

**West Branch Local School
District**

Audited Financial Statements

June 30, 2006



Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

Board of Education
West Branch Local School District
14277 Main Street
Beloit, Ohio 44609

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the West Branch Local School District, Mahoning County, prepared by Rea & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

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

Mary Taylor

Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

January 31, 2007

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**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY**

JUNE 30, 2006

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MAHONING COUNTY**

JUNE 30, 2006

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Rea & Associates, Inc.
ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

November 21, 2006

To the Board of Education
West Branch Local School District
Beloit, OH 44609

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the West Branch Local School District (the "School District"), Mahoning County, Ohio as of and for the year ended June 30, 2006, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the School District's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the West Branch Local School District, Mahoning County, Ohio as of June 30, 2006, and the respective changes in financial position, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we also have issued our report dated November 21, 2006, on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 internal control over financial reporting or compliance. That report is an integral part of the audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's Discussion and Analysis is on page 3 through 12 and not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information the Governmental Accounting Standards Board requires. We applied certain limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. We did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

West Branch Local School District
Independent Accountants' Report
November 21, 2006
Page 2

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements. In our opinion, it is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Hea & Associates, Inc.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

The management's discussion and analysis of the West Branch Local School District's (the "District") financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's financial performance.

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for 2006 are as follows:

- In total, net assets of governmental activities decreased \$313,789 which represents a 0.72% decrease from 2005.
- General revenues accounted for \$16,384,127 in revenue or 76.54% of all revenues. Program specific revenue in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$5,020,937 or 23.46% of total revenues of \$21,405,064.
- The District had \$21,713,452 in expenses related to governmental activities; \$5,020,937 of these expenses was offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues supporting governmental activities (primarily taxes and unrestricted grants and entitlements) of \$16,384,127 were not adequate to provide for these programs.
- The District's major governmental funds are the general fund, bond retirement fund and classroom facilities fund. The general fund had \$17,426,537 in revenues and other financing sources and \$17,020,383 in expenditures and other financing uses. During fiscal 2006, the general fund's fund balance increased \$406,154 from \$1,048,324 to \$1,454,478.
- The bond retirement fund had \$821,521 in revenues and \$681,508 in expenditures. During fiscal 2006, the bond retirement fund's fund balance increased \$140,013 from \$304,001 to \$444,014.
- The classroom facilities fund had \$3,398,348 in revenues and other financing sources and \$3,308,820 in expenditures. During fiscal 2006, the classroom facilities fund's fund balance increased \$89,528 from \$449,160 to \$538,688.

Using the Basic Financial Statements

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

The *Statement of Net Assets* and *Statement of Activities* provide information about the activities of the whole District, presenting both an aggregate view of the District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. The District has three major funds: the general fund, bond retirement fund and classroom facilities fund.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

Reporting the District as a Whole

Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the District to provide programs and activities, the view of the District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during 2006?" The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities answer this question. These statements include *non-fiduciary assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses* using the *accrual basis of accounting* similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting will take into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the District's *net assets* and changes in those assets. This change in net assets is important because it tells the reader that, for the District as a whole, the *financial position* of the District has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, the Governmental Activities include the District's programs and services, including instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant, pupil transportation, extracurricular activities, and food service operations.

The District's statement of net assets and statement of activities can be found on pages 13-14 of this report.

Reporting the District's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

The analysis of the District's major governmental funds begins on page 9. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the District's major funds. The District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the District's most significant funds. The District's major governmental funds are the general fund, bond retirement fund and the classroom facilities fund.

Governmental Funds

Most of the District's activities are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end available for spending in future periods. These funds are reported using an accounting method called *modified accrual* accounting, which measures cash and all other *financial assets* than can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed *short-term* view of the District's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance educational programs. The relationship (or differences) between governmental *activities* (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental *funds* is reconciled in the basic financial statements. The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 15-19 of this report.

Reporting the District's Fiduciary Responsibilities

The District is the trustee, or fiduciary, for its scholarship programs. This activity is presented as a private-purpose trust fund. The District also acts in a trustee capacity as an agent for individuals. These activities are reported in two agency funds. The District's fiduciary activities are reported in separate Statements of Fiduciary Net Assets and Changes in Fiduciary Net Assets on pages 20 and 21. These activities are excluded from the District's other financial statements because the assets cannot be utilized by the District to finance its operations.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. These notes to the basic financial statements can be found on pages 22-46 of this report.

The District as a Whole

The Statement of Net Assets provides the perspective of the District as a whole.

The table below provides a summary of the District's net assets for 2006 and 2005.

	Net Assets	
	Governmental Activities	Governmental Activities
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
<u>Assets</u>		
Current and other assets	\$ 10,717,989	\$ 12,526,415
Capital assets	<u>49,129,649</u>	<u>48,002,384</u>
Total assets	<u>59,847,638</u>	<u>60,528,799</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current liabilities	7,129,824	7,242,130
Long-term liabilities	<u>9,091,339</u>	<u>9,346,405</u>
Total liabilities	<u>16,221,163</u>	<u>16,588,535</u>
<u>Net Assets</u>		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	41,439,650	40,144,479
Restricted	1,677,797	3,752,614
Unrestricted	<u>509,028</u>	<u>43,171</u>
Total net assets	<u>\$ 43,626,475</u>	<u>\$ 43,940,264</u>

Over time, net assets can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2006, the District's assets exceeded liabilities by \$43,626,475.

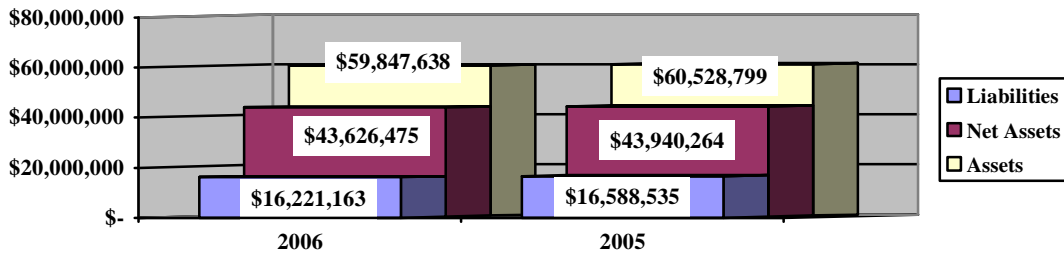
At year-end, capital assets represented 82.09% of total assets. Capital assets include land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture and equipment, textbooks and library books and vehicles. Capital assets, net of related debt to acquire the assets at June 30, 2006, were \$41,439,650. These capital assets are used to provide services to the students and are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)**

A portion of the District's net assets, \$1,677,797, represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net assets of \$509,028 may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to the students and creditors.

Governmental Activities



The table below shows the change in net assets for fiscal years 2006 and 2005.

	Change in Net Assets	
	Governmental	Governmental
	Activities	Activities
	2006	2005
<u>Revenues</u>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 1,984,937	\$ 1,977,334
Operating grants and contributions	2,023,053	1,995,467
Capital grants and contributions	1,012,947	-
General revenues:		
Property taxes	4,769,794	4,288,128
Grants and entitlements	11,337,036	10,714,208
Investment earnings	205,362	273,867
Other	71,935	99,052
Total revenues	21,405,064	19,348,056

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

Change in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities <u>2006</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2005</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Program expenses:		
Instruction:		
Regular	\$ 10,150,151	\$ 8,967,112
Special	1,876,050	1,810,196
Vocational	440,608	451,415
Other	77,578	55,011
Support services:		
Pupil	789,213	769,940
Instructional staff	731,381	782,618
Board of education	39,688	41,384
Administration	1,574,826	1,470,208
Fiscal	409,202	431,844
Operations and maintenance	1,985,122	1,838,598
Pupil transportation	1,555,628	1,519,900
Central	101,985	76,520
Operations of non-instructional services:		
Food service operations	842,153	732,563
Other non-instructional services	100,622	142,017
Extracurricular activities	631,148	609,518
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>408,097</u>	<u>416,786</u>
Total expenses	21,713,452	20,115,630
Special item loss on sale of capital assets	<u>(5,401)</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in net assets	(313,789)	(767,574)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>43,940,264</u>	<u>44,707,838</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 43,626,475</u>	<u>\$ 43,940,264</u>

Governmental Activities

Net assets of the District's governmental activities decreased \$313,789. Total governmental expenses of \$21,713,452 were offset by program revenues of \$5,020,937 and general revenues of \$16,384,127. Program revenues supported 23.12% of the total governmental expenses.

The primary sources of revenue for governmental activities are derived from property taxes, and grants and entitlements. These two revenue sources represent 75.25% of total governmental revenue. Real estate property is reappraised every six years.

The District is located in Mahoning, Columbiana and Portage Counties and as a result is continually in a sexennial or triennial update. With the increase in property valuation, the District is now operating at the 20 mill floor which is the state minimum required property tax funding for a school district's operations. Due to this, the District is able to receive the full advantage of property tax valuation increases.

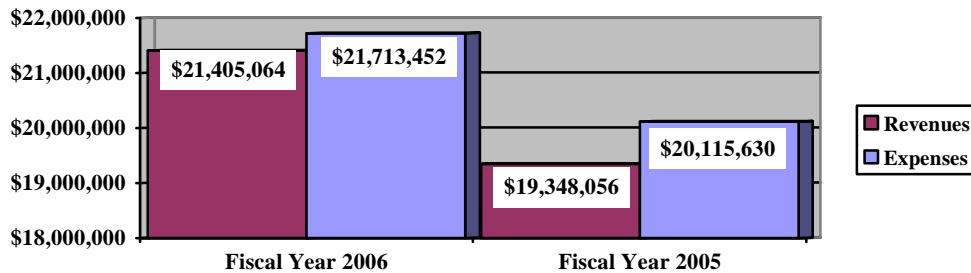
**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

The District's financial condition has improved in recent years, primarily due to increased financial support from the state. State support has increased by 3% over the last two years. Unfortunately, due to enrollment declines these increases are not projected for the future. The District is projecting a decrease in state funding for future years.

The graph below presents the District's governmental activities revenue and expenses for fiscal year 2006 and 2005.

Governmental Activities - Revenues and Expenses



The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. The following table shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and unrestricted State grants and entitlements.

Governmental Activities

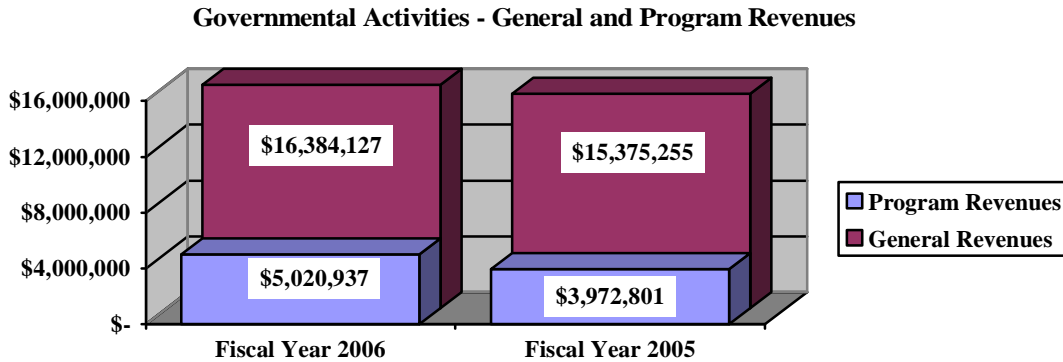
	Total Cost of Services <u>2006</u>	Net Cost of Services <u>2006</u>	Total Cost of Services <u>2005</u>	Net Cost of Services <u>2005</u>
Program expenses				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 10,150,151	\$ 7,860,475	\$ 8,967,112	\$ 7,702,607
Special	1,876,050	610,415	1,810,196	659,874
Vocational	440,608	357,876	451,415	267,005
Other	77,578	77,578	55,011	55,011
Support services:				
Pupil	789,213	773,205	769,940	736,805
Instructional staff	731,381	547,347	782,618	652,129
Board of education	39,688	39,688	41,384	41,384
Administration	1,574,826	1,451,441	1,470,208	1,325,793
Fiscal	409,202	409,202	431,844	431,844
Operations and maintenance	1,985,122	1,983,472	1,838,598	1,823,125
Pupil transportation	1,555,628	1,555,628	1,519,900	1,519,900
Central	101,985	86,985	76,520	58,520
Operations of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	842,153	(12,106)	732,563	(25,966)
Other non-instructional services	100,622	91,009	142,017	54,211
Extracurricular activities	631,148	452,203	609,518	423,801
Interest and fiscal charges	408,097	408,097	416,786	416,786
Total expenses	<u>\$ 21,713,452</u>	<u>\$ 16,692,515</u>	<u>\$ 20,115,630</u>	<u>\$ 16,142,829</u>

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

The dependence upon tax and other general revenues for governmental activities is apparent, 76.32% of instruction activities are supported through taxes and other general revenues. For all governmental activities, general revenue support is 76.88%. The District's taxpayers, as a whole, are by far the primary support for District's students.

The graph below presents the District's governmental activities revenue for fiscal years 2006 and 2005.



The District's Funds

The District's governmental funds (as presented on the balance sheet on page 15) reported a combined fund balance of \$3,134,259, which is greater than last year's total of \$3,029,364. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance as of June 30, 2006 and 2005.

	Fund Balance June 30, 2006	Fund Balance June 30, 2005	Increase (Decrease)
General	\$ 1,454,478	\$ 1,048,324	\$ 406,154
Bond Retirement	444,014	304,001	140,013
Classroom Facilities	538,688	449,160	89,528
Other Governmental	<u>697,079</u>	<u>1,227,879</u>	<u>(530,800)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 3,134,259</u>	<u>\$ 3,029,364</u>	<u>\$ 104,895</u>

General Fund

The District's general fund balance increased \$406,154. The table that follows assists in illustrating the financial activities and fund balance of the general fund.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

	<u>2006</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2005</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>
<u>Revenues</u>			
Taxes	\$ 4,028,960	\$ 3,579,741	12.55 %
Tuition	1,059,717	1,039,366	1.96 %
Earnings on investments	165,028	116,188	42.04 %
Intergovernmental	11,911,445	11,424,349	4.26 %
Other revenues	<u>113,873</u>	<u>129,623</u>	(12.15) %
Total	<u>\$ 17,279,023</u>	<u>\$ 16,289,267</u>	6.08 %
<u>Expenditures</u>			
Instruction	\$ 10,109,652	\$ 9,679,773	4.44 %
Support services	6,348,836	6,286,887	0.99 %
Operation of non-instructional services	54,188	46,475	16.60 %
Extracurricular activities	334,707	310,550	7.78 %
Facilities acquisition and construction	<u>-</u>	<u>25,165</u>	(100.00) %
Total	<u>\$ 16,847,383</u>	<u>\$ 16,348,850</u>	3.05 %

Bond Retirement

During fiscal year 2006, the District's bond retirement fund balance increased \$140,013. This increase is due to tax revenue being greater than debt service expenditures. The bond retirement fund had \$821,521 in revenues and \$681,508 in expenditures.

Classroom Facilities

During fiscal year 2006, the District's classroom facilities fund balance increased \$89,528 which is due a \$692,992 transfer in from the permanent improvement fund. The classroom facilities fund had \$3,398,348 in revenues and other financing sources and \$3,308,820 in expenditures.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

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

During the course of fiscal year 2006, the District amended its general fund budget. For the general fund, final budgeted revenues and other financing sources were \$17,239,395 which was increased from the original budgeted revenues estimate of \$16,359,277. Actual revenues and other financing sources for fiscal 2006 was \$17,296,753. This represents a \$57,358 increase over final budgeted revenues.

General fund original appropriations (appropriated expenditures plus other financing uses) of \$17,621,945 were decreased to \$17,590,450 in the final budget. Actual expenditures plus other financing uses for fiscal year 2006 were \$17,085,605, which is less than the final budgeted amount by \$504,845.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal 2006, the District had \$49,129,649 invested in land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture and equipment, vehicles and textbooks and library books. This entire amount is reported in governmental activities. The following table shows fiscal 2006 balances compared to 2005:

	Capital Assets at June 30	
	(Net of Depreciation)	
	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Land	\$ 679,430	\$ 683,200
Land improvements	2,558,246	1,813,840
Building and improvements	44,035,558	27,724,627
Furniture and equipment	1,007,806	888,822
Vehicles	297,148	524,443
Textbooks and library books	551,461	477,832
Construction in progress	<u>-</u>	<u>15,889,620</u>
Total	<u>\$ 49,129,649</u>	<u>\$ 48,002,384</u>

Total additions to capital assets for 2006 were \$3,130,870 and total disposals were \$227,898 (net of accumulated depreciation). The District had \$1,775,707 in depreciation expense for the 2006 fiscal year.

See Note 8 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the District's capital assets.

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2006, the District had \$7,863,112 in general obligation bonds outstanding. Of this total, \$320,000 is due within one year and \$7,543,112 is due within greater than one year. The following table summarizes the bonds outstanding.

	Outstanding Debt, at Year End	
	Governmental	Governmental
	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Activities</u>
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
General obligation bonds:		
School improvement	<u>\$ 7,863,112</u>	<u>\$ 8,122,093</u>
Total	<u>\$ 7,863,112</u>	<u>\$ 8,122,093</u>

At June 30, 2006, the District's legal voted debt margin was \$12,126,577 with an unvoted debt margin of \$215,251.

See Note 9 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the District's debt administration.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006
(UNAUDITED)

Current Financial Related Activities

As the preceding information shows, the District relies heavily upon grants, entitlements, and property taxes. However, the future financial stability of the District is not without challenges.

The first challenge, with only modest growth in the District and reduced state funding, is the reliance on the cash balance. There will have to be cuts in operating expenditures to make up this shortfall or ask for dramatically more money to operate. The state recognizes the low level of millage in the District and provides Charge-Off Supplement (Gap) aid. Additional millage would have to first compensate for approximately 3.5 mills of Charge-Off Supplement before additional operating dollars are realized.

The next challenge facing the District is the rapid decline in enrollment over the past several years, especially if these declines continue. Although fiscal year 2006 saw an increase in enrollment, maintaining this will be difficult. Even attempting to bring in open enrollment students will not make up the difference. These declines are impacting our state funding as the District receives funding based on enrollment. The enrollment declines are a threat to our operation as we know it today.

The last challenge facing the District is the future of state funding. The State of Ohio was found by the Ohio Supreme Court in March 1997 to be operating an unconstitutional educational system, one that was neither "adequate" nor "equitable". Since 1997, the state has directed its tax revenue growth toward school districts with little property tax wealth. At this time, the District is unable to determine what effect, if any, this decision and the reconsideration will have on its future state funding and on its financial operations.

In conclusion, the District has committed itself to financial excellence for many years. Audited annual financial reports are filed as required by law and no findings, citations, items for adjustment, or material weaknesses in internal controls were noted as a part of these audits. The District continues a program to improve the quality of its fiscal management by taking a proactive approach to cash management, not only to maximize funds, but also to achieve optimal income on cash balances. All this having been said, meeting the needs of natural budget cycles will be our greatest challenge.

Contacting the District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information contact Ms. Karen Elsner, Treasurer, West Branch Local School District, 14277 Main Street, Beloit, Ohio 44609.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS
JUNE 30, 2006

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and investments.	\$ 5,318,622
Receivables:	
Taxes	5,265,274
Accounts	843
Intergovernmental	52,961
Prepayments	47,679
Materials and supplies inventory	32,610
Capital assets:	
Land	679,430
Depreciable capital assets, net.	48,450,219
Capital assets, net	49,129,649
 Total assets.	 59,847,638
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable.	67,538
Accrued wages and benefits	1,922,187
Pension obligation payable.	429,637
Intergovernmental payable	108,263
Accrued interest payable	29,643
Deferred revenue.	4,572,556
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year.	442,122
Due within more than one year	8,649,217
Total liabilities	16,221,163
Net Assets:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt.	41,439,650
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	692,084
Debt service.	488,465
Classroom facilities maintenance	220,545
State funded programs.	2,915
Student activities	63,731
Other purposes	210,057
Unrestricted.	509,028
Total net assets	\$ 43,626,475

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense)
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
					Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 10,150,151	\$ 1,178,934	\$ 97,795	\$ 1,012,947	\$ (7,860,475)
Special	1,876,050	-	1,265,635	-	(610,415)
Vocational	440,608	-	82,732	-	(357,876)
Other	77,578	-	-	-	(77,578)
Support services:					
Pupil	789,213	-	16,008	-	(773,205)
Instructional staff	731,381	1,068	182,966	-	(547,347)
Board of education	39,688	-	-	-	(39,688)
Administration	1,574,826	114,973	8,412	-	(1,451,441)
Fiscal	409,202	-	-	-	(409,202)
Operations and maintenance	1,985,122	-	1,650	-	(1,983,472)
Pupil transportation	1,555,628	-	-	-	(1,555,628)
Central	101,985	-	15,000	-	(86,985)
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	842,153	509,861	344,398	-	12,106
Other non-instructional services	100,622	1,156	8,457	-	(91,009)
Extracurricular activities	631,148	178,945	-	-	(452,203)
Interest and fiscal charges	408,097	-	-	-	(408,097)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 21,713,452</u>	<u>\$ 1,984,937</u>	<u>\$ 2,023,053</u>	<u>\$ 1,012,947</u>	<u>(16,692,515)</u>

General Revenues:

Property taxes levied for:	
General purposes	3,959,737
Special revenue	81,950
Debt service	728,107
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs	
Investment earnings	11,337,036
Miscellaneous	205,362
	71,935
Total general revenues	<u>16,384,127</u>

Special item:

Loss on sale of capital assets	(5,401)
Total general revenues and special item	<u>16,378,726</u>

Change in net assets	(313,789)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>43,940,264</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 43,626,475</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2006

	General	Bond Retirement	Classroom Facilities	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:					
Equity in pooled cash and investments.	\$ 3,474,504	\$ 410,812	\$ 563,002	\$ 816,505	\$ 5,264,823
Receivables:					
Taxes.	4,371,468	806,298	-	87,508	5,265,274
Accounts	721	-	-	122	843
Intergovernmental	29	-	-	52,932	52,961
Prepayments.	47,679	-	-	-	47,679
Materials and supplies inventory	-	-	-	32,610	32,610
Restricted assets:					
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	53,799	-	-	-	53,799
Total assets	<u>\$ 7,948,200</u>	<u>\$ 1,217,110</u>	<u>\$ 563,002</u>	<u>\$ 989,677</u>	<u>\$ 10,717,989</u>
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$ 36,793	\$ -	\$ 24,314	\$ 6,431	\$ 67,538
Accrued wages and benefits	1,765,804	-	-	156,383	1,922,187
Pension obligation payable.	391,175	-	-	38,462	429,637
Intergovernmental payable.	100,960	-	-	7,303	108,263
Deferred revenue.	4,198,990	773,096	-	84,019	5,056,105
Total liabilities	<u>6,493,722</u>	<u>773,096</u>	<u>24,314</u>	<u>292,598</u>	<u>7,583,730</u>
Fund Balances:					
Reserved for encumbrances	64,898	-	2,861	26,276	94,035
Reserved for materials and supplies inventory.	-	-	-	32,610	32,610
Reserved for prepayments	47,679	-	-	-	47,679
Reserved for property tax unavailable for appropriation	172,478	33,202	-	3,489	209,169
Reserved for debt service	-	410,812	-	-	410,812
Reserved for school bus purchases.	53,799	-	-	-	53,799
Unreserved, undesignated, reported in:					
General fund	1,115,624	-	-	-	1,115,624
Special revenue funds.	-	-	-	481,308	481,308
Capital projects funds.	-	-	535,827	153,396	689,223
Total fund balances	<u>1,454,478</u>	<u>444,014</u>	<u>538,688</u>	<u>697,079</u>	<u>3,134,259</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 7,948,200</u>	<u>\$ 1,217,110</u>	<u>\$ 563,002</u>	<u>\$ 989,677</u>	<u>\$ 10,717,989</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO
NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
JUNE 30, 2006

Total governmental fund balances		\$ 3,134,259
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:</i>		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.		49,129,649
Other long-term assets (taxes) are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds.		483,549
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and therefore is not reported in the funds.		(29,643)
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.		
Compensated absences	\$ 1,228,227	
General obligation bonds payable	<u>7,863,112</u>	
Total		<u>(9,091,339)</u>
Net assets of governmental activities		<u><u>\$ 43,626,475</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

	<u>General</u>	<u>Bond Retirement</u>	<u>Classroom Facilities</u>	<u>Other Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:					
From local sources:					
Taxes	\$ 4,028,960	\$ 737,533	\$ -	\$ 83,547	\$ 4,850,040
Tuition.	1,059,717	-	-	-	1,059,717
Earnings on investments.	165,028	-	45,289	9,049	219,366
Charges for services.	-	-	-	509,861	509,861
Extracurricular.	3,835	-	-	291,239	295,074
Classroom materials and fees	2,593	-	-	37,644	40,237
Other local revenues.	107,445	-	5,788	32,527	145,760
Intergovernmental - Intermediate	2,504	-	-	-	2,504
Intergovernmental - State.	11,886,364	83,988	2,654,279	108,087	14,732,718
Intergovernmental - Federal	22,577	-	-	1,283,006	1,305,583
Total revenue	<u>17,279,023</u>	<u>821,521</u>	<u>2,705,356</u>	<u>2,354,960</u>	<u>23,160,860</u>
Expenditures:					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular	8,478,865	-	-	135,723	8,614,588
Special.	1,126,008	-	-	685,568	1,811,576
Vocational.	428,644	-	-	84	428,728
Other.	76,135	-	-	-	76,135
Support services:					
Pupil.	748,677	-	-	16,137	764,814
Instructional staff	551,502	-	-	185,049	736,551
Board of education	38,950	-	-	-	38,950
Administration.	1,417,054	35	-	104,392	1,521,481
Fiscal	394,459	13,362	-	1,520	409,341
Operations and maintenance.	1,795,093	-	-	149,205	1,944,298
Pupil transportation	1,325,445	-	-	-	1,325,445
Central.	77,656	-	-	15,000	92,656
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	-	-	-	812,119	812,119
Other non-instructional services.	54,188	-	-	47,019	101,207
Extracurricular activities.	334,707	-	-	217,291	551,998
Facilities acquisition and construction	-	-	3,308,820	-	3,308,820
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	-	300,000	-	-	300,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	368,111	-	-	368,111
Total expenditures	<u>16,847,383</u>	<u>681,508</u>	<u>3,308,820</u>	<u>2,369,107</u>	<u>23,206,818</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>431,640</u>	<u>140,013</u>	<u>(603,464)</u>	<u>(14,147)</u>	<u>(45,958)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers in	-	-	692,992	173,000	865,992
Transfers (out)	(173,000)	-	-	(692,992)	(865,992)
Sale of capital assets	147,514	-	-	-	147,514
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(25,486)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>692,992</u>	<u>(519,992)</u>	<u>147,514</u>
Net change in fund balances	406,154	140,013	89,528	(534,139)	101,556
Fund balances at beginning of year.	1,048,324	304,001	449,160	1,227,879	3,029,364
Increase in reserve for inventory	-	-	-	3,339	3,339
Fund balances at end of year.	<u>\$ 1,454,478</u>	<u>\$ 444,014</u>	<u>\$ 538,688</u>	<u>\$ 697,079</u>	<u>\$ 3,134,259</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$	101,556
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:</i>		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.		
Capital outlay	\$ 3,141,714	
Depreciation expense	<u>(1,775,707)</u>	
Total		1,366,007
Governmental funds only report the gain from the disposal of capital assets to the extent proceeds are received from the sale. In the statement of activities, a gain or loss is reported for each disposal.		
Disposals	(1,744,273)	
Accumulated depreciation on disposals	<u>1,505,531</u>	
Total		(238,742)
Governmental funds report expenditures for inventory when purchased. However, in the statement of activities, they are reported as an expense when consumed.		
		3,339
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.		
Taxes	(80,246)	
Intergovernmental	(1,667,769)	
Accrued interest	<u>(7,781)</u>	
Total		(1,755,796)
Repayment of bond principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the statement of net assets.		
		300,000
Interest on long-term debt in the statement of activities differs from the amount reported in the governmental funds because interest is recorded as an expenditure in the funds when it is due, and therefore requires the use of current financial resources. In the statement of activities, interest expense is recognized as the interest accrues, regardless of when it is due. The additional interest reported in the statement of activities is due to the accrued interest on bonds and accreted interest on the capital appreciation bonds		
		(39,986)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities, such as compensated absences, do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
		<u>(50,167)</u>
Change in net assets of governmental activities	\$	<u><u>(313,789)</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
Revenues:				
From local sources:				
Taxes	\$ 3,678,392	\$ 3,876,287	\$ 3,889,184	\$ 12,897
Tuition.	1,002,281	1,056,203	1,059,717	3,514
Earnings on investments.	156,097	164,495	165,042	547
Extracurricular.	3,627	3,822	3,835	13
Classroom materials and fees.	2,380	2,508	2,516	8
Other local revenues	98,570	103,874	104,221	347
Intergovernmental - Intermediate.	2,369	2,496	2,504	8
Intergovernmental - State	11,247,151	11,852,240	11,891,674	39,434
Intergovernmental - Federal.	24,785	26,118	26,205	87
Total revenue	<u>16,215,652</u>	<u>17,088,043</u>	<u>17,144,898</u>	<u>56,855</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	8,767,035	8,751,366	8,481,631	269,735
Special.	1,163,747	1,161,667	1,130,768	30,899
Vocational.	467,843	467,007	454,585	12,422
Other.	78,303	78,163	76,084	2,079
Support services:				
Pupil.	763,865	762,500	742,218	20,282
Instructional staff	595,108	594,044	578,243	15,801
Board of education	42,971	42,894	41,753	1,141
Administration.	1,460,175	1,457,565	1,418,795	38,770
Fiscal	406,758	406,031	395,231	10,800
Operations and maintenance.	1,867,682	1,864,344	1,814,755	49,589
Pupil transportation	1,354,599	1,352,178	1,316,212	35,966
Central.	80,181	80,038	77,909	2,129
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Other non-instructional services.	55,407	55,308	53,837	1,471
Extracurricular activities.	339,783	339,176	330,154	9,022
Facilities acquisition and construction.	24	24	23	1
Total expenditures	<u>17,443,481</u>	<u>17,412,305</u>	<u>16,912,198</u>	<u>500,107</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures.	<u>(1,227,829)</u>	<u>(324,262)</u>	<u>232,700</u>	<u>556,962</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Refund of prior year expenditure.	3,721	3,921	3,934	13
Transfers in.	385	406	407	1
Transfers (out)	(178,464)	(178,145)	(173,407)	4,738
Sale of capital assets	139,519	147,025	147,514	489
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(34,839)</u>	<u>(26,793)</u>	<u>(21,552)</u>	<u>5,241</u>
Net change in fund balance	(1,262,668)	(351,055)	211,148	562,203
Fund balance at beginning of year.	3,053,482	3,053,482	3,053,482	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	162,945	162,945	162,945	-
Fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 1,953,759</u>	<u>\$ 2,865,372</u>	<u>\$ 3,427,575</u>	<u>\$ 562,203</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2006

	Private-Purpose Trust	
	Scholarship	Agency
Assets:		
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents.	\$ 21,262	\$ 26,179
Total assets	21,262	\$ 26,179
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	-	\$ 778
Due to students	-	25,401
Total liabilities	-	\$ 26,179
Net Assets:		
Held in trust for scholarships	21,262	
Total net assets	\$ 21,262	

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS
FIDUCIARY FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

	Private-Purpose Trust
	Scholarship
Additions:	
Interest	\$ 825
Total additions.	825
Deductions:	
Scholarships awarded	500
Change in net assets	325
Net assets at beginning of year	20,937
Net assets at end of year.	\$ 21,262

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The West Branch Local School District (the "District") is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is governed by a five-member board of education (the "Board") elected by its citizens. The District ranks as the 204th largest by enrollment among the 615 public school districts in the state. It currently operates six school buildings staffed by 111 non-certified and 162 certified employees to provide services to 2,485 students in grades K through 12.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic financial statements of the District have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The District also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statements and Interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to its governmental activities provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The District's significant accounting policies are described below.

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

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

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

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

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Area Cooperative Computerized Educational Service System (ACCESS)

Area Cooperative Computerized Educational Service System (ACCESS), a not-for-profit computer service, is jointly governed by 24 districts within Mahoning and Columbiana counties. ACCESS is governed by an assembly consisting of the superintendents of the member school districts. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the assembly. Members of ACCESS are assessed annual user fees and periodic capital improvement fees based on their average daily membership. The members do not have an ongoing financial interest in ACCESS, however, they do have an equity interest. Financial information can be obtained from the treasurer for the Mahoning County Educational Service Center, who serves as fiscal agent, at 100 DeBartolo Place, Youngstown, Ohio 44512-7019.

Mahoning County Career & Technology Center

The Mahoning County Career & Technology Center is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board consisting of representatives from the participating school districts' elected boards, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. To obtain financial information, write to the Treasurer of the Career & Technology Center, at 7300 North Palmyra Road, Canfield, Ohio 44406.

PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOL

Ohio Association of School Business Officials

The District participates in a group rating plan (GRP) for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Sheakley Uniservice Inc. provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP. Each year, the District pays an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

B. Fund Accounting

The District 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 District does not have any proprietary funds.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

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

General Fund - The general fund is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for 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.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

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

Bond Retirement Fund - The bond retirement fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources and payment of general obligation bond principal and interest from governmental resources when the government is obligated in some manner for payment.

Classroom Facilities Fund - The classroom facilities fund is used to account for monies received and expended in connection with contracts entered into by the school district and the Ohio Department of Education for the building and equipping of classroom facilities.

Other governmental funds of the District are used to account for (a) financial resources to be used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of capital facilities; and (b) for grants and other resources whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net assets and changes in net assets. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and agency funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the District's own programs. The District's only trust fund is a private-purpose trust which accounts for scholarship programs for students. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations. The District's agency funds account for student activities.

C. Basis of Presentation and Measurement Focus

Government-wide Financial Statements - The statement of net assets and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the governmental activities of the District. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include amounts paid by the recipient of goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the District.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the District are included on the statement of net assets.

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

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

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

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

The private-purpose trust fund is reported using the economic resources measurement focus. Agency funds do not report a measurement focus as they do not report operations.

D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting.

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

Nonexchange transactions, in which the District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied (see Note 6).

Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

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

Deferred Revenue - Deferred revenue arises when assets are recognized before revenue recognition criteria have been satisfied. Property taxes for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2006, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2007 operations, have been recorded as deferred revenue. Grants and entitlements received before the eligibility requirements are met are also recorded as deferred revenue.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

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

On governmental fund financial statements, receivables that will not be collected within the available period have also been reported as deferred revenue.

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

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

E. Budgets

The District is required by state statute to adopt an annual appropriated cash basis budget for all funds. The specific timetable for is as follows:

1. Prior to January 15 of the preceding year, the Superintendent and Treasurer submit to the Board of Education a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing for all funds. Public hearings are publicized and conducted to obtain taxpayers' comments. The express purpose of this budget document is to reflect the need for existing (or increased) tax rates.
2. By no later than January 20, the board-adopted budget is filed with the Mahoning County Budget Commission for tax rate determination.
3. Prior to April 1, the Board of Education accepts, by formal resolution, the tax rates as determined by the Budget Commission and receives the Commission's Certificate of Estimated Resources which states the projected revenue of each fund. Prior to June 30, the District must revise its budget so that total contemplated expenditures from any fund during the ensuing year will not exceed the amount stated in the Certificate of Estimated Resources. The revised budget then serves as a basis for the appropriation measure. On or about July 1, the Certificate is amended to include any unencumbered balances from the preceding year as reported by the District Treasurer. The Certificate may be further amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the District Treasurer. The amounts reported in the budgetary statement reflect the amounts set forth in the original and final Amended Certificates issued for fiscal year 2006.
4. By July 1, the annual Appropriation Resolution is legally enacted by the Board of Education at the fund level of expenditures, which is the legal level of budgetary control. State statute permits a temporary appropriation to be effective until no later than October 1 of each year. Although the legal level of budgetary control was established at the fund level of expenditures, the District has elected to present budgetary statement comparisons at the fund and function level of expenditures. Resolution appropriations by fund must be within the estimated resources as certified by the County Budget Commission, and the total of expenditures and encumbrances may not exceed the appropriation total.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

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

5. Any revisions that alter the total of any fund appropriation must be approved by the Board of Education.
6. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all funds consistent with the general obligation bond indenture and other statutory provisions. All funds completed the year within the amount of their legally authorized cash basis appropriation.
7. Appropriation amounts are as originally adopted, or as amended by the Board of Education through the year by supplemental appropriations which either reallocated or increased the original appropriated amounts. All supplemental appropriations were legally enacted by the Board during fiscal 2006. All amounts reported in the budgetary statement reflect the original appropriations plus all modifications legally enacted by the Board.
8. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year-end. Encumbered appropriations are carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and need not be reappropriated. Expenditures plus encumbrances may not legally exceed budgeted appropriations at the fund level.

F. Cash and Investments

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

During fiscal year 2006, investments were limited to overnight repurchase agreements and investments in the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio). Except for nonparticipating investment contracts, investments are reported at fair value, which is based on quoted market prices. Nonparticipating investment contracts such as repurchase agreements and nonnegotiable certificates of deposit are reported at cost.

The District has invested funds in STAR Ohio during fiscal 2006. 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 does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAR Ohio are valued at STAR Ohio's share price which is the price the investment could be sold for on June 30, 2006.

Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earning are assigned to the general fund unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund. The Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2006 amounted to \$165,028, which includes \$43,652 assigned from other District funds.

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 District are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

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

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

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

G. Inventory

On government-wide and fund financial statements, inventories are presented at the lower of cost or market on a first-in, first-out basis and are expensed when used. Inventories are accounted for using the purchase method.

On the fund financial statements, reported material and supplies inventory is equally offset by a fund balance reserve in the governmental funds which indicates that it does not constitute available spendable resources even though it is a component of net current assets.

Inventory consists of expendable supplies held for consumption, donated food and purchased food.

H. Capital Assets

General capital assets are those related to government activities. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net assets but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their fair market values as of the date received. The District maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The District does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not.

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

Description	Governmental Activities <u>Estimated Lives</u>
Land improvements	20 years
Buildings and improvements	20 - 50 years
Furniture and equipment	5 - 20 years
Vehicles	6 - 10 years
Textbooks	6 years

I. Interfund Balances

On fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund receivables/payables." These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities column on the Statement of Net Assets.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

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

J. Compensated Absences

Compensated absences of the District consist of vacation leave and severance liability to the extent that payments to the employee for these absences are attributable to services already rendered and are not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the District and the employee.

In accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 16, "Accounting for Compensated Absences", a liability for vacation leave is accrued if a) the employees' rights to payment are attributable to services already rendered; and b) it is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or other means, such as cash payment at termination or retirement. A liability for severance is accrued using the vesting method; i.e., the liability is based on the sick leave accumulated at the balance sheet date by those employees who are currently eligible to receive termination (severance) payments, as well as those employees expected to become eligible in the future. For purposes of establishing a liability for severance on employees expected to become eligible to retire in the future, all employees age fifty seven or greater with two years of service, age fifty two or greater with seven years of service or any age with twenty seven years of service were considered expected to become eligible to retire in accordance with GASB Statement No. 16.

The total liability for vacation and severance payments has been calculated using pay rates in effect at June 30, 2006, and reduced to the maximum payment allowed by labor contract and/or statute, plus any additional salary related payments.

The entire compensated absence liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements.

For governmental fund financial statements, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount expected to be paid using expendable available resources. These amounts are recorded in the account "compensated absences payable" in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated unpaid leave are paid. The noncurrent portion of the liability is not reported.

K. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

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

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources, are reported as obligations of the funds. However, claims and judgments, compensated absences, and contractually required pension contributions that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current year. Bonds are recognized as a liability on the fund financial statements when due.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

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

L. Fund Reserves

The District reserves those portions of fund equity which are legally segregated for a specific future use or which do not represent available expendable resources and therefore are not available for appropriation or expenditure. Unreserved fund balance indicates that portion of fund equity which is available for appropriation in future periods. Fund equity reserves have been established for encumbrances, materials and supplies inventory, prepayments, debt service, property taxes unavailable for appropriation, school bus purchases and budget stabilization. The reserve for property taxes unavailable for appropriation represents taxes recognized as revenue under GAAP but not available for appropriation under state statute.

M. Net Assets

Net assets represent the difference between assets and liabilities. Net assets invested in capital assets, net of related debt consist of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net assets are reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

The District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net assets are available. As of June 30, 2006, net assets restricted by enabling legislation were \$635,735 in the statement of net assets.

N. Prepayments

Certain payments to vendors reflect the costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements. These items are reported as assets on the balance sheet using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amounts is recorded at the time of the purchase and the expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

O. Estimates

The preparation of the basic financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the basic financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

P. Restricted Assets

Restricted assets in the general fund represent cash and cash equivalents that are restricted in use by state statute. See Note 16 for details.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

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

Q. Interfund Activity

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

R. Nonpublic School

Salem Christian Academy operates within the boundaries of the District. State Legislation provides funding to this school. The District receives the money and then disburses the money as directed by the school. These transactions are reported as a governmental activity of the District.

S. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board of Education and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. During fiscal year 2006, the District sold Goshen Center Elementary School for a net loss of \$5,401, which is reported as a special item on the Statement of Activities.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Changes in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2006, the District has implemented GASB Statement No. 42, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Impairment of Capital Assets and for Insurance Recoveries" and GASB Statement No. 46, "Net Assets Restricted by Enabling Legislation", and GASB Statement No. 47, "Accounting for Termination Benefits".

GASB Statement No. 42 amends GASB Statement No. 34 and establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for impairment of capital assets and accounting requirements for insurance recoveries.

GASB Statement No. 46 defines enabling legislation and specifies how net assets should be reported in the financial statements when there are changes in such legislation. The Statement also requires governments to disclose in the notes to the financial statements the amount of net assets restricted by enabling legislation.

GASB Statement No. 47 establishes accounting standards for termination benefits.

The implementation of GASB Statement No. 42, GASB Statement No. 46 and GASB Statement No. 47 did not have an effect on the fund balances/net assets of the District as previously reported at June 30, 2005.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

B. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2006 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor Funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Management Information Systems	\$ 91
Ohio Reads	67
Summer Intervention	187
Title VI-B	4,751
Title I	24,755
Title VI	12
Drug Free School Grant	53
Reducing Class Size	1,767

These funds complied with Ohio state law, which does not permit a cash basis deficit at year-end. The general fund is liable for any deficits in these funds and provides transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur. The deficit fund balances result from adjustments for accrued liabilities.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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

Protection of District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, by surety company bonds deposited with the Treasurer by the financial institution or by a single collateral pool established by the financial institution to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited with the institution.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

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

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

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

A. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2006, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$1,124,188, exclusive of the \$361,149 repurchase agreement included in investments below. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures", as of June 30, 2006, \$1,245,476 of the District's bank balance of \$1,545,476 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below, while \$300,000 was covered by Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned. All deposits are collateralized with eligible securities in amounts equal to at least 105% of the carrying value of the deposits. Such collateral, as permitted by the Ohio revised Code, is held in single financial institution collateral pools at Federal Reserve Banks, or at member banks of the federal reserve system, in the name of the respective depository bank and pledged as a pool of collateral against all of the public deposits it holds or as specific collateral held at the Federal Reserve Bank in the name of the District.

B. Investments

As of June 30, 2006, the District had the following investments and maturities:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Balance at</u> <u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Investment Maturities</u> 6 months or <u>less</u>
Repurchase Agreement	\$ 361,149	\$ 361,149
STAR Ohio	<u>3,880,726</u>	<u>3,880,726</u>
	<u>\$ 4,241,875</u>	<u>\$ 4,241,875</u>

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 District's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

Credit Risk: Standard & Poor's has assigned STAR Ohio an AAAM money market rating.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Of the District's investment in repurchase agreements, the entire balance is collateralized by underlying securities pledged by the investment's counterparty, not in the name of the District.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The District 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 District at June 30, 2006:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Repurchase Agreement	\$ 361,149	8.51
STAR Ohio	<u>3,880,726</u>	<u>91.49</u>
	<u>\$ 4,241,875</u>	<u>100.00</u>

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

D. Reconciliation of Cash and Investment to the Statement of Net Assets

The following is a reconciliation of cash and investments as reported in the footnote above to cash and investments as reported on the statement of net assets as of June 30, 2006:

<u>Cash and Investments per footnote</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 1,124,188
Investments	<u>4,241,875</u>
Total	<u>\$ 5,366,063</u>
 <u>Cash and investments per Statement of Net Assets</u>	
Governmental activities	\$ 5,318,622
Private-purpose trust fund	21,262
Agency funds	<u>26,179</u>
Total	<u>\$ 5,366,063</u>

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2006, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund statements:

	<u>Amount</u>
Transfers from General Fund to:	
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	\$ 173,000
Transfers to Classroom Facilities Fund from:	
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	692,992

Transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them, and (2) use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Transfers between governmental funds will be eliminated on the government-wide financials.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real, public utility and tangible personal property (used in business) located in the District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar 2006 represents collections of calendar year 2005 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2006 were levied after April 1, 2005, on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2005, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by state law at thirty-five percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due December 31 with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, state statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar 2006 represents collections of calendar year 2005 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2006 became a lien December 31, 2004, were levied after April 1, 2005 and are collected in 2006 with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at thirty-five percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

Tangible personal property tax revenue received during calendar 2006 (other than public utility property) represents the collection of 2006 taxes. Tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2006 were levied after April 1, 2005, on the value as of December 31, 2004. Tangible personal property taxes attach as a lien and are levied on January 1 of the current year. Tangible personal property assessments are 25% of true value. Payments by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20. Tangible personal property taxes paid by April 30 are usually received by the District prior to June 30.

House Bill No. 66 was signed into law on June 30, 2005. House Bill No. 66 phases out the tax on tangible personal property of general businesses, telephone and telecommunications companies, and railroads. The tax on general business and railroad property will be eliminated by calendar year 2009, and the tax on telephone and telecommunications property will be eliminated by calendar year 2011. The tax is phased out by reducing the assessment rate on the property each year. The bill replaces the revenue lost by the District due to the phasing out of the tax. In calendar years 2006-2010, the District will be fully reimbursed for the lost revenue. In calendar years 2011-2017, the reimbursements will be phased out.

The District receives property taxes from Mahoning, Portage and Columbiana Counties. These County Auditors periodically advance to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2006, are available to finance fiscal year 2006 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date tax bills are sent.

Accrued property taxes receivable includes real property, public utility property and tangible personal property taxes which are measurable as of June 30, 2006 and for which there is an enforceable legal claim. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, only the amount of real property taxes available as an advance at June 30 was levied to finance current fiscal year operations and is reported as revenue at fiscal year-end. The portion of the receivable not levied to finance current fiscal year operations is offset by a credit to deferred revenue.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES - (Continued)

The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2006 was \$172,478 in the general fund, \$33,202 in the bond retirement fund, and \$3,489 in the classroom facilities maintenance special revenue fund. This amount has been recorded as revenue. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2005 was \$31,564 in the general fund, \$6,076 in the bond retirement fund, and \$729 in the classroom facilities maintenance special revenue fund.

On a full accrual basis, collectible delinquent property taxes have been recorded as a receivable and revenue, while on a modified accrual basis the revenue has been deferred.

	2005 Second Half Collections		2006 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 170,873,180	89.87	\$ 197,130,320	91.59
Public utility personal	12,003,220	6.32	11,767,100	5.47
Tangible personal property	<u>7,272,686</u>	<u>3.81</u>	<u>6,353,267</u>	<u>2.94</u>
Total	<u>\$ 190,149,086</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 215,250,687</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$ 36.60		\$ 36.60	

NOTE 7 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2006 consisted of taxes, accounts (billings for user charged services and student fees) and intergovernmental grants and entitlements. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the ability to foreclose for the nonpayment of taxes, the stable condition of state programs and the current year guarantee of federal funds. A summary of the principal items of receivables reported on the Statement of Net Assets follows:

Governmental Activities:

Taxes	\$ 5,265,274
Accounts	843
Intergovernmental	<u>52,961</u>
Total	<u>\$ 5,319,078</u>

Receivables have been disaggregated on the face of the basic financial statements. All receivables are expected to be collected within subsequent years.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 8 - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>06/30/05</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>06/30/06</u>
Governmental Activities:				
<i>Capital assets, not being depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 683,200	\$ -	\$ (3,770)	\$ 679,430
Construction in progress	15,889,620	2,710,585	(18,600,205)	-
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u>16,572,820</u>	<u>2,710,585</u>	<u>(18,603,975)</u>	<u>679,430</u>
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated:</i>				
Land improvements	2,736,117	884,082	(38,530)	3,581,669
Building and improvements	31,720,138	17,709,049	(1,049,583)	48,379,604
Furniture and equipment	1,350,086	234,969	(325,399)	1,259,656
Textbooks and library books	877,970	196,160	(240,860)	833,270
Vehicles	2,519,051	-	(79,057)	2,439,994
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u>39,203,362</u>	<u>19,024,260</u>	<u>(1,733,429)</u>	<u>56,494,193</u>
<i>Less: accumulated depreciation</i>				
Land improvements	(922,277)	(139,218)	38,072	(1,023,423)
Building and improvements	(3,995,511)	(1,234,006)	885,471	(4,344,046)
Furniture and equipment	(461,264)	(101,581)	310,995	(251,850)
Textbooks and library books	(400,138)	(122,531)	240,860	(281,809)
Vehicles	(1,994,608)	(178,371)	30,133	(2,142,846)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(7,773,798)</u>	<u>(1,775,707)</u>	<u>1,505,531</u>	<u>(8,043,974)</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 48,002,384</u>	<u>\$ 19,959,138</u>	<u>\$ (18,831,873)</u>	<u>\$ 49,129,649</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

<u>Instruction:</u>	
Regular	\$ 1,406,877
Vocational	2,454
<u>Support Services:</u>	
Pupil	3,622
Instructional staff	82,167
Administration	7,497
Operations and maintenance	3,312
Pupil transportation	181,297
Central	7,572
Extracurricular activities	68,666
Food service operations	<u>12,243</u>
Total depreciation expense	<u>\$ 1,775,707</u>

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

- A. During the fiscal year 2006, the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term obligations:

	Interest Rate	Balance Outstanding 06/30/05	Additions	Reductions	Balance Outstanding 06/30/06	Amounts Due in One Year
Governmental Activities:						
General obligation bonds	5.10%	\$ 8,122,093	\$ 41,019	\$ (300,000)	\$ 7,863,112	\$ 320,000
Compensated absences		<u>1,224,312</u>	<u>245,423</u>	<u>(241,508)</u>	<u>1,228,227</u>	<u>122,122</u>
Total long-term obligations, governmental activities		<u>\$ 9,346,405</u>	<u>\$ 286,442</u>	<u>\$ (541,508)</u>	<u>\$ 9,091,339</u>	<u>\$ 442,122</u>

B. General Obligation Bonds

On June 15, 2001, the District issued \$8,949,999 in general obligation bonds (Series 2001, Classroom Facilities Improvement Bonds), which represent the District's share of a construction and renovation project approved and significantly funded by the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) has awarded the District a \$36,916,969 grant for the project, and will make quarterly disbursements to the District until the project is completed. These bonds are a general obligation of the District, for which the full faith and credit of the District is pledged for repayment. Payments of principle and interest relating to these bonds are recorded as an expenditure in the bond retirement fund. The source of payment is derived from a current 4.0 (average) mill bonded debt tax levy.

The general obligation bonds were issued to pay the local share of school construction under the OSFC Program (the "Project"), including construction of two elementary schools to house grade K-5, construction of a new K-8 school, renovations and additions to the existing high school to house grades 9 - 12, abandonment and demolition of West Branch Beloit and Maple Ridge Elementary Schools.

In conjunction with the 4.0 mills which support the bond issue, the District also passed in fiscal 2001 a .5 mill levy to ultimately fund the maintenance costs of the new facilities. Tax revenue from this levy have been reported in the nonmajor governmental funds.

This issue is comprised of current interest term bonds, par value \$6,350,000, serial bonds, par value \$2,235,000, and capital appreciation bonds, par value \$720,000. The capital appreciation bonds mature each December 1, 2009 and December 1, 2010, (effective interest 8.4199%, on both bonds) at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal, plus accrued interest to the redemption date. The present value at June 30, 2006 was \$344,999. The total accreted interest was \$173,113 at June 30, 2006. The current interest bonds maturing on or after December 1, 2017 are subject to early redemption at the sole option of the District, at a redemption price equal to 100% of par plus accrued interest.

Interest payments on the current interest bonds are due on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The final maturity stated in the issue is December 1, 2023.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS – (Continued)

The following is a schedule of activity for fiscal 2006 on the general obligation bonds:

	Balance <u>06/30/05</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	Balance <u>06/30/06</u>
Current interest bonds	\$ 7,645,000	\$ -	\$ (300,000)	\$ 7,345,000
Capital appreciation bonds	344,999	-	-	344,999
Accreted interest	<u>132,094</u>	<u>41,019</u>	-	<u>173,113</u>
Total G.O. bonds	<u>\$ 8,122,093</u>	<u>\$ 41,019</u>	<u>\$ (300,000)</u>	<u>\$ 7,863,112</u>

The following is a summary of the future debt service requirements to maturity for the general obligation bonds:

Year Ended	<u>Current Interest Bonds</u>			<u>Capital Appreciation Bonds</u>		
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2007	\$ 320,000	\$ 355,711	\$ 675,711	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2008	330,000	342,711	672,711	-	-	-
2009	345,000	328,952	673,952	-	-	-
2010	-	321,793	321,793	179,608	180,392	360,000
2011	-	321,793	321,793	165,391	194,609	360,000
2012 - 2016	1,980,000	1,370,967	3,350,967	-	-	-
2017 - 2021	2,525,000	807,923	3,332,923	-	-	-
2022 - 2024	<u>1,845,000</u>	<u>144,910</u>	<u>1,989,910</u>	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 7,345,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,994,760</u>	<u>\$ 11,339,760</u>	<u>\$ 344,999</u>	<u>\$ 375,001</u>	<u>\$ 720,000</u>

C. Legal Debt Margin

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District.

The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2006 are a voted debt margin of \$12,126,577 (including available funds of \$444,014) and an unvoted debt margin of \$215,251.

NOTE 10 - COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements and state laws. Classified employees earn ten to twenty one days of vacation per fiscal year, depending upon length of service. Accumulated, unused vacation time is paid to classified employees and administrators upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at a rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Upon retirement, payment is made to both classified and certified employees for one-third of accrued, but unused sick leave credit up to a maximum of 60 days for those employees with 10-19 years of continuous service to the District, and 65 days for those with 20 or more years of continuous service.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

NOTE 11 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Comprehensive - The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft or damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2006, the District contracted with private carriers for property and fleet insurance, liability insurance, and inland marine coverage. Because of new construction, as well as old buildings that were razed mid-year, the coverage is listed at the high point during the fiscal year. Coverage provided by these carriers is as follows:

Building and Contents - replacement cost - \$69,270,347 (\$2,500 deductible)

Inland Machine Coverage - \$2,484,102 (\$500 deductible)

Boiler and Machinery - \$50,000,000 (\$1,000 deductible)

Automobile Liability - \$2,000,0000 combined single limit

Uninsured Motorists - \$250,000

General Liability - \$1,000,000 each occurrence / \$3,000,000 aggregate / \$1,000,000 excess

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three years. There has been no significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

Mahoning County School Employee Insurance Consortium - The District is a participant in the Mahoning County School Employee Insurance Consortium, a public entity shared risk pool, currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for 14 member school districts. The plan was organized to provide health care and other benefits to its member organizations. Rates are calculated and set through an annual update process. The District pays a monthly contribution which is placed in a common fund from which claim payments and claims are made for all participating districts, regardless of cash flow. The District is responsible for paying health plan claims up to \$135,000 per individual per year. Any claims exceeding the \$135,000 are covered by the District's stop-loss carrier, July 1, 2003, Trans America.

The District offers one plan, paid at 100%. A dental plan is also available at 93%. Healthcare is administered by PRM; dental coverage is administered by Coresource. The fiscal officer of the COG is the Treasurer of the Springfield Local School District. The fiscal agent pays PMR monthly for the actual amount of claims processed, the stop-loss premium, and the administrative charges.

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

A. School Employees Retirement System

The District contributes to the School Employees Retirement System (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. SERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available, stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 300 East Broad Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3746 or by calling (800) 878-5853. It is also posted on SERS' website, www.ohsers.org, under Forms and Publications.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – (Continued)

Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current District rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll. A portion of the District's contribution is used to fund pension obligations with the remainder being used to fund health care benefits; for fiscal year 2006, 10.58 percent of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For fiscal year 2005, 10.57 percent of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. For fiscal year 2004, 9.09 percent of annual covered salary was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to statutory maximum amounts, by the SERS' Retirement Board. The District's required contribution for pension obligations to SERS for fiscal years ended 2006, 2005, and 2004 were \$235,233, \$242,301, \$201,969; 43.78 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2006 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2005 and 2004. \$132,238 represents the unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2006 and is recorded as a liability within the respective funds.

B. State Teachers Retirement System

The District participates in the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer public employee retirement system. STRS Ohio provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS Ohio issues a stand-alone financial report that may be obtained by writing to STRS Ohio, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3371 or by calling (614) 227-4090.

New members have a choice of three retirement plans, a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary times a percentage that varies based on years of service, or an allowance based on member contributions and earned interest matched by STRS Ohio funds times an actuarially determined annuity factor. The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and employer contributions equal to 10.5 percent of earned compensation into an investment account. Investment decisions are made by the member. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The Combined Plan offers features of both the DC Plan and the DB Plan. In the Combined Plan, member contributions are invested by the member, and employer contributions are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. DC and Combined Plan members will transfer to the Defined Benefit Plan during their fifth year of membership unless they permanently select the DC or Combined Plan. Existing members with less than five years of service credit as of June 30, 2001, were given the option of making a one time irrevocable decision to transfer their account balances from the existing DB Plan into the DC Plan or the Combined Plan. This option expired on December 31, 2001. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code.

A DB or Combined Plan member with five or more years credited service who becomes disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible spouses and dependents of these active members who die before retirement may qualify for survivor benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS – (Continued)

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, plan members were required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salaries. The District was required to contribute 14 percent; 13 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. Contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board, upon recommendation of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10 percent for members and 14 percent for employers. Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code provides statutory authority for member and employer contributions.

The District's required contributions to fund pension obligations to the DB Plan for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2006, 2005, and 2004 were \$1,098,278, \$1,113,757 and \$1,058,523; 82.24 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2006 and 100 percent for fiscal years 2005 and 2004. \$195,048 represents the unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2006 and is recorded as a liability within the respective funds. Contributions to the DC and Combined Plans for fiscal year 2006 were \$7,300 made by the District and \$12,050 made by the plan members.

C. Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the School Employees Retirement System or the State Teachers Retirement System have an option to choose Social Security or the School Employees Retirement Systems/State Teachers Retirement System. As of June 30, 2006, certain members of the Board of Education have elected Social Security. The District's liability is 6.2% of wages paid.

NOTE 13 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The District provides comprehensive health care benefits to retired teachers and their dependents through the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), and to retired non-certified employees and their dependents through the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare premiums. Benefit provisions and the obligations to contribute are established by the Systems based on authority granted by State statute. Both systems are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis.

STRS retirees who participated in the DB or combined plans and their dependents are eligible for health care coverage. The STRS Board has statutory authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. All benefit recipients pay a portion of health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. By law, the cost of coverage paid from STRS funds is included in the employer contribution rate, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, the STRS Board allocated employer contributions equal to 1 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Reserve Fund. For the District, this amount equaled \$84,483 for fiscal year 2006.

STRS pays health care benefits from the Health Care Stabilization Fund. At June 30, 2005 (the latest information available), the balance in the Health Care Stabilization Fund was \$3.3 billion. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005 (the latest information available), net health care costs paid by STRS were \$254.780 million and STRS had 115,395 eligible benefit recipients.

For SERS, coverage is made available to service retirees with ten or more fiscal years of qualifying service credit, and to disability and survivor benefit recipients. All retirees and beneficiaries are required to pay a portion of their premium for health care. The portion is based on years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status. Premiums may be reduced for retirees whose household income falls below the poverty level.

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006**

NOTE 13 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS – (Continued)

After the allocation for basic benefits, the remainder of the employer's 14 percent contribution is allocated to providing health care benefits. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, employer contributions to fund health care benefits were 3.42 percent of covered payroll, a decrease of 0.01 percent from fiscal year 2005. In addition, SERS levies a surcharge to fund health care benefits equal to 14 percent of the difference between a minimum pay and the member's pay, pro-rated for partial service credit. For fiscal year 2006, the minimum pay was established at \$35,800. However, the surcharge is capped at 2 percent of each employer's SERS salaries. For the 2006 fiscal year, District paid \$110,490 to fund health care benefits, including the surcharge.

The surcharge, added to the unallocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate, provides for maintenance of the asset target level for the health care fund. The target level for the health care reserve is 150 percent of annual health care expenses. Expenses for health care for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005 (the latest information available) were \$178.221 million. At June 30, 2005 (the latest information available), SERS had net assets available for payment of health care benefits of \$267.5 million, which is about 168 percent of next years projected net health care costs of \$158.776 million. On the basis of actuarial projections, the allocated contributions will be insufficient in the long term, to provide for a health care reserve equal to at least 150 percent of estimated annual net claim costs. SERS has 58,123 participants currently receiving health care benefits.

NOTE 14 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts and disbursements.

The Statement of Revenue, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) presented for the general fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are that:

- (a) Revenues and other financing sources are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
- (b) Expenditures and other financing uses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);
- (c) In order to determine compliance with Ohio law, and to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, total outstanding encumbrances (budget basis) are recorded as the equivalent of an expenditure, as opposed to a reservation of fund balance for that portion of outstanding encumbrances not already recognized as an account payable (GAAP basis).

The adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations for the year on the budget basis to the GAAP basis for the general fund is as follows:

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 14 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING – (Continued)

Net Change in Fund Balance

	<u>General Fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ 211,148
Net adjustment for revenue accruals	134,125
Net adjustment for expenditure accruals	(35,913)
Net adjustment for other sources/uses	(3,934)
Adjustment for encumbrances	<u>100,728</u>
GAAP basis	<u>\$ 406,154</u>

NOTE 15 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The District 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 District. However in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the District.

B. Litigation

The District is not a party to legal proceedings that will have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the District.

NOTE 16 - STATUTORY RESERVES

The District is required by state law to set-aside certain general fund revenue amounts, as defined by statute, into various reserves. These reserves are calculated and presented on a cash basis. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, the reserve activity was as follows:

	<u>Instructional Materials</u>	<u>Capital Acquisition</u>	<u>Budget Stabilization</u>
Set-aside cash balance as of June 30, 2005	\$ (356,246)	\$ (10,970,608)	\$ 75,712
Current year set-aside requirement	318,586	318,586	-
Qualifying disbursements	<u>(442,918)</u>	<u>(338,023)</u>	<u>(75,712)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (480,578)</u>	<u>\$ (10,990,045)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Balance carried forward to FY 2007	<u>\$ (480,578)</u>	<u>\$ (10,970,608)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE 16 - STATUTORY RESERVES – (Continued)

The School District had offsets and qualifying disbursements during the year that reduced the capital acquisition set-aside amount below zero. This extra amount may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirements for future years.

A schedule of the governmental fund restricted assets at June 30, 2006 follows:

Amount restricted for school bus purchases	<u>\$ 53,799</u>
Total restricted assets	<u><u>\$ 53,799</u></u>

November 21, 2006

To the Board of Education
West Branch Local School District
Beloit, OH 44609

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT
OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the West Branch Local School District (the "School District") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2006, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 21, 2006. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the School District's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted certain matters that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated November 21, 2006.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School District's financial statements are free of 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 determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated November 21, 2006.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, federal awarding agencies, pass-through entities, and the Board of Education and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Rea & Associates, Inc.

November 21, 2006

To the Board of Education
West Branch Local School District
Beloit, OH 44609

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS
APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of the West Branch Local School District (the "School District") with the types of compliance requirements described in the U. S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, *Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2006. The School District's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to each major federal program is the responsibility of the School District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the School District's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the School District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination on the School District's compliance with those requirements.

In our opinion, the School District complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2006.

Internal Control Over Compliance

The management of the School District is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the School District's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that noncompliance with applicable requirements of laws, regulations, contracts and grants caused by error or fraud that would be material in relation to a major federal program being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over compliance and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Board of Education, federal awarding agencies, and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

Hea & Associates, Inc.

WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FEDERAL AWARDS EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

FEDERAL GRANTOR/ PASS-THROUGH GRANTOR/ PROGRAM TITLE	CFDA Number	Grant Number	Federal Receipts	Non-Cash Receipts	Federal Disbursements	Non-Cash Disbursements
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (Passed through Ohio Department of Education)						
Title I, Part A, ESEA						
Elementary and Secondary Education Act	84.010	C1-S1 2005	\$ 46,313		\$ 49,806	
		C1-S1 2006	296,308		261,894	
Total Title I, Part A, ESEA			342,621		311,700	
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	6B-SF 2005	0		13,432	
		6B-SF 2006	515,830		486,377	
Total Special Education Grants to States			515,830		499,808	
Innovative Education Program Strategies	84.298	C2-S1 2006	6,845		6,845	
Safe, Drug-Free Schools & Communities Act Grant	84.186	DR-S1 2006	11,895		11,895	
Title II-A Class Size Reduction	84.367	TR-S1 2005	11,475		11,629	
		TR-S1 2006	94,429		90,171	
Total Class Size Reduction Grant			105,904		101,800	
Title II-D Technology Grant	84.318	TJ-S1 2006	5,444		5,444	
Total U. S. Department of Education			988,538		937,492	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Passed through Ohio Department of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities)						
Medical Assistance Program - Community Alternative Funding System (CAFS)	93.778	FY 2006	22,594		22,594	
Medical Assistance Program - State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)	93.767	FY 2006	2,969		2,969	
Total U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services			25,563		25,563	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (Passed through Ohio Department of Education)						
Food Distribution Program	10.550	FY06		\$ 96,196		\$ 96,196
Nutrition Cluster:						
National School Breakfast Program	10.553	05-PU-2006	4,821		4,821	
National School Lunch Program	10.555	LL-P4 2006	224,638		224,638	
Total Nutrition Cluster			229,459		229,459	
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			229,459	96,196	229,459	96,196
Total Federal Financial Assistance			\$ 1,243,560	\$ 96,196	\$ 1,192,514	\$ 96,196

See accompanying notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
JUNE 30, 2006

NOTE A: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is a summary of the activity of the School District's federal award programs. The schedule has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting.

NOTE B: NUTRITION CLUSTER

Reimbursement monies are commingled with local receipts and state grants. It is assumed federal moneys are expended first.

Food Distribution Program nonmonetary assistance is not part of the Nutrition Cluster; however, it is reported in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards at the fair market value of the commodities received and disbursed. At June 30, 2006, the School District had no significant food commodities inventory.

WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
JUNE 30, 2006

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS
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A-133 Ref.
.505(d)

(d) (1) (i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unqualified
(d) (1) (ii)	Were there any material control weakness conditions reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d) (1) (ii)	Were there any other reportable control weakness conditions reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d) (1) (iii)	Was there any reported material non-compliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d) (1) (iv)	Were there any material internal control weakness conditions reported for major federal programs?	No
(d) (1) (iv)	Were there any reportable conditions reported for major programs which were not considered to be material?	No
(d) (1) (v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unqualified
(d) (1) (vi)	Are there any reportable findings under Section .510(a) of Circular A-133?	No
(d) (1) (vii)	Major Programs (list): Title VI-B	CFDA # 84.027
(d) (1) (viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs	Type A: >\$300,000 Type B: All others
(d) (1) (ix)	Low Risk Auditee?	Yes

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

NONE	
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3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS
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NONE	
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Mary Taylor, CPA
Auditor of State

**WEST BRANCH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAHONING COUNTY**

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
FEBRUARY 13, 2007**