



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Prepared by Management:	
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-Wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis	
June 30, 2024	5
Statement of Activities – Cash Basis	
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024	6
Fund Financial Statements:	
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances – Cash Basis	
Governmental Funds	
June 30, 2024	7
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes In Fund Balances – Cash Basis	
Governmental Funds	
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024	8
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements	9
Supplementary Information:	
Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes In	
Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)	
General Fund	
For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024	43
Notes to the Supplementary Information	44
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over	
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters	
Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	45
Schedule of Findings.....	47
Prepared by Management:	
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings	48

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Fayette Local School District
Fulton County
400 East Gamble Road
Fayette, Ohio 43521-9462

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

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

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

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

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible 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 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 GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) for the General Fund is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the 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 Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) for the General Fund 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 10, 2025, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

February 10, 2025

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FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 4,450,586</u>
Net position:	
Restricted for:	
Debt service	775,569
Capital projects	239,310
Classroom facilities maintenance	286,570
State funded programs	5,648
Food service operations	98,177
Extracurricular	96,132
Other purposes	86,702
Unrestricted	<u>2,862,478</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 4,450,586</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	Cash Disbursements	Program Receipts		Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position	
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions		
				Governmental Activities	
Governmental activities:					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 2,636,047	\$ 154,084	\$ 61,535	\$ (2,420,428)	
Special	1,372,947	4,252	595,587	(773,108)	
Vocational	162,815	-	56,292	(106,523)	
Other	8,592	-	-	(8,592)	
Support services:					
Pupil	664,908	-	291,734	(373,174)	
Instructional staff	191,907	3,683	9,263	(178,961)	
Board of education	13,254	-	-	(13,254)	
Administration	548,262	-	-	(548,262)	
Fiscal	289,074	-	-	(289,074)	
Business	18,582	-	-	(18,582)	
Operations and maintenance	821,361	202	70,731	(750,428)	
Pupil transportation	279,331	-	33,134	(246,197)	
Central	41,939	-	2,816	(39,123)	
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	242,553	75,366	145,481	(21,706)	
Other non-instructional services	2,799	-	3,009	210	
Extracurricular activities	490,920	273,410	7	(217,503)	
Facilities acquisition and construction	763	-	-	(763)	
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	479,958	-	-	(479,958)	
Interest and fiscal charges	117,690	-	-	(117,690)	
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 8,383,702</u>	<u>\$ 510,997</u>	<u>\$ 1,269,589</u>	<u>(6,603,116)</u>	
General receipts:					
Property taxes levied for:					
General purposes				1,648,376	
Debt service				382,904	
Capital outlay				64,209	
Classroom facilities maintenance				20,186	
Income taxes levied for:					
General purposes				677,314	
Grants and entitlements not restricted					
to specific programs				3,515,267	
Investment earnings				145,523	
Sale of assets				11,100	
Miscellaneous				12,034	
Total general receipts				<u>6,476,913</u>	
Change in net position				(126,203)	
Net position at beginning of year				<u>4,576,789</u>	
Net position at end of year				<u>\$ 4,450,586</u>	

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024**

	General Fund	Bond Retirement Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 2,885,468</u>	<u>\$ 775,569</u>	<u>\$ 789,549</u>	<u>\$ 4,450,586</u>
Fund balances:				
Restricted:				
Debt service	\$ -	\$ 775,569	\$ -	\$ 775,569
Capital improvements	- -	- -	239,310	239,310
Classroom facilities maintenance	- -	- -	286,570	286,570
Food service operations	- -	- -	98,177	98,177
State funded programs	- -	- -	5,648	5,648
Extracurricular	- -	- -	96,132	96,132
Other purposes	- -	- -	86,702	86,702
Assigned:				
Student instruction	205	- -	- -	205
Student and staff support	134,997	- -	- -	134,997
Facilities acquisition and construction	6,863	- -	- -	6,863
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>2,743,403</u>	<u>- -</u>	<u>(22,990)</u>	<u>2,720,413</u>
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 2,885,468</u>	<u>\$ 775,569</u>	<u>\$ 789,549</u>	<u>\$ 4,450,586</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	General Fund	Bond Retirement Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts:				
Property taxes	\$ 1,648,376	\$ 382,904	\$ 84,395	\$ 2,115,675
Income taxes	677,314	-	-	677,314
Intergovernmental	4,097,730	64,981	607,146	4,769,857
Investment earnings	145,523	-	5,016	150,539
Tuition and fees	144,479	-	-	144,479
Extracurricular	17,540	-	273,410	290,950
Rental income	202	-	-	202
Charges for services	150	-	75,366	75,516
Contributions and donations	6,065	-	7	6,072
Miscellaneous	11,884	-	3,911	15,795
Total receipts	<u>6,749,263</u>	<u>447,885</u>	<u>1,049,251</u>	<u>8,246,399</u>
Disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	2,524,205	-	111,842	2,636,047
Special	1,093,906	-	279,041	1,372,947
Vocational	160,305	-	2,510	162,815
Other	8,592	-	-	8,592
Support services:				
Pupil	506,188	-	158,720	664,908
Instructional staff	182,573	-	9,334	191,907
Board of education	13,254	-	-	13,254
Administration	548,262	-	-	548,262
Fiscal	278,863	8,464	1,747	289,074
Business	18,582	-	-	18,582
Operations and maintenance	597,710	-	223,651	821,361
Pupil transportation	277,765	-	1,566	279,331
Central	38,879	-	3,060	41,939
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	-	-	242,553	242,553
Other non-instructional services	299	-	2,500	2,799
Extracurricular activities	231,654	-	259,266	490,920
Facilities acquisition and construction	763	-	-	763
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	54,958	425,000	-	479,958
Interest and fiscal charges	11,615	106,075	-	117,690
Total disbursements	<u>6,548,373</u>	<u>539,539</u>	<u>1,295,790</u>	<u>8,383,702</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>200,890</u>	<u>(91,654)</u>	<u>(246,539)</u>	<u>(137,303)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Sale of assets	-	-	11,100	11,100
Transfers in	-	152,118	-	152,118
Transfers (out)	(152,118)	-	-	(152,118)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(152,118)</u>	<u>152,118</u>	<u>11,100</u>	<u>11,100</u>
Net change in fund balances	48,772	60,464	(235,439)	(126,203)
Fund balances at beginning of year	2,836,696	715,105	1,024,988	4,576,789
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 2,885,468</u>	<u>\$ 775,569</u>	<u>\$ 789,549</u>	<u>\$ 4,450,586</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Fayette Local School District (the District) is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) elected at-large for staggered four year terms. The District provides educational services as authorized by State statute and/or federal guidelines. The District employs 39 certified employees, 10 classified employees, and 9 administrators to provide services to 365 students in grades K through 12 and other community members.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed in Note 2.D, these financial statements are presented on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In cases where these cash basis statements contain items that are the same as, or similar to, those items in financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP, similar informative disclosures are provided. The following are the District's more significant accounting policies.

A. Reporting Entity

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity" as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, "Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units" and GASB Statement No. 61, "The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34". The reporting entity is composed of the primary government and component units. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. For the District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the District.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the District is financially accountable. The District is financially accountable for an organization if the District appoints a voting majority of the organization's Governing Board and (1) the District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; or (3) the District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or (4) the District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the District in that the District approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. Certain organizations are also included as component units if the nature and significance of the relationship between the primary government and the organization is such that exclusion by the primary government would render the primary government's financial statements incomplete or misleading. Based upon the application of these criteria, the District has no component units. The basic financial statements of the reporting entity include only those of the District (the primary government).

The District participates in three jointly governed organizations and three insurance pools and is associated with a related organization. These organizations are the Northwest Ohio Computer Association, the Northern Buckeye Education Council, the Four County Career Center, the Ohio School Plan, the Northern Buckeye Health Plan – Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiatives (OHI), the Northern Buckeye Health Plan Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan, and the Normal Public Library. These organizations are presented in Notes 16, 17, and 18 to the basic financial statements.

B. Basis of Presentation

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

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position – cash basis and the statement of activities – cash basis display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government.

The government-wide statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the District's governmental activities. These disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts 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. Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the District. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing on the cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the District.

All cash assets and net cash position associated with the operation of the District are included on the statement of net position – cash basis.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column.

C. Fund Accounting

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

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. The District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants) and other non-exchange transactions as governmental funds. Expendable cash assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. The following are the District's major governmental funds:

General Fund - The General Fund is used to account for and report all financial receipts not accounted for and reported in another fund. The General Fund balance is available for any purpose provided it is disbursed or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Bond Retirement Fund - The Bond Retirement Fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and payment of, general long-term debt principal, interest, and related costs.

Other governmental funds of the District are used to account for:

Nonmajor special revenue funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

Nonmajor capital projects funds - Capital projects funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

D. Basis of Accounting

The District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Any such modifications made by the District are described in the appropriate section in this note.

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

E. Budgetary Process

All funds, other than custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriation resolution and the certificate of estimated resources, which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. 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 disbursements plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of budgetary control selected by the Board is at the object level for the General Fund and the fund level in all other funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education. Budgetary allocations below these levels are made by the District's Treasurer.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipt are identified by the Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Board.

The appropriations resolution is subject to amendment throughout the fiscal year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriations resolution for that fund that covered the entire fiscal year, including amounts automatically carried forward 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.

F. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, all cash received by the District is pooled in a central bank account. Monies for all funds are maintained in this account or temporarily used to purchase short-term investments. Individual fund integrity is maintained through District's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the financial statements.

Investments of the District's cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the District are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that are not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts (contra receipt), respectively.

During 2024, the District invested in nonnegotiable certificates of deposit which are reported at cost.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipt credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2024 was \$145,523, which includes \$50,101 assigned from other District funds.

An analysis of the District's deposits and investment at year end is provided in Note 4.

G. Inventory and Prepaid Items

The District reports cash disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

H. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

I. Interfund Balances

On fund financial statements, the District reports advances in and advances out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying fund financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. Advances are eliminated in the governmental activities column on the statement of net position. During fiscal year 2024, the District did not make any advances in or advances out to other funds.

J. Compensated Absences

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

K. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 10 and 11, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

L. Long-Term Obligations

The District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease, SBITA, or financed purchase transaction is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay disbursement is reported at inception. Lease, SBITA, and financed purchase payments are reported when paid.

M. Fund Cash Balance

Fund cash balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the 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 spendable form or legally required to be maintained intact. The District had no nonspendable fund cash balances at June 30, 2024.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

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

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 District Board of Education (the highest level of decision making authority). Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the 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 cash 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 District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. These amounts are assigned by the District's Board of Education. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

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 only used to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

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

N. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes includes amounts restricted for student scholarships for which the District has administrative involvement.

The District first applies restricted resources when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net cash position is available.

O. Interfund Activity

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

P. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board of Education and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during fiscal year 2024.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)

Q. Leases and Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

The District is the lessee (as defined by GASB 87) in a lease related to copier equipment under a noncancelable lease. Lease payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

The District has entered into noncancelable SBITA contracts (as defined by GASB 96) for curriculum and various other software. SBITA payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

R. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability and net OPEB asset, 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 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2024, the District has implemented certain paragraphs of GASB Implementation Guide No. 2021-1, certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "Omnibus 2022", GASB Statement No. 100, "Accounting Changes and Error Corrections - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62" and Implementation Guide No. 2023-1.

GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 99 is to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 100 is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 100 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Implementation Guide 2023-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2023-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

B. Compliance

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

C. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2024 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor governmental funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Public School Preschool	\$ 11,087
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency	1,995
Title I	<u>9,908</u>
 Total	 <u><u>\$ 22,990</u></u>

The deficit fund balances resulted from a lag between disbursements made by the District and reimbursements from grantors and are allowable under Ohio Revised Code Section 3315.20.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

State statutes classify monies held by the District into three categories.

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

Inactive deposits are public deposits that the Board of Education 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;

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

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, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the fair 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. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items (1) and (2) above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio); and
8. Certain bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

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

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the District and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Cash on Hand

At fiscal year end, the District had \$1,870 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the District as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At fiscal year end, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was \$4,448,716, and the bank balance was \$4,469,749. Of the bank balance, \$3,769,453 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$700,296 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and collateralized.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

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

Eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the District or 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;

Participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayments of all public monies deposited in 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.

C. Investments

As of June 30, 2024, the District did not have any investments.

D. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the note disclosure above to cash and investments as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2024:

Cash and investments per note disclosure

Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 4,448,716
Cash on hand	<u>1,870</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 4,450,586</u></u>

Cash and investments per Statement of Net Position

Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ 4,450,586</u></u>
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NOTE 5 - INCOME TAX

In 1991, the voters of the Fayette Local School District passed a 1.00 percent continuing school income tax on wages earned by residents of the District. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts are credited to the General Fund.

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property. Real property tax receipts received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised fair value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, 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.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES - (Continued)

Public utility property tax receipts received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Public utility real and personal property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien on December 31, 2022, were levied after April 1, 2023, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The District receives property taxes from Fulton County. The County Auditor periodically advance to the 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. 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
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 49,936,020	81.08	\$ 70,597,530	86.07
Public utility personal	<u>11,652,450</u>	<u>18.92</u>	<u>11,421,280</u>	<u>13.93</u>
Total	<u>\$ 61,588,470</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 82,018,810</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation		\$56.40		\$54.50

NOTE 7 - CAPITAL ASSETS

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

	Balance 6/30/23	Additions	Reductions	Balance 6/30/24
Governmental Activities				
Land	\$ 321,608	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 321,608
Land Improvements	2,144,818	-	-	2,144,818
Buildings and Building Improvements	17,841,113	-	-	17,841,113
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	1,501,149	112,313	18,951	1,594,511
Vehicles	742,538	-	78,575	663,963
Total Capital Assets	<u>\$ 22,551,226</u>	<u>\$ 112,313</u>	<u>\$ 97,526</u>	<u>\$ 22,566,013</u>

NOTE 8 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, as reported on the fund statements, consist of the following:

<u>Transfers in</u>	<u>Transfers out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bond Retirement Fund	General Fund	\$ 152,118

Transfers are used to move cash receipts from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to disburse them and to use unrestricted cash receipts collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. All transfers were made in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements; therefore, no transfers are reported in the statement of activities.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Comprehensive

The District maintains comprehensive insurance coverage with the Ohio School Plan for liability, real property, building contents, and vehicles. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. In addition, real property contents are fully insured.

The District joined together with other school districts in Ohio to participate in the Ohio School Plan (the Plan), a public entity insurance purchasing pool (Note 17). Each participant enters into an individual agreement with the Plan for insurance coverage and pays annual premiums to the Plan based on the types and limits of coverage and deductibles selected by the participant.

Settled claims have not exceeded the commercial coverage in any of the past three years, and there has been no significant reduction in insurance coverage from last year.

B. Employee Insurance Benefit Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP), Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiative Consortium (OHI), a self-insurance pool, for insurance benefits to employees (Note 17). The District pays monthly premiums to NBHP for the benefits offered to its employees, which includes health, dental, and life insurance. NBHP is responsible for the management and operations of the program. The agreement with NBHP provides for additional assessment to participants if the premiums are insufficient to pay the program costs for the fiscal year. Upon withdrawal from NBHP, a participant is responsible for any claims not processed and paid and any related administrative costs.

All employees are on a High Deductible insurance plan with NBHP. The board contributes \$3,800 family and \$2,150 individual annually to a Health Savings Account (HSA) at Premier Bank. The District also offers supplement insurance plans through Advantage Group/Vision Financial. The employee has an option of using HSA contribution toward the premiums of the supplemental insurances.

C. Workers' Comp Group Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (NBHP), Northern Division of Optimal Health Initiative (OHI) Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (the Plan), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 17). The Plan is intended to reduce premiums for the participants. 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 Plan. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the Plan rather than its individual rate. The Executive Director of the NBHP coordinates the management and administration of the program.

Participation in the Plan is limited to educational entities that can meet the Plan's selection criteria. Each participant must apply annually. The Plan provides the participants with a centralized program for the processing, analysis and management of workers' compensation claims and a risk management program to assist in developing safer work environments. Each participant must pay its premiums, enrollment or other fees, and perform its obligations in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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 obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represent the 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/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position. The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) calculation is dependent on critical long-term variables, including estimated average life expectancies, earnings on investments, cost of living adjustments and others. While these estimates use the best information available, unknowable future events require adjusting these estimates annually.

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

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

The net pension/net OPEB liability (asset) are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 11 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it will be indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0%. In 2023, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2024.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14.00% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00%. For fiscal year 2024, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$94,073 for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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% 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 34 years of service credit at any age.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$422,560 for fiscal year 2024.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Net Pension Liability

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.016414400%	0.021452340%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.015616900%</u>	<u>0.020623700%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000797500%</u>	<u>-0.000828640%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 862,915	\$ 4,441,301	\$ 5,304,216

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

Wage inflation:

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Prior measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%

COLA or ad hoc COLA:

Current measurement date	2.00%
Prior measurement date	2.00%

Investment rate of return:

Current measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
Prior measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses

Discount rate:

Current measurement date	7.00%
Prior measurement date	7.00%

Actuarial cost method

Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

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

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

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

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,273,617	\$ 862,915	\$ 516,975

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.00%
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%	0.00%

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

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

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

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and is net of investment disbursements. 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.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following table represents the net pension liability as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 6,829,738	\$ 4,441,301	\$ 2,421,337

Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate remained at 7.00% for June 30, 2023 valuation. Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 10 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certified 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.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the District's surcharge obligation was \$12,013.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$12,013 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.strs.oh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

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

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net OPEB			
liability/asset prior measurement date	0.016825400%	0.021452340%	
Proportion of the net OPEB			
liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.016113200%</u>	<u>0.020623700%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000712200%</u>	<u>-0.000828640%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net			
OPEB liability	\$ 265,456	\$ -	\$ 265,456
Proportionate share of the net			
OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (401,102)	\$ (401,102)

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.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Mortality 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% for males and adjusted 122.5% 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 is reviewed as part of the regular experience studies prepared every five years for SERS. The most recent five-year experience study was performed for the period covering fiscal years 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a long-normal distribution analysis in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00%, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2023, was 4.27%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2023, was 4.08%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50% of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be depleted in 2048 by SERS' actuaries. The Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate was used in the determination of the single equivalent interest rate for both the June 30, 2022 and the June 30, 2023 total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index Rate was 3.86% at June 30, 2023 and 3.69% at June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the 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, what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.27%) and higher (5.27%) than the current discount rate (4.27%). Also shown is what the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%).

	Current		
	1% Decrease (3.27%)	Discount Rate (4.27%)	1% Increase (5.27%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 339,329	\$ 265,456	\$ 207,204

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

	1% Decrease (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%)	Current Trend Rate (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%)	1% Increase (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 195,021	\$ 265,456	\$ 358,792

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	June 30, 2023		June 30, 2022	
Inflation	2.50%		2.50%	
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%		Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%		0.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.00%	
Blended discount rate of return	N/A		N/A	
Health care cost trends		Initial	Ultimate	Initial
Medical		Initial	Ultimate	Initial
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	4.14%	7.50%	3.94%
Medicare	-10.94%	4.14%	-68.78%	3.94%
Prescription Drug		Initial	Ultimate	Initial
Pre-Medicare	-11.95%	4.14%	9.00%	3.94%
Medicare	1.33%	4.14%	-5.47%	3.94%

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

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

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

Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate remained unchanged at 7.00% for the June 30, 2023 valuation.

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

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

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

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 339,481	\$ 401,102	\$ 454,768
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	Current Trend Rate		
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
	\$ 457,259	\$ 401,102	\$ 333,463

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 12 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Classified employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per fiscal year, depending upon length of service. Teachers do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at a rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of two hundred fifty days for teachers and two hundred fifty days for all other employees. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fourth of accrued but unused sick leave credit to a maximum of 62.5 days for teachers and 62.5 days for all other employees.

B. Health Care Benefits

The District provides medical, dental, vision, and life insurance to most employees through the OHI Employee Insurance Benefits Program. This program is further described in Note 9.B.

C. Separation Benefits

The District provides a separation benefit to eligible certified employees.

Certified employees

A full-time employee eligible to retire under the provisions of the State Teachers Retirement System that has five years of service with the District will be paid \$550 for each year served in the first year eligible to retire, if notification of pending retirement is submitted in writing to the Board no later than April 1 for retirement effective at the end of the current school year or prior to the following school year.

NOTE 13 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

During fiscal year 2024, the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term obligations:

	Balance Outstanding 06/30/23	Additions	Balance Outstanding 06/30/24	Amounts Due in One Year
Governmental Activities:				
<u>General Obligation Bonds:</u>				
Series 2013 Refunding Bonds:				
Series 2013B Term Bonds	\$ 160,000	\$ -	\$ 160,000	\$ -
Series 2021A Refunding Bonds:				
Series 2021A Serial Bonds	1,830,000	-	205,000	1,625,000
Series 2021A Term Bonds	1,070,000	-	-	1,070,000
Series 2021B Refunding Bonds:				
Series 2021B Serial Bonds	465,000	-	60,000	405,000
Series 2021B Term Bonds	580,000	-	-	580,000
Total General Obligation Bonds	4,105,000	-	425,000	3,680,000
Note Payable Financed Purchase	236,559	-	54,958	181,601
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 4,341,559</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 479,958</u>	<u>\$ 3,861,601</u>
				<u>\$ 337,657</u>

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 13 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

Series 2013 Refunding Bonds

On April 29, 2013, the District issued \$4,399,994 in Series 2013A and Series 2013B bonds to refund the 2006 school improvement serial bonds, 2006 general obligation term bonds. The Series 2013A bond issue included serial, term, and capital appreciation bonds, in the original amount of \$725,000, \$3,110,000, and \$114,994, respectively. During fiscal year 2021, the Series 2013A bonds were refunded through the issuance of the Series 2021 refunding bonds. There is no remaining obligation for the Series 2013A bonds at June 30, 2021.

The Series 2013B current interest term bonds matured on December 1, 2023, were subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption at a redemption price of 100% of the principal amount to be redeemed, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption, on December 1, 2022, in the principal amount of \$150,000. The remaining principal amount of such Series 2013B current interest term bonds (\$160,000) were paid at stated maturity on December 1, 2023. The bonds were retired through the Bond Retirement Fund.

Series 2021A Refunding Bonds

On April 15, 2021, the District issued \$3,325,000, in general obligation refunding bonds, which included \$2,255,000 in serial bonds and \$1,070,000 in term bonds with interest rates varying from 2.0 percent to 5.0 percent. The final stated maturity on the issue is December 1, 2034. Proceeds were used to advance refund \$3,405,000 of the outstanding Series 2013A Refunding Bonds. The bonds will be retired through the Bond Retirement Fund.

The bonds were sold at a premium of \$216,690. Proceeds of \$3,447,875 (after the underwriting fees and other issuance costs) were deposited in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt payments on the refunded Series 2013A Refunding Bonds. As a result, \$3,405,000 of these bonds were considered defeased and the liability for the refunding portion of these bonds has been removed from the long-term obligations schedule. As of June 30, 2024, the outstanding amount of the refunded bonds is \$2,990,000.

The Series 2021A term bonds are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption as follows:

Maturity Date December 1	Principal Amount	Interest Rate
2031	\$260,000	2.000%
2032	265,000	2.000%
2033	270,000	2.000%
2034	275,000	2.000%

Series 2021B Refunding Bonds

On October 7, 2021, the District issued \$1,105,000, in general obligation refunding bonds, which included \$525,000 in serial bonds and \$580,000 in term bonds with an interest rate of 3.0 percent. The final stated maturity on the issue is December 1, 2036. Proceeds were used to advance refund \$1,120,000 of the outstanding Series 2017 School Improvement Bonds. The bonds will be retired through the Bond Retirement Fund.

The bonds were sold at a premium of \$106,296. Proceeds of \$1,139,728 (after the underwriting fees and other issuance costs) were deposited in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide for all future debt payments on the refunded Series 2017 School Improvement Bonds. As a result, \$1,120,000 of these bonds were considered defeased and the liability for the refunding portion of these bonds has been removed from the long-term obligations schedule. As of June 30, 2024, the outstanding amount of the refunded bonds is \$1,000,000.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 13 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

The Series 2021B term bonds are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption as follows:

Maturity Date December 1	Principal Amount	Interest Rate
2030	\$ 75,000	3.000%
2031	80,000	3.000%
2032	80,000	3.000%
2033	85,000	3.000%
2034	85,000	3.000%
2035	85,000	3.000%
2036	90,000	3.000%

Future Debt Service Requirements

The following is a summary of the District's future annual debt service requirements for general obligation bonds:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	General Obligation Bonds			Total
	Principal	Interest		
2025	\$ 280,000	\$ 95,500	\$ 375,500	
2026	285,000	87,025	372,025	
2027	290,000	78,400	368,400	
2028	295,000	69,625	364,625	
2029	310,000	60,550	370,550	
2030 - 2034	1,685,000	167,650	1,852,650	
2035 - 2037	<u>535,000</u>	<u>14,600</u>	<u>549,600</u>	
Total	<u>\$ 3,680,000</u>	<u>\$ 573,350</u>	<u>\$ 4,253,350</u>	

Legal Debt Margin

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2024, are a voted debt margin of \$4,477,262 (including available funds of \$775,569) and an unvoted debt margin of \$82,019.

Note Payable Financed Purchase

On December 19, 2022, the District entered into a \$371,559 note payable with Huntington Public Capital for the financed purchase of three school buses. The note payable has a term of four years and bears an interest rate of 4.91 percent. As stated in Note 2.K, since recording a capital asset when entering into a financed purchase is not the result of a cash transaction, neither other financing source nor capital outlay disbursement is reported at inception on the financial statements. Financed purchase payments are reported when paid. During fiscal year 2024, the District made a \$54,958 principal payment on the note payable. The principal payment was made from the General Fund. The remaining debt service payments on the financed purchase agreement, follows:

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 13 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

Fiscal Year			
<u>Ending June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 57,657	\$ 8,916	\$ 66,573
2024	60,487	6,086	66,573
2024	<u>63,457</u>	<u>3,116</u>	<u>66,573</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 181,601</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 18,118</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 199,719</u></u>

NOTE 14 - SET-ASIDES

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

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

	<u>Capital Acquisition</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2023	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	70,036
Current year offset	<u>(70,036)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2025	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2024	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

NOTE 15 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

The District utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year end may be reported as part of restricted, committed, or assigned classifications of fund cash balance. At year end, the District's commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	Year-End	
	<u>Encumbrances</u>	
General	\$ 106,764	
Nonmajor governmental	<u>55,696</u>	
Total	<u><u>\$ 162,460</u></u>	

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 16 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA)

The District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA), which is a computer consortium. NWOCA is an association of educational entities within the boundaries of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member educational entities. NWOCA is a division of the Northern Buckeye Education Council (NBEC).

The NWOCA Assembly consists of the superintendent from each participating educational entity and a representative from the fiscal agent. The Assembly elects the Governing Council of two representatives from each of the six counties in which member educational entities are located and the representative from the member educational entity serving as fiscal agent for NWOCA. The degree of control exercised by any participating educational entity is limited to its representation on the Governing Council.

During fiscal year 2024, the District paid \$81,317 to the NBEC for NWOCA's services. Financial information can be obtained from the Northwest Ohio Computer Association, 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

Northern Buckeye Education Council

The Northern Buckeye Education Council (NBEC) was established in 1979 to foster cooperation among various educational entities located in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood Counties. NBEC is organized under Ohio laws as a regional council of governments pursuant to a written agreement entered into by its member educational entities and bylaws adopted by the representatives of the member educational entities. NBEC is governed by an elected Board consisting of two representatives from each of the six counties in which the member educational entities are located. The Board is elected from an assembly consisting of a representative from each participating educational entity. Financial information can be obtained from the Northern Buckeye Education Council, 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

Four County Career Center

The Four County Career Center (the Career Center) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio which provides vocational education to students. The Career Center is operated under the direction of a Board consisting of five representatives from the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center and one representative from the participating school districts elected boards. The Career Center possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. During fiscal year 2024, the District made no disbursements to Four County Career Center. Financial information can be obtained from the Four County Career Center, 22-900 State Route 34, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

NOTE 17 - GROUP PURCHASING POOLS

Ohio School Plan

The District belongs to the Ohio School Plan (the Plan), an unincorporated non-profit association providing a formalized jointly administered self-insurance risk management program and other administrative services to approximately 318 members.

Pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Plan is deemed a separate legal entity. The Plan provides property, general liability, educator's legal liability, automobile, and violence coverages, modified for each member's needs. The Plan pays judgments, settlements and other disbursements resulting from covered claims that exceed the member's specific deductible.

The Plan issues its own policies and reinsures the Plan with reinsurance carriers. Only if the Plan's paid liability loss ratio exceeds 65 percent and is less than 80 percent does the Plan contribute to paid claims. (See the Plan's audited financial statements on the website for more details). The individual members are responsible for their self-retention (deductible) amounts, which vary from member to member.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 17 - GROUP PURCHASING POOLS - (Continued)

The Plan's audited financial statements conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	2023	2022
Assets	\$ 19,048,264	\$ 17,878,913
Liabilities	13,713,334	11,253,693
Members' Equity	5,334,930	6,625,220

You can read the complete audited financial statements for The Ohio School Plan at the Plan's website, www.ohioschoolplan.org.

Employee Insurance Benefits Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan – Northwest Division of Optimal Health Initiatives (OHI), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of educational entities throughout the state. The Pool is governed by OHI and its participating members. During fiscal year 2024, the District contributed a total of \$851,677 to Northern Buckeye Health Plan, Northwest Division of OHI for all four plans. Financial information for the period can be obtained from Optimal Health Initiative Consortium, 10999 Reed Hartman Highway, Suite 304E, Blue Ash, Ohio 45242-8300.

Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The District participates in a group-rating plan for workers' compensation as established under §4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Northern Buckeye Health Plan – Northwest Division of OHI Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (WCGRP) was established through the Ohio Health Initiatives (OHI) as a group purchasing pool. The group was formed to create a workers' compensation group rating plan which would allow employers to group together to achieve a potentially lower premium rate than they may otherwise be able to acquire as individual employers. OHI has created a workers' compensation group rating and risk management program which will potentially reduce the workers' compensation premiums for the District.

OHI has retained Sheakley UniService as the servicing agent to perform administrative, actuarial, cost control, claims, and safety consulting services and unemployment claims services for program participants. During fiscal year 2024, the District paid an enrollment fee of \$36 to WCGRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

NOTE 18 – RELATED ORGANIZATION

Normal Public Library

The Normal Public Library (the Library) is a distinct subdivision of the State of Ohio created under Chapter 3375 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Library is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Fayette Local School District Board of Education. The Board of Trustees possesses its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel, and does not depend on the District for operational subsidies. Although the District serves as the taxing authority and may issue tax related debt on behalf of the Library, its role is limited to a ministerial function. The determination to request approval of a tax, the rate, and purpose are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Trustees. Financial information can be obtained from the Normal Memorial Library, 301 North Eagle Street, Fayette, Ohio 43251.

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 19 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor, principally the federal government. Grantors may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

B. Litigation

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

C. Foundation Funding

District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, ODE has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2024 Foundation funding for the District. There is no effect on the financial statements.

NOTE 20 - TAX ABATEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS

On May 12, 2016, the Village of Fayette (the Village) entered into a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) tax abatement agreement with a company for the abatement of property taxes to bring jobs and economic development into the area. The CRA tax abatement agreement affects the property tax receipts collected and distributed to the District. In conjunction with the CRA agreement, the Village, the District, and the company entered into a tax incentive donation agreement (the Donation Agreement) on September 14, 2016, whereby the company agreed to pay the District a one-time donation of \$20,687 representing 100% of the real property taxes which would have been payable to the District over the term of the abatement. As a result of the CRA tax abatement agreement, the District's property taxes are reduced annually; however, the Donation Agreement payment offsets the foregone property taxes.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis	Variance with Final Budget - Over (Under) Actual Amounts
	Original	Final		
Budgetary receipts:				
Property taxes	\$ 1,470,000	\$ 1,648,800	\$ 1,648,376	\$ (424)
Income taxes	630,000	677,350	677,314	(36)
Intergovernmental	3,725,000	4,136,173	4,097,730	(38,443)
Investment earnings	60,000	148,000	145,523	(2,477)
Tuition and fees	132,000	139,000	133,630	(5,370)
Contributions and donations	2,000	6,000	4,665	(1,335)
Miscellaneous	37,800	38,100	15,927	(22,173)
Total budgetary revenues	<u>6,056,800</u>	<u>6,793,423</u>	<u>6,723,165</u>	<u>(70,258)</u>
Budgetary disbursements:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	2,001,046	2,513,598	2,507,778	5,820
Special	1,877,472	1,125,941	1,093,906	32,035
Vocational	6,214	157,231	160,305	(3,074)
Other	-	9,550	8,592	958
Support services:				
Pupil	817,321	540,905	540,427	478
Instructional staff	480,686	241,147	223,743	17,404
Board of education	926,260	30,167	13,254	16,913
Administration	138,209	555,890	548,262	7,628
Fiscal	-	285,166	278,863	6,303
Business	-	18,582	18,582	-
Operations and maintenance	-	626,587	617,632	8,955
Pupil transportation	-	284,872	277,765	7,107
Central	-	42,168	38,879	3,289
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Other non-instructional services	-	234,861	231,654	3,207
Extracurricular activities	-	7,626	7,626	-
Debt service:				
Interest and fiscal charges	-	11,615	11,615	-
Bond issuance costs	-	54,958	54,958	-
Total budgetary disbursements	<u>6,247,208</u>	<u>6,741,214</u>	<u>6,634,140</u>	<u>107,074</u>
Budgetary excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	(190,408)	52,209	89,025	36,816
Budgetary other financing sources (uses):				
Refund of prior year's disbursements	2,000	7,400	7,157	(243)
Transfers (out)	-	(152,150)	(152,118)	32
Total budgetary other financing sources (uses)	<u>2,000</u>	<u>(144,750)</u>	<u>(144,961)</u>	<u>(211)</u>
Net change in fund balance	(188,408)	(92,541)	(55,936)	36,605
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	2,778,451	2,778,451	2,778,451	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	20,887	20,887	20,887	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 2,610,930</u>	<u>\$ 2,706,797</u>	<u>\$ 2,743,402</u>	<u>\$ 36,605</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) presented for the General Fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis are as follows:

1. Outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as a cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (cash basis).
2. Some funds are included in the General Fund (cash basis) but have separate legally adopted budgets (budgetary basis).

Adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations at the end of the year on the budgetary basis to the cash basis are as follows:

	<u>General</u>
Budgetary basis	\$ (55,936)
Funds budgeted elsewhere	(2,056)
Encumbrances	<u>106,764</u>
Cash basis	<u><u>\$ 48,772</u></u>

As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, “Fund Balance Reporting”, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund. This includes the public-school support fund.



65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
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800-282-0370

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

Fayette Local School District
Fulton County
400 East Gamble Road
Fayette, Ohio 43521-9462

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Fayette Local School District, Fulton County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 10, 2025, wherein we noted the District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the 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.

Fayette Local School District
Fulton County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

District's Response to Finding

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

Purpose of this Report

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



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

February 10, 2025

FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2024

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

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001

Noncompliance

Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 provides that each public office shall file a financial report for each fiscal year. The Auditor of State may prescribe forms by rule or may issue guidelines, or both, for such reports. If the Auditor of State has not prescribed a rule regarding the form for the report, the public office shall submit its report on the form utilized by the public office.

Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(B) requires the District to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The District prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, report on the cash basis of accounting rather than GAAP. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, deferred inflows/outflows of resources, fund equities/net position, and disclosures that, while presumed material, cannot be determined at this time.

Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 the District may be fined for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the District's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the District. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the District should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Officials' Response:

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



Board Office 419.237.2573 * High School 419.237.2114 * Elementary School 419.237.2776 * Website: www.fayettesch.org

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2023-001	Finding first reported in 2011. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03 (B) – for not reporting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2024-001 in this report.	Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.
2023-002	Material weakness due to financial statement reporting errors.	Corrective action taken and finding is fully corrected.	

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



FAYETTE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FULTON 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 2/25/2025

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