change |
| Assets | | | |
| Current & Other Assets | \$ 71,034,040 | \$ 50,920,705 | \$ 20,113,335 |
| Net OPEB Asset | 2,728,096 | 3,609,468 | (881,372) |
| Capital Assets | <u>55,949,123</u> | <u>55,381,912</u> | <u>567,211</u> |
| <i>Total Assets</i> | <u>129,711,259</u> | <u>109,912,085</u> | <u>19,799,174</u> |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | | | |
| Deferred Charges | - | 40,451 | (40,451) |
| Pension & OPEB | <u>10,056,550</u> | <u>11,084,199</u> | <u>(1,027,649)</u> |
| <i>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</i> | <u>10,056,550</u> | <u>11,124,650</u> | <u>(1,068,100)</u> |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Current & Other Liabilities | 6,373,081 | 6,184,797 | 188,284 |
| Long-Term Liabilities: | | | |
| Due Within One Year | 2,753,564 | 2,363,590 | 389,974 |
| Due In More Than One Year: | | | |
| Pension & OPEB | 41,769,676 | 43,054,931 | (1,285,255) |
| Other Amounts | <u>45,925,116</u> | <u>27,439,316</u> | <u>18,485,800</u> |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i> | <u>96,821,437</u> | <u>79,042,634</u> | <u>17,778,803</u> |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | | | |
| Property Taxes | 22,709,760 | 19,864,276 | 2,845,484 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes | 87,259 | 137,984 | (50,725) |
| Pension & OPEB | <u>7,933,418</u> | <u>9,688,182</u> | <u>(1,754,764)</u> |
| <i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i> | <u>30,730,437</u> | <u>29,690,442</u> | <u>1,039,995</u> |
| Net Position | | | |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets | 35,568,535 | 33,874,710 | 1,693,825 |
| Restricted | 8,322,390 | 5,561,954 | 2,760,436 |
| Unrestricted | <u>(31,674,990)</u> | <u>(27,133,005)</u> | <u>(4,541,985)</u> |
| <i>Total Net Position</i> | <u>\$ 12,215,935</u> | <u>\$ 12,303,659</u> | <u>\$ (87,724)</u> |

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Management's Discussion and Analysis

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

(Unaudited)

The net pension liability (NPL) is one of the largest liabilities reported by the School District and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27*. In a prior period, the School District also adopted GASB Statement 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB and the net OPEB asset.

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

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

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

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

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. For STRS, the plan's fiduciary net OPEB position was sufficient to cover the plan's total OPEB liability resulting in a net OPEB asset that is allocated to each school based on its proportionate share. The retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Management's Discussion and Analysis

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

(Unaudited)

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

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

Capital assets include land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture and equipment and vehicles. These capital assets are used to provide services to students and are not available for future spending. Although the School District's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

A portion of the School District's net position represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used with the balance reported as government-wide unrestricted net position.

The increase in current and other assets was caused by an increase in pooled cash and investments for unspent bond proceeds issued during the fiscal year. There was also an increase in capital assets for the athletic complex, transportation facility, high school special education and restroom renovations, building safety and cyber security projects that were in process at the end of the fiscal year. Long-term liabilities increased due to the issuance of certificates of participation as previously mentioned. Deferred inflows of resources for property taxes increased due to a decrease in the amount available for advance, which can vary based on when tax bills are sent.

There was a change in net pension/OPEB liability/asset for the School District. These fluctuations are due to changes in the actuarial liabilities/assets and related accruals that are passed through to the School District's financial statements. All components of pension and OPEB accruals contribute to the fluctuations in deferred outflows/inflows and NPL/NOL/NOA and are described in more detail in their respective notes.

**Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio**

*Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
(Unaudited)*

In order to further understand what makes up the changes in net position for the current year, the following table gives readers further details regarding the results of activities for 2024 and 2023.

**Table 2
Changes in Net Position**

| | Governmental Activities | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| | 2024 | 2023 | Change |
| Revenues | | | |
| <i>Program Revenues</i> | | | |
| Charges for Services | \$ 2,318,379 | \$ 2,347,788 | \$ (29,409) |
| Operating Grants | <u>3,619,586</u> | <u>4,013,711</u> | <u>(394,125)</u> |
| <i>Total Program Revenues</i> | <u>5,937,965</u> | <u>6,361,499</u> | <u>(423,534)</u> |
| <i>General Revenues</i> | | | |
| Property Taxes | 22,100,035 | 23,021,342 | (921,307) |
| Grants & Entitlements | 18,769,862 | 17,011,247 | 1,758,615 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes | 190,730 | 213,139 | (22,409) |
| Other | <u>2,242,244</u> | <u>1,061,147</u> | <u>1,181,097</u> |
| <i>Total General Revenues</i> | <u>43,302,871</u> | <u>41,503,081</u> | <u>1,799,790</u> |
| <i>Total Revenues</i> | <u>49,240,836</u> | <u>47,864,580</u> | <u>1,376,256</u> |
| Program Expenses | | | |
| Instruction: | | | |
| Regular | 21,788,322 | 21,009,491 | 778,831 |
| Special | 6,881,837 | 5,743,334 | 1,138,503 |
| Vocational | 247,496 | 266,821 | (19,325) |
| Support Services: | | | |
| Pupils | 3,146,889 | 2,694,821 | 452,068 |
| Instructional Staff | 1,654,540 | 1,186,665 | 467,875 |
| Board of Education | 50,700 | 38,396 | 12,304 |
| Administration | 3,051,624 | 3,093,098 | (41,474) |
| Fiscal | 971,203 | 928,239 | 42,964 |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant | 4,055,511 | 4,280,620 | (225,109) |
| Pupil Transportation | 2,516,574 | 2,346,094 | 170,480 |
| Central | 390,074 | 236,198 | 153,876 |
| Operation of Non-Instructional/Shared Services | 1,980,708 | 1,903,590 | 77,118 |
| Extracurricular Activities | 1,433,330 | 1,285,272 | 148,058 |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges | <u>1,159,752</u> | <u>802,687</u> | <u>357,065</u> |
| <i>Total Expenses</i> | <u>49,328,560</u> | <u>45,815,326</u> | <u>3,513,234</u> |
| <i>Change in Net Position</i> | <u>(87,724)</u> | <u>2,049,254</u> | <u>(2,136,978)</u> |
| <i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i> | <u>12,303,659</u> | <u>10,254,405</u> | <u>2,049,254</u> |
| <i>Net Position End of Year</i> | <u>\$ 12,215,935</u> | <u>\$ 12,303,659</u> | <u>\$ (87,724)</u> |

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Management's Discussion and Analysis

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

(Unaudited)

Operating grants decreased due to the decrease in grant receipts, primarily for the ESSER grant. The increase in grants and entitlements was due to the continued phase-in of the Ohio Fair Funding Plan. There was a large increase in other revenue for investment earnings that was caused by improving market conditions.

The changes in program expenses are primarily associated to changes in the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability, net OPEB liability/asset and related accruals. As previously indicated, these items are explained in detail within their respective notes. There was a significant increase in special education instruction expense that was primarily caused by an increase in payroll and benefits.

Governmental Funds

The School District's major funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

| | Fund Balance 6/30/2024 | Fund Balance 6/30/2023 | Increase (Decrease) |
|----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| General | \$ 14,466,995 | \$ 17,425,781 | \$ (2,958,786) |
| Building | 18,871,276 | 28,458 | 18,842,818 |

The general fund's net change in fund balance for the current fiscal year was a decrease. Property taxes decreased due to a decrease in the amount available for advance and an increase in investment earnings as previously mentioned. However these increases were more than offset by an increase in expenditures for payroll and benefits.

The building fund saw an increase in fund balance due to the issuance of certificates of participation.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The School District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

During the course of the fiscal year, the School District amended its general fund budget. The School District uses site-based budgeting and budgeting systems are designed to tightly control total site budgets but provide flexibility for site management.

Original Budget Compared to Final Budget During the year, the School District amended original budgeted revenues and other financing sources for the increases in investment income and intergovernmental receipts, as previously mentioned. Original appropriations were amended to more accurately reflect the expected increase in payroll and benefit expenditures.

Final Budget Compared to Actual Results For the general fund, actual revenues were higher than final budget basis revenue and other financing sources for investment income as previously mentioned. Actual expenditures and other financing uses were lower than final expenditure appropriations for regular and special instruction due to conservative budgeting.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Management's Discussion and Analysis

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

(Unaudited)

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

In the fiscal year, capital assets increased due to additions exceeding disposals and depreciation. Construction in progress increased for the athletic complex, transportation facility, high school special education and restroom renovations, building safety and cyber security projects that were in process at the end of the fiscal year, as previously discussed. See Note 11 for more information about the capital assets of the School District.

Debt

Outstanding debt increased during the fiscal year due the issuance of certificates of participation, offset by principal retirements. See Note 15 for additional details.

Contacting the School District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Ms. Amelia Gioffredo, Treasurer, at Amherst Exempted Village School District, 550 Milan Ave, Amherst, Ohio 44001.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Statement of Net Position

June 30, 2024

| | Governmental Activities |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Assets | |
| Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments | \$ 45,771,049 |
| Intergovernmental Receivable | 468,005 |
| Taxes Receivable | 24,620,468 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes Receivable | 174,518 |
| Net OPEB Asset | 2,728,096 |
| Non-Depreciable Capital Assets | 2,212,626 |
| Depreciable Capital Assets, net | <u>53,736,497</u> |
| <i>Total Assets</i> | <u>129,711,259</u> |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | |
| Pension | 8,278,219 |
| OPEB | <u>1,778,331</u> |
| <i>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</i> | <u>10,056,550</u> |
| Liabilities | |
| Accounts Payable | 322,384 |
| Accrued Wages and Benefits | 4,218,918 |
| Contracts Payable | 631,303 |
| Retainage Payable | 8,087 |
| Intergovernmental Payable | 939,112 |
| Matured Compensated Absences Payable | 253,277 |
| Long-Term Liabilities: | |
| Due Within One Year | 2,753,564 |
| Due In More Than One Year: | |
| Net Pension Liability | 39,068,800 |
| Net OPEB Liability | 2,700,876 |
| Other Amounts Due in More Than One Year | <u>45,925,116</u> |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i> | <u>96,821,437</u> |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | |
| Property Taxes Levied for the Next Year | 22,709,760 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes | 87,259 |
| Pension | 3,037,613 |
| OPEB | <u>4,895,805</u> |
| <i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i> | <u>30,730,437</u> |
| Net Position | |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets | 35,568,535 |
| Restricted for: | |
| Capital Outlay | 1,314,091 |
| Classroom Facilities Maintenance | 1,240,740 |
| Food Service | 1,917,151 |
| OPEB Asset | 2,728,096 |
| Other Purposes | 1,122,312 |
| Unrestricted | <u>(31,674,990)</u> |
| <i>Total Net Position</i> | <u>\$ 12,215,935</u> |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Statement of Activities
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

| | Program Revenues | | | Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position | |
|---|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | Expenses | Charges for Services and Sales | Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest | Governmental Activities | |
| | | | | | |
| Governmental Activities | | | | | |
| Instruction: | | | | | |
| Regular | \$ 21,788,322 | \$ 671,806 | \$ 562,759 | \$ (20,553,757) | |
| Special | 6,881,837 | 192,329 | 1,093,463 | (5,596,045) | |
| Vocational | 247,496 | - | - | (247,496) | |
| Support Services: | | | | | |
| Pupils | 3,146,889 | - | 203,941 | (2,942,948) | |
| Instructional Staff | 1,654,540 | 4,779 | 215,302 | (1,434,459) | |
| Board of Education | 50,700 | - | - | (50,700) | |
| Administration | 3,051,624 | - | 103,831 | (2,947,793) | |
| Fiscal | 971,203 | - | 50 | (971,153) | |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant | 4,055,511 | - | 131,978 | (3,923,533) | |
| Pupil Transportation | 2,516,574 | - | 13,154 | (2,503,420) | |
| Central | 390,074 | - | - | (390,074) | |
| Operation of Non-Instructional/Shared Services: | | | | | |
| Food Service Operations | 1,551,145 | 872,790 | 1,060,330 | 381,975 | |
| Community Services | 429,563 | 175,826 | 212,623 | (41,114) | |
| Extracurricular Activities | 1,433,330 | 400,849 | 22,155 | (1,010,326) | |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges | 1,159,752 | - | - | (1,159,752) | |
| <i>Total</i> | <u>\$ 49,328,560</u> | <u>\$ 2,318,379</u> | <u>\$ 3,619,586</u> | <u>(43,390,595)</u> | |

General Revenues

Property Taxes Levied for:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| General Purposes | 18,491,359 |
| Debt Service | 2,243,140 |
| Capital Outlay | 1,044,212 |
| Classroom Facilities Maintenance | 272,025 |
| Other Purposes | 49,299 |
| Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs | 18,769,862 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes | 190,730 |
| Investment Earnings | 1,394,925 |
| Miscellaneous | 847,319 |
| <i>Total General Revenues</i> | <u>43,302,871</u> |

Change in Net Position (87,724)

Net Position Beginning of Year 12,303,659

Net Position End of Year \$ 12,215,935

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Balance Sheet

Governmental Funds

June 30, 2024

| | General | Building Fund | Other Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Assets | | | | |
| Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments | \$ 18,729,617 | \$ 18,951,042 | \$ 8,090,390 | \$ 45,771,049 |
| Interfund Receivable | 97,652 | - | - | 97,652 |
| Intergovernmental Receivable | - | - | 468,005 | 468,005 |
| Taxes Receivable | 20,112,078 | - | 4,508,390 | 24,620,468 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes Receivable | 174,518 | - | - | 174,518 |
| <i>Total Assets</i> | <u>\$ 39,113,865</u> | <u>\$ 18,951,042</u> | <u>\$ 13,066,785</u> | <u>\$ 71,131,692</u> |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Accounts Payable | \$ 256,207 | \$ 3,625 | \$ 62,552 | \$ 322,384 |
| Accrued Wages and Benefits | 3,865,375 | - | 353,543 | 4,218,918 |
| Contracts Payable | 447,857 | 76,141 | 107,305 | 631,303 |
| Retainage Payable | - | - | 8,087 | 8,087 |
| Intergovernmental Payable | 899,904 | - | 39,208 | 939,112 |
| Interfund Payable | - | - | 97,652 | 97,652 |
| Matured Compensated Absences Payable | 253,277 | - | - | 253,277 |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i> | <u>5,722,620</u> | <u>79,766</u> | <u>668,347</u> | <u>6,470,733</u> |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | | | | |
| Property Taxes Levied for the Next Year | 18,544,749 | - | 4,165,011 | 22,709,760 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes | 87,259 | - | - | 87,259 |
| Unavailable Revenue - Other | 292,242 | - | 403,753 | 695,995 |
| <i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i> | <u>18,924,250</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>4,568,764</u> | <u>23,493,014</u> |
| Fund Balances | | | | |
| Nonspendable | 13,480 | - | - | 13,480 |
| Restricted | - | 18,871,276 | 8,055,914 | 26,927,190 |
| Committed | 22,000 | - | - | 22,000 |
| Assigned | 4,095,248 | - | - | 4,095,248 |
| Unassigned | 10,336,267 | - | (226,240) | 10,110,027 |
| <i>Total Fund Balance</i> | <u>14,466,995</u> | <u>18,871,276</u> | <u>7,829,674</u> | <u>41,167,945</u> |
| <i>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</i> | <u><u>\$ 39,113,865</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 18,951,042</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 13,066,785</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 71,131,692</u></u> |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to
Net Position of Governmental Activities
June 30, 2024

Total Governmental Fund Balances \$ 41,167,945

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

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial
 resources and therefore are not reported in the funds. 55,949,123

Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures
 and therefore are deferred in the funds:

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Intergovernmental | \$ 338,243 | |
| Delinquent Property Taxes | <u>357,752</u> | 695,995 |

The net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset are neither available nor are
 due and payable in the current period, therefore, the liability and related
 deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Net OPEB Asset | 2,728,096 | |
| Deferred Outflows - Pension | 8,278,219 | |
| Deferred Outflows - OPEB | 1,778,331 | |
| Net Pension Liability | (39,068,800) | |
| Net OPEB Liability | (2,700,876) | |
| Deferred Inflows - Pension | (3,037,613) | |
| Deferred Inflows - OPEB | <u>(4,895,805)</u> | (36,918,448) |

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period
 and therefore are not reported in the funds:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| General Obligation Bonds | (23,590,000) | |
| Unamortized Bond Premium | (1,840,363) | |
| Certificates of Participation | (19,100,000) | |
| Compensated Absences | <u>(4,148,317)</u> | (48,678,680) |

Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 12,215,935

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

| | General | Building Fund | Other Governmental Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Revenues | | | | |
| Property and Other Local Taxes | \$ 18,269,697 | \$ - | \$ 3,555,483 | \$ 21,825,180 |
| Intergovernmental | 18,499,128 | - | 3,607,730 | 22,106,858 |
| Investment Income | 1,387,245 | 2,013 | 95,788 | 1,485,046 |
| Tuition and Fees | 971,429 | - | - | 971,429 |
| Extracurricular Activities | 292,055 | - | 180,461 | 472,516 |
| Charges for Services | 1,644 | - | 872,790 | 874,434 |
| Contributions and Donations | 48,424 | - | 22,155 | 70,579 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes | 190,730 | - | - | 190,730 |
| Miscellaneous | 457,614 | - | 380,285 | 837,899 |
| <i>Total Revenues</i> | <i>40,117,966</i> | <i>2,013</i> | <i>8,714,692</i> | <i>48,834,671</i> |
| Expenditures | | | | |
| Current: | | | | |
| Instruction: | | | | |
| Regular | 20,229,842 | - | 575,477 | 20,805,319 |
| Special | 5,934,407 | - | 1,093,338 | 7,027,745 |
| Vocational | 243,915 | - | - | 243,915 |
| Support Services: | | | | |
| Pupils | 2,999,148 | - | 197,863 | 3,197,011 |
| Instructional Staff | 1,582,996 | - | 325,444 | 1,908,440 |
| Board of Education | 50,700 | - | - | 50,700 |
| Administration | 3,007,288 | - | 97,692 | 3,104,980 |
| Fiscal | 933,489 | - | 58,620 | 992,109 |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant | 4,121,608 | - | 404,023 | 4,525,631 |
| Pupil Transportation | 2,259,764 | - | 689,652 | 2,949,416 |
| Central | 399,709 | - | - | 399,709 |
| Operation of Non-Instructional/Shared Services: | | | | |
| Food Service Operations | - | - | 1,622,847 | 1,622,847 |
| Community Services | 108,452 | - | 314,937 | 423,389 |
| Extracurricular Activities | 1,096,157 | - | 309,738 | 1,405,895 |
| Capital Outlay | 103,697 | 259,195 | 148,213 | 511,105 |
| Debt Service | | | | |
| Principal Retirement | - | - | 1,640,000 | 1,640,000 |
| Interest and Fiscal Charges | - | - | 1,101,076 | 1,101,076 |
| <i>Total Expenditures</i> | <i>43,071,172</i> | <i>259,195</i> | <i>8,578,920</i> | <i>51,909,287</i> |
| <i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i> | <i>(2,953,206)</i> | <i>(257,182)</i> | <i>135,772</i> | <i>(3,074,616)</i> |
| Other Financing Sources (Uses) | | | | |
| Certificates of Participation Issued | - | 19,100,000 | - | 19,100,000 |
| Premium on Certificates of Participation Issued | - | - | 826,033 | 826,033 |
| Proceeds from Sale of Assets | 9,420 | - | - | 9,420 |
| Discount on Certificates of Participation Issuance | - | - | (127,290) | (127,290) |
| Transfers In | - | - | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| Transfers Out | (15,000) | - | - | (15,000) |
| <i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i> | <i>(5,580)</i> | <i>19,100,000</i> | <i>713,743</i> | <i>19,808,163</i> |
| <i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i> | <i>(2,958,786)</i> | <i>18,842,818</i> | <i>849,515</i> | <i>16,733,547</i> |
| <i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year, as previously presented</i> | <i>17,425,781</i> | <i>-</i> | <i>7,008,617</i> | <i>24,434,398</i> |
| <i>Change within Financial Reporting Entity:</i> | | | | |
| Nonmajor to Major Fund | - | 28,458 | (28,458) | - |
| <i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year, as adjusted</i> | <i>17,425,781</i> | <i>28,458</i> | <i>6,980,159</i> | <i>24,434,398</i> |
| <i>Fund Balances End of Year</i> | <i>\$ 14,466,995</i> | <i>\$ 18,871,276</i> | <i>\$ 7,829,674</i> | <i>\$ 41,167,945</i> |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio**

*Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes
in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds \$ 16,733,547

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

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Capital Asset Additions | \$ 2,336,214 | |
| Current Year Depreciation | <u>(1,769,003)</u> | 567,211 |

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

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Intergovernmental | 121,891 | |
| Delinquent Property Taxes | <u>274,854</u> | 396,745 |

Repayment of principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|
| General Obligation Bonds | 1,640,000 | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|

Debt proceeds issued in the governmental funds that increase long-term liabilities in the statement of net position are not reported as revenues.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Certificates of Participation | (19,100,000) | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--|

In the statement of activities, bond premium and the gain/loss on refunding are amortized over the term of the bonds, whereas in governmental funds, interest expenditures are reported when bonds are issued.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Amortization of Premium on Bonds | (716,968) | |
| Amortization of Refunding Loss | <u>(40,451)</u> | (757,419) |

Contractually required pension/OPEB contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows.

| | | |
|---------|----------------|-----------|
| Pension | 3,873,301 | |
| OPEB | <u>128,282</u> | 4,001,583 |

Except for amount reported as deferred inflows/outflows, changes in the net pension/OPEB liability are reported as pension/OPEB expense in the statement of activities.

| | | |
|---------|----------------|-------------|
| Pension | (3,247,680) | |
| OPEB | <u>377,095</u> | (2,870,585) |

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

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|--|
| Compensated Absences | <u>(698,806)</u> | |
|----------------------|------------------|--|

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ (87,724)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in
Fund Balance - Budget (Non-GAAP) and Actual
General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

| | <u>Budgeted Amounts</u> | | | Variance with Final Budget |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Original | Final | Actual | |
| Revenues and Other Financing Sources | \$ 38,867,008 | \$ 39,861,848 | \$ 40,871,582 | \$ 1,009,734 |
| Expenditures and Other Financing Uses | <u>41,726,039</u> | <u>44,309,214</u> | <u>43,705,732</u> | <u>603,482</u> |
| Net Change in Fund Balance | (2,859,031) | (4,447,366) | (2,834,150) | 1,613,216 |
| <i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i> | 19,183,153 | 19,183,153 | 19,183,153 | - |
| Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated | <u>1,146,777</u> | <u>1,146,777</u> | <u>1,146,777</u> | <u>-</u> |
| <i>Fund Balance End of Year</i> | <u><u>\$ 17,470,899</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 15,882,564</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 17,495,780</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 1,613,216</u></u> |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

*Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

| | Custodial |
|---|------------------|
| Additions | |
| Extracurricular Amounts Collected for Other Governments | <u>\$ 11,874</u> |
| Deductions | |
| Extracurricular Distributions to Other Governments | <u>\$ 11,874</u> |
| <i>Change in Net Position</i> | - |
| <i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i> | <u>-</u> |
| <i>Net Position End of Year</i> | <u>\$ -</u> |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

Description of the School District

Amherst Exempted Village School District (the “School District”) was established for the purposes of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The School District is an exempted village school district as defined by Section 3311.04 of the Ohio Revised Code. The School District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The School District provides educational services as authorized by State statute and/or Federal guidelines.

The School District boundaries include the City of Amherst, Amherst Township, and a portion of the City of Lorain, an area extending approximately 32 square miles. The School District operates two elementary schools (preK-3), one intermediate school (4-5), one junior high school (6-8) and one high school (9-12).

Reporting Entity

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

Within the School District’s boundaries, St. Joseph School is operated through the Cleveland Catholic Diocese. Current state legislation provides auxiliary services funding to this parochial school. These monies are received and distributed on behalf of the parochial school by the Treasurer of the School District, as directed by the parochial school. The accounting for this parochial school is reflected in the auxiliary services fund, a special revenue fund 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 has no component units.

The School District is associated with jointly governed organizations and the related organization as follows:

Connect

Connect (formerly known as North Coast Council) is a jointly governed computer service bureau owned and operated by 2 educational service centers and 24 public school districts. The primary function of Connect is to provide to its members the support and leadership which enables organizations to achieve their objectives through innovative and cost effective shared technology solutions. Major areas of service provided by Connect include software access and hosting, career guidance services, handicapped student tracking, pupil scheduling, attendance reporting and grade reporting. Connect is wholly owned by its member districts and is governed by a Board of Directors. Connect’s current membership includes the Educational Service Center of Northeast

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

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

Ohio, Educational Service Center of Lorain County, Educational Service Center of Medina County, and 26 school districts in Cuyahoga, Lorain, and Medina counties. Each year, the Board of Directors elects a Chairman, a Vice Chairman and a Recording Secretary. The Treasurer of the fiscal agent is a nonvoting, ex-officio member of the Board of Directors. The Educational Service Center of Northeast Ohio serves as the fiscal agent of Connect. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the Board. Each school district supports Connect based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software packages used. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the Treasurer of the fiscal agent at 6393 Oak Tree Boulevard, Suite 105, Independence, OH 44131.

Lorain County Joint Vocational School District

The Lorain County Joint Vocational School is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating school district's elected boards, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the board. Financial Information can be obtained by contacting the Treasurer of the Lorain County Joint Vocational School District, 15181 State Route 58, Oberlin, Ohio 44074.

Ohio Schools Council

The Ohio Schools Council (Council) is a jointly governed organization among 249 school districts. The organization was formed to purchase quality products and services at the lowest possible cost to the member School Districts. Each School District supports the Council by paying an annual participation fee. The Council's Board consists of nine superintendents of the participating School Districts whose term rotates every year. The degree of control exercised by any school district is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the Executive Director/Treasurer of the Ohio Schools Council at 6393 Oak Tree Boulevard, Suite 377, Independence, Ohio, 44131.

Prepaid/Natural Gas Program

The School District participates in the Council's natural gas purchase program. This program allows the School District to purchase natural gas at reduced rates. Constellation New Energy is serving as the supplier and program. There are currently over 165 participants in the program. The participants make monthly payments based on estimated usage. Each September, these estimated payments are compared to their actual usage for the year (July to June). School Districts that paid more in estimated billings than their actual billings are issued credits on future billings in September until the credits are exhausted and School Districts that did not pay enough on estimated billings are invoiced for the difference on the September monthly estimated billing.

Lake Erie Regional Council of Governments

The Lake Erie Regional Council (LERC) is a jointly governed organization comprised of twelve school districts. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of promoting cooperative agreements to its members in dealing with problems of mutual concern such as health insurance. The LERC assembly consists of a superintendent or designated representative from each participating school district and the fiscal agent. LERC is governed by a Board of Directors chosen from the general membership. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the Treasurer at the Educational Service Center of Lorain County, who serves as fiscal agent, at 1885 Lake Avenue, Elyria, Ohio 44035.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Related Organization

The Amherst Public Library (the “Library”) is a distinct and political subdivision of the State of Ohio governed by a Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees, appointed by the Board of Education, possesses its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel, and does not depend on the School District for operational subsidies. Although the School District does serve as a taxing authority and issues related debt on behalf of the Library, its role is limited to an administerial function. The determination to request approval of a tax, the rate, and the purpose are discretionary decisions made solely by the Library Board of Trustees. The Library is not considered part of the School District and its operations are not included within the accompanying financial statements. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the Clerk-Treasurer of the Amherst Public Library at 221 Spring Street, Amherst, Ohio 44001.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the School District have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Following are the more significant of the School District’s accounting policies.

Basis of Presentation

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 the fiduciary funds.

The government-wide statement of activities presents direct expenses and program revenues for each segment of the business-type activities of the School District and for each function or program of the School District’s governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program.

Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the School District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School District.

Fund Financial Statements During the fiscal year, the School District segregates transactions related to certain School District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the School District at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. 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. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain School District functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The various funds of the School District are grouped into the categories governmental and fiduciary.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Governmental Funds

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

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the School District and is used to account for all financial resources, not accounted for and reported in another fund. The General Fund is available to the School District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the school laws of Ohio.

Building Fund The building fund accounts for and reports bond proceeds restricted for the various capital improvements within the School District.

The other governmental funds of the School District account for grants, debt service, other resources and capital projects whose uses are restricted for a particular purpose.

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into the following four classifications: pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that has certain characteristics. Custodial Funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The School District's only fiduciary fund is custodial and is used to account for assets held by the School District for the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

Measurement Focus

Government-wide Financial Statements The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the School District are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Activities presents increases (i.e. revenues) and decreases (i.e. expenses) in total net position.

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

Like the government-wide statements, all fiduciary funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus.

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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Basis of Accounting

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

Revenues - Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined. "Available" means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the School District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal yearend.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On the accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied (See Note 7). Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year end: property taxes available as an advance, certain grants, investment earnings, tuition, rentals and fees.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the School District, deferred outflows of resources include amounts related to net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset that are reported in the government-wide Statement of Net Position. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Notes 13 and 14. In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources.

Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the School District, deferred inflows of resources include property taxes, payments in lieu of taxes, amounts related to net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset and unavailable revenues. Property taxes and payments in lieu of taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2024, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2025 operations. These amounts have been recorded as deferred inflows on both the government-wide Statement of Net Position and the governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. For the School District, unavailable revenue includes delinquent property taxes and intergovernmental revenue. These amounts are deferred and recognized as inflows of resources in the period

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

the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are reported on the government-wide Statement of Net Position. (See Notes 13 and 14).

Expenses/Expenditures On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred. The entitlement value of donated commodities used during the year is reported in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances as an expenditure with a like amount reported as intergovernmental revenue. Unused donated commodities are reported as intergovernmental revenue.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

Budgetary Process

The budgetary process is prescribed by the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparations of budgetary documents within an established timetable. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriation resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The certificate of estimated resources and the appropriation resolution are subject to amendment throughout the year with the legal restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources, as certified.

All funds, other than the custodial fund, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amounts that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and set annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the fund level. The Treasurer has been authorized to allocate Board appropriations to the functions and object level within each fund.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the School District Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts in the budgetary statement reflect the amounts in the certificate when the permanent appropriations for the fiscal year were passed. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts in the budgetary statement reflect the amounts in the amended certificate in effect when the final appropriations for the fiscal year were passed. The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the fiscal year with the restriction that appropriations may not exceed estimated revenues. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation for that fund that covered the entire fiscal year, including amounts automatically carried over from prior fiscal years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, all cash received by the School District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the School District's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and investments" on the financial statements.

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

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

There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours advance notice for deposits and withdrawals of \$100 million or more is appreciated. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million per day.

Under existing Ohio statutes, the Governing Board may, by resolution, identify the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during the fiscal year amounted to \$1,387,245, which include \$336,702 assigned from other School District funds.

Prepaid Items

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

Inventory

Inventories of the Governmental Funds are presented at the lower of cost or market on a first-in, first-out basis and expensed/expended when used. Inventories consist of donated foods, purchased foods, and expendable supplies held for consumption.

Capital Assets

The School District's only capital assets are general capital assets. General capital assets are those assets specifically related to governmental activities. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide Statement of Net Position but are not reported in the fund financial statements. All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the fiscal year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The School District maintains a capitalization threshold of five thousand dollars. The School District does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

All reported capital assets, except land and construction in process, are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Estimated Useful Lives</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Land Improvements | 20 years |
| Buildings and Improvements | 25 to 50 years |
| Furniture and Equipment | 5 to 15 years |
| Vehicles | 8 years |

Amherst Exempted Village School District

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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Interfund Balances

On the fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as “Interfund Receivables” and “Interfund Payables”. These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities column of the Statement of Net Position.

Compensated Absences

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the termination method. The liability is based on an estimate of the amount of accumulated sick leave that will be paid as a termination benefit.

For governmental funds, compensated absences are recognized as liabilities and expenditures as payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirement. These amounts are recorded in the account “matured compensated absences payable” in the funds from which the employee will be paid.

Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements.

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources, are reported as obligations of the funds. However, claims and judgments, compensated absences, special termination benefits and contractually required pension contributions that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current year. Net pension/OPEB asset/liability should be recognized in the governmental funds to the extent that benefit payments are due and payable and the pension/OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits. Long-term loans are recognized as a liability on the governmental fund financial statements when due.

Bond Premiums and Discounts

On the government-wide financial statements, bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the term of the bonds using the straight line method. Bond premiums are presented as an increase in the face amount of the general obligation bonds payable while bond discounts are presented as a decrease. On the fund financial statements, premiums are receipted in the year bonds are issued.

Net Position

Net Position is the residual amount when comparing assets and deferred outflows of resources to liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. The net investment in capital assets component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. The restricted component of net position is reported when there are limitations imposed on their use either through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, laws or regulations of other governments or deferred outflow of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvements of those assets or related debt.

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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

The government-wide Statement of Net Position reports a restricted component of net position, none of which is restricted by enabling legislation. The School District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted components of net position are available. The amount restricted for other purposes represents amounts restricted for debt service, scholarships, student activities and federally, state and locally funded programs.

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 classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in the 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.

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, or enabling legislation, 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 School District Board of Education. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the School District Board of Education removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the School District’s 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 expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

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Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Interfund Activity

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

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, net OPEB asset, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension/OPEB plans report investments at fair value.

NOTE 3: CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the School District has implemented certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 99, *Omnibus 2022* and GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections—an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*.

GASB Statement No. 99 enhances comparability in accounting and financial reporting and improves the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 99 that relate to financial guarantees and the classification and reporting of derivative instruments within the scope of Statement 53 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 100 enhances accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide a more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessment accountability. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 100 was incorporated into the financial statements of the School District.

NOTE 4: FUND BALANCES

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

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

| | General | Building Fund | Other Governmental Funds | Total |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Nonspendable for: | | | | |
| Unclaimed Monies | \$ 13,480 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 13,480 |
| Restricted for: | | | | |
| Capital Outlay | - 18,871,276 | | 1,829,527 | 20,700,803 |
| Debt Service | - - | | 2,405,222 | 2,405,222 |
| Food Service | - - | | 2,054,513 | 2,054,513 |
| Scholarships | - - | | 4,797 | 4,797 |
| Classroom Facilities Maintenance | - - | | 1,240,740 | 1,240,740 |
| Student Activities | - - | | 207,487 | 207,487 |
| State Funded Programs | - - | | 1,410 | 1,410 |
| Other Purposes | - - | | 312,218 | 312,218 |
| Total Restricted | <u>- 18,871,276</u> | | <u>8,055,914</u> | <u>26,927,190</u> |
| Committed for: | | | | |
| Underground Storage Tanks | 22,000 | - - | | 22,000 |
| Assigned for: | | | | |
| Support Services | 46,691 | - - | | 46,691 |
| Subsequent Year Appropriations | 3,819,390 | - - | | 3,819,390 |
| Public School Support | <u>229,167</u> | - - | | 229,167 |
| Total Assigned | <u>4,095,248</u> | - - | | 4,095,248 |
| Unassigned | 10,336,267 | - - | (226,240) | 10,110,027 |
| Total Fund Balance | <u>\$ 14,466,995</u> | <u>\$ 18,871,276</u> | <u>\$ 7,829,674</u> | <u>\$ 41,167,945</u> |

The following funds had GAAP deficit balances at June 30, 2024:

| | <u>Deficit</u> |
|--|-------------------|
| <i>Non-Major Governmental Funds</i> | |
| ESSER Cares Act | \$ 126,858 |
| IDEA, Part B Special Education | 64,487 |
| Title IV-A | 7,250 |
| Improving Teacher Quality | 18,673 |
| Miscellaneous Federal Grants | <u>8,972</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 226,240</u> |

These deficits were caused by the application of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The general fund provides transfers to cover deficit balances in other funds; however, this is when cash is needed rather than when accruals occur.

**Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio**

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

NOTE 5: BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

While the School District is reporting financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance on the basis of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget (Non-GAAP) and Actual – presented for the General Fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP (modified accrual) basis are that:

1. Revenues and other financing sources are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures and other financing uses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures (budget basis) rather than as a part of restricted, committed, or assigned fund balance (GAAP basis).
4. Some funds are included in the General Fund (GAAP basis), but have separate legally adopted budgets (budget basis).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP and budgetary basis statements for the General Fund:

| Net Change in Fund Balance | |
|---|---------------------------|
| GAAP Basis | \$ (2,958,786) |
| Net Adjustment for Revenue Accruals | 1,223,364 |
| Net Adjustment for Expenditure Accruals | (236,471) |
| Funds Budgeted Elsewhere** | (114,938) |
| Adjustment for Encumbrances | <u>(747,319)</u> |
| Budget Basis | <u>\$ (2,834,150)</u> |

**As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general funds on a GAAP basis. This includes public school support fund, unclaimed funds, before and after school childcare, and underground storage tank fund.

NOTE 6: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

Active deposits are public deposits 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.

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Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Board has identified as not required for use within the current five-year period of designation of depositories. Inactive deposits must either be evidenced by certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designation of depositories, or by savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

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

Interim monies may be deposited or invested in the following securities:

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
7. Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty and two hundred and seventy days, respectively, in an amount not to exceed forty percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any on time; and,
8. Under limited circumstances, corporate debt interests rated in either of the two highest rating classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

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

Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At year end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$134,789 with a bank balance of \$367,821. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by the FDIC, \$92,772 was covered by the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), and \$25,049 was exposed to custodial credit risk. The School District also had \$150 in petty cash on hand. The School District's financial institution was approved for a reduced collateral rate of 60 percent through the OPCS however the School District had 78.74 percent collateralized. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the School District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

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

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

Investments

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

| S&P Global Ratings | Investment Type | Measurement Value | Investment Maturities | | | Percent of Total |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| | | | 12 Months or Less | 12 to 36 Months | More Than 36 Months | |
| Net Asset Value (NAV): | | | | | | |
| AAAm | STAR Ohio | \$ 3,820,706 | \$ 3,820,706 | \$ - | \$ - | 8.37% |
| AAAm | Money Market | 6,071,407 | 6,071,407 | - | - | 13.30% |
| Fair Value: | | | | | | |
| AA | Federal Agency Securities | 7,352,945 | 3,113,275 | 2,989,157 | 1,250,513 | 16.12% |
| A-1 | US Treasury Bill | 4,994,211 | 4,994,211 | - | - | 10.94% |
| AA | US Treasury Notes | 1,944,886 | - | 790,277 | 1,154,609 | 4.26% |
| N/A | Negotiable Certificates of Deposit | 7,645,703 | 3,585,105 | 3,824,581 | 236,017 | 16.76% |
| A-1 | Commercial Paper | 13,806,252 | 13,806,252 | - | - | 30.25% |
| Total Investments | | \$45,636,110 | \$35,390,956 | \$ 7,604,015 | \$ 2,641,139 | 100.00% |

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The School District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs. Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

The above table identifies the School District's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2024. The School District's fair value investments are Level 2 since valued using methodologies that incorporate market inputs such as benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers, and reference data including market research publications. Market indicators and industry and economic events are also monitored which could require the need to acquire further market data.

Interest Rate Risk Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The School District's investment policy addresses interest rate risk by requiring that the School District's investment portfolio be structured so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations and/or long-term debt payments, thereby avoiding that need to sell securities on the open market prior to maturity, and by investing operating funds primarily in short-term investments.

Credit Risk The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment credit risk beyond the requirements in state statutes. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service and that the money market fund be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The money market fund carries a rating of AAA by S&P Global Ratings. The weighted average of maturity of the portfolio held by STAR Ohio as of June 30, 2024, is 47 days.

Concentration of Credit Risk Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer. The School District's investment policy allows investments in STAR Ohio, repurchase agreements, certificates of deposit or investments within financial institutions within the State of Ohio as designated by the Federal Reserve Board. The School District's places no limit on the amount that may be invested to any one issuer.

Custodial Credit Risk For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The federal agency securities and the negotiable certificates of deposits are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the School District's name. The School District has no investment policy dealing with custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute which prohibit payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing the investments to the treasurer or qualified trustee.

NOTE 7: PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2024 represents collections of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed value listed

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as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at thirty-five percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar year 2024 represents collections of calendar year 2023 taxes. Public utility property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien on December 31, 2022, were levied after April 1, 2023, and are collected in 2024 with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at thirty-five percent of true value; public property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Lorain County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2024, are available to finance fiscal year 2024 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent. Accrued property taxes receivable includes delinquent taxes outstanding and real and public utility property taxes which were measurable as of June 30, 2024 and for which there is an enforceable legal claim. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, only the amount of real property taxes available as an advance at June 30 was levied to finance current fiscal year operations and is reported as revenue at fiscal year-end. The portion of the receivable not levied to finance current fiscal year operations is offset by a credit to deferred inflow of resources.

On an accrual basis, collectible delinquent property taxes have been recorded as a receivable and revenue, while on a modified accrual basis the revenue has been reflected as a deferred inflow of resources.

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

| | 2023 Second Half Collections | | 2024 First Half Collections | |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| | Amount | Percent | Amount | Percent |
| Real Estate | \$ 687,794,820 | 96.50% | \$ 702,699,670 | 96.48% |
| Public Utility Personal Property | 24,921,740 | 3.50% | 25,646,800 | 3.52% |
| | <u>\$ 712,716,560</u> | <u>100.00%</u> | <u>\$ 728,346,470</u> | <u>100.00%</u> |
| Full Tax Rate per \$1,000 of assessed value | \$ 71.26 | | \$ 71.55 | |

NOTE 8: RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2024 consisted of taxes, interfund, payments in lieu of taxes, and intergovernmental amounts. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the ability to foreclose for the nonpayment of taxes, the stable condition of State programs, and the current year guarantee of federal funds. All receivables are expected to be received within one year.

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NOTE 9: INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Interfund Transfers

The general fund transferred \$15,000 to the athletic fund to provides additional resources. Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated in the statement of activities.

Interfund Balances

At fiscal year-end, the School District had the following interfund balances:

| Fund | Interfund Receivable | Interfund Payable |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| General Fund | \$ 97,652 | \$ - |
| Nonmajor Governmental Funds | - | 97,652 |
| Total | <u>\$ 97,652</u> | <u>\$ 97,652</u> |

The primary purpose of the interfund balances is to cover costs in specific funds where revenues were not received by June 30. The School District may maintain negative cash balances in nonmajor special revenue funds if three criteria are met: (1) the general fund must have available and unencumbered funds to cover the negative amounts; (2) a reimbursement request must have been submitted by the fiscal year end; and (3) there is a reasonable likelihood that the request for payment will be made. The School District has met these three requirements. These interfund balances will be repaid once the anticipated revenues are received. All interfund balances are expected to be repaid within one year.

NOTE 10: RISK MANAGEMENT

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years and there has been no significant reduction in coverage. All administrators carry coverage equal to two times their calculated retirement salaries approximated to the nearest thousand. The School District participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Retro Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. 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 ensures 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 management provides administrative, cost control, and actuarial services to the GRP.

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For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

NOTE 11: CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of the changes in Governmental Activities capital assets during the current fiscal year follows:

| | Balance 6/30/2023 | Additions | Reductions | Balance 6/30/2024 |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Governmental Activities | | | | |
| <i>Capital Assets, not being depreciated:</i> | | | | |
| Land | \$ 1,295,676 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 1,295,676 |
| Construction in progress | 937,472 | 825,415 | (845,937) | 916,950 |
| Capital Assets not being depreciated | <u>2,233,148</u> | <u>825,415</u> | <u>(845,937)</u> | <u>2,212,626</u> |
| <i>Capital Assets, being depreciated:</i> | | | | |
| Land Improvements | 3,159,266 | 37,428 | - | 3,196,694 |
| Buildings and Improvements | 66,249,735 | 28,091 | - | 66,277,826 |
| Furniture and Equipment | 4,050,768 | 1,514,665 | (5,495) | 5,559,938 |
| Vehicles | 3,217,495 | 776,552 | (356,289) | 3,637,758 |
| Total Capital Assets, being depreciated | <u>76,677,264</u> | <u>2,356,736</u> | <u>(361,784)</u> | <u>78,672,216</u> |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation: | | | | |
| Land Improvements | (1,846,387) | (38,528) | - | (1,884,915) |
| Buildings and Improvements | (17,220,686) | (1,162,571) | - | (18,383,257) |
| Furniture and Equipment | (2,170,997) | (215,261) | 5,495 | (2,380,763) |
| Vehicles | (2,290,430) | (352,643) | 356,289 | (2,286,784) |
| Total Accumulated Depreciation | <u>(23,528,500)</u> | <u>(1,769,003)</u> | <u>361,784</u> | <u>(24,935,719)</u> |
| Total Capital Assets being depreciated, net | <u>53,148,764</u> | <u>587,733</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>53,736,497</u> |
| Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net | <u><u>\$ 55,381,912</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 1,413,148</u></u> | <u><u>\$ (845,937)</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 55,949,123</u></u> |

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Instruction: | |
| Regular | \$ 1,182,016 |
| Special | 1,272 |
| Support Services: | |
| Pupils | 696 |
| Instructional Staff | 6,128 |
| Administration | 845 |
| Operation and Maintenance of Plant | 128,435 |
| Pupil Transportation | 343,734 |
| Operation of Non-Instructional Services: | |
| Food Service | 7,263 |
| Community Services | 11,720 |
| Extracurricular Activities | 86,894 |
| Total Depreciation | <u><u>1,769,003</u></u> |

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For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

NOTE 12: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vested vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Classified, full-time administrators and non-bargaining unit employees earn 10 to 30 days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service and hours worked. Unused vacation time earned in the current year is paid to classified employees. Administrators may carry a maximum of 90 days of unused vacation forward to the following year. Upon termination of employment, administrators receive payment for any remaining unused vacation time. Teachers and elementary principals do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave accumulation for a year is fifteen days. Payment of one-third of the total sick leave accumulation is made to certified employees and one-half to classified employees, up to a maximum accumulation of 85 days upon retirement. Certified teachers and administrators with an accumulation of 270 days or more receive an additional 5 days and those with an accumulation of 470 days receive an additional 25 days. Classified employees and administrators with an accumulation of 275 days or more receive an additional 15 days and those with an accumulation of 325 days receive an additional 25 days. All employees must have 10 years of service with the School District to qualify for payment.

Life Insurance

The School District provides life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to most employees. Full time employees are provided with \$50,000 of group life insurance coverage and part time employees are provided with \$30,000 of group life insurance coverage.

NOTE 13: DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

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

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

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

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

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

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 14 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

| | Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 * | Eligible to Retire after August 1, 2017 |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Full Benefits | Any age with 30 years of service credit | Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit |
| Actuarially Reduced Benefits | Age 60 with 5 years of service credit 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, may 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 percent for the first 30 years of service and 2.5 percent for years of service credit over 30. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

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

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exceed 2.5 percent and with a floor of 0 percent. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The Retirement Board approved a 2.5 percent COLA for calendar year 2023.

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

The School District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$1,045,481 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$105,494 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients’ base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2023, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 1 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2024 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2019. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3307.67(E) the STRS Ohio Retirement Board may adjust the COLA upon a determination by the board’s actuary that a change will not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit at any age.

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

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The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. The remaining 4.41 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

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

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

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$2,827,820 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$528,432 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

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

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an independent actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the employer's share of employer contributions in the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating employers. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

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| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Proportion of the Net Pension Liability: | | | |
| Current Measurement Date | 0.1603710% | 0.14027194% | |
| Prior Measurement Date | 0.1763284% | 0.13939759% | |
| Change in Proportionate Share | <u>-0.0159574%</u> | <u>0.00087435%</u> | |
| Proportionate Share of the Net | | | |
| Pension Liability | \$ 8,861,324 | \$ 30,207,476 | \$ 39,068,800 |
| Pension Expense | \$ 796,047 | \$ 2,451,633 | \$ 3,247,680 |

Other than contributions made subsequent to the measurement date and differences between projected and actual earnings on investments; deferred inflows/outflows of resources are recognized in pension expense beginning in the current period, using a straight line method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining services lives of all employees that are provided with pensions, determined as of the beginning of the measurement period. Net deferred inflows/outflows of resources pertaining to the differences between projected and actual investment earnings are similarly recognized over a closed five-year period.

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

| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | | | |
| Differences between Expected and | | | |
| Actual Experience | \$ 380,880 | \$ 1,101,301 | \$ 1,482,181 |
| Changes of Assumptions | 62,770 | 2,487,748 | 2,550,518 |
| Changes in Proportion and Differences between | | | |
| School District Contributions and Proportionate | | | |
| Share of Contributions | 104,848 | 267,371 | 372,219 |
| School District Contributions Subsequent to the | | | |
| Measurement Date | 1,045,481 | 2,827,820 | 3,873,301 |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources | <u>\$ 1,593,979</u> | <u>\$ 6,684,240</u> | <u>\$ 8,278,219</u> |

| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | | | |
| Differences between Expected and | | | |
| Actual Experience | \$ - | \$ 67,031 | \$ 67,031 |
| Net Difference between Projected and | | | |
| Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments | 124,552 | 90,535 | 215,087 |
| Changes of Assumptions | - | 1,872,560 | 1,872,560 |
| Changes in Proportion and Differences between | | | |
| School District Contributions and Proportionate | | | |
| Share of Contributions | 625,675 | 257,260 | 882,935 |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources | <u>\$ 750,227</u> | <u>\$ 2,287,386</u> | <u>\$ 3,037,613</u> |

\$3,873,301 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

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| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fiscal Year Ending June 30: | | | |
| 2025 | \$ (56,435) | \$ (314,238) | \$ (370,673) |
| 2026 | (564,454) | (977,180) | (1,541,634) |
| 2027 | 412,558 | 3,011,439 | 3,423,997 |
| 2028 | <u>6,602</u> | <u>(150,987)</u> | <u>(144,385)</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ (201,729)</u> | <u>\$ 1,569,034</u> | <u>\$ 1,367,305</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.

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

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

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

| | |
|--|--|
| Inflation | 2.40 percent |
| Future Salary Increases, including inflation | 3.25 percent to 13.58 percent |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.00 percent net of System expenses |
| Actuarial Cost Method | Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll) |
| COLA or Ad Hoc COLA | 2.0 percent, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement |

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward two years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward five years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward three years and adjusted 106.8 percent for

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females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' Statement of Investment Policy. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating an arithmetic weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. As of June 30, 2023, 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 | <u>5.00</u> | 5.64 |
| Total | <u>100.00 %</u> | |

Discount Rate The total pension liability for 2023 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent. The discount rate did not use a municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 21-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarially determined contribution rate of fiscal year 2023 was 14.00 percent. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long term assumed investment rate of return, 7.00 percent. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability. The annual money weighted rate of return, calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, for fiscal year 2023 was 6.90 percent.

Sensitivity of the 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 School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent, as well as what the School District's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate.

| | 1% Decrease | Current Discount Rate | 1% Increase |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 13,078,861 | \$ 8,861,324 | \$ 5,308,852 |

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Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Inflation | 2.50 percent |
| Salary Increases | From 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent, based on service |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation |
| Discount Rate of Return | 7.00 percent |
| Payroll Increases | 3.00 percent |
| Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) | 0.00 percent, effective July 1, 2017 |

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

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

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

| Asset Class | Target Allocation* | Long-Term Expected Rate of Return** |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Domestic Equity | 26.00 % | 6.60 % |
| International Equity | 22.00 | 6.80 |
| Alternatives | 19.00 | 7.38 |
| Fixed Income | 22.00 | 1.75 |
| Real Estate | 10.00 | 5.75 |
| Liquidity Reserves | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Total | <u>100.00 %</u> | |

*Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

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

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projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate The following table presents the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the 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 (6.00 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate:

| | 1% Decrease | Current Discount Rate | 1% Increase |
|---|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 46,452,411 | \$ 30,207,476 | \$ 16,468,705 |

Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2021.

NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

See Note 13 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

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

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

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dependents or for their surviving beneficiaries. Premiums vary depending on the plan selected, qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2024, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2.00 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.50 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$128,282 which is reported as an intergovernmental payable. The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was equal to its surcharge obligation for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

OPEB Liability (Asset), OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

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

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| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset): | | | |
| Current Measurement Date | 0.1639433% | 0.14027194% | |
| Prior Measurement Date | 0.1801596% | 0.13939759% | |
| Change in Proportionate Share | <u>-0.0162163%</u> | <u>0.00087435%</u> | |
| Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) | \$ 2,700,876 | \$ (2,728,096) | |
| OPEB Expense | \$ (176,896) | \$ (200,199) | \$ (377,095) |

Other than contributions made subsequent to the measurement date and differences between projected and actual earnings on investments; deferred inflows/outflows of resources are recognized in OPEB expense beginning in the current period, using a straight-line method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining services lives of all employees that are provided with pensions, determined as of the beginning of the measurement period. Net deferred inflows/outflows of resources pertaining to the differences between projected and actual investment earnings are similarly recognized over a closed five-year period.

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

| | SERS | STRS | Total |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | | | |
| Differences between Expected and Actual Experience | \$ 5,628 | \$ 4,252 | \$ 9,880 |
| Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments | 20,930 | 4,865 | 25,795 |
| Changes of Assumptions | 913,246 | 401,887 | 1,315,133 |
| Changes in Proportion and Differences between School District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions | 297,804 | 1,437 | 299,241 |
| School District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date | 128,282 | - | 128,282 |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources | <u>\$ 1,365,890</u> | <u>\$ 412,441</u> | <u>\$ 1,778,331</u> |

Deferred Inflows of Resources

| | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Differences between Expected and Actual Experience | \$ 1,392,942 | \$ 416,104 | \$ 1,809,046 |
| Changes of Assumptions | 767,073 | 1,799,960 | 2,567,033 |
| Changes in Proportion and Differences between School District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions | 484,290 | 35,436 | 519,726 |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources | <u>\$ 2,644,305</u> | <u>\$ 2,251,500</u> | <u>\$ 4,895,805</u> |

\$128,282 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction/addition to the net OPEB liability/asset in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

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| Fiscal Year Ending June 30: | SERS | STRS | Total |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2025 | \$ (393,376) | \$ (828,495) | \$ (1,221,871) |
| 2026 | (345,423) | (370,084) | (715,507) |
| 2027 | (222,967) | (140,871) | (363,838) |
| 2028 | (150,444) | (190,465) | (340,909) |
| 2029 | (119,253) | (174,666) | (293,919) |
| Thereafter | <u>(175,234)</u> | <u>(134,478)</u> | <u>(309,712)</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ (1,406,697)</u> | <u>\$ (1,839,059)</u> | <u>\$ (3,245,756)</u> |

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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

| | |
|--|---|
| Inflation | 2.40 percent |
| Future Salary Increases, including Inflation | 3.25 percent to 13.58 percent |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.00 percent net of investment expense |
| Actuarial Cost Method | Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll) |
| Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted | 2048 |
| Municipal Bond Index Rate | |
| Measurement Date | 3.86 percent |
| Prior Measurement Date | 3.69 percent |
| Single Equivalent Interest Rate | |
| Measurement Date | 4.27 percent |
| Prior Measurement Date | 4.08 percent |
| Health Care Cost Trend Rate | |
| Medicare | 5.125 to 4.40 percent |
| Pre-Medicare | 6.75 to 4.40 percent |
| Medical Trend Assumption | |
| Measurement Date | 6.75 to 4.40 percent |
| Prior Measurement Date | 7.00 to 4.40 percent |

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

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

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2016 through 2020 and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a long-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. As of June 30, 2023, 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 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2023, was 4.08 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the plan at the contribution rate of 1.50 percent of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the

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OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be depleted in 2048 by SERS' actuaries. The Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate was used in the determination of the single equivalent interest rate for both the June 30, 2022, and the June 30, 2023, total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is 3.86 percent at June 30, 2023, and 3.69 percent at June 30, 2022.

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

| | Current | | |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | 1% Decrease | Discount Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 3,452,492 | \$ 2,700,876 | \$ 2,108,196 |
| | 1% Decrease | Current Trend Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 1,984,240 | \$ 2,700,876 | \$ 3,650,515 |

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

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

| | June 30, 2023 | June 30, 2022 |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Inflation | 2.50 percent | 2.50 percent |
| Projected Salary Increases | Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent | Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.00 percent, net of investment expense, including inflation | 7.00 percent, net of investment expense, including inflation |
| Payroll Increases | 3.00 percent | 3.00 percent |
| Discount Rate of Return | 7.00 percent | 7.00 percent |
| Health Care Cost Trends | | |
| Medical | | |
| Pre-Medicare | 7.50 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate | 7.50 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate |
| Medicare | -10.94 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate | -68.78 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate |
| Prescription Drug | | |
| Pre-Medicare | -11.95 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate | 9.00 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate |
| Medicare | 1.33 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate | -5.47 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate |

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

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

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

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

| Asset Class | Target Allocation* | Long-Term Expected Rate of Return** |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Domestic Equity | 26.00 % | 6.60 % |
| International Equity | 22.00 | 6.80 |
| Alternatives | 19.00 | 7.38 |
| Fixed Income | 22.00 | 1.75 |
| Real Estate | 10.00 | 5.75 |
| Liquidity Reserves | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Total | <u>100.00 %</u> | |

*Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

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

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate and Health Care Cost Trend Rate The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

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| | 1% Decrease | Current Discount Rate | 1% Increase |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | 1% Decrease | Current Trend Rate | 1% Increase |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset) | \$ (2,308,976) | \$ (2,728,096) | \$ (3,093,104) |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset) | \$ (3,110,042) | \$ (2,728,096) | \$ (2,268,047) |

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

NOTE 15: LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The changes in the School District's long-term obligations during the fiscal year were as follows:

| <u>Governmental Activities</u> | <u>Outstanding 6/30/2023</u> | <u>Additions</u> | <u>Reductions</u> | <u>Outstanding 6/30/2024</u> | <u>Amounts Due In One Year</u> |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>General Obligation Bonds:</i> | | | | | |
| Refunding Bonds, Series 2016 3.780% | | | | | |
| Term Bonds | \$ 6,680,000 | \$ - | \$ 850,000 | \$ 5,830,000 | \$ 885,000 |
| Classroom Facilities and School Improvement Bonds, Series 2017A 2.0% - 4.0% | | | | | |
| Serial and Term Bonds | 7,975,000 | - | 175,000 | 7,800,000 | 175,000 |
| Classroom Facilities and School Improvement Bonds, Series 2017B 1.5% - 4.0% | | | | | |
| Serial Bonds | 6,130,000 | - | 330,000 | 5,800,000 | 335,000 |
| Library Improvement Bonds, Series 2020 1% - 4.0% | | | | | |
| Serial and Term Bonds | 4,445,000 | - | 285,000 | 4,160,000 | 295,000 |
| <i>Total General Obligation Bonds</i> | <u>25,230,000</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,640,000</u> | <u>23,590,000</u> | <u>1,690,000</u> |
| <i>Loans from Direct Financing:</i> | | | | | |
| Certificates of Participation, Series 2024 4.125% - 5.0% | - | 19,100,000 | - | 19,100,000 | - |
| <i>Net Pension/OPEB Liability:</i> | | | | | |
| Net Pension Liability | 40,525,471 | - | 1,456,671 | 39,068,800 | - |
| Net OPEB Liability | 2,529,460 | 171,416 | - | 2,700,876 | - |
| <i>Total Net Pension/OPEB Liability</i> | <u>43,054,931</u> | <u>171,416</u> | <u>1,456,671</u> | <u>41,769,676</u> | <u>-</u> |
| <i>Other Long-Term Obligations:</i> | | | | | |
| Unamortized Bond Premiums | 1,123,395 | 826,033 | 109,065 | 1,840,363 | - |
| Compensated Absences | 3,449,511 | 1,515,409 | 816,603 | 4,148,317 | 1,063,564 |
| <i>Total Other Long-Term Obligations</i> | <u>4,572,906</u> | <u>2,341,442</u> | <u>925,668</u> | <u>5,988,680</u> | <u>1,063,564</u> |
| <i>Total Governmental Activities</i> | | | | | |
| <i>Long-Term Liabilities</i> | <u>\$72,857,837</u> | <u>\$21,612,858</u> | <u>\$ 4,022,339</u> | <u>\$90,448,356</u> | <u>\$ 2,753,564</u> |

On June 2, 2016, the School District issued \$10,980,000 in general obligation bonds with an interest rate of 3.780 percent to advance refund the callable portion of the School District's outstanding refunding bonds, series 2006. This bond is paid out of the Bond Retirement Fund. The serial and term bonds mature on December 1, 2029, and were callable on December 1, 2016. The general obligation bonds proceeds consisted of bond principal and \$328,412 of premium and, after paying issuance costs of \$110,200 and \$3,295 deposited in the School District's Bond Retirement Fund, the net proceeds were \$11,194,917. The net proceeds were deposited in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide debt service payments until the term bonds are called on December 1, 2016. The advance refunding met the requirements of a debt defeasance and the serial and term bonds were removed from the School District's government-wide financial statements.

**Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio**

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

As a result of the advance refunding, the School District reduced its total debt service requirements by \$990,325, which resulted in an economic gain of \$461,547.

On February 27, 2017, the School District issued \$8,975,000 in Classroom Facilities and School Improvement Bonds with an interest rate of 2.00 to 4.00 percent. The serial and term bonds mature on December 1, 2038. This bond is paid out of the Bond Retirement Fund.

On March 20, 2017, the School District issued \$7,835,000 in Classroom Facilities and School Improvement Bonds with an interest rate of 1.50 to 4.00 percent. The serial bonds mature on December 1, 2038. This bond is paid out of the Bond Retirement Fund.

On October 29, 2020, the School District issued \$5,000,000 in Library Improvement Bonds with an interest rate of 1.00 to 4.00 percent. The serial bonds mature on December 1, 2035. This bond will be paid out of the Bond Retirement Fund. The bonds were issued for the purpose of adding to, remodeling, renovating, furnishing, equipping and otherwise improving the existing public library building and cleaning, equipping and improving the site.

In June 2024 the School District issued \$19,100,000 in certificates of participation with an interest rate of 4.125 to 5.00 percent. These certificates were issued with a premium of \$826,033, which is reported as an increase to long-term obligations. The amounts are being amortized to interest expense over the life of the obligation using the straight-line method, which approximates to effective interest rate method. The proceeds received from the sale of the Series 2024 Certificates will be used for the construction, equipping and improving facilities projects. This bond will be paid out of the Permanent Improvement Fund.

The Series 2024 Certificates maturing on or after December 1, 2033 are subject to prior redemption on any date, by and at the sole option of the Board, in whole or in part as selected by the Board (in whole multiples of \$5,000), on or after June 1, 2033, at a redemption price equal to 100 percent of the principal amount redeemed, plus interest accrued to the redemption date. Any Term Series 2024 Certificates are subject to mandatory redemption.

In the event of default, as defined by the lease agreement, the amounts payable by the School District may become due. If payments are not made, the lessor may retake possession of the leased property, including but not limited to equipment and furniture. Additionally, the lessor has the option to sublease the project facilities, holding the School District liable for all lease payments and other payments due prior to the effective date of the sublease and for the difference between the rental and other amounts paid by the subleases pursuant to such sublease and the amounts payable by the School District pursuant to the lease during the then current lease term.

The current Lease Term commenced as of June 27, 2024 and expires on December 1, 2055. Each renewal of the Lease will be for a renewal Lease Term (Renewal Term) beginning July 1 and ending June 30 of the subsequent year, except that the final Renewal Term will end on December 1, 2054.

There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability and net OPEB liability; however, employer pension and OPEB contributions are made from the fund in which employee's salaries are paid, with the General fund being the most significant. Compensated absences will also be paid from the fund from which employee's salaries are paid with the General Fund being the most significant fund. For additional information related to the net pension liability and net OPEB liability see Notes 13 and 14.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio

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

All bonds are direct obligations of the School District for which its full faith and credit are pledged for repayment. The certificates of participation are not a general obligation of the School District and are payable only from appropriations by the School District for annual lease payments.

The following is a summary of the School District's Future annual principal and interest requirements:

| Fiscal Year Ending June 30, | Classroom Facilities and School Improvement Bonds | | | | Library Improvement Bonds | | Certificates of Participation | |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| | Refunding Bonds Principal | Refunding Bonds Interest | Improvement Bonds Principal | Improvement Bonds Interest | Principal | Interest | Principal | Interest |
| 2025 | \$ 885,000 | \$ 203,648 | \$ 510,000 | \$ 462,279 | \$ 295,000 | \$ 127,675 | \$ - | \$ 843,872 |
| 2026 | 915,000 | 169,628 | 520,000 | 447,910 | 300,000 | 124,700 | 340,000 | 901,062 |
| 2027 | 950,000 | 134,379 | 540,000 | 429,447 | 300,000 | 117,200 | 305,000 | 884,937 |
| 2028 | 990,000 | 97,713 | 560,000 | 410,023 | 310,000 | 105,000 | 320,000 | 869,312 |
| 2029 | 1,025,000 | 59,629 | 575,000 | 389,412 | 325,000 | 92,300 | 335,000 | 852,937 |
| 2030-2034 | 1,065,000 | 20,128 | 4,805,000 | 1,518,031 | 1,820,000 | 268,700 | 1,955,000 | 3,987,935 |
| 2035-2039 | - | - | 6,090,000 | 576,685 | 810,000 | 24,450 | 2,485,000 | 3,435,185 |
| 2040-2044 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3,180,000 | 2,733,873 |
| 2045-2049 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3,985,000 | 1,897,863 |
| 2050-2054 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5,050,000 | 825,379 |
| 2055 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1,145,000 | 25,048 |
| Total | <u>\$ 5,830,000</u> | <u>\$ 685,125</u> | <u>\$ 13,600,000</u> | <u>\$ 4,233,787</u> | <u>\$ 4,160,000</u> | <u>\$ 860,025</u> | <u>\$ 19,100,000</u> | <u>\$ 17,257,403</u> |

NOTE 16: 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 fund. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the School District.

Litigation and Other Matters

The School District is not currently party to any legal proceedings.

NOTE 17: SET-ASIDE CALCULATIONS

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

The following cash basis information describes the change in the year-end set-aside amounts for capital improvements. Disclosure of this information is required by State statute.

| | Capital Improvement Reserve |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Set Aside Restricted Balance June 30, 2023 | \$ - |
| Current Year Set-Aside Requirement | 768,144 |
| Current Year Qualifying Expenditures | (1,477,360) |
| Total | <u><u>\$ (709,216)</u></u> |
| Balance Carried Forward to Fiscal Year 2025 | \$ - |
| Set Aside Balance June 30, 2024 | \$ - |

**Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio**

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

Although the School District had current year expenditures during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount to below zero, this amount may not be used to reduce the set aside requirement for future years. The negative balance is, therefore, not presented as being carried forward to future years.

NOTE 18: SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS

Encumbrances

The School District utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end are constraints imposed on fund balance for subsequent-year expenditures and may be reported as part of restricted, committed or assigned classifications of fund balance on the balance sheet.

At fiscal year-end the School District had the following commitments for encumbrances.

| <u>Fund</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| General | \$ 46,691 |
| Building Fund | 797,522 |
| Nonmajor Governmental | <u>425,584</u> |
| | <u><u>\$ 1,269,797</u></u> |

Contractual Commitments

At fiscal year-end the School District had the following significant contractual commitments.

| | Contractual Commitment | Expended | Balance 6/30/2024 |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| High School Special Education Classroom & Restroom Renovation | \$ 556,644 | \$ 188,147 | \$ 368,497 |
| Transportation Facility | 781,700 | 601,604 | 180,096 |
| Athletic Complex | 231,000 | 194,082 | 36,918 |
| Wifi Project | 453,145 | 406,454 | 46,691 |
| Step Spin | <u>111,561</u> | <u>64,947</u> | <u>46,614</u> |
| | <u><u>\$ 2,134,050</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 1,455,234</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 678,816</u></u> |

NOTE 19: SUBSEQUENT EVENT

In January 2025, the District approved the issuance and sale of tax anticipation notes in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,550,000 for the purpose of general permanent improvements.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
Last Ten Fiscal Years

| | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i> | | | | |
| School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability | 0.1603710% | 0.1763284% | 0.1700820% | 0.1669158% |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 8,861,324 | \$ 9,537,211 | \$ 6,275,533 | \$ 11,040,163 |
| School District's Covered Payroll | \$ 6,632,036 | \$ 6,397,564 | \$ 5,858,721 | \$ 5,934,979 |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll | 133.61% | 149.08% | 107.11% | 186.02% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability | 76.06% | 75.82% | 82.86% | 68.55% |
| <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i> | | | | |
| School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability | 0.14027194% | 0.13939759% | 0.14027258% | 0.13773919% |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 30,207,476 | \$ 30,988,260 | \$ 17,935,110 | \$ 33,327,983 |
| School District's Covered Payroll | \$ 19,249,779 | \$ 18,049,057 | \$ 17,504,114 | \$ 16,827,136 |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll | 156.92% | 171.69% | 102.46% | 198.06% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability | 80.02% | 78.90% | 87.80% | 75.50% |

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

| 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 0.1608989% | 0.1558667% | 0.1617061% | 0.1631276% | 0.1700268% | 0.1644370% |
| \$ 9,626,863 | \$ 8,926,775 | \$ 9,661,582 | \$ 11,939,436 | \$ 9,701,894 | \$ 8,322,063 |
| \$ 5,554,207 | \$ 5,317,022 | \$ 5,143,879 | \$ 5,075,421 | \$ 5,125,015 | \$ 4,756,154 |
| 173.33% | 167.89% | 187.83% | 235.24% | 189.30% | 174.97% |
| 70.85% | 71.36% | 69.50% | 62.98% | 69.16% | 71.70% |
| | | | | | |
| 0.13985008% | 0.14165006% | 0.14606795% | 0.15001044% | 0.15198722% | 0.15744926% |
| \$ 30,927,004 | \$ 31,145,668 | \$ 34,698,755 | \$ 50,213,017 | \$ 42,004,823 | \$ 38,297,109 |
| \$ 16,267,557 | \$ 16,291,893 | \$ 16,174,721 | \$ 15,677,036 | \$ 16,064,057 | \$ 15,921,238 |
| 190.11% | 191.17% | 214.52% | 320.30% | 261.48% | 240.54% |
| 77.40% | 77.31% | 75.29% | 66.80% | 72.10% | 74.70% |

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio**

*Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School District's Contributions - Pension
Last Ten Fiscal Years*

| | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i> | | | | |
| Contractually Required Contribution | \$ 1,045,481 | \$ 928,485 | \$ 895,659 | \$ 820,221 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>(1,045,481)</u> | <u>(928,485)</u> | <u>(895,659)</u> | <u>(820,221)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> |
| School District's Covered Payroll | \$ 7,467,721 | \$ 6,632,036 | \$ 6,397,564 | \$ 5,858,721 |
| Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% |
| <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i> | | | | |
| Contractually Required Contribution | \$ 2,827,820 | \$ 2,694,969 | \$ 2,526,868 | \$ 2,450,576 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>(2,827,820)</u> | <u>(2,694,969)</u> | <u>(2,526,868)</u> | <u>(2,450,576)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> |
| School District's Covered Payroll | \$ 20,198,714 | \$ 19,249,779 | \$ 18,049,057 | \$ 17,504,114 |
| Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% |

See accompanying note to the required supplementary information.

| 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| \$ 830,897 | \$ 749,818 | \$ 717,798 | \$ 720,143 | \$ 710,559 | \$ 675,477 |
| <u>(830,897)</u> | <u>(749,818)</u> | <u>(717,798)</u> | <u>(720,143)</u> | <u>(710,559)</u> | <u>(675,477)</u> |
| <u>\$ -</u> |
| \$ 5,934,979 | \$ 5,554,207 | \$ 5,317,022 | \$ 5,143,879 | \$ 5,075,421 | \$ 5,125,015 |
| 14.00% | 13.50% | 13.50% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 13.18% |
| | | | | | |
| \$ 2,355,799 | \$ 2,277,458 | \$ 2,280,865 | \$ 2,264,461 | \$ 2,194,785 | \$ 2,248,968 |
| <u>(2,355,799)</u> | <u>(2,277,458)</u> | <u>(2,280,865)</u> | <u>(2,264,461)</u> | <u>(2,194,785)</u> | <u>(2,248,968)</u> |
| <u>\$ -</u> |
| \$ 16,827,136 | \$ 16,267,557 | \$ 16,291,893 | \$ 16,174,721 | \$ 15,677,036 | \$ 16,064,057 |
| 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% |

See accompanying note to the required supplementary information.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)
Last Eight Fiscal Years (I)

| | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i> | | | | |
| School District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability | 0.1639433% | 0.1801596% | 0.1710170% | 0.1667730% |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability | \$ 2,700,876 | \$ 2,529,460 | \$ 3,236,631 | \$ 3,624,525 |
| School District's Covered Payroll | \$ 6,632,036 | \$ 6,397,564 | \$ 5,858,721 | \$ 5,934,979 |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll | 40.72% | 39.54% | 55.24% | 61.07% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability | 30.02% | 30.34% | 24.08% | 18.17% |
| <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i> | | | | |
| School District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) | 0.14027194% | 0.13939759% | 0.14027300% | 0.13773900% |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) | \$ (2,728,096) | \$ (3,609,468) | \$ (2,957,541) | \$ (2,420,760) |
| School District's Covered Payroll | \$ 19,249,779 | \$ 18,049,057 | \$ 17,504,114 | \$ 16,827,136 |
| School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll | -14.17% | -20.00% | -16.90% | -14.39% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability | 168.52% | 230.73% | 174.73% | 182.10% |

(1) Information prior to 2017 is not available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

| 2020 | | 2019 | | 2018 | | 2017 | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 0.1647633% | | 0.1585407% | | 0.1640850% | | 0.1651169% |
| \$ | 4,143,450 | \$ | 4,398,348 | \$ | 4,403,610 | \$ | 4,706,441 |
| \$ | 5,554,207 | \$ | 5,317,022 | \$ | 5,143,879 | \$ | 5,075,421 |
| | 74.60% | | 82.72% | | 85.61% | | 92.73% |
| | 15.57% | | 13.57% | | 12.46% | | 11.49% |
| | 0.13985008% | | 0.14165006% | | 0.14606795% | | 0.15001044% |
| \$ | (2,316,252) | \$ | (2,276,170) | \$ | (5,699,033) | \$ | (8,022,597) |
| \$ | 16,267,557 | \$ | 16,291,893 | \$ | 16,174,721 | \$ | 15,677,036 |
| | -14.24% | | -13.97% | | -35.23% | | -51.17% |
| | 174.74% | | 176.00% | | 47.11% | | 37.30% |

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County, Ohio

Required Supplementary Information

Schedule of the School District's Contributions - OPEB

Last Ten Fiscal Years

| | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i> | | | | |
| Contractually Required Contribution (1) | \$ 128,282 | \$ 114,024 | \$ 116,950 | \$ 89,732 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>(128,282)</u> | <u>(114,024)</u> | <u>(116,950)</u> | <u>(89,732)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> |
| School District's Covered Payroll | \$ 7,467,721 | \$ 6,632,036 | \$ 6,397,564 | \$ 5,858,721 |
| OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (1) | 1.72% | 1.72% | 1.83% | 1.53% |
| <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i> | | | | |
| Contractually Required Contribution | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> | <u><u>\$ -</u></u> |
| School District's Covered Payroll | \$ 20,198,714 | \$ 19,249,779 | \$ 18,049,057 | \$ 17,504,114 |
| OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

(1) Includes surcharge

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

| 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| \$ 76,702 | \$ 127,045 | \$ 113,208 | \$ 106,678 | \$ 82,713 | \$ 125,230 |
| <u>(76,702)</u> | <u>(127,045)</u> | <u>(113,208)</u> | <u>(106,678)</u> | <u>(82,713)</u> | <u>(125,230)</u> |
| <u><u>\$ -</u></u> |
| \$ 5,934,979 | \$ 5,554,207 | \$ 5,317,022 | \$ 5,143,879 | \$ 5,075,421 | \$ 5,125,015 |
| 1.29% | 2.29% | 2.13% | 2.07% | 1.63% | 2.44% |
| | | | | | |
| \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| <u><u>\$ -</u></u> |
| \$ 16,827,136 | \$ 16,267,557 | \$ 16,291,893 | \$ 16,174,721 | \$ 15,677,036 | \$ 16,064,057 |
| 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% | 0.00% |

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

NOTE 1 - NET PENSION LIABILITY

There were no changes in assumptions or benefit terms for the fiscal years reported unless otherwise stated below:

Changes in Assumptions - SERS

Amounts reported in 2022 incorporate changes in assumptions used by SERS in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These assumptions compared with those used in prior years are presented as follows:

| | <u>Fiscal Year 2022</u> | <u>Fiscal Years 2021-2017</u> | <u>Fiscal Years 2016 and Prior</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Wage Inflation | 2.40% | 3.00% | 3.25% |
| Future Salary Increases, including inflation | 3.25% to 13.58% | 3.50% to 18.20% | 4.00% to 22.00% |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.00% net of system expenses | 7.50% net of investment expenses, including inflation | 7.75% net of investment expenses, including inflation |

Beginning in 2022, amounts reported use mortality rates based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP2020 projection scale generationally.

Beginning in fiscal year 2018, on each anniversary of the initial retirement, the allowance of all retirees and survivors may be increased by the annual rate of increase in the CPI-W measured as of the June preceding the beginning of the applicable calendar year. The annual rate of increase shall not be less than 0 percent nor greater than 2.5 percent.

Amounts report for 2017 through 2021 use mortality rates that are based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females. Amounts reported for fiscal year 2016 and prior, use mortality assumptions that are based on the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set back one year for both men and women. Special mortality tables were used for the period after disability retirement.

Changes in Benefit Terms - SERS

For fiscal year 2022, COLA were increased from 2.00 percent to 2.50 percent.

For fiscal year 2021, COLA were reduced from 2.50 percent to 2.00 percent.

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

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Changes in Assumptions – STRS

Beginning with fiscal year 2022, amounts reported incorporate changes in assumptions and changes in benefit terms used by STRS in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These new assumptions compared with those used in fiscal years 2018-2021 and fiscal year 2017 and prior are presented as follows:

| | <u>Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023</u> | <u>Fiscal Years 2021-2018</u> | <u>Fiscal Years 2017 and Prior</u> |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Inflation | 2.50% | 2.50% | 2.75% |
| Projected Salary Increases | From 2.50% to 12.50% based on age | From 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 | From 12.25% at age 20 to 2.75% at age 70 |
| Investment Rate of Return, net of investment expenses, including inflation | 7.00% | 7.45% | 7.75% |
| Payroll Increases | 3.00% | 3.00% | 3.50% |

Beginning with fiscal year 2022, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

Beginning with fiscal year 2018, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees were based on the RP2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

For fiscal year 2017 and prior actuarial valuation, mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table (Projection 2022—Scale AA) for Males and Females. Males' ages are set-back two years through age 89 and no set back for age 90 and above. Females younger than age 80 are set back four years, one year set back from age 80 through 89, and no set back from age 90 and above.

Changes in Benefit Terms - STRS

For fiscal year 2023, the Board approved a one-time 3 percent COLA effective on the anniversary of a benefit recipient's retirement date for those eligible during fiscal year 2023 and eliminated the age 60 requirement to receive unreduced retirement that was scheduled to go into effect August 1, 2026.

For fiscal year 2018, the COLA was reduced to zero.

Fiscal year 2017 and prior, COLA was 2 percent simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2 percent per year; for members retiring August 1, 2013 or later, 2 percent COLA commences on fifth anniversary of retirement date

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

NOTE 2 - NET OPEB LIABILITY (ASSET)

Changes in Assumptions – SERS

Amounts reported incorporate changes in assumptions and changes in benefit terms used by SERS in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These new assumptions compared with those used in fiscal year 2021 and prior are presented below:

| | <u>Fiscal Years 2023 and 2022</u> | <u>Fiscal Years 2021-2017</u> |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Inflation | 2.40% | 3.00% |
| Future Salary Increases, including inflation | 3.25% to 13.58% | 3.50% to 18.20% |
| Investment Rate of Return, net of investment expenses, including inflation | 7.00% | 7.50% |

Amounts reported incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented as follows:

| <u>Assumption</u> | <u>Fiscal Year</u> | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2024</u> | <u>2023</u> | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> |
| Municipal Bond Index Rate | 3.86% | 3.69% | 1.92% | 2.45% | 3.13% | 3.62% | 3.56% | 2.92% |
| Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation | 4.27% | 4.08% | 2.27% | 2.63% | 3.22% | 3.70% | 3.63% | 2.98% |

Changes in Assumptions – STRS

For fiscal year 2023, the projected salary increases were changed from age based (2.5 percent to 12.50 percent) to service based (2.5 percent to 8.5 percent).

For fiscal year 2022, the discount rate was decreased from 7.45 percent to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.00.

For fiscal year 2019, the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13 percent to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45.

For fiscal year 2018, the blended discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County, Ohio
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Changes in Benefit Terms – STRS

Effective January 1, 2024, Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience as well as benefit changes.

For fiscal year 2023, health care trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience

For fiscal year 2022, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, premium based on June 30, 2021, enrollment distribution. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022, from 2.055 percent to 2.1 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D Subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in calendar year 2022. The Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely

For fiscal year 2021, there were no changes to the claims costs process. Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year 2021 premium based on June 30, 2020 enrollment distribution. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984 percent to 2.055 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to .1 percent for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

For fiscal year 2020, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2020 from 1.944 percent to 1.984 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1 percent for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021

For fiscal year 2019, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was increased from 1.9 percent to 1.944 percent per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
LORAIN COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

| FEDERAL GRANTOR/ PASS THROUGH GRANTOR/ PROGRAM/CLUSTER TITLE | ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER | PASS-THROUGH ENTITY IDENTIFYING NUMBER / ADDITIONAL AWARD IDENTIFICATION | TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS |
|---|--|---|---|
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE | | | |
| <i>Passed Through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i> | | | |
| Child Nutrition Cluster: | | | |
| School Breakfast Program | 10.553 | 2024 | \$ 135,756 |
| National School Lunch Program | 10.555 | 2023 | 305,220 |
| National School Lunch Program | 10.555 | 2024 | 611,501 |
| COVID-19 - National School Lunch Program | 10.555 | COVID-19, 2024 | 100,154 |
| National School Lunch Program - Food Donation | 10.555 | 2024 | 109,456 |
| Total National School Lunch Program | | | 1,126,331 |
| Total Child Nutrition Cluster | | | 1,262,087 |
| Total U.S. Department of Agriculture | | | 1,262,087 |
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY | | | |
| <i>Passed Through the Ohio Office of Budget and Management</i> | | | |
| COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - School Safety Round #3 | 21.027 | COVID-19 | 75,909 |
| Total U.S. Department of the Treasury | | | 75,909 |
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | | | |
| <i>Passed Through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i> | | | |
| Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies | 84.010A | 84.010A, 2024 | 265,072 |
| Special Education Cluster (IDEA): | | | |
| Special Education_Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) | 84.027A | 84.027A, 2023 | 130,417 |
| Special Education_Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) | 84.027A | 84.027A, 2024 | 707,785 |
| COVID-19 - Special Education_Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) - ARP | 84.027X | COVID-19, 84.027X, 2023 | 8,993 |
| Total Special Education_Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) | | | 847,195 |
| Special Education_Preschool Grants (IDEA Preschool) | 84.173A | 84.173A, 2024 | 21,055 |
| Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA) | | | 868,250 |
| <i>Consortium Amount Passed/Transferred to the Lorain County Educational Service Center</i> | | | |
| English Language Acquisition States Grants | 84.365A | 84.365A, 2024 | 5,570 |
| Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants | 84.367A | 84.367A, 2023 | 10,859 |
| Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants | 84.367A | 84.367A, 2024 | 108,800 |
| Total Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants | | | 119,659 |
| Comprehensive Literacy Development | 84.371C | 84.371C, 2024 | 152,797 |
| Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program | 84.424A | 84.424A, 2023 | 4,417 |
| Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program | 84.424A | 84.424A, 2024 | 26,752 |
| Total Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program | | | 31,169 |
| COVID-19 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - ARP ESSER | 84.425U | COVID-19, 84.425U, 2023 | 176,411 |
| COVID-19 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - ARP ESSER | 84.425U | COVID-19, 84.425U, 2024 | 612,028 |
| COVID-19 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund - ARP Homeless Round II | 84.425W | COVID-19, 84.425W, 2024 | 2,666 |
| Total Education Stabilization Fund | | | 791,105 |
| Total U.S. Department of Education | | | 2,233,622 |
| Total Federal Financial Assistance | | | \$ 3,571,618 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
LORAIN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 – BASIS OF PRESENTATION & SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Amherst Exempted Village School District under programs of the federal government for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 and is prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Amherst Exempted Village School District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the Amherst Exempted Village School District. Such expenditures are recognized following cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be limited to as to reimbursement.

NOTE 2 – DE MINIMIS COST RATE

CFR Section 200.414 of the Uniform Guidance allows a non-federal entity that has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs to indirect costs. The Amherst Exempted Village School District has not elected to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE 3 - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE 4 – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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

NOTE 5 – PASS THROUGH GRANTS

The Amherst Exempted Village School District was awarded federal program allocations to be administered on their behalf by the Lorain County Educational Service Center. For fiscal year 2024, the Amherst Exempted Village School District's allocation was as follows: English Language Acquisition State Grants (ALN 84.365A) \$5,570.

**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other
Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With
*Government Auditing Standards***

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County
550 Milan Avenue
Amherst, Ohio 44001

To the Members of the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Amherst Exempted Village School District, Lorain County, Ohio, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Amherst Exempted Village School District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 24, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Amherst Exempted Village School District

Lorain County

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters

Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

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



Julian & Grube, Inc.

February 24, 2025

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County
550 Milan Avenue
Amherst, Ohio 44001

To the Members of the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Amherst Exempted Village School District's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Amherst Exempted Village School District's major federal programs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The Amherst Exempted Village School District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, the Amherst Exempted Village School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program
and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

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

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

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

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

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

Amherst Exempted Village School District
Lorain County
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program
and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

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

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

Julian & Grube, Inc.

Julian & Grube, Inc.
February 24, 2025

**AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
LORAIN COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2024

| 1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS | | |
|--|---|---|
| (d)(1)(i) | <i>Type of Financial Statement Opinion</i> | Unmodified |
| (d)(1)(ii) | <i>Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</i> | No |
| (d)(1)(ii) | <i>Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</i> | None reported |
| (d)(1)(iii) | <i>Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</i> | No |
| (d)(1)(iv) | <i>Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?</i> | No |
| (d)(1)(iv) | <i>Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?</i> | None reported |
| (d)(1)(v) | <i>Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion</i> | Unmodified |
| (d)(1)(vi) | <i>Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR §.516(a)?</i> | No |
| (d)(1)(vii) | <i>Major Program(s) (listed):</i> | Child Nutrition Cluster |
| (d)(1)(viii) | <i>Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs</i> | Type A:>\$750,000 Type B: all others |
| (d)(1)(ix) | <i>Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?</i> | Yes |

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

None

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



AMHERST EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

LORAIN 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 5/8/2025

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

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