



Dave Yost • Auditor of State



MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report .....	1
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Change in Fund Balance (Cash Basis) – General Fund - For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016 .....	3
Notes to the Financial Statement for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2016 .....	4
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Change in Fund Balance (Cash Basis) – General Fund - For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015 .....	16
Notes to the Financial Statement for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015 .....	17
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> .....	29
Schedule of Findings.....	31
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings .....	33

**This page intentionally left blank.**



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Middle Bass Local School District  
Ottawa County  
P.O. Box 100  
Middle Bass, Ohio, 43446-0100

To the Board of Education:

### ***Report on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Middle Bass Local School District, Ottawa County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This responsibility includes the designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the District's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we express no opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our adverse audit opinion.

***Basis for Adverse Opinion***

As described in Notes 1 of the financial statements, the District prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis Ohio Revised Code Section 117.38 and Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(D) permit. However, Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires these statements to follow accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Notes 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumably material.

***Adverse Opinion***

In our opinion, because of the matter described in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion* paragraph, the financial statements do not present fairly the financial position and results of operations of Middle Bass Local School District, Ottawa County, Ohio as of and for the years ended June 30, 2016 and 2015 in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

***Other Reporting Required by District Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 21, 2016, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

November 21, 2016

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE (CASH BASIS)  
GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016**

**Cash Receipts**

From Local Sources:	
Property Taxes	\$ 278,159
Earnings on Investments	692
Other Local Revenues	1,161
Intergovernmental - State	<u>30,345</u>
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u>310,357</u>

**Cash Disbursements**

Current:	
Instruction:	
Other	121,907
Support Services:	
Board of Education	5,694
Administration	1,178
Fiscal	35,599
Operations and Maintenance	6,715
Pupil Transportation	54,253
Extracurricular Activities	<u>22,306</u>
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u>247,652</u>

*Excess of Receipts Over Disbursements* 62,705

**Other Financing Receipts**

Refund of prior year expenditures	<u>107</u>
-----------------------------------	------------

*Net Change in Fund Cash Balance* 62,812

*Fund Cash Balance, July 1* 659,515

**Fund Cash Balance, June 30**

Assigned	154,000
Unassigned	<u>568,327</u>

*Fund Cash Balance, June 30* \$ 722,327

*The notes to the financial statement are an integral part of this statement.*

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Middle Bass Local School District, Ottawa County, Ohio (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 a local school district as defined by Section 3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) and is responsible for the provision of public education to residents of the District.

The District's management believes this financial statement presents all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

**B. Jointly Governed Organization**

**Northern Ohio Educational Computer Association**

Northern Ohio Educational Computer Association (NOECA) is a jointly governed organization among several school districts. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these schools supports NOECA based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. The NOECA Assembly consists of a superintendent from each participating school district and a representative from the fiscal agent. NOECA is governed by a Board of Directors chosen from the general membership of the NOECA Assembly. The Board of Directors consists of a representative from the fiscal agent, the chairman of each of the operating committees, and two Assembly members from each county in which participating school districts are limited to its representation on the Board. The amount paid in fiscal year 2016 was \$941. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Matt Bauer, who serves as controller, at 1210 East Bogart Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870.

**C. Basis of Accounting**

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the District chooses to prepare its financial statement and notes in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for governmental entities that are not required to prepare annual financial reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This basis of accounting is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e. when an encumbrance is approved).

As a result of the use of this basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such accounts receivable), certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods and services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities), and certain note disclosures are not recorded in this financial statement.



MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)

**D. Fund Accounting**

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The District classifies its only fund into the following type:

**General Fund**

The General Fund is the operating fund of the District and is used to account for all financial resources.

**E. Budgetary Process**

The General Fund is legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the certificate of estimated resources and the appropriations resolution, both of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the object level for all funds.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Treasurer.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources.

A summary of 2016 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

**F. Fund Balance**

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable - The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or are legally required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of loans receivable.

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

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

MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

Unassigned - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

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

**G. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

The District reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets.

**H. Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets.

**I. Pensions**

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

**2. CASH**

The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits at June 30, 2016 was as follows:

	2016
Demand Deposits	<u>\$ 722,327</u>

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool.

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

**3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the year ended June 30, 2016 follows:

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 310,000	\$ 310,464	\$ 464

2016 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 500,890	\$ 247,652	\$ 253,238

**4. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the District.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

**5. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

**Net Pension Liability**

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

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

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

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

GASB Statement No. 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer because (1) they benefit from employee services, and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from the employers. All contributions to date have come solely from the employer (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within thirty years. If the amortization period exceeds thirty years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

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

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially Reduced Benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit; or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit
* Members with 25 years of service credit as of August 1, 2017, will be included in this plan.		

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

One year after an effective benefit date, a benefit recipient is entitled to a 3 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). This same COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14 percent. No allocation was made to

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

the Health Care Fund.

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$1,960 for fiscal year 2016.

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

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit Plan (DBP), a Defined Contribution Plan (DCP) and a Combined Plan (CP). Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DBP plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. With certain exceptions, the basic benefit is increased each year by 2 percent of the original base benefit. For members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, the first 2 percent is paid on the fifth anniversary of the retirement benefit. Members are eligible to retire at age sixty with five years of qualifying service credit, at age fifty-five with twenty-five years of service credit, or thirty years of service credit regardless of age. Age and service requirements for retirement increased effective August 1, 2015, and will continue to increase periodically until they reach age sixty with thirty-five years of service or age sixty-five with five years of service on August 1, 2026.

The DCP allows members to place all of their member contributions and 9.5 percent of the 14 percent employer contribution into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.5 percent of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age fifty and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The CP offers features of both the DBP and the DCP. In the CP, 11 percent of the 12 percent member rate goes to the DCP and 1 percent goes to the DBP. Member contributions to the DCP are allocated among investment choices by the member and contributions to the DBP from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DBP. The defined benefit portion of the CP payment is payable to a member on or after age sixty with five years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age fifty.

New members who choose the DCP or CP will have another opportunity to reselect a permanent plan during their fifth year of membership. Members may remain in the same plan or transfer to another STRS plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's CP account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS has therefore included all three plan options as one defined benefit plan for GASB Statement No. 68 reporting purposes.

A DBP or CP member with five or more years of credited service who is determined to be disabled may qualify for a disability benefit. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

may qualify for monthly benefits. New members on or after July 1, 2013, must have at least ten years of qualifying service credit that apply for disability benefits. Members in the DCP who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. If a member of the DCP dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, plan members were required to contribute 13 percent of their annual covered salary. Effective July 1, 2016, the statutory maximum employee contribution rate was increased 1 percent to 14 percent. The District was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2016 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The District's contractually required contributions to STRS was \$35 for fiscal year 2016.

**Net Pension Liability**

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2015, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	.000480%	.00000181%	
Prior Measurement Date			
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	.000453%	.00000240%	
Current Measurement Date			
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>.000027%</u>	<u>.00000059%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$25,831	\$663	\$26,494

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

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

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation prepared as of June 30, 2015, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.25 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	4 percent to 22 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	3 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent net of investment expenses, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	entry age normal

For postretirement mortality, the table used in evaluating allowances to be paid is the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set back one year for both men and women. Special mortality tables are used for the period after disability retirement.

The most recent experience study was completed on June 30, 2010.

The long-term return expectation for the pension plan investments has been determined using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' Statement of Investment Policy. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating an arithmetic weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalanced uncorrelated asset classes. The target allocation and best estimates of long-term expected real rate of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	1.00%	0.00%
U.S. Stocks	22.50	5.00
Non-U.S. Stocks	22.50	5.50
Fixed Income	19.00	1.50
Private Equity	10.00	10.00
Real Assets	10.00	5.00
Multi-Asset Strategies	15.00	7.50
Total	100.00%	

Discount Rate - The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.75 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and to illustrate the potential impact, the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.75 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$35,819	\$25,831	\$17,421

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2015, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.75 percent
Projected Salary Increases	12.25 percent at age 20 to 2.75 percent at age 70
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent, net of investment expenses
Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)	2 percent simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2 percent per year; for members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, 2 percent COLA paid on fifth anniversary of retirement date

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table (Projection 2022-Scale AA) for males and females. Males ages are set back two years through age eighty-nine and no set back for age ninety and above. Females younger than age eighty are set back four years, one year set back from age eighty through eighty-nine, and no set back from age ninety and above.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2015, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study effective July 1, 2012.

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



**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

Asset Class	Target Allocation	10 Year Expected Nominal Rate of Return *
Domestic Equity	31.00%	8.00%
International Equity	26.00	7.85
Alternatives	14.00	8.00
Fixed Income	18.00	3.75
Real Estate	10.00	6.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	3.00
	<u>100.00%</u>	

\*10 year annualized geometric nominal returns include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.5 percent.

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2015. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2015. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.75 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2015.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following table presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.75 percent as well as what the School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.75 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$920	\$663	\$444

**6. POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

Health Care Plan Description - The District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund administered by SERS for classified retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB Statement No. 45 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. The Health Care Plan includes hospitalization and physicians' fees through several types of plans including HMO's, PPO's, Medicare Advantage, and traditional indemnity plans as

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

well as a prescription drug program. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under employers/audit resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). The SERS Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. Health care is financed through a combination of employer contributions and retiree premiums, copays and deductibles on covered health care expenses, investment returns, and any funds received as a result of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Retirees and their beneficiaries are required to pay a health care premium that varies depending on the plan selected, the number of qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required basic benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund. For fiscal year 2016, no allocation of covered payroll was allocated to health care. In addition, employers pay a surcharge for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, prorated according to service credit earned. For fiscal year 2016, this amount was \$23,000. State statute provides that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2016, the District's surcharge obligation was \$236.

**State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

Plan Description - The District participates in a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit health care plan administered by the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer the plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs, and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The Plan is included in the STRS financial report which can be obtained by visiting the STRS website at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the health care plan and gives the Retirement Board authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the health care plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for postemployment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to postemployment health care.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Commercial Insurance**

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Property; and
- General Liability.

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2016  
(Continued)**

**8. SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION**

School District Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Effective for the 2014-2015 school year, traditional school districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the school district, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, ODE has not finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2016 Foundation funding for the school district; therefore, the financial statement impact is not determinable at this time. ODE and management believe this will result in either a receivable to or liability of the District.

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND  
CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE (CASH BASIS)  
GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

**Cash Receipts**

From Local Sources:	
Property Taxes	\$ 295,380
Earnings on Investments	117
Other Local Revenues	2,206
Intergovernmental - State	<u>30,184</u>
<i>Total Cash Receipts</i>	<u><u>327,887</u></u>

**Cash Disbursements**

Current:	
Instruction:	
Other	115,225
Support Services:	
Board of Education	5,783
Administration	4,450
Fiscal	23,346
Operations and Maintenance	13,642
Pupil Transportation	45,992
Extracurricular Activities	<u>22,842</u>
<i>Total Cash Disbursements</i>	<u><u>231,280</u></u>

*Net Change in Fund Cash Balance* 96,607

*Fund Cash Balance, July 1* 562,908

**Fund Cash Balance, June 30**

Assigned	190,890
Unassigned	<u>468,625</u>

*Fund Cash Balance, June 30* \$ 659,515

*The notes to the financial statement are an integral part of this statement.*

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015**

**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**A. Description of the Entity**

Middle Bass Local School District, Ottawa County, Ohio (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 a local school district as defined by Section 3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under an elected Board of Education (5 members) and is responsible for the provision of public education to residents of the District.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

**B. Jointly Governed Organization**

**Northern Ohio Educational Computer Association**

Northern Ohio Educational Computer Association (NOECA) is a jointly governed organization among several school districts. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these schools supports NOECA based upon a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. The NOECA Assembly consists of a superintendent from each participating school district and a representative from the fiscal agent. NOECA is governed by a Board of Directors chosen from the general membership of the NOECA Assembly. The Board of Directors consists of a representative from the fiscal agent, the chairman of each of the operating committees, and two Assembly members from each county in which participating school districts are limited to its representation on the Board. The amount paid in fiscal year 2015 was \$2,251. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Matt Bauer, who serves as controller, at 1210 East Bogart Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870.

**C. Basis of Accounting**

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the District chooses to prepare its financial statement and notes in accordance with standards established by the Auditor of State for governmental entities that are not required to prepare annual financial reports in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This basis of accounting is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e. when an encumbrance is approved).

As a result of the use of this basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such accounts receivable), certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods and services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities), and certain note disclosures are not recorded in this financial statement.

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**D. Fund Accounting**

The District uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The District classifies its only fund into the following type:

**General Fund**

The General Fund is the operating fund of the District and is used to account for all financial resources.

**E. Budgetary Process**

The General Fund is legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the certificate of estimated resources and the appropriations resolution, both of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board at the object level for all funds.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in receipts are identified by the Treasurer.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources.

A summary of 2015 budgetary activity appears in Note 4.

**F. Fund Balance**

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

*Nonspendable* - The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or are legally required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of loans receivable.

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

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

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

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

Unassigned - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is only used to report a deficit fund balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted, committed, or assigned.

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

**G. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

The District reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets.

**H. Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets.

**I. Pensions**

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

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

**2. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES**

For fiscal year 2015, the District has implemented GASB Statement No. 68, “Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions - an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 27”, GASB Statement No. 69 “Government Combinations and Disposals of Government Operations”, and GASB Statement No. 71, “Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 68”.

GASB Statement No. 68 improves the accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments for pensions. It also improves information provided by state and local governmental employers about financial support for pensions that is provided by other entities. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 68 affected the District’s pension plan disclosures as presented in the notes to the financial statement.

GASB Statement No. 69 establishes accounting and financial reporting standards related to government combinations and disposals of government operations. The Statement improves the decision usefulness of financial reporting by requiring that disclosures be made by governments about combination arrangements in which they engage and for disposals of government operations. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 69 did not have an effect on the financial statement of the District.

GASB Statement No. 71 improves the accounting and financial reporting by addressing an issue in GASB Statement No. 68, concerning transition provisions related to certain pension contributions made to defined benefit pension plans prior to implementation of that Statement by employers and nonemployer contributing entities. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 71 did not have an effect on the financial statement of the District.

**3. CASH**

The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits at June 30, 2015 was as follows:

	2015
Demand Deposits	\$ 659,515

Deposits are insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation or collateralized by the financial institution’s public entity deposit pool.

**4. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY**

Budgetary activity for the year ended June 30, 2015 follows:

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts			
Fund	Budgeted Receipts	Actual Receipts	Variance
General	\$ 300,000	\$ 327,887	\$ 27,887



**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

2015 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures			
Fund	Appropriation Authority	Budgetary Expenditures	Variance
General	\$ 494,600	\$ 231,280	\$ 263,320

**5. PROPERTY TAX**

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which the Trustees adopted tax rates. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. The financial statements include homestead and rollback amounts the State pays as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to pay semiannually, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the District.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the District.

**6. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

**Net Pension Liability**

For fiscal year 2015, Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions" and GASB Statement No. 71, "Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date—an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68" were effective. These GASB pronouncements had no effect on beginning net position as reported June 30, 2014, as the net pension liability is not reported in the accompanying financial statements. The net pension liability has been disclosed below.

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

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

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

GASB 68 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). State statute requires the pension plans to amortize

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension liability. Resulting adjustments to the net pension liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable.

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

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially Reduced Benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit
* Members with 25 years of service credit as of August 1, 2017, will be included in this plan.		

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

One year after an effective benefit date, a benefit recipient is entitled to a three percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). This same COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 13.18 percent. The remaining 0.82 percent of the 14 percent employer contribution rate was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$1,908 for fiscal year 2015.

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

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

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans; a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307. The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation will be 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. With certain exceptions, the basic benefit is increased each year by two percent of the original base benefit. For members retiring August 1, 2013, or later, the first two percent is paid on the fifth anniversary of the retirement benefit. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or age 55 with 25 years of service, or 30 years of service regardless of age. Age and service requirements for retirement will increase effective August 1, 2015, and will continue to increase periodically until they reach age 60 with 35 years of service or age 65 with five years of service on August 1, 2026.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.5 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.5 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

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

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The statutory maximum employee contribution rate was increased one percent July 1, 2014, and will be increased one percent each year until it reaches 14 percent on July 1, 2016. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, plan members were required to contribute 12 percent of their annual covered salary. The School District was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2015 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$35 for fiscal year 2015.

**Net Pension Liability**

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2014, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net			
Pension Liability	\$24,309	\$440	\$24,749
Proportion of the Net Pension			
Liability	0.000480%	0.00000181%	

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2014, are presented below:

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

Wage Inflation	3.25 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	4.00 percent to 22 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	3 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent net of investments expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal

For post-retirement mortality, the table used in evaluating allowances to be paid is the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set back one year for both men and women. Special mortality tables are used for the period after disability retirement.

The most recent experience study was completed June 30, 2010.

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

Asset Class	Target		Long-Term Expected	
	Allocation		Real Rate of Return	
Cash	1.00	%	0.00	%
US Stocks	22.50		5.00	
Non-US Stocks	22.50		5.50	
Fixed Income	19.00		1.50	
Private Equity	10.00		10.00	
Real Assets	10.00		5.00	
Multi-Asset Strategies	15.00		7.50	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>%</b>		

**Discount Rate** The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.75 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

**Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.75 percent, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.75 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate.

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$34,681	\$24,309	\$15,584

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2014, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.75 percent
Projected salary increases	2.75 percent at age 70 to 12.25 percent at age 20
Investment Rate of Return	7.75 percent, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	2 percent simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2 percent per year; for members retiring August 1, 2013 or later, 2 percent COLA paid on fifth anniversary of retirement date.

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table (Projection 2022—Scale AA) for Males and Females. Males' ages are set-back two years through age 89 and no set-back for age 90 and above. Females younger than age 80 are set back four years, one year set back from age 80 through 89 and not set back from age 90 and above.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2014, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study, effective July 1, 2012.

The 10 year expected real rate of return on pension plan investments was determined by STRS' investment consultant by developing best estimates of expected future real rates of return for each major asset class. The target allocation and best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	31.00 %	8.00 %
International Equity	26.00	7.85
Alternatives	14.00	8.00
Fixed Income	18.00	3.75
Real Estate	10.00	6.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	3.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>	

**Discount Rate** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2014. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2014. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.75 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2014.

***Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate*** The following table presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.75 percent, as well as what the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one-percentage-point lower (6.75 percent) or one-percentage-point higher (8.75 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.75%)	Current Discount Rate (7.75%)	1% Increase (8.75%)
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$631	\$440	\$280

**7. POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

Health Care Plan Description - The District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund administered by SERS for classified retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB Statement No. 45 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. The Health Care Plan includes hospitalization and physicians' fees through several types of plans including HMO's, PPO's, Medicare Advantage, and traditional indemnity plans as well as a prescription drug program. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which can be obtained by visiting the SERS website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under employers/audit resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). The SERS Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. Health care is financed through a combination of employer contributions and retiree premiums, copays and deductibles on covered health care expenses, investment returns, and any funds received as a result of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Retirees and their beneficiaries are required to pay a health care premium that varies depending on the plan selected, the number of qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required basic benefits, the Retirement Board allocates the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund. For fiscal year 2015, 0.82 percent of covered payroll was allocated to health care. In addition, employers pay a surcharge for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, prorated according to service credit earned. For fiscal year 2015, this amount was \$20,450. State statute provides that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS covered payroll; nor may SERS

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JUNE 30, 2015  
(Continued)**

collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2015, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$244. The District's contribution for health care for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015 was \$360. The full amount has been contributed for the fiscal year.

**State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)**

Plan Description - The District participates in a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit health care plan administered by the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer the plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs, and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The Plan is included in the STRS financial report which can be obtained by visiting the STRS website at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the health care plan and gives the Retirement Board authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the health care plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for postemployment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to postemployment health care.

**8. RISK MANAGEMENT**

**Commercial Insurance**

The District has obtained commercial insurance for the following risks:

- Property; and
- General Liability.

**9. SCHOOL DISTRICT FOUNDATION**

School District Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Effective for the 2014-2015 school year, traditional school districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the school district, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, ODE has not finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2015 Foundation funding for the school district; therefore, the financial statement impact is not determinable at this time. ODE and management believe this will result in either a receivable to or liability of the District.





# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

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

Middle Bass Local School District  
Ottawa County  
P.O. Box 100  
Middle Bass, Ohio, 43446-0100

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of Middle Bass Local School District, Ottawa County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2016 and 2015, wherein we issued an adverse opinion on the District's financial statements because the District prepared its financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits for governmental entities not required to report in accordance with GAAP rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### ***Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinion on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings that we consider material weaknesses. We consider findings 2016-001 and 2016-002 to be material weaknesses.

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2016-001.

***Purpose of this Report***

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



**Dave Yost**  
Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

November 21, 2016

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
JUNE 30, 2016 AND 2015**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
--

**FINDING NUMBER 2016-001**

**Noncompliance Citation / Material Weakness**

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

**Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B)**, which further clarifies the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38, requires the District to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

For fiscal years 2016 and 2015, as a cost savings measure, the District prepared financial statements in accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State for governments not required to report in accordance with GAAP. This presentation differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit assets, liabilities, fund equities, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the District.

We recommend the District take the necessary steps to ensure the financial report is prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**FINDING NUMBER 2016-002**

**Material Weakness – Monitoring of Financial Statements**

We identified the following error requiring adjustment to the notes to the financial statement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016:

- Estimated receipts were decreased \$24,000 in order to bring the amount reported in the notes to the financial statements in line with the authorized budget amount.

We also identified the following error requiring adjustment to the notes to the financial statement for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015:

- Estimated receipts were decreased \$29,700 in order to bring the amount reported in the notes to the financial statements in line with the authorized budget amount.

These errors were not identified and corrected prior to the audit due to deficiencies in the District's internal controls over financial statement monitoring. Sound financial reporting is the responsibility of the Treasurer and the Board of Education and is essential to ensure the information provided to the readers of the financial statements and accompanying notes is complete and accurate.

To help ensure the District's financial statements and notes to the statements are complete and accurate, the District should adopt policies and procedures, including a final review of the statements and notes by the Treasurer, to identify and correct errors and omissions, as well as recording correct budgetary information.

**FINDING NUMBER 2016-002  
(Continued)**

The Treasurer can refer to the Uniform School Accounting System Manual available from the following web address for guidance on the posting of transactions:  
[http://www.ohioauditor.gov/publications/uniform\\_school\\_accounting\\_system\\_user\\_manual.pdf](http://www.ohioauditor.gov/publications/uniform_school_accounting_system_user_manual.pdf)

**Officials' Response:**

We did not receive a response from Officials to the findings reported above.

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OTTAWA COUNTY**

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS  
JUNE 30, 2016 AND 2015**

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>Finding Summary</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
2014-001	Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B) for reporting on a basis other than generally accepted accounting principles.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2016-001 in this report.	The client declined the opportunity to respond and therefore did not provide reasoning for the continuation of this comment.
2014-002	Material weakness for errors in financial reporting.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2016-002 in this report.	The client declined the opportunity to respond and therefore did not provide reasoning for the continuation of this comment.

**This page intentionally left blank.**



# Dave Yost • Auditor of State

**MIDDLE BASS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**OTTAWA 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  
DECEMBER 15, 2016**