



bhm cpa group, inc.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

NEWTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MIAMI COUNTY

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024-2023



65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
800-282-0370

Board of Education
Newton Local School District
201 North Long Street
Pleasant Hill, Ohio 45359

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

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

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

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

December 20, 2024

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NEWTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
For the Years Ended June 30, 2024 and 2023
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For the Years Ended June 30, 2024 and 2023
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Newton Local School District
Miami County
201 North Long Street
Pleasant Hill, Ohio 45359

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 Newton Local School District, Miami County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2024 & 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2024 & 2023, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General fund for the year then ended 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 to opine on the financial statements as a whole that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the 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 to 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, this schedule 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 November 27, 2024, 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.

BHM CPA Group

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Circleville, Ohio
November 27, 2024

Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
June 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
Assets	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$6,908,582</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$6,908,582</u>
 Net Position	
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	\$801,829
Capital Outlay	83,484
Other Purposes	134,421
Unrestricted	<u>5,888,848</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$6,908,582</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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

	Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
Governmental Activities				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$4,009,374	\$109,103	\$394,759	(\$3,505,512)
Special	720,499	21,329	348,689	(350,481)
Vocational	973	0	0	(973)
Student Intervention Services	245,790	0	0	(245,790)
Support Services:				
Pupil	192,212	0	0	(192,212)
Instructional Staff	144,733	0	0	(144,733)
Board of Education	4,013	0	0	(4,013)
Administration	1,167,865	25,360	30,000	(1,112,505)
Fiscal	313,723	0	3,995	(309,728)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,073,501	0	0	(1,073,501)
Pupil Transportation	434,853	0	5,000	(429,853)
Central	428	428	0	0
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	471,948	191,290	105,574	(175,084)
Extracurricular Activities	705,221	198,894	0	(506,327)
Debt Service:				
Principal	340,000	0	0	(340,000)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	183,213	0	0	(183,213)
<i>Totals</i>	<i>10,008,346</i>	<i>546,404</i>	<i>888,017</i>	<i>(8,573,925)</i>
General Receipts				
Property Taxes Levied for:				
General Purposes				1,870,463
Debt Service				362,730
Capital Outlay				83,802
Classroom Maintenance				31,362
Income Taxes Levied for General Purposes				2,117,102
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted				
to Specific Programs				5,027,582
Interest				318,919
Miscellaneous				17,048
<i>Total General Receipts</i>				<i>9,829,008</i>
Change in Net Position				1,255,083
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>				<i>5,653,499</i>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>				<i><u>\$6,908,582</u></i>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Basis Assets and Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
As of June 30, 2024

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$5,864,089	\$801,829	\$242,664	\$6,908,582
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$5,864,089</u>	<u>\$801,829</u>	<u>\$242,664</u>	<u>\$6,908,582</u>
Fund Balances				
Restricted	0	801,829	217,905	1,019,734
Committed	0	0	24,759	24,759
Assigned	163,994	0	0	163,994
Unassigned	5,700,095	0	0	5,700,095
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$5,864,089</u>	<u>\$801,829</u>	<u>\$242,664</u>	<u>\$6,908,582</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$1,870,463	\$362,730	\$115,164	\$2,348,357
Income Tax	2,117,102	0	0	2,117,102
Intergovernmental	5,076,251	54,259	735,101	5,865,611
Interest	318,919	0	794	319,713
Tuition and Fees	126,188	0	0	126,188
Extracurricular Activities	25,360	0	191,739	217,099
Contributions and Donations	0	0	49,194	49,194
Customer Sales and Services	0	0	189,250	189,250
Rent	1,528	0	0	1,528
Miscellaneous	26,919	0	2,468	29,387
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<i>9,562,730</i>	<i>416,989</i>	<i>1,283,710</i>	<i>11,263,429</i>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,646,224	0	363,150	4,009,374
Special	498,999	0	221,500	720,499
Vocational	973	0	0	973
Student Intervention Services	245,790	0	0	245,790
Support Services:				
Pupil	192,212	0	0	192,212
Instructional Staff	144,733	0	0	144,733
Board of Education	4,013	0	0	4,013
Administration	1,137,865	0	30,000	1,167,865
Fiscal	300,976	6,730	6,017	313,723
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	997,187	0	76,314	1,073,501
Pupil Transportation	429,853	0	5,000	434,853
Central	0	0	428	428
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	51,084	0	420,864	471,948
Extracurricular Activities	519,915	0	185,306	705,221
Debt Service:				
Principal	85,000	255,000	0	340,000
Interest	44,713	138,500	0	183,213
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<i>8,299,537</i>	<i>400,230</i>	<i>1,308,579</i>	<i>10,008,346</i>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	<i>1,263,193</i>	<i>16,759</i>	<i>(24,869)</i>	<i>1,255,083</i>
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	<i>4,600,896</i>	<i>785,070</i>	<i>267,533</i>	<i>5,653,499</i>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<i><u>\$5,864,089</u></i>	<i><u>\$801,829</u></i>	<i><u>\$242,664</u></i>	<i><u>\$6,908,582</u></i>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes
In Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis
General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$1,835,150	\$1,870,463	\$1,870,463	\$0
Income Taxes	2,200,000	2,117,102	2,117,102	0
Intergovernmental	5,097,542	5,076,251	5,076,251	0
Interest	225,000	291,232	318,919	27,687
Tuition and Fees	92,219	93,911	93,911	0
Rent	4,389	1,528	1,528	0
Miscellaneous	12,500	26,919	26,919	0
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>9,466,800</u>	<u>9,477,406</u>	<u>9,505,093</u>	<u>27,687</u>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,659,557	3,677,818	3,666,950	10,868
Special	539,723	499,084	499,127	(43)
Vocational	931	973	973	0
Student Intervention Services	56,209	245,790	245,790	0
Other	85,022	0	0	0
Support Services:				
Pupil	346,880	192,312	192,312	0
Instructional Staff	220,655	179,009	153,241	25,768
Board of Education	3,521	4,013	4,013	0
Administration	924,864	1,107,084	1,107,797	(713)
Fiscal	308,346	301,476	302,200	(724)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,098,811	1,225,879	1,058,188	167,691
Pupil Transportation	567,525	436,828	430,003	6,825
Operational of Non-Instructional Services	60,547	51,084	51,084	0
Extracurricular Activities	592,654	581,074	526,995	54,079
Debt Service				
Principal Retirement	126,227	85,000	85,000	0
Interest and Fiscal Charges	6,048	44,713	44,713	0
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>8,597,520</u>	<u>8,632,137</u>	<u>8,368,386</u>	<u>263,751</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	869,280	845,269	1,136,707	291,438
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	4,176,002	4,176,002	4,176,002	0
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	387,385	387,385	387,385	0
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$5,432,667</u>	<u>\$5,408,656</u>	<u>\$5,700,094</u>	<u>\$291,438</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District
Darke County, Ohio
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis
Fiduciary Funds
June 30, 2024

	Private Purpose Trust
Assets	
Investments in Segregated Accounts	\$289,086
<i>Total Assets</i>	<i>\$289,086</i>
 Net Position	
Held in Trust for Scholarships	\$289,086
	<i>\$289,086</i>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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

	Private Purpose Trust
Additions	
Gifts and Contributions	\$15,476
Interest	9,807
Total Additions	<u>25,283</u>
Deductions	
Scholarships	<u>2,400</u>
Change in Net Position	22,883
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>266,203</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u><u>\$289,086</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

Newton 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 a locally-elected five member Board form of government and provides educational services as mandated by state and federal agencies.

The District was established in 1923 through the consolidation of existing land areas and school districts. The District serves an area of approximately 42 square miles. It is located in Miami County, and includes all of the Village of Pleasant Hill and a portion of Darke County. The District currently operates one instructional-administrative building and one bus garage.

Reporting Entity

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the basic financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the District consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. For Newton Local School 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 and for which a financial benefit or burden relationship exists. The District is financially accountable for an organization if the District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) it is able to impose its will on the organization or (2) there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the District. The District is financially accountable for an organization if an organization is fiscally dependent on the District and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefit to, or impose specific financial burdens on the District regardless of whether the organization has a separately elected governing board, a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or a jointly appointed board. Component units may also include organizations that do not otherwise meet the criteria for inclusion if it is determined that their exclusion would be misleading. Newton Local School District has no component units.

The District participates in two jointly governed organizations, an insurance purchasing pool, and a shared risk pool. These organizations are discussed in Notes 13, 14, and 15 to the basic financial statements. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Metropolitan Educational Technology Association Solutions
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

Insurance Purchasing Pool:

Ohio School Plan

Shared Risk Pool:

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Benefit Plan Trust

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the District's accounting policies.

A. 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.

Government-Wide Financial Statements The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The District does not have any business-type activities.

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

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

B. Fund Accounting

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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

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

Bond Retirement Fund - The Bond Retirement Fund accounts for property tax revenues and State exemption reimbursements collected for the payment of general obligation bonded debt.

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

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into the following four classifications: pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that has certain characteristics. The District has a private purpose trust fund which accounts for college scholarships for students. Custodial Funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The District does not have any custodial funds.

C. 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.

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

D. Budgetary Process

All funds, except fiduciary funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the fund and function level for the general fund and at the fund level for all other funds. Budgetary allocations at the object level within the general fund and at the function level within all other funds are made by the Treasurer.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipts 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 appropriation resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation 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.

E. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled. Monies for all funds except the principal amount of the private purpose trust funds and a scholarship fund are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the 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 private purpose trust funds and the scholarship fund are presented as "Investments in Segregated Accounts" on the financial statements.

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

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 revenue), respectively.

During fiscal year 2024, the District invested in STAR Ohio.

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest received into the General Fund during fiscal year 2024 was \$318,919 including \$98,856 assigned from other District funds.

F. Inventory and Prepaid Items

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

G. Capital Assets

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

H. Compensated Absences

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the District's cash basis of accounting.

I. 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 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

J. 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 made. 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 expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments, SBITA payments, and financed purchase payments are reported when paid.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

K. Leases and SBITA's

The District is the lessee in various leases related to equipment under noncancelable leases. 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 several types of software including contracts related to financial systems, grading systems, document storage, and various other software. Subscription liabilities are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. Subscription disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

L. Fund Balance

Fund 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 category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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

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

Assigned – Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. 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 School District Board of Education or a District official delegated by that authority by resolution or by State Statute. State statute authorizes the District's Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Unassigned - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

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

M. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when enabling legislation or creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments have imposed limitations on its use. Net position restricted for other purposes includes resources restricted for food service operations, music and athletic programs, student-run activities, facilities maintenance, and federal, state, and local grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes. The District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

At June 30, 2024, the District does not have any net position restricted by enabling legislation.

N. Interfund Activity

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchasing funds. Nonexchange flows of cash from one fund to another are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds and eliminated on the District-wide financial statements. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

O. 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.

P. New Accounting Pronouncements

For fiscal year 2024, GASB Statement No. 100, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections was effective. This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance as the School District had no accounting changes or error corrections related to fiscal year 2024.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 3 – 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.

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 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, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

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

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

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 4 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

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

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the 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 qualified trustee or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Deposits

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

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 4 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

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

B. Investments

As of June 30, 2024, the District had \$6,228,447 invested in STAR Ohio.

Interest Rate Risk: Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the District's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The District places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer. At June 30, 2024, 100% of the District's investments were in STAR Ohio.

Credit Risk: State statute limits investments in corporate bonds to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The District has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices. STAR Ohio money market carries a rating of AAM by Standard & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard service rating.

NOTE 5 - 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, public utility and tangible personal property (used in business) located in the District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2024 represents collections of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at thirty-five percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAXES (continued)

The District receives property taxes from Darke and Miami County. The County Auditor periodically advances 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 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	\$100,616,070	97.57%	\$102,175,970	97.27%
Public Utility – Personal	2,508,590	2.43	2,869,220	2.73
Total Assessed Value	<u>\$103,124,660</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$105,045,190</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$41.80		\$41.75	

NOTE 6 - INCOME TAX

The District levies a voted tax of one and three-quarter percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. 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 credited to the General Fund for fiscal year 2024 were \$2,117,102.

NOTE 7 – RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2024, the District joined together with other school districts in Ohio to participate in the Ohio School Plan (OSP), an insurance purchasing pool (see Note 14). Each individual participant enters into an agreement with the OSP and its premium is based on types of coverage, limits of coverage, and deductibles that it selects. The District pays this annual premium to the OSP. The District contracts for general liability, property, and fleet insurance. Coverage provided is as follows:

Insurance coverage provided includes the following:

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 7 – RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

Building and Contents – at replacement cost (\$1,000 deductible)	\$36,036,981
Automobile Liability (\$0 deductible)	4,000,000
Uninsured Motorist (\$0 deductible)	1,000,000
General Liability	
Per Occurrence	4,000,000
Aggregate	6,000,000
Employers Liability – Stop Gap	4,000,000
Cyber Coverage	1,000,000
Violence Coverage	1,000,000
Pollution Incident Coverage	1,000,000

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past ten years. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year.

B. Workers' Compensation

The District pays the state workers' compensation system a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

C. Medical Benefits

For fiscal year 2024, the District participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Benefit Plan Trust (Trust), a risk sharing pool (Note 15). The District pays monthly premiums to the Trust for employee medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. The Trust is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the Trust, a participant is responsible for the payment of all Trust liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The net pension liability is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework.

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.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 8– DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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.

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 remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 9 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

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

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

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

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

The District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$188,135 for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 8 – 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 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2023, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 1 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2024 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2019. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3307.67(E) the STRS Ohio Retirement Board may adjust the COLA upon a determination by the board's actuary that a change will not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 34 years of service credit at any age.

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

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

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

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

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

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

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

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$523,546 for fiscal year 2024.

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The 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 and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Prior Measurement Date	0.03050460%	0.02495543%	
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Current Measurement Date	0.03167220%	0.02471174%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.00116760%	-0.00024369%	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$1,750,052	\$5,321,658	\$7,071,710

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

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

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

Inflation	2.4 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.0 percent, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of System expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

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

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

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

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NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

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

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

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
Districts's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$2,582,988	\$1,750,052	\$1,048,463

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

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NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	From 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent based on service
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent

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

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

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation *	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00%	6.60%
International Equity	22.00	6.80
Alternatives	19.00	7.38
Fixed Income	22.00	1.75
Real Estate	10.00	5.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	1.00
Total	<u><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 percent, and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return,

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

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

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

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$8,183,532	\$5,321,658	\$2,901,295

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

The net OPEB liability (asset) is not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability (asset) because of the use of the cash basis framework.

See note 8 for a description of the net OPEB liability.

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

Newton Local School District

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

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

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 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2024, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the District's surcharge obligation was \$22,734.

The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$22,734 for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

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

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The 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. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Prior Measurement Date	0.03110600%	0.02495543%	
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Current Measurement Date	<u>0.03259910%</u>	<u>0.02471174%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.00149310%</u>	<u>-0.00024369%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the:			
Net OPEB Liability	\$537,052	\$0	\$537,052
Net OPEB (Asset)	\$0	(\$480,609)	(\$480,609)

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.

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

NOTE 9 – 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, are presented below:

Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	
Wage Increases	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted	2048
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	3.86 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.69 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	
Measurement Date	4.27 percent
Prior Measurement Date	4.08 percent
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	
Medical Trend Assumption	
Measurement Date	6.75 to 4.40 percent
Prior Measurement Date	7.00 to 4.40 percent

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

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

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

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

The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. As of June 30, 2023, the target asset allocation and long-term expected rates of return for each major asset class are 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><u>100.00 %</u></u>	

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

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NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

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

	1% Decrease (3.27%)	Current Discount Rate (4.27%)	1% Increase (5.27%)
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$686,506	\$537,052	\$419,262
	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	\$394,554	\$537,052	\$725,882

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent	3 percent
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	7.00 percent
Health Care Cost Trends		
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	7.50 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate	7.50 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate
Medicare	-10.94 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate	-68.78 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	-11.95 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate	9.00 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate
Medicare	1.33 percent initial 4.14 percent ultimate	-5.47 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate

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

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

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

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

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

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

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

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

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

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

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

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$406,773)	(\$480,609)	(\$544,913)
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$547,897)	(\$480,609)	(\$399,562)

NOTE 10 – BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – 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 expenditures (budget) rather than as an assignment of fund balance (cash), and,
- (2) Perspective differences - activity of some funds is included with the General Fund on the cash basis because those funds do not meet the requirements to be presented as a separate fund. These funds are not presented on the budget basis because the budget basis only presents the legally adopted budget for the General Fund.

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the cash basis statement to the budgetary basis statement for the year ended June 30, 2024 for the General Fund:

<u>Net Changes in Fund Balance</u>	
Cash Basis	\$1,263,193
Encumbrances	(123,628)
Perspective Difference	(2,858)
Budget Basis	<u><u>\$1,136,707</u></u>

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 11 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The changes in the District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

	Principal Outstanding 6/30/23	Additions	Deletions	Principal Outstanding 6/30/24	Amount Due in One Year		
General Obligations:							
<i>2016 School Facilities Construction and Advanced Refunding Bonds:</i>							
Serial Current Interest Bonds	\$2,280,000	\$0	\$255,000	\$2,025,000	\$265,000		
Term Current Interest Bonds	1,800,000	0	0	1,800,000	0		
Total General Obligations	\$4,080,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,825,000	\$265,000		

2016 School Facilities Construction and Advance Refunding Bonds: On October 18, 2016, the District issued general obligation bonds to advance refund the callable portion of the 2008 School Facilities Construction and Advanced Refunding Bonds. This refunded debt is considered defeased (in-substance).

The Series 2016 is comprised of both current interest bonds (serial and term), par value, \$4,580,000, and capital appreciation bonds par value \$629,997. The interest rates on the current interest bonds range from 2.00% - 4.00%.

The capital appreciation bonds matured on January 15, 2021 (stated interest rate 14.098%), January 15, 2022 (stated interest rate 17.122%), and January 15, 2023 (stated interest rate 20.038%) at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal, plus accrued interest to the redemption date. The accreted value at maturity for the capital appreciation bonds maturing January 15, 2021 was \$250,000, January 15, 2022 was \$255,000, and January 15, 2023 was \$255,000.

Interest payments on the current interest bonds are due on July 15 and January 15 of each year. The final maturity stated in the issue is January 15, 2036. Payments of principal and interest are recorded as expenditures of the debt service fund. The reacquisition price exceeded the net carrying amount of the old debt by \$280,748.

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

NOTE 11 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Principal and interest requirements to retire the long-term obligations at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	School Facilities Construction and Advance Refunding Bonds		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$265,000	\$130,850	\$395,850
2026	270,000	122,900	392,900
2027	275,000	114,800	389,800
2028	290,000	140,575	430,575
2029	295,000	97,850	392,850
2030-2034	1,675,000	301,450	1,976,450
2035-2036	755,000	34,200	789,200
Total	<u>\$3,825,000</u>	<u>\$942,625</u>	<u>\$4,767,625</u>

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 code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property tax valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530, which became effective March 20, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. At June 30, 2024, the District's voted debt margin was \$6,430,896 and the unvoted debt margin was \$105,045.

NOTE 12 – LEASE FINANCING

On August 15, 2019, the District entered into a land lease and a leaseback agreement with PS&W Holding Company, Inc. for the purpose of financing the construction of an athletic field house on real property owned by the District. PS&W Holding Company, Inc. assigned all of its rights under the leases to ZB National Association DBA Zions Bank as trustee. Under the terms of the leaseback and assignment agreements, the District is required to make semi-annual variable lease payments to the Trustee beginning June 1, 2020, with final payment due December 1, 2038. The trustee issued Certificates of Participation in the lease to finance the project. The District is not a party to the Certificates, and the Certificates, the Lease, and the obligation to make Base Rent payments do not represent or constitute bonded indebtedness, a debt of, or a general obligation of the District. The amount financed was \$1,875,000, which was received by the District during fiscal year 2020. During fiscal year 2024, the District made principal payments of \$85,000 and interest payments of \$44,713 on the lease from the General Fund.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 12 – LEASE FINANCING (continued)

The following is a schedule of the Base Rent payments required under the lease:

Fiscal year Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$85,000	\$42,163	\$127,163
2026	90,000	39,538	129,538
2027	90,000	37,175	127,175
2028	95,000	36,163	131,163
2029	95,000	34,025	129,025
2030-2034	520,000	132,756	652,756
2035-2039	590,000	54,013	644,013
Total	<u>\$1,565,000</u>	<u>\$375,833</u>	<u>\$1,940,833</u>

In the event of default on the lease by the District, the lessor may, by written notice, request the District to return possession of the Project to the lessor and/or the lessor may take immediate possession of and remove any or all of the personal property constituting the Project. The lessor may also sublease the Project Facilities, holding the District liable for all lease payments and other payments due until the effective date of the sublease and for the difference between the rental and any other amounts paid by the sublease and the amounts payable by the District according to the lease terms. In the event of default, the District must also reimburse the lessor for any expenses incurred by the lessor in connection with seeking enforcement of or collection of amounts due as part of the lease terms.

NOTE 13 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Metropolitan Educational Technology Associations Solutions (META)

The District was a participant in the Metropolitan Educational Technology Association Solutions (META), which is a computer consortium. META is an educational solutions partner providing services across Ohio. META provides cost-effective fiscal, network, technology, and student services, a purchasing cooperative, and other individual services based on each client's needs. The governing board of META consists of a president, vice-president, and six board members who represent the members of META. The Board works with META's chief executive officer, chief operating officer, and chief financial officer to manage operations and ensure the continued progress of the organization's mission, vision, and values. The Board exercises total control over the operations of the Association including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. Each school district's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Board. The District paid META \$62,949 for services provided during the fiscal year. Financial information can be obtained from Ashley Widby, Chief Financial Officer at 100 Executive Drive, Marion, Ohio 43302.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 13 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

B. Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of over 200 school districts. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC.

The Council exercises total control over the operations of the Council, including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. Each member's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Council. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC forfeits its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group. During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are made from the General Fund. During fiscal year 2024, the District did not pay any membership fees to SOEPC. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, Ohio 45377.

NOTE 14- INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL

Ohio School Plan

The District participates in the Ohio School Plan (OSP), an insurance purchasing pool. The OSP was created pursuant to and authorized by Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. The OSP is an unincorporated, non-profit association of its members and an instrumentality for each member for the sole purpose of enabling members of the OSP to maintain adequate self-insurance protection, risk management programs and other administrative services. The OSP's business and affairs are conducted by a 12- member Board of Directors consisting of school district superintendents and treasurers. The OSP has an agreement with Hylant Administrative Services, LLC to provide underwriting claims management, accounting, system support services, sales, and marketing to the OSP. Hyland Administrative Service, LLC, also coordinates reinsurance brokerage services for the OSP.

NOTE 15 – SHARED RISK POOL

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Benefit Plan Trust

The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Benefit Plan Trust (Trust) is a public entity shared risk pool. The trust is organized as a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical, dental, and vision insurance benefits to the employees of the participants. The Trust is governed by the Southwest Ohio Educational Purchasing Council and it's participating members. Each participant decides which plans offered by the Trust will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Trust is by written application subject to the acceptance by the Trust and payment of monthly premiums. Financial information can be obtained from the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative, 303 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 16 - SET-ASIDE CALCULATIONS

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

The following information describes the change in the fiscal year-end 2024 set-aside amounts for capital improvements.

Set-Aside Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$ 0
Current Year Required Set-aside	133,522
Current Year Offsets	(115,164)
Current Year Qualifying Disbursements	<u><u>(18,358)</u></u>
Set-Aside Balance as of June 30, 2024	\$ 0

Although the District had qualifying offsets and disbursements during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount below zero for the capital improvements set aside, this amount may not be used to reduce the set aside requirements of future years. This negative balance is therefore not presented as being carried forward to future fiscal years.

NOTE 17 – CONTINGENCIES

Federal and State Grants

The District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the District at June 30, 2024.

School Foundation

School 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, additional DEW adjustments for fiscal year 2024 are not finalized. As a result, the impact of future FTE adjustments on the fiscal year 20CY financial statements is not determinable, at this time. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or a liability of, the School District.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

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

NOTE 18 – FUND BALANCE

Fund balance of the governmental funds is classified as non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and/or unassigned based on the constraints imposed on the use of the resources.

The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds at June 30, 2024 were as follows:

Fund Balance	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total
Classroom Facilities			\$0	\$0
Debt Retirement		\$801,829		801,829
Capital Improvements			76,772	76,772
Building Fund			6,711	6,711
Student Awards			50,773	50,773
Student Activities			39,325	39,325
Food Service Operations			9,438	9,438
Athletics			34.886	34.886
Total Restricted		801,829	217,905	1,019,734
Committed for:				
Athletic Complex Construction			24,759	24,759
Total Committed			24,759	24,759
Assigned for:				
Unpaid Obligations	123,628			123,628
Educational Activities	26,721			26,721
Uniform School Supplies	13,645			13,645
Total Assigned	163,994			163,994
Unassigned	5,700,095			5,700,095
Total Fund Balance	\$5,864,089	\$801,829	\$242,664	\$6,908,582

NOTE 19 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency ended in April 2023. During fiscal year 2024, the School District received COVID-19 funding. The School District will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.

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Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis
June 30, 2023

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$5,653,499</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$5,653,499</u>
 Net Position	
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	\$785,070
Capital Outlay	17,343
Other Purposes	225,431
Unrestricted	<u>4,625,655</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$5,653,499</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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

	Program Cash Receipts				Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants, Contributions, and Interest	
Governmental Activities					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$3,661,690	\$89,064	\$175,551	\$0	(\$3,397,075)
Special	761,028	30,558	307,466	0	(423,004)
Vocational	896	0	0	0	(896)
Student Intervention Services	135,799	0	0	0	(135,799)
Support Services:					
Pupil	308,780	0	25,378	0	(283,402)
Instructional Staff	204,880	0	43,052	0	(161,828)
Board of Education	3,385	0	3,188	0	(197)
Administration	866,493	5,393	0	0	(861,100)
Fiscal	308,382	0	3,600	0	(304,782)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,020,167	0	19,480	0	(1,000,687)
Pupil Transportation	539,167	0	176	0	(538,991)
Central	584	0	0	0	(584)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	423,622	202,964	114,738	0	(105,920)
Extracurricular Activities	712,008	189,237	0	0	(522,771)
Capital Outlay	346,172	0	0	8,758	(337,414)
Debt Service:					
Principal	335,000	0	0	0	(335,000)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	185,688	0	0	0	(185,688)
<i>Totals</i>	<i>9,813,741</i>	<i>517,216</i>	<i>692,629</i>	<i>8,758</i>	<i>(8,595,138)</i>
General Receipts					
Property Taxes Levied for:					
General Purposes					1,735,505
Debt Service					351,371
Capital Outlay					82,319
Classroom Maintenance					30,791
Income Taxes Levied for General Purposes					2,176,110
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted					
to Specific Programs					4,597,208
Interest					195,889
Miscellaneous					9,951
<i>Total General Receipts</i>					<i>9,179,144</i>
Change in Net Position					584,006
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>					<i>5,069,493</i>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>					<i>\$5,653,499</i>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Basis Assets and Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
As of June 30, 2023

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$4,600,896	\$785,070	\$267,533	\$5,653,499
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$4,600,896</u>	<u>\$785,070</u>	<u>\$267,533</u>	<u>\$5,653,499</u>
Fund Balances				
Restricted	0	785,070	242,774	1,027,844
Committed	0	0	24,759	24,759
Assigned	424,893	0	0	424,893
Unassigned	4,176,003	0	0	4,176,003
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$4,600,896</u>	<u>\$785,070</u>	<u>\$267,533</u>	<u>\$5,653,499</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$1,735,505	\$351,371	\$113,110	\$2,199,986
Income Tax	2,176,110	0	0	2,176,110
Intergovernmental	4,634,126	52,953	575,727	5,262,806
Interest	195,889	0	19,076	214,965
Tuition and Fees	119,122	0	0	119,122
Extracurricular Activities	5,393	0	182,847	188,240
Contributions and Donations	0	0	16,713	16,713
Customer Sales and Services	0	0	200,240	200,240
Rent	4,282	0	0	4,282
Miscellaneous	12,559	0	2,724	15,283
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<i>8,882,986</i>	<i>404,324</i>	<i>1,110,437</i>	<i>10,397,747</i>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,485,251	0	176,439	3,661,690
Special	572,761	0	188,267	761,028
Vocational	896	0	0	896
Student Intervention Services	135,799	0	0	135,799
Support Services:				
Pupil	283,402	0	25,378	308,780
Instructional Staff	154,868	0	50,012	204,880
Board of Education	3,385	0	0	3,385
Administration	863,305	0	3,188	866,493
Fiscal	296,007	6,711	5,664	308,382
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	844,765	0	175,402	1,020,167
Pupil Transportation	538,991	0	176	539,167
Central	0	0	584	584
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	58,218	0	365,404	423,622
Extracurricular Activities	513,749	0	198,259	712,008
Capital Outlay	0	0	346,172	346,172
Debt Service:				
Principal	80,000	255,000	0	335,000
Interest	47,188	138,500	0	185,688
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<i>7,878,585</i>	<i>400,211</i>	<i>1,534,945</i>	<i>9,813,741</i>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	<i>1,004,401</i>	<i>4,113</i>	<i>(424,508)</i>	<i>584,006</i>
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	<i>3,596,495</i>	<i>780,957</i>	<i>692,041</i>	<i>5,069,493</i>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<i>\$4,600,896</i>	<i>\$785,070</i>	<i>\$267,533</i>	<i>\$5,653,499</i>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, and Changes
In Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budget Basis
General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Receipts				
Property Taxes	\$1,577,753	\$1,735,505	\$1,735,505	\$0
Income Taxes	1,945,000	2,176,110	2,176,110	0
Intergovernmental	4,262,750	4,634,126	4,634,126	0
Interest	15,000	170,619	195,889	25,270
Tuition and Fees	129,500	89,970	90,320	350
Rent	4,500	4,282	4,282	0
Miscellaneous	21,571	12,559	12,559	0
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>7,956,074</u>	<u>8,823,171</u>	<u>8,848,791</u>	<u>25,620</u>
Disbursements				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,464,382	3,466,372	3,520,924	(54,552)
Special	474,073	463,260	572,847	(109,587)
Vocational	33,265	1,206	896	310
Student Intervention Services	46,517	245,300	135,799	109,501
Other	22,973	0	0	0
Support Services:				
Pupil	196,388	283,402	283,502	(100)
Instructional Staff	96,411	154,894	189,144	(34,250)
Board of Education	3,273	3,385	3,385	0
Administration	959,083	858,216	855,619	2,597
Fiscal	262,592	296,537	296,507	30
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	805,577	918,840	1,073,458	(154,618)
Pupil Transportation	558,042	539,124	545,966	(6,842)
Operational of Non-Instructional Services	44,768	58,218	58,218	0
Extracurricular Activities	515,075	541,683	574,910	(33,227)
Debt Service				
Principal Retirement	20,000	80,000	80,000	0
Interest and Fiscal Charges	112,179	47,188	47,188	0
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>7,614,598</u>	<u>7,957,625</u>	<u>8,238,363</u>	<u>(280,738)</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	<u>341,476</u>	<u>865,546</u>	<u>610,428</u>	<u>(255,118)</u>
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	<u>3,350,042</u>	<u>3,350,042</u>	<u>3,350,042</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	<u>215,532</u>	<u>215,532</u>	<u>215,532</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$3,907,050</u></u>	<u><u>\$4,431,120</u></u>	<u><u>\$4,176,002</u></u>	<u><u>(\$255,118)</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District
Darke County, Ohio
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position - Cash Basis
Fiduciary Funds
June 30, 2023

	Private Purpose Trust
Assets	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,233
Investments in Segregated Accounts	264,970
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$266,203</u>
Net Position	
Held in Trust for Scholarships	<u>\$266,203</u>
	<u>\$266,203</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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

	Private Purpose Trust
Additions	
Gifts and Contributions	\$262,668
Interest	3,535
Total Additions	<hr/> 266,203
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<hr/> 0
Net Position - End of Year	<hr/> <hr/> \$266,203

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

Newton 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 a locally-elected five member Board form of government and provides educational services as mandated by state and federal agencies.

The District was established in 1923 through the consolidation of existing land areas and school districts. The District serves an area of approximately 42 square miles. It is located in Miami County, and includes all of the Village of Pleasant Hill and a portion of Darke County. The District currently operates one instructional-administrative building and one bus garage.

Reporting Entity

A reporting entity is comprised of the primary government, component units and other organizations that are included to ensure that the basic financial statements are not misleading. The primary government of the District consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. For Newton Local School 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 and for which a financial benefit or burden relationship exists. The District is financially accountable for an organization if the District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) it is able to impose its will on the organization or (2) there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the District. The District is financially accountable for an organization if an organization is fiscally dependent on the District and there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefit to, or impose specific financial burdens on the District regardless of whether the organization has a separately elected governing board, a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or a jointly appointed board. Component units may also include organizations that do not otherwise meet the criteria for inclusion if it is determined that their exclusion would be misleading. Newton Local School District has no component units.

The District participates in two jointly governed organizations, an insurance purchasing pool, and a shared risk pool. These organizations are discussed in Notes 13, 14, and 15 to the basic financial statements. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Metropolitan Educational Technology Association Solutions
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

Insurance Purchasing Pool:

Ohio School Plan

Shared Risk Pool:

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Benefit Plan Trust

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section of this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the District's accounting policies.

A. 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.

Government-Wide Financial Statements The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The statements distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental in nature and those that are considered business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts or other nonexchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The District does not have any business-type activities.

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

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

B. Fund Accounting

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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

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

Bond Retirement Fund - The Bond Retirement Fund accounts for property tax revenues and State exemption reimbursements collected for the payment of general obligation bonded debt.

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

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into the following four classifications: pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that has certain characteristics. The District has a private purpose trust fund which accounts for college scholarships for students. Custodial Funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The District does not have any custodial funds.

C. 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.

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

D. Budgetary Process

All funds, except fiduciary funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the fund and function level for the general fund and at the fund level for all other funds. Budgetary allocations at the object level within the general fund and at the function level within all other funds are made by the Treasurer.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipts 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 appropriation resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation 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.

E. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled. Monies for all funds except the principal amount of the private purpose trust funds, are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the 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 private purpose trust funds are presented as "Investments in Segregated Accounts" on the financial statements.

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

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 revenue), respectively.

During fiscal year 2023, the District invested in STAR Ohio.

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest received into the General Fund during fiscal year 2023 was \$195,889 including \$65,550 assigned from other District funds.

F. Inventory and Prepaid Items

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

G. Capital Assets

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

H. Compensated Absences

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the District's cash basis of accounting.

I. 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 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

J. 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 made. 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 expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments, SBITA payments, and financed purchase payments are reported when paid.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

K. Leases and SBITA's

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

The District is the lessee in various leases related to equipment under noncancelable leases. 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 several types of software including contracts related to financial systems, grading systems, document storage, and various other software. Subscription liabilities are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. Subscription disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

L. Fund Balance

Fund 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 category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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

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

Assigned – Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. 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 School District Board of Education or a District official delegated by that authority by resolution or by State Statute. State statute authorizes the District's Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchases on order provided such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Unassigned - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance.

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

M. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when enabling legislation or creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments have imposed limitations on its use. Net position restricted for other purposes includes resources restricted for food service operations, music and athletic programs, student-run activities, facilities maintenance, and federal, state, and local grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes. The District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

At June 30, 2023, the District does not have any net position restricted by enabling legislation.

N. Interfund Activity

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchasing funds. Nonexchange flows of cash from one fund to another are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds and eliminated on the District-wide financial statements. Repayments from funds responsible for particular disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

O. 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 – 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.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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 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, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

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

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

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and the 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 market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 4 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
8. Certain bankers' acceptances (for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the 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 qualified trustee or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Deposits

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 year end, \$693,986 of the District's bank balance of \$1,109,741 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and collateralized.

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

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

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 4 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

B. Investments

As of June 30, 2023, the District had \$4,960,214 invested in STAR Ohio.

Interest Rate Risk: Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the District's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The District places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer. At June 30, 2023, 100% of the District's investments were in STAR Ohio.

Credit Risk: State statute limits investments in corporate bonds to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The District has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices. STAR Ohio money market carries a rating of AAA by Standard & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard service rating.

NOTE 5 - 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, public utility and tangible personal property (used in business) located in the District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2023 represents collections of calendar year 2022 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2023 were levied after April 1, 2022, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2022, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at thirty-five percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar year 2023 represents collections of calendar year 2022 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2023 became a lien December 31, 2021, were levied after April 1, 2022, and are collected in 2023 with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at thirty-five percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The District receives property taxes from Darke and Miami County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2023, are available to finance fiscal year 2023 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 5 - PROPERTY TAXES (continued)

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

	2022 Second-Half Collections		2023 First-Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/Residential and Other Real Estate	\$86,388,460	97.35%	\$100,616,070	97.57%
Public Utility – Personal	2,351,910	2.65	2,508,590	2.43
Total Assessed Value	<u>\$88,740,370</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$103,124,660</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$42.20		\$41.80	

NOTE 6 - INCOME TAX

The District levies a voted tax of one and three-quarter percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. 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 credited to the General Fund for fiscal year 2023 were \$2,176,110.

NOTE 7 – RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2023, the District joined together with other school districts in Ohio to participate in the Ohio School Plan (OSP), an insurance purchasing pool (see Note 14). Each individual participant enters into an agreement with the OSP and its premium is based on types of coverage, limits of coverage, and deductibles that it selects. The District pays this annual premium to the OSP. The District contracts for general liability, property, and fleet insurance. Coverage provided is as follows:

Insurance coverage provided includes the following:

Building and Contents – at replacement cost (\$1,000 deductible)	\$34,320,934
Automobile Liability (\$0 deductible)	4,000,000
Uninsured Motorist (\$0 deductible)	1,000,000
General Liability	
Per Occurrence	4,000,000
Aggregate	6,000,000
Employers Liability – Stop Gap	4,000,000
Cyber Coverage	1,000,000
Violence Coverage	1,000,000
Pollution Incident Coverage	1,000,000

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 7 – RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past ten years. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year.

B. Workers' Compensation

The District pays the state workers' compensation system a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

C. Medical Benefits

For fiscal year 2023, the District participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Benefit Plan Trust (Trust), a risk sharing pool (Note 15). The District pays monthly premiums to the Trust for employee medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. The Trust is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the Trust, a participant is responsible for the payment of all Trust liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The net pension liability is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework.

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

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

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.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 8– DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 9 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS’ Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System’s funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. For fiscal year 2023, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$175,913 for fiscal year 2023.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients’ base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, an 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. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. The remaining 4.47 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. New members on or after July 1, 2013, must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit that 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 2023 employer and employee contribution rate of 14 percent was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For 2023, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$496,699 for fiscal year 2023.

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The 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 and pension expense:

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Prior Measurement Date	0.02923140%	0.02607090%	
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Current Measurement Date	<u>0.03050460%</u>	<u>0.02495543%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.00127320%</u>	<u>-0.00111547%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$1,649,926	\$5,547,623	\$7,197,549

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

June 30, 2022

Inflation	2.4 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.0 percent, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of System expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

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

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

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	<u><u>100.00 %</u></u>	

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

Discount Rate The total pension liability for 2022 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

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

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
Districts's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$2,428,612	\$1,649,926	\$993,893

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary increases	From 2.5 percent to 12.5 percent based on age
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.0 percent, effective July 1, 2017

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

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

For 2021, post-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates, thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

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

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

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

* Target allocation percentage is effective July 1, 2022.

Target weights were phased in over a 3 month period concluding on October 1, 2022

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

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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NOTE 8 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

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

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$8,380,440	\$5,547,623	\$3,151,938

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

The net OPEB liability (asset) is not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability (asset) because of the use of the cash basis framework.

See note 8 for a description of the net OPEB liability.

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

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.

Newton Local School District

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2023, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2023, this amount was \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2023, the District's surcharge obligation was \$23,875.

The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$23,875 for fiscal year 2023.

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. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, 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, 2022, and the total OPEB liability 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. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Prior Measurement Date	0.02923140%	0.02607090%	
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Current Measurement Date	<u>0.03110600%</u>	<u>0.02495543%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.00187460%</u>	<u>-0.00111547%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$436,731	(\$646,179)	(\$209,448)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

June 30, 2022

Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	
Wage Increases	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted	2044
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	3.69 percent
Prior Measurement Date	1.92 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	
Measurement Date	4.08 percent
Prior Measurement Date	2.27 percent
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	
Medicare	5.125 to 4.40 percent
Pre-Medicare	6.75 to 4.40 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	7.00 to 4.40 percent

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

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

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

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2020 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2022 was 4.08 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2021, was 2.27 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50 percent of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination of the SEIR for both the June 30, 2022, and the June 30, 2021 total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is 3.69 percent at June 30, 2022 and 1.92 percent at June 30, 2021.

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 of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.08%) and higher (5.08%) than the current discount rate (4.08%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease (3.08%)	Current Discount Rate (4.08%)	1% Increase (5.08%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$542,427	\$436,731	\$351,406

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

	1% Decrease (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%)	Current Trend Rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.40%)	1% Increase (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$336,798	\$436,731	\$567,260

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent	Varies by age from 2.5 percent to 12.50 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent	3 percent
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	7.00 percent
Health Care Cost Trends		
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	7.50 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	5.00 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	-68.78 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	-16.18 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	9.00 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	6.50 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	-5.47 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	29.98 percent initial 4 percent ultimate

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

For 2022, healthy retirees post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For 2021, healthy retirees the mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

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

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

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

* Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022.

Target weights will be phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

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

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022.

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, 2022, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
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NOTE 9 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS (continued)

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$597,376)	(\$646,179)	(\$687,984)
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$670,245)	(\$646,179)	(\$615,802)

NOTE 10 – BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – 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 expenditures (budget) rather than as an assignment of fund balance (cash), and,
- (2) Perspective differences - activity of some funds is included with the General Fund on the cash basis because those funds do not meet the requirements to be presented as a separate fund. These funds are not presented on the budget basis because the budget basis only presents the legally adopted budget for the General Fund.

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the cash basis statement to the budgetary basis statement for the year ended June 30, 2023 for the General Fund:

<u>Net Changes in Fund Balance</u>	
Cash Basis	\$1,004,401
Encumbrances	(387,384)
Perspective Difference	(6,589)
Budget Basis	<u>\$610,428</u>

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 11 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The changes in the District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2023 were as follows:

	Principal Outstanding 6/30/22	Additions	Deletions	Principal Outstanding 6/30/23	Amount Due in One Year
General Obligations:					
2016 School Facilities Construction and Advanced Refunding Bonds:					
Serial Current Interest Bonds	\$2,280,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,280,000	\$255,000
Term Current Interest Bonds	1,800,000	0	0	1,800,000	0
Capital Appreciation Bonds	203,903	0	203,903*	0	0
Total General Obligations	\$4,283,903	\$0	\$211,339	\$4,080,000	\$255,000

*Principal retirement on the Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Basis Fund Balances is \$255,000, which represents the accreted value of the capital appreciation bonds repaid during 2023.

2016 School Facilities Construction and Advance Refunding Bonds: On October 18, 2016, the District issued general obligation bonds to advance refund the callable portion of the 2008 School Facilities Construction and Advanced Refunding Bonds. This refunded debt is considered defeased (in-substance).

The Series 2016 is comprised of both current interest bonds (serial and term), par value, \$4,580,000, and capital appreciation bonds par value \$629,997. The interest rates on the current interest bonds range from 2.00% - 4.00%.

The capital appreciation bonds mature on January 15, 2021 (stated interest rate 14.098%), January 15, 2022 (stated interest rate 17.122%), and January 15, 2023 (stated interest rate 20.038%) at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal, plus accrued interest to the redemption date. The accreted value at maturity for the capital appreciation bonds maturing January 15, 2021 was \$250,000, January 15, 2022 was \$255,000, and January 15, 2023 will be \$255,000.

Interest payments on the current interest bonds are due on July 15 and January 15 of each year. The final maturity stated in the issue is January 15, 2036. Payments of principal and interest are recorded as expenditures of the debt service fund. The reacquisition price exceeded the net carrying amount of the old debt by \$280,748.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 11 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Principal and interest requirements to retire the long-term obligations at June 30, 2023 are as follows:

School Facilities Construction and Advance Refunding Bonds			
Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$255,000	\$138,500	\$393,500
2025	265,000	130,850	395,850
2026	270,000	122,900	392,900
2027	275,000	114,800	389,800
2028	290,000	140,575	430,575
2029-2033	1,610,000	365,850	1,975,850
2034-2036	1,115,000	67,650	1,182,650
Total	<u>\$4,080,000</u>	<u>\$1,081,125</u>	<u>\$5,161,125</u>

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 code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property tax valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530, which became effective March 20, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. At June 30, 2023, the District's voted debt margin was \$5,986,289 and the unvoted debt margin was \$103,125.

NOTE 12 – LEASE FINANCING

On August 15, 2019, the District entered into a land lease and a leaseback agreement with PS&W Holding Company, Inc. for the purpose of financing the construction of an athletic field house on real property owned by the District. PS&W Holding Company, Inc. assigned all of its rights under the leases to ZB National Association DBA Zions Bank as trustee. Under the terms of the leaseback and assignment agreements, the District is required to make semi-annual variable lease payments to the Trustee beginning June 1, 2020, with final payment due December 1, 2038. The trustee issued Certificates of Participation in the lease to finance the project. The District is not a party to the Certificates, and the Certificates, the Lease, and the obligation to make Base Rent payments do not represent or constitute bonded indebtedness, a debt of, or a general obligation of the District. The amount financed was \$1,875,000, which was received by the District during fiscal year 2020. During fiscal year 2023, the District made principal payments of \$80,000 and interest payments of \$47,188 on the lease from the General Fund.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 12 – LEASE FINANCING (continued)

The following is a schedule of the Base Rent payments required under the lease:

Fiscal year Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$85,000	\$44,713	\$129,713
2025	85,000	42,163	127,163
2026	90,000	39,538	129,538
2027	90,000	37,175	127,175
2028	95,000	36,163	131,163
2029-2033	505,000	146,057	651,057
2034-2038	575,000	70,988	645,988
2039	125,000	3,750	128,750
Total	<u>\$1,650,000</u>	<u>\$420,547</u>	<u>\$2,070,547</u>

In the event of default on the lease by the District, the lessor may, by written notice, request the District to return possession of the Project to the lessor and/or the lessor may take immediate possession of and remove any or all of the personal property constituting the Project. The lessor may also sublease the Project Facilities, holding the District liable for all lease payments and other payments due until the effective date of the sublease and for the difference between the rental and any other amounts paid by the sublease and the amounts payable by the District according to the lease terms. In the event of default, the District must also reimburse the lessor for any expenses incurred by the lessor in connection with seeking enforcement of or collection of amounts due as part of the lease terms.

NOTE 13 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Metropolitan Educational Technology Associations Solutions (META)

The District was a participant in the Metropolitan Educational Technology Association Solutions (META), which is a computer consortium. META is an educational solutions partner providing services across Ohio. META provides cost-effective fiscal, network, technology, and student services, a purchasing cooperative, and other individual services based on each client's needs. The governing board of META consists of a president, vice-president, and six board members who represent the members of META. The Board works with META's chief executive officer, chief operating officer, and chief financial officer to manage operations and ensure the continued progress of the organization's mission, vision, and values. The Board exercises total control over the operations of the Association including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. Each school district's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Board. The District paid META \$28,589 for services provided during the fiscal year. Financial information can be obtained from Ashley Widby, Chief Financial Officer at 100 Executive Drive, Marion, Ohio 43302.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 13 – JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

B. Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council

The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of over 200 school districts. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC.

The Council exercises total control over the operations of the Council, including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. Each member's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Council. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC forfeits its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group. During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are made from the General Fund. During fiscal year 2023, the Educational Service Center did not have to pay any membership fee to SOEPC. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, Ohio 45377.

NOTE 14- INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL

Ohio School Plan

The District participates in the Ohio School Plan (OSP), an insurance purchasing pool. The OSP was created pursuant to and authorized by Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. The OSP is an unincorporated, non-profit association of its members and an instrumentality for each member for the sole purpose of enabling members of the OSP to maintain adequate self-insurance protection, risk management programs and other administrative services. The OSP's business and affairs are conducted by a 12- member Board of Directors consisting of school district superintendents and treasurers. The OSP has an agreement with Hylant Administrative Services, LLC to provide underwriting claims management, accounting, system support services, sales, and marketing to the OSP. Hyland Administrative Service, LLC, also coordinates reinsurance brokerage services for the OSP.

NOTE 15 – SHARED RISK POOL

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Benefit Plan Trust

The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative Benefit Plan Trust (Trust) is a public entity shared risk pool. The trust is organized as a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical, dental, and vision insurance benefits to the employees of the participants. The Trust is governed by the Southwest Ohio Educational Purchasing Council and it's participating members. Each participant decides which plans offered by the Trust will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Trust is by written application subject to the acceptance by the Trust and payment of monthly premiums. Financial information can be obtained from the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Cooperative, 303 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 16 - SET-ASIDE CALCULATIONS

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

The following information describes the change in the fiscal year-end 2023 set-aside amounts for capital improvements.

Set-Aside Balance as of June 30, 2022	\$ 0
Current Year Required Set-aside	138,402
Current Year Offsets	(113,110)
Current Year Qualifying Disbursements	<u><u>(25,292)</u></u>
Set-Aside Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$ 0

Although the District had qualifying offsets and disbursements during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount below zero for the capital improvements set aside, this amount may not be used to reduce the set aside requirements of future years. This negative balance is therefore not presented as being carried forward to future fiscal years.

NOTE 17 – CONTINGENCIES

The District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the District at June 30, 2023.

NOTE 18 – FUND BALANCE

Fund balance of the governmental funds is classified as non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and/or unassigned based on the constraints imposed on the use of the resources.

The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds at June 30, 2023 were as follows:

Newton Local School District

Miami County, Ohio

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

NOTE 18 – FUND BALANCE (Continued)

Fund Balance	General	Bond Retirement	Other Governmental Funds	Total
Classroom Facilities			\$0	\$0
Debt Retirement		\$785,070		785,070
Capital Improvements			10,631	10,631
Building Fund			6,711	6,711
Student Awards			31,525	31,525
Student Activities			36,061	36,061
Title IV-B			40	40
Food Service Operations			126,089	126,089
Athletics			31,717	31,717
Total Restricted		785,070	242,774	1,027,844
Committed for:				
Athletic Complex Construction			24,759	24,759
Total Committed			24,759	24,759
Assigned for:				
Unpaid Obligations	387,384			387,384
Educational Activities	19,712			19,712
Uniform School Supplies	17,797			17,797
Total Assigned	424,893			424,893
Unassigned	4,176,003			4,176,003
Total Fund Balance	\$4,600,896	\$785,070	\$267,533	\$5,653,499

NOTE 19 – COVID-19

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June, 2021 while the national state of emergency continues. During fiscal year 2023, the District received COVID-19 funding. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing recovery measures will impact subsequent periods of the District. The impact on the District's future operating costs, revenues, and additional recovery from funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.



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

Newton Local School District
Miami County
201 North Long Street
Pleasant Hill, Ohio 45359

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 Newton Local School District, Miami County, (the District) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 27, 2024, 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 purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

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 matter 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

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

BHM CPA Group

BHM CPA Group, Inc.
Circleville, Ohio
November 27, 2024

**Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio**

Schedule of Findings
June 30, 2024

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

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001

Material Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised 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 Administrative Code § 117-2-03 further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Revised Code § 117.38.

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The District prepares its financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting in a report format similar to the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments*. This presentation differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). There would be variances on the financial statements between this accounting practice and GAAP that, while presumably material, cannot be reasonably determined at this time. The District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the District.

The District should take the necessary steps to ensure that the financial report is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Client Response: School District officials made the decision to prepare and present the financial statements using the OCBOA format as a means of saving time and money for the District.

**Newton Local School District
Miami County, Ohio**

**Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings
June 30, 2024**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2022-001	Material Non-Compliance: Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-203(B) – The District did not file annual financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).	Not Corrected	Reissued as finding 2024-001

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



NEWTON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MIAMI 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 1/2/2025

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