



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2025**

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE

## KEITH FABER



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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Midwest Regional Educational Service Center  
Shelby County  
129 E. Court Street  
Sidney, Ohio 45365

To the Governing Board:

#### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

##### ***Opinions***

We have audited the modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center, Shelby County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center'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 modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with the modified 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 Center, 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 Center 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 modified 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 modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the modified 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 Center'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 Center'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 Center's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Center'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 in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, 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 December 11, 2025, on our consideration of the Center'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 Center'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 Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER  
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM  
Chief Deputy Auditor

December 11, 2025

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**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
JUNE 30, 2025**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,654,621
Investments	30,904
Total assets	<u>10,685,525</u>
 <b>Net cash position:</b>	
Restricted for:	
Scholarships	200,645
Locally funded programs	234,921
State funded programs	2,591
Student activities	7,608
Unrestricted	10,239,760
Total cash net position	<u>\$ 10,685,525</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

	<b>Cash Disbursements</b>	<b>Program Cash Receipts</b>			<b>Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Cash Position</b>	
		<b>Charges for Services and Sales</b>	<b>Operating Grants and Contributions</b>	<b>Capital Grants and Contributions</b>	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
<b>Governmental activities:</b>						
Instruction:						
Regular	\$ 1,131,155	\$ 242,907	\$ 548,681	\$ -	\$ (339,567)	
Special	11,686,611	11,016,645	1,057,309	-	387,343	
Other	14,396	-	141	-	(14,255)	
Support services:						
Pupil	5,515,605	5,603,032	92,000	-	179,427	
Instructional staff	1,915,675	1,599,534	311,647	-	(4,494)	
Board of education	125,118	-	-	-	(125,118)	
Administration	1,573,379	1,483,782	163,934	-	74,337	
Fiscal	610,620	681,626	-	-	71,006	
Operations and maintenance	188,765	9,264	-	-	(179,501)	
Pupil transportation	125,431	-	22,774	-	(102,657)	
Central	360,036	353,877	1,991	-	(4,168)	
Other non-instructional services	39,959	-	34,984	-	(4,975)	
Extracurricular activities	294,476	3,586	5,050	-	(285,840)	
Facilities acquisition and construction	800,437	-	-	600,000	(200,437)	
Debt service:						
Principal retirement	108,000	-	-	-	(108,000)	
Interest and fiscal charges	66,136	-	-	-	(66,136)	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 24,555,799</b>	<b>\$ 20,994,253</b>	<b>\$ 2,238,511</b>	<b>\$ 600,000</b>	<b>\$ (723,035)</b>	

**General cash receipts:**

Grants and entitlements not restricted	
to specific programs	907,309
Investment earnings	345,401
Miscellaneous	26,022
Total general cash receipts	<u>1,278,732</u>

Change in net cash position

555,697

**Net cash position at beginning of year**

10,129,828

**Net cash position at end of year**

\$ 10,685,525

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2025**

	<b>General</b>	<b>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
<b>Assets:</b>			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,784,313	\$ 870,308	\$ 10,654,621
Investments	-	30,904	30,904
<b>Total assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,784,313</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 901,212</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 10,685,525</u></b>
<b>Fund cash balances:</b>			
Nonspendable:			
Scholarships	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Restricted:			
State funded programs	-	2,591	2,591
Extracurricular	-	7,608	7,608
Scholarships	-	180,645	180,645
Other purposes	-	234,921	234,921
Committed:			
Other purposes	-	436,554	436,554
Assigned:			
Student instruction	60,630	-	60,630
Student and staff support	138,787	-	138,787
Extracurricular activities	179	-	179
Capital improvements	-	18,893	18,893
Unassigned	<u>9,584,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,584,717</u>
<b>Total fund cash balances</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,784,313</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 901,212</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 10,685,525</u></b>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
MODIFIED CASH BASIS - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

	<b>General</b>	<b>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
<b>Cash receipts:</b>			
Intergovernmental	\$ 907,309	\$ 2,726,341	\$ 3,633,650
Investment earnings	345,401	30,469	375,870
Tuition and fees	8,510,766	2,000	8,512,766
Extracurricular	4,662	187	4,849
Contract services	11,974,977	402,429	12,377,406
Contributions and donations	19,604	62,097	81,701
Miscellaneous	100,745	24,509	125,254
Total cash receipts	<u>21,863,464</u>	<u>3,248,032</u>	<u>25,111,496</u>
<b>Cash disbursements:</b>			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	324,339	806,816	1,131,155
Special	10,623,662	1,062,949	11,686,611
Other	14,257	139	14,396
Support services:			
Pupil	5,345,110	170,495	5,515,605
Instructional staff	1,551,996	363,679	1,915,675
Board of education	125,118	-	125,118
Administration	1,385,323	188,056	1,573,379
Fiscal	610,620	-	610,620
Operations and maintenance	178,903	9,862	188,765
Pupil transportation	103,733	21,698	125,431
Central	359,036	1,000	360,036
Other non-instructional services	18,513	21,446	39,959
Extracurricular activities	291,576	2,900	294,476
Facilities acquisition and construction	-	800,437	800,437
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	-	108,000	108,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	66,136	66,136
Total cash disbursements	<u>20,932,186</u>	<u>3,623,613</u>	<u>24,555,799</u>
Excess (deficiency) of cash receipts over (under) cash disbursements	<u>931,278</u>	<u>(375,581)</u>	<u>555,697</u>
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>			
Transfers in	-	180,000	180,000
Transfers (out)	(180,000)	-	(180,000)
Advances in	132,214	50,442	182,656
Advances (out)	(50,442)	(132,214)	(182,656)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(98,228)</u>	<u>98,228</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund cash balances	833,050	(277,353)	555,697
<b>Fund cash balances at beginning of year</b>	<b>8,951,263</b>	<b>1,178,565</b>	<b>10,129,828</b>
<b>Fund cash balances at end of year</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,784,313</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 901,212</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 10,685,525</u></b>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
FIDUCIARY FUND  
JUNE 30, 2025**

	<b>Custodial</b>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,907
Total assets	<u>9,907</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Restricted for LPDC	<u>9,907</u>
Total net position	<u><u>9,907</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - MODIFIED CASH BASIS  
FIDUCIARY FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

	<b>Custodial</b>
<b>Additions:</b>	
Amounts received as fiscal agent	\$ 2,489
Total additions	<u>2,489</u>
<b>Deductions:</b>	
Distributions as fiscal agent	<u>3,597</u>
Total deductions	<u>3,597</u>
Change in net position	(1,108)
<b>Net position at beginning of year</b>	<u>11,015</u>
<b>Net position at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 9,907</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY**

The Midwest Regional Educational Service Center (the "Center") is a political subdivision of the State of Ohio. County boards of education were formed in Ohio as a result of the passage of Senate Bill 9, in 1914. In 1995, Am. Sub. H.B. 117 authorized the creation of Centers and abolished county school districts. That legislation also changed the "Board of Education" to the "Governing Board". On March 4, 2014 the Shelby, Logan and Hardin Educational Service Centers approved a merger, which resulted in the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center. The Center began operations on July 1, 2014.

The Center supplies supervisory, special education, administrative, and other services to member school districts. The Center furnishes leadership and consulting services designed to strengthen the school districts in areas they are unable to finance or staff independently.

The Board consists of 7 members elected by the voters. This Board acts as the authorizing body for expenditures, policy and procedures, and approves all financial activities. The Center is staffed by 211 non-certified and 149 certified employees.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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

**A. Reporting Entity**

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, "The Financial Reporting Entity" as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, "Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units", GASB Statement No. 61, "The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus - an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34", and GASB Statement No. 90, "Majority Equity Interests - an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 61". The reporting entity is composed of the primary government and component units. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the Center. For the Center, this includes general operations and student related activities of the Center.

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

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

The following organizations are described due to their relationship to the Center:

*JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS*

Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO)

WOCO is a jointly governed organization composed of 27 school districts, 2 career centers, 3 educational service centers, 2 community schools, and 3 parochial schools. It was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these schools supports WOCO based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. In the event of dissolution of the organization, all current members will share in net obligations or asset liquidations in a ratio proportionate to their last twelve months financial contributions. WOCO is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of superintendents of the members school districts. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the board. In accordance with GASB Statements Nos. 14 and 61, the Center does not have an equity interest in WOCO as the residual interest in the net resources of an organization upon dissolution is not equivalent to an equity interest. Financial information can be obtained from Donn Walls, who serves as Director, at 129 East Court Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC)

The SOEPC is a purchasing council made up of over 130 school districts and boards of developmental disabilities in 18 counties. The purpose of the council is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts by the fiscal agent. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC shall forfeit its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group. During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are paid primarily from the general fund. 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.

Logan County Family and Children First Council

The Logan County Family and Children First Council provides services to multi-need youth in Logan County. Members of the council include but are not limited to the Logan County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health Board, Logan County Child Support Enforcement Agency, Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol Services Board of Logan and Champaign Counties, Logan County Head Start, Logan County Health District, Logan County Department of Job and Family Services, Midwest Regional Educational Service Center and the Ohio Department of Youth Services.

The operation of the Council is controlled by an advisory committee, which consists of a representative from each agency. Funding comes mainly from the State of Ohio. Financial information can be obtained from Janie Summers, Executive Director, 1973 State Route 47 West, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311.

Shelby County Family and Children First Council

The Shelby County Family and Children First Council provides services to multi-need youth in Shelby County. Members of the council include but are not limited to the Shelby County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Tri-County Board of Recovery & Mental Health Services, Shelby County Child Support Enforcement Agency, Shelby County Head Start, Sidney-Shelby County Board of Health, Shelby County Department of Job and Family Services, Midwest Regional Educational Service Center and the Ohio Department of Youth Services.

The operation of the Council is controlled by an advisory committee, which consists of a representative from each agency. Funding comes mainly from the State of Ohio. Financial information can be obtained from Diann Rodrigues, Executive Director, 1200 Children's Home Road, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

Hardin County Family and Children First Council

The Hardin County Family and Children First Council provides services to multi-need youth in Hardin County. Members of the council include but are not limited to the Hardin County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Hardin County Child Support Enforcement Agency, Mental Health & Recovery Services Board, Hardin County Head Start, Kenton-Hardin General Health District, Hardin County Department of Job and Family Services, Midwest Regional Educational Service Center and the Ohio Department of Youth Services.

The operation of the Council is controlled by an advisory committee, which consists of a representative from each agency. Funding comes mainly from the State of Ohio. Financial information can be obtained by writing to the Hardin County Family and Children First Council, 175 West Franklin Street, Suite 150, Kenton, Ohio 43326.

Logan County Education Foundation

The Logan County Education Foundation was established to secure and distribute contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations for the benefit of students within the county. The Foundation promotes, sponsors, and encourages the pursuit of excellence in education for students. The Foundation is managed by a Board of Trustees composed of six trustees from each school district. These trustees are nominated by their local school boards including Bellefontaine City School District, Benjamin Logan Local School District, Indian Lake Local School District, and Riverside Local School District. The Executive Board is comprised of the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center Superintendent representing the three local school districts and the Bellefontaine City School District Superintendent representing the city school district. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Lois Stoll, who serves as Executive Director, 2280 State Route 540, House #3, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311.

Ohio Hi-Point Joint Vocational School District

The Ohio Hi-Point Joint Vocational School District is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the participating school district's elected boards, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. The Center has two Board members on the District's Board. To obtain financial information, write to the Ohio Hi-Point Joint Vocational School District, Caleb Lang, who serves as Treasurer, at 2280 State Route 540, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311.

Upper Valley Career Center

The Upper Valley Career Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio. The Career Center is operated under the direction of a Board consisting of eleven representatives who are members of the Boards of Education of the participating school districts. One member is appointed from each of the following: Bradford Exempted Village School District, Covington Exempted Village School District, and Miami County Educational Service Center. Two members are appointed from the following City School Districts: Piqua, Sidney and Troy. The Center has two Board members on the Career Center's Board. To obtain financial information write to the Upper Valley Career Center, Anthony Fraley, who serves as Treasurer, at 8811 Career Drive, Piqua, Ohio 45356.

***PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOLS***

Logan County School Employee Consortium

The Center participates in the Logan County School Employee Consortium (the "Consortium"), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of two local school districts, one joint vocational school district, the Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO) and the Center. The Center pays monthly premiums to the Consortium for employee medical benefits. The Consortium is responsible for the payment of all Consortium liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal. To obtain financial information write to Eric Adelsberger, who serves as Treasurer, at 4740 County Road 26, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The Center participates in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect and the Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the program. Each year, the participating districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Liability, Fleet, and Property (EPC-LFP)

The Center participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council LFP (Program), an insurance purchasing pool consisting of fifty-one school districts. The intent of the Program is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the Center for its property and liability insurance by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the Program.

The Program's business and affairs are conducted by an Executive Council of nine participating school administrators. Participation in the Program is by written application subject to acceptance by the Executive Council and the payment of an annual premium. The Administrator of the Program is Public Entity Marsh which coordinates management, administration, claims management, and actuarial studies of the Program. Insurance premiums are paid to the Purchasing Council. Financial information can be obtained from the EPC-LFP, 303 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 208, Vandalia, Ohio 45377.

**B. Basis of Accounting**

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with GAAP, the Center chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes on the modified cash basis of accounting. The modified cash basis of accounting is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP.

The Center's financial statements are prepared using the modified cash basis of accounting. This basis of accounting is similar to the cash receipts and disbursement basis. The Center recognizes revenues when received in cash rather than when earned and recognizes expenditures when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of the modified cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenue (such as accounts receivable and revenue 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.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraph.

**C. Fund Accounting**

The Center uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. The Center has no proprietary funds.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

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

*GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS*

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Center are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of the current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. The following is the Center's major governmental fund:

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

Other governmental funds of the Center are used to account for specific revenue sources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to an expenditure for specified purposes.

*FIDUCIARY FUNDS*

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the Center under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the Center's own programs. The Center has no trust funds. The Center also acts in a trustee capacity as an agent for other organizations. The Center's custodial fund accounts for the Local Professional Development Committee (LPDC).

**D. Basis of Presentation**

*Government-Wide Financial Statements* - The statement of net position - modified cash basis and the statement of activities - modified cash basis display information about the Center as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The government-wide statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the Center's governmental activities. These disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the Center. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on the cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the Center.

*Fund Financial Statements* - The Center segregates transactions related to certain Center 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 Center at a more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

**E. Budgetary Process**

Although not legally required, the Center adopts its budget for all funds. The budget includes the estimated resources and expenditures for each fund and consists of three parts; Part (A) includes entitlement funding from the State, Part (B) includes the cost of all other lawful expenditures of the Center (which are apportioned by the State Department of Education and Workforce to each local Board of Education under the supervision of the Center), and Part (C) includes the adopted appropriation resolution.

In fiscal year 2004, the Center's requirement to file budgetary information with the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce was eliminated. Even though the budgetary process for the Center was discretionary, the Center continued to have its Board approve appropriations and estimated resources. The Center's Board adopts an annual appropriation resolution, which is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level for all funds with the exception of the general fund, which is at the one-digit object code.

**F. Cash and Investments**

To improve cash management, cash received by the Center is pooled in a central bank account. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through the Center's records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents" on the basic financial statements.

For presentation on the basic financial statements, investments of the cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Center are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months 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 2025, investments were limited to the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio), common stock (see below), negotiable certificates of deposit, federal agency securities, commercial paper, U.S. Treasury notes, and a U.S. Government money market fund.

STAR 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 Center 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.

For fiscal year 2025, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours' notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, 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.

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

While common stock is not an allowable investment according to Ohio statute, the Center has been endowed with a gift of stock. No public funds were used to acquire the stock. The stock is reported at cost which is based on the initial acquisition prices.

Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earnings are assigned to the general fund unless the Center has adopted a resolution authorizing interest to be credited to specific funds. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2025 amounted to \$345,401, which includes \$27,762 assigned from other Center funds.

**G. Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements under the modified cash basis of accounting. Depreciation has not been reported for any capital assets.

**H. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

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

**I. Accumulated Leave**

For fiscal year 2025, GASB Statement No. 101, “*Compensated Absences*”, was effective. GASB 101 defines a compensated absence as leave for which employees may receive cash payments when the leave is used for time off or receive cash payments for unused leave upon termination of employment. These payments could occur during employment or upon termination of employment. Compensated absences generally do not have a set payment schedule. The Center does not offer noncash settlements.

Center employees earn sick, vacation and personal time that can be used for time off. In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave.

This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net cash position/fund cash balance as unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Center’s modified cash basis of accounting.

**J. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans**

The Center recognizes the disbursements for employer contributions to cost sharing pension plans when they are paid.

**K. 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.

**L. Leases**

The Center is the lessee in various noncancelable leases related to equipment. Lease payables are not reflected under the Center’s modified cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

**M. Long-Term Obligations**

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

**N. Fund Cash Balance**

The Center reports classifications of fund cash balance based on the extent to which the Center is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. The following categories are used:

Nonspendable - amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally required to be maintained intact.

Restricted - amounts that have constraints placed on the use of resources that are either (a) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed - amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Center's highest level of decision-making authority, the Governing Board.

Assigned - amounts that are constrained by the Center's intent to be used for specific purpose but are neither restricted nor committed. Assigned amounts include those approved through the Center's formal purchasing procedure by the Treasurer. Through the Center's purchasing policy, the Governing Board has given the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

Unassigned - residual fund balance within the general fund that is in spendable form that is not restricted, committed, or assigned.

The Center applies restricted resources first when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which restricted and unrestricted fund cash balance is available. The Center considers committed, assigned, and unassigned fund cash balances, respectively, to be spent when disbursements are incurred for purposes for which any of the unrestricted fund cash balance classifications could be used.

**O. Net Cash Position**

Net cash position is reported as restricted when enabling legislation or creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments have imposed limitations on its use. The Center first applies restricted resources when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net cash position is available.

**P. Interfund Activity**

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

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

A schedule of the Center's interfund transactions is presented in Note 5.

**Q. Extraordinary and Special Items**

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during fiscal year 2025.

**R. Fair Value**

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

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

**A. Change in Accounting Principles**

For fiscal year 2025, the Center has implemented GASB Statement No. 101, "Compensated Absences" and GASB Statement No. 102, "Certain Risk Disclosures".

GASB Statement No. 101 is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by updating the recognition and measurement guidance for compensated absences. That objective is achieved by aligning the recognition and measurement guidance under a unified model and by amending certain previously required disclosures. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 101 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Center.

GASB Statement No. 102 improves financial reporting by providing users with timely information regarding certain concentrations or constraints and related events that have occurred or have begun to occur that make a government vulnerable to a substantial impact. As a result, users will have better information with which to understand and anticipate certain risks to a government's financial condition. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 102 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the Center.

**B. Compliance**

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the Center to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the Center prepared its basic financial statements on a modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying basic 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 Center can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the Center.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

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

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

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

Protection of the Center'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.

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the Center 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. Cash on Hand**

At fiscal year end, the Center had \$175 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

**B. Deposits with Financial Institutions**

At June 30, 2025, the carrying amount of all Center deposits was \$1,993,865. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures", as of June 30, 2025, \$1,855,520 of the Center's bank balance of \$2,105,520 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below, while \$250,000 was covered by FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the Center will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Center has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the Center and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) 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 fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State. For fiscal year 2025, the Center's financial institution participated in the OPCS.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

**C. Investments**

As of June 30, 2025, the Center had the following investments and maturities:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>Measurement Value</u>	Investment Maturities					<u>Indefinite</u>
			<u>6 months or less</u>	<u>7 to 12 months</u>	<u>13 to 18 months</u>	<u>19 to 24 months</u>	<u>Greater than 24 months</u>	
Stock	\$ 30,904	\$ 872,090	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 872,090
STAR Ohio	4,895,630	4,895,630	4,895,630	-	-	-	-	-
Negotiable CD's	1,025,000	1,026,102	475,357	350,849	199,896	-	-	-
FHLB	214,490	217,371	-	-	217,371	-	-	-
FFCB	297,846	300,447	-	-	198,833	-	101,614	-
FHLMC	100,000	100,003	-	-	-	-	100,003	-
US Treasury notes	1,693,333	1,724,075	113,853	100,628	-	-	1,509,594	-
Commercial paper	339,819	342,835	99,310	243,525	-	-	-	-
US Govt. money market	<u>104,370</u>	<u>104,370</u>	<u>104,370</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 8,701,392</u>	<u>\$ 9,582,923</u>	<u>\$ 5,688,520</u>	<u>\$ 695,002</u>	<u>\$ 616,100</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,711,211</u>	<u>\$ 872,090</u>

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.77 years.

The Center's investments in stock and a U.S. Government money market fund are valued using quoted market prices in active markets (Level 1 inputs). The Center's investments in negotiable certificates of deposit, federal agency securities, commercial paper and U.S. Treasury notes are valued using quoted prices in markets that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs). The Center 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.

*Interest Rate Risk:* As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the Center's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

*Custodial Credit Risk:* For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Center will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The federal agency securities, U.S. Treasury notes, commercial paper and stock are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent but not in the Center's name. The Center's investments in negotiable CDs are insured by the FDIC. The Center has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

*Credit Risk:* The Center's stocks were rated ranging from AA- to BBB-, Aa2 to Ba1, and A- to BBB- by Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investor Services, and Fitch Ratings, respectively. The Center's investments in federal agency securities and U.S. Treasury notes were rated AA+ or AAA and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. The Center's investments in commercial paper were rated A-1+ or A-1 by Standard & Poor's, and P-1 by Moody's Investor Services. STAR Ohio and the U.S. Government money market fund carry 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 rating service. The Center's investments in negotiable CDs are not rated as they are fully insured by the FDIC. The Center's investment policy does not further limit its investment choices.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

*Concentration of Credit Risk:* The Center places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the Center at June 30, 2025:

Investment type	Measurement	
	Value	% to Total
Stock	\$ 872,090	9.10
STAR Ohio	4,895,630	51.09
Negotiable CD's	1,026,102	10.71
FHLB	217,371	2.27
FFCB	300,447	3.14
FHLMC	100,003	1.04
US Treasury notes	1,724,075	17.99
Commercial paper	342,835	3.58
US Govt. money market	<u>104,370</u>	<u>1.08</u>
Total	<u>\$ 9,582,923</u>	<u>100.00</u>

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

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments reported in the note above to cash as reported on the statement of net position as of June 30, 2025:

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	Carrying	
	Value	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 1,993,865	
Investments	8,701,392	
Cash on hand	<u>175</u>	
Total	<u>\$ 10,695,432</u>	

<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	Carrying	
	Value	
Governmental activities	\$ 10,685,525	
Custodial fund	<u>9,907</u>	
Total	<u>\$ 10,695,432</u>	

**NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS**

A. Interfund transactions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund financial statements:

<u>Advances from general fund to:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nonmajor governmental funds	\$ 50,442
<u>Advances from nonmajor governmental funds to:</u>	
General fund	<u>132,214</u>
Total	<u>\$ 182,656</u>

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS - (Continued)**

The primary purpose of the advances to the governmental funds is to cover costs in grant funds where the requested project cash requests were not received by June 30. These advances will be repaid once the anticipated revenues are received. All outstanding advances are expected to be repaid within one year.

The advances to the general fund represent repayment of prior period advances made from the general fund to nonmajor governmental funds.

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

**B.** Interfund transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund financial statements:

<u>Transfers from general fund to:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nonmajor governmental funds	<u>\$ 180,000</u>

The transfer from the general fund to the nonmajor governmental funds was to the building fund for the purpose of additional capital purchases and debt service.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements. No interfund transfers are reported on the statement of activities.

**NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. Comprehensive and Employee Health**

The Center 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. The Center has obtained risk management by traditional means of insuring through a commercial company. With the exception of a deductible, the risk of loss transfers entirely from the Center to the commercial company. The Center continues to carry commercial insurance for all other risks of loss, including employee health and accident insurance. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance in any of the past three fiscal years. There has been no significant reduction in coverage.

**B. Workers' Compensation**

For fiscal year 2025, the Center participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 2.A.). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the Center by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating members are calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all members in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

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

***Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

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

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

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

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

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

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 8 for the required OPEB disclosures.

***Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)***

Plan Description - The Center's non-teaching employees participate in SERS, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SERS. SERS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits, 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](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it was indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0%. In 2023, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2024. In 2024, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2025.

**Funding Policy** - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the Center is required to contribute 14.00% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00%. For fiscal year 2025, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$716,174 for fiscal year 2025.

***Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)***

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

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

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**NOTE 7 - 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 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Effective August 1, 2023, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 34 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 65. Effective June 1, 2025 – July 1, 2027, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 33 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 65. Effective on or after August 1, 2027, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 34 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 65. 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 permanent 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.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits effective August 1, 2023, can retire with 29 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 60. Effective June 1, 2025 - July 1, 2027, retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 28 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 60. Effective on or after August 1, 2027, retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 29 years of service credit at any age; or five years of service credit and age 60.

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

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

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

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

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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The fiscal year 2025 employer and employee contribution rate of 14% was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2025, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The Center's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,270,868 for fiscal year 2025.

***Net Pension Liability***

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2024, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Center's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Center's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.103324000%	0.050785730%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.115288800%</u>	<u>0.054609950%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.011964800%</u>	<u>0.003824220%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,897,709	\$ 10,507,837	\$ 16,405,546

***Actuarial Assumptions - SERS***

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

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023, are presented below:

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Wage inflation	2.40%	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%	3.25% to 13.58%
COLA or ad hoc COLA	2.00% on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for 3 years following commencement	2.00% on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for 3 years following commencement
Investment rate of return	7.00% net of system expenses	7.00% net of system expenses
Discount rate	7.00%	7.00%
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal	Entry age normal

In 2024, mortality rates were based on the following:

**Service Retirement:** PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

**Disabled Retirement:** PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

**Contingent Survivor:** PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

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

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. Ohio Revised Code Section 3309.15 and the Board-adopted Investment Policy govern investment activity at SERS. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 30, 2024 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (geometric)
Cash	3.00 %	0.97 %
US Equity	22.00	4.68
Non-US Equity Developed	12.00	4.96
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.00	5.66
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	18.00	2.38
Private Equity	14.00	7.10
Real Estate	13.00	3.64
Infrastructure	7.00	4.80
Private Debt/Private Credit	5.00	5.86
Total	<u><u>100.00 %</u></u>	

**Discount Rate** - Total pension liability for 2024 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. The discount rate determination did not use a municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 20-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarially determined contribution rate for fiscal year 2024 was 14%. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return, 7.00%. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability. The annual money weighted rate of return, calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, for fiscal year 2024 was 9.31%.

**Sensitivity of the Center'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 Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the Center'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%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 9,022,680	\$ 5,897,709	\$ 3,266,654

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023, actuarial valuations are presented below:

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.00%
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%	0.00%

For the June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2024 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.90 %
International Equity	22.00	7.70
Alternatives	19.00	9.10
Fixed Income	22.00	4.50
Real Estate	10.00	5.10
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	2.40
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

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

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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

\*\*10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.40% 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% as of June 30, 2024. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with the rates described previously. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2024. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2024.

**Sensitivity of the Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** - The following table represents the Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability as of June 30, 2024, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the Center'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%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 16,950,982	\$ 10,507,837	\$ 5,058,043

**Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date** - The discount rate remained at 7.00% for June 30, 2024 valuation.

Retirement rates were extended to younger ages intended to ensure that the ranges in retirement eligibility impacted participants at such ages.

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

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**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

***Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

See Note 7 for a description of the net OPEB liability/asset.

***Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)***

Health Care Plan Description - The Center 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](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2025, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2025, the Center's surcharge obligation was \$81,545.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$81,545 for fiscal year 2025.

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**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

***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](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Medicare Part D is a federal program to help cover the costs of prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries. This program allows STRS Ohio to recover part of the cost for providing prescription coverage since all eligible STRS Ohio health care plans include creditable prescription drug coverage.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, 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, 2024, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability/asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Center's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the Center'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:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.106561600%	0.050785730%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.117029200%</u>	<u>0.054609950%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.010467600%</u>	<u>0.003824220%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,191,937	\$ -	\$ 1,191,937
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ 1,035,846	\$ 1,035,846

***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.

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**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

Actuarial calculations reflect a long-term perspective. For a newly hired employee, actuarial calculations will 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, 2024 and June 30, 2023 are presented below:

	June 30, 2024	June 30, 2023
Wage inflation	2.40%	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%	3.25% to 13.58%
Investment rate of return	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation
Municipal bond index rate	3.93%	3.86%
Single equivalent interest rate	4.88%	4.27%
Medical trend assumption	7.00 to 4.40%	6.75 to 4.40%
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal	
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted	2059	

In 2024, the following mortality assumptions were used:

**Healthy Retirees** - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females.

**Disabled Retirees** - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females.

**Contingent Survivors** - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females.

**Actives** - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

**Mortality Projection** - Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

In the prior measurement date, the following mortality assumptions were used:

**Healthy Retirees** - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females.

**Disabled Retirees** - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

**Contingent Survivors** - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females.

**Actives** - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

**Mortality Projection** - Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

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

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

The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class as June 30, 2024 are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return (geometric)
Cash	3.00 %	0.97 %
US Equity	22.00	4.68
Non-US Equity Developed	12.00	4.96
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.00	5.66
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	18.00	2.38
Private Equity	14.00	7.10
Real Estate	13.00	3.64
Infrastructure	7.00	4.80
Private Debt/Private Credit	5.00	5.86
Total	100.00 %	

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2024, was 4.88%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2024, was 4.27%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50% of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be depleted in 2059 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, 2023 and the June 30, 2024 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 3.93% at June 30, 2024 and 3.86% at June 30, 2023.

**Sensitivity of the Center'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 Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, what the Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.88%) and higher (5.88%) than the current discount rate (4.88%). Also shown is what the Center's proportionate share of the 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 (7.00% decreasing to 4.40%).

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,589,405	\$ 1,191,937	\$ 876,094
<hr/>			
Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	Current		
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
	\$ 805,705	\$ 1,191,937	\$ 1,699,608

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation, compared with June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, are presented below:

	June 30, 2024		June 30, 2023	
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%		Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.00%	
Health care cost trends				
Medical	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	3.94%	7.50%	4.14%
Medicare	-112.22%	3.94%	-10.94%	4.14%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	8.00%	3.94%	-11.95%	4.14%
Medicare	-15.14%	3.94%	1.33%	4.14%

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

For the June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2024 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

***Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date*** - The discount rate remained unchanged at 7.00% for the June 30, 2024 valuation.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 8 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

**Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date** - Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience as well as benefit changes effective January 1, 2025. The larger Medicare trends for Years 2027 and 2028 reflect the assumed impact of the expiration of current Medicare Advantage contract on December 31, 2028.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return **
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.90 %
International Equity	22.00	7.70
Alternatives	19.00	9.10
Fixed Income	22.00	4.50
Real Estate	10.00	5.10
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	2.40
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 2.40% and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2024. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2024. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2024.

**Sensitivity of the Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate** - The following table represents the Center's net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2024, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption. Also shown is the Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 842,212	\$ 1,035,846	\$ 1,204,351
	Current		
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 1,215,733	\$ 1,035,846	\$ 819,509

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 9 - DEBT**

The changes in the Center's long-term debt during fiscal year 2025 were as follows:

<b>Governmental Activities:</b>	Balance Outstanding <u>06/30/24</u>		<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	Balance Outstanding <u>06/30/25</u>		<b>Amounts Due in One Year</b>
	<u>2024 Building Loan</u>	<u>\$ 1,917,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (108,000)</u>	<u>\$ 1,809,000</u>	<u>\$ 102,000</u>	
2024 Building Loan							

The 2024 building loan was issued on January 25, 2024 in the amount of \$1,917,000 to finance the construction and improvement of a building. This loan was made through JPMorgan Chase Bank for a period of 15 years. Payments are due on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The June 1 payment consists of interest while the December 1 payment consists of principal and interest. The interest rate on the loan is 3.55%. The final payment on the loan is due on December 1, 2038. Payments are recorded in the building fund, a nonmajor governmental fund, and are financed with transfers from the general fund. This obligation is a direct borrowing. Direct borrowings have terms negotiated directly with the lender and are not offered for public sale.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the debt outstanding at June 30, 2025 are as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year Ending June 30,</b>	<b>Direct Borrowing 2024 Building Loan</b>			<b>Total</b>
	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>	
2026	\$ 102,000	\$ 62,409	\$ 164,409	
2027	106,000	58,717	164,717	
2028	109,000	54,901	163,901	
2029	113,000	50,960	163,960	
2030	117,000	46,878	163,878	
2031 - 2035	652,000	167,808	819,808	
2036 - 2039	610,000	44,198	654,198	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,809,000</b>	<b>\$ 485,871</b>	<b>\$ 2,294,871</b>	

**NOTE 10 - CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

The Center receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, State and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the Center. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the Center.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE 10 - CONTINGENCIES - (Continued)**

**B. Foundation Funding**

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Educational service centers must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the Center, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. DEW has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2025 Foundation funding for the Center which did not result in a significant impact to the Center's funding.

**NOTE 11 - OTHER COMMITMENTS**

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

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Year-End</u>	<u>Encumbrances</u>
General fund	\$ 166,598	
Nonmajor governmental	<u>767,654</u>	
Total	<u><u>\$ 934,252</u></u>	

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**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

<b>FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> <i>Program / Cluster Title</i></b>	<b>Federal AL Number</b>	<b>(1) (2) Total Federal Expenditures</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
Special Education Cluster (IDEA):		
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	\$ 6,641
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	<u>14,520</u>
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)		<u>21,161</u>
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	84.287	456,984
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425U	265,991
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	4,920
Total U.S. Department of Education		<b><u>749,056</u></b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>		
<i>Passed Through Shelby County Department of Job and Family Services</i>		
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	18,559
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		<u>18,559</u>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>		<b><u>\$ 767,615</u></b>

(1) There were no amounts passed through to subrecipients

(2) There were no pass through entity identifying numbers

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.*

**MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
2 CFR § 200.510(b)(6)  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025**

**NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center (the Center) under programs of the federal government for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Center, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position and changes in net position of the Center.

**NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

**NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE**

The Center has elected not to use the 15-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.



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

Midwest Regional Educational Service Center  
Shelby County  
129 E. Court Street  
Sidney, Ohio 45365

To the Governing Board:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center, Shelby County, Ohio (the Center) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 11, 2025, wherein we noted the Center 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 Center'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 Center's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center'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 Center'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.

Midwest Regional Educational Service Center  
Shelby County  
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over  
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters  
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*  
Page 2

***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Center'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 2025-001.

***Center's Response to Finding***

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Center's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and/or corrective action plan. The Center'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 Center'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 Center's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

KEITH FABER  
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM  
Chief Deputy Auditor

December 11, 2025



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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS  
APPLICABLE TO THE MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER  
COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

Midwest Regional Educational Service Center  
Shelby County  
129 E. Court Street  
Sidney, Ohio 45365

To the Governing Board:

**Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program**

***Opinion on the Major Federal Program***

We have audited Midwest Regional Educational Service Center's, Shelby County, (the Center) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on Midwest Regional Educational Service Center's major federal program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. Midwest Regional Educational Service Center's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Midwest Regional Educational Service Center complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

***Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program***

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

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

### ***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

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

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

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

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

### ***Report on Internal Control Over Compliance***

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

Midwest Regional Educational Service Center

Shelby County

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements

Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance

Required by the Uniform Guidance

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

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

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

KEITH FABER  
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM  
Chief Deputy Auditor

December 11, 2025

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MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
SHELBY COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
2 CFR § 200.515  
JUNE 30, 2025

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers (AL# 84.287)
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
(d)(1)(ix)	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	No

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

FINDING NUMBER 2025-001

Noncompliance

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2025-001**  
**(Continued)**

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

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

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

**Officials' Response:**

See the Corrective Action Plan on page 55.

**3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS**

**None.**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS**

**2 CFR §200.511(b)**

**JUNE 30, 2025**

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>Finding Summary</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
2024-001	<b>Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2- 03(B)</b> –Center did not file annual financial report prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).	Not Corrected	Repeated as Finding 2025-001 The Center has chosen to file Other Comprehensive Basis of Accounting (OCBOA) statements rather than filing GAAP statements due to cost considerations.

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**CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**  
**2 CFR § 200.511(c)**  
**JUNE 30, 2025**

**Finding Number:** 2025-001

**Planned Corrective Action:** The Center acknowledges this requirement but will continue to report on cash basis, similar to many other districts and educational service centers. The Center has determined that cash basis reporting is financially good decision of resources. The cost and time of GAAP reporting has been discussed.

**Anticipated Completion Date:** Not applicable.

**Responsible Contact Person:** Keith Thomas, Treasurer

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



MIDWEST REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

SHELBY 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 1/13/2026

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](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)