

**Lake Erie Preparatory School
Cuyahoga County, Ohio**

Audited Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

Board of Directors
Lake Erie Preparatory School
219 E Maple St Ste 202
North Canton, OH 44720

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Lake Erie Preparatory School, Cuyahoga County, prepared by Rea & Associates, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. 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 Lake Erie Preparatory School is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Auditor of State

April 20, 2018

This page intentionally left blank.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| <u>Title</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| Independent Auditor’s Report..... | 1 |
| Management’s Discussion and Analysis | 5 |
| Basic Financial Statements: | |
| Statements of Net Position..... | 11 |
| Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position..... | 12 |
| Statement of Cash Flows | 13 |
| Notes to the Basic Financial Statements | 15 |
| Required Supplementary Information: | |
| Schedule of the School’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability..... | 36 |
| Schedule of the School’s Contributions..... | 38 |
| Independent Auditors’ Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and On Compliance and Other Matters Based on Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing</i> <i>Standards</i> | 40 |

This page intentionally left blank.

February 21, 2018

To the Board of Trustees
Lake Erie Preparatory School
14405 St Clair Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44110

Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Lake Erie Preparatory School, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, (the "School") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion 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 from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the School, as of June 30, 2017, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming the School will continue as a going concern. As disclosed in Note 16 to the financial statements, the School has suffered recurring losses from operations and has a net position deficit of \$4,126,118 that raises substantial doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern. This deficit net position includes the effect of the net pension liability and related accruals totaling \$2,721,242. Note 16 describes management's plan regarding these issues. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *Management's Discussion and Analysis* and the *Schedule of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability*, and *Schedule of the School's Contributions* on pages 5-10, 36-37, and 38-39, respectively, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 21, 2018 on our consideration of the School's internal control over financial reporting and on 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 effectiveness of the School's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Rea & Associates, Inc.

Medina, Ohio

This page intentionally left blank

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)**

The discussion and analysis of the Lake Erie Preparatory School (the School) financial performance provides an overall review of the School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (the MD&A) is an element of the reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments. Certain comparative information between the current fiscal year and the prior fiscal year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Key Financial Highlights for the School for the 2016-17 school year are as follows:

- Total Assets decreased \$5,266.
- Total Liabilities increased \$396,575.
- Total Net Position decreased \$569,965.
- Total Operating and Non-Operating revenues were \$3,246,333. Total operating and non-operating expenses were \$3,816,298.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This report consists of three parts: the basic financial statements, notes to those statements, and required supplemental information. The basic financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position reflect how the School did financially during fiscal year 2017. These statements include all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting includes all of the current year revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These statements report the School's Net Position and changes in Net Position. This change in Net Position is important because it tells the reader whether the financial position of the School 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 School's student enrollment, per-pupil funding as determined by the State of Ohio, change in technology, required educational programs and other factors. The School uses enterprise presentation for all of its activities.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Statement of Net Position - The Statement of Net Position answers the question of how the School did financially during 2017. This statement includes all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resource focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

Table 1 provides a summary of the School's Net Position for fiscal year 2017.

Table 1
Statement of Net Position

| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current Assets | \$ 131,735 | \$ 128,508 |
| Capital Assets, Net | 4,420 | 12,913 |
| Total Assets | <u>136,155</u> | <u>141,421</u> |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | <u>1,317,414</u> | <u>1,283,854</u> |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current Liabilities | 1,371,778 | 1,058,355 |
| Non-current Liabilities | 169,253 | 171,102 |
| Net Pension Liability | <u>3,603,960</u> | <u>3,518,959</u> |
| Total Liabilities | <u>5,144,991</u> | <u>4,748,416</u> |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | <u>434,696</u> | <u>233,012</u> |
| Net Position | | |
| Investment in Capital Assets | 4,420 | 12,913 |
| Unrestricted | <u>(4,130,538)</u> | <u>(3,569,066)</u> |
| Total Net Position | <u>\$ (4,126,118)</u> | <u>\$ (3,556,153)</u> |

During a prior year, the School adopted GASB Statement 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27*, which significantly revises accounting for pension costs and liabilities. For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and the net pension liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)**

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. When accounting for pension costs, GASB 27 focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability*. GASB 68 takes an earnings approach to pension accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension systems and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

Under the standards required by GASB 68, the net pension liability equals the School's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

1. Present value of estimated future pension benefits attributable to active and inactive employees' past service
2. Minus plan assets available to pay these benefits

GASB notes that pension obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange" – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this pension promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the School is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of this liability. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the pension system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension system *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The pension system is responsible for the administration of the plan.

Most long-term liabilities have set repayment schedules or, in the case of compensated absences (i.e. sick and vacation leave), are satisfied through paid time-off or termination payments. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability. As explained above, changes in pension benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of the net pension liability, but are outside the control of the School. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required pension payments, State statute does not assign/identify the responsible party for the unfunded portion. Due to the unique nature of how the net pension liability is satisfied, this liability is separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)**

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

In accordance with GASB 68, the School's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows of resources.

As a result of implementing GASB 68, the School is reporting a net pension liability and deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to pension on the accrual basis of accounting.

Over time, Net Position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2017, the School's net position totaled \$(4,126,118).

Current assets represent cash and cash equivalent accounts, accounts receivable and other assets. Current liabilities represent accounts payable, accrued expenses, advances payable, withholdings payable and current portion of debt at fiscal year-end.

Accrued expenses increased during the fiscal year over last fiscal year due to an increase in transportation costs for the School that were accrued at year end.

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position - Table 2 shows the change in Net Position for fiscal year 2017, as well as a listing of revenues and expenses. This change in Net Position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School as a whole, the financial position of the School has improved or diminished. The cause of this may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the current laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

This space is intentionally left blank.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

Table 2
Change in Net Position

| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Operating Revenue | | |
| State Aid | \$ 2,501,168 | \$ 2,490,967 |
| Other | 3,538 | 16,234 |
| Total Operating Revenues | <u>2,504,706</u> | <u>2,507,201</u> |
| Operating Expenses | | |
| Salaries | 1,180,626 | 1,110,057 |
| Fringe Benefits | 273,421 | 274,196 |
| Fringe Benefits – GASB 68 | 253,125 | 247,063 |
| Purchased Services | 1,837,978 | 1,667,633 |
| Materials and Supplies | 142,812 | 155,263 |
| Depreciation | 8,493 | 27,663 |
| Other | 11,148 | 1,053 |
| Total Operating Expenses | <u>3,707,603</u> | <u>3,432,928</u> |
| Operating (Loss) | (1,202,897) | (975,727) |
| Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses) | | |
| Federal Grants | 538,023 | 593,906 |
| Debt Forgiveness | 203,604 | 22,500 |
| Interest Expense | (108,695) | (120,427) |
| Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses) | <u>632,931</u> | <u>495,979</u> |
| Change in Net Position | (569,965) | (479,748) |
| Net Position, Beginning of Year | <u>(3,556,153)</u> | <u>(3,076,405)</u> |
| Net Position, End of Year | <u><u>\$(4,126,118)</u></u> | <u><u>\$ (3,556,153)</u></u> |

During the fiscal year there was an increase across salaries and purchased services. The School also received a significant debt forgiveness at the end of fiscal year 2017 that was larger than the previous year.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017 (UNAUDITED)**

BUDGET

Unlike other public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 5705 (with the exception section 5705.391 – Five Year Forecasts), unless specifically provided in the community school's contract with its Sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor does prescribe a budgetary process. The School must prepare and submit a detail budget for every fiscal year to the Board of Directors and its Sponsor. The five-year forecast is also submitted to the Ohio Department of Education, annually.

CAPITAL ASSETS

At fiscal year-end, the School's net capital asset balance was \$4,420. This balance represents no current year additions which are offset by current year depreciation of \$8,493. For more information on capital assets, see Note 5 of the basic financial statements.

DEBT

During the fiscal year, the School received working capital monies from Charter School Capital through a receivables purchase agreement. As the School receives monthly State funding, these advances are repaid, however, the School may elect to receive additional advances from Charter School Capital by entering into additional agreements. In addition, the School had \$185,151 worth of notes payable outstanding at year end. For more information on Advances Payable see Note 6 of the basic financial statements. For more information in Notes Payable see Note 7 of the basic financial statements.

CURRENT FINANCIAL ISSUES

The School is a community School and is funded through the State of Ohio Foundation Program. The School relies on this, as well as, State and Federal funds as its primary source of revenue. In 2017, the State raised the base per pupil funding to \$6,000, which is up from \$5,900 in the previous year. Additionally, community schools in Ohio will be allocated a small amount of facilities funding which is also per pupil based. This amount is projected to be approximately \$200 per pupil.

The full-time equivalent enrollment of the School for the year ended June 30, 2017 was 296 compared to a figure of 290 at the end of fiscal year 2016.

Overall, the School will continue to provide learning opportunities and apply resources to best meet the needs of the students served.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizen's, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the School's finances and to demonstrate accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information contact the School's Fiscal Officer, C. David Massa, CPA, of Massa Financial Solutions, LLC, 14405 St. Clair Avenue., Cleveland, Ohio 44110

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**Statement of Net Position
At June 30, 2017**

Assets:

Current Assets:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | \$ 34,268 |
| Accounts Receivable | 92,915 |
| Other Assets | 4,552 |
| Total Current Assets | 131,735 |

Noncurrent Assets:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Capital Assets, net of Accumulated Depreciation | 4,420 |
| | 4,420 |

Total Assets 136,155

Deferred Outflows of Resources 1,317,414

Liabilities:

Current Liabilities:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Accounts Payable, Trade | 335,592 |
| Withholdings Payable | 17,801 |
| Accrued Expenses | 368,587 |
| Current Portion of Debt | 15,898 |
| Advances Payable | 633,900 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 1,371,778 |

Noncurrent Liabilities:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Net Pension Liability | 3,603,960 |
| Noncurrent Portion of Long-term Debt | 169,253 |
| Total Noncurrent Liabilities | 3,773,213 |

Total Liabilities 5,144,991

Deferred Inflows of Resources 434,696

Net Position:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Investment in Capital Assets | 4,420 |
| Unrestricted Net Position | (4,130,538) |
| Total Net Position | \$ (4,126,118) |

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**Statement of Revenues,
Expenses and Changes in Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Operating Revenues: | |
| State Aid | \$ 2,501,168 |
| Miscellaneous | 3,538 |
| Total Operating Revenues | <u>2,504,706</u> |
| Operating Expenses: | |
| Salaries | 1,180,626 |
| Fringe Benefits | 273,421 |
| Fringe Benefits - GASB 68 | 253,125 |
| Purchased Services | 1,837,978 |
| Depreciation | 8,493 |
| Supplies | 142,812 |
| Other Operating Expenses | 11,148 |
| Total Operating Expenses | <u>3,707,603</u> |
| Operating Loss | (1,202,897) |
| Non-Operating Revenues and (Expenses): | |
| Federal Grants | 538,023 |
| Debt Forgiveness | 203,604 |
| Interest Expense | (108,695) |
| Net Non-operating Revenues and (Expenses) | <u>632,932</u> |
| Change in Net Position | (569,965) |
| Net Position Beginning of Year | <u>(3,556,153)</u> |
| Net Position End of Year | <u><u>\$ (4,126,118)</u></u> |

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | |
|---|------------------|
| State Aid Receipts | \$ 2,514,407 |
| Other Operating Receipts | 11,038 |
| Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services | (1,489,824) |
| Cash Payments to Employees for Services | (1,180,626) |
| Cash Payments for Employee Benefits | (299,705) |
| Net Cash Used For Operating Activities | <u>(444,710)</u> |

CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Federal and State Grant Receipts | 549,622 |
| Charter School Capital Advances | 1,893,800 |
| Charter School Capital Cost of Funding | (108,695) |
| Charter School Capital Redemptions | (1,853,900) |
| Note Payable Principal Payments | (1,849) |
| Net Cash Provided By Noncapital Financing Activities | <u>478,978</u> |

Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents 34,268

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of the Year | <u>-</u> |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents - Ending of the Year | <u>\$ 34,268</u> |

(Continued)

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL - CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017
(Continued)**

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Used For Operating Activities | |
| Operating Loss | \$ (1,202,897) |
| Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Cash Used For Operating Activities | |
| Depreciation | 8,493 |
| Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Deferred Inflows and Outflows: | |
| (Increase)/Decrease in Receivables | 8,992 |
| (Increase)/ Decrease in Deferred Outflows | (33,560) |
| Increase/ (Decrease) in Deferred Inflows | 201,684 |
| Increase/ (Decrease) in Net Pension Liability | 85,001 |
| (Increase)/Decrease in Other Assets | (4,552) |
| Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable, Trade | 294,964 |
| Increase/(Decrease) in Accrued Expenses | 195,274 |
| Increase/(Decrease) in Withholding Payable | 1,891 |
| Net Cash Used For Operating Activities | <u>\$ (444,710)</u> |

Non-Cash Transaction: During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, the School received a one-time debt forgiveness in the amount of \$63,953 from I CAN Schools and \$139,651 for other vendors. This forgiveness was applied against open obligations of the School that were owed to I CAN Schools and the other vendors.

See Accompanying Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY

The Lake Erie Preparatory School, (the School) is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702. The School's mission is to provide an orderly and supportive environment whereby students experience preparations for college, career and life. The School operates on a foundation, which fosters character building for all students, parents and staff members. The School, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school district and is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The School may acquire facilities as needed and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the School.

The School was approved for operation under a contract with Ohio Council of Community Schools ("OCCS") (the Sponsor) for a five-year period commencing on July 1, 2012. Subsequent to year-end, the contract was renewed for an additional five-year period. The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of the School and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration or terminate the contract prior to its expiration.

The School operates under the direction of a Board of Directors (the Board). The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract which include, but are not limited to, state mandated provisions regarding student populations, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admissions standards, and qualifications of teachers. The Board controls the School's instructional and administrative staff.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic financial statements of the School have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental nonprofit organizations. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the School's accounting policies are described below.

Basis of Presentation - The School's basic financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Change in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows. Enterprise fund reporting focuses on the determination of the changes Net Position, financial position and cash flows.

The Government Accounting Standards Board identifies the presentation of all financial activity to be reported within one enterprise fund for year-ending reporting purposes. Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprise where the intent is that the cost (expense) of providing goods and services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting - The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. Under this measurement focus, all assets, all deferred outflows of resources, all liabilities, and all deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total Net Position.

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. Under this measurement focus, all assets, all deferred outflows of resources, all liabilities, and all deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total Net Position.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. The accrual basis of accounting is used for reporting purposes. Revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

Budgetary Process - Unlike other public schools located in the state of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705 (with the exception section 5705.391 – Five Year Forecasts), unless specifically provided for in the School’s sponsorship agreement. The contract between the School and its Sponsor requires a detailed budget for each year of the contract.

Cash and Cash Equivalents - Cash received by the School is reflected as “Cash and Cash Equivalents” on the Statement of Net Position. The School did not have any investments during the period ended June 30, 2017.

Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Acquisition and Depreciation - Capital assets are capitalized at cost. Donated Capital Assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The costs of additions are capitalized and expenditures for repairs and maintenance are expensed when incurred. When property is sold or retired, the related costs and accumulated depreciation are removed from the financial records and any gain or loss is included in additions to or deductions from Net Position. Capital assets were \$4,420, as of June 30, 2017, net of accumulated depreciation. Depreciation of capital assets is calculated utilizing the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets which are as follows:

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Useful Life</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Computers & Technology Assets | 3 years |
| Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment | 5 years |
| Textbooks | 3 years |

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Acquisition and Depreciation (continued)

The School's policy for asset capitalization threshold is \$5,000. Assets or certain asset groups not meeting the capitalization threshold are not capitalized and are not included in the assets represented in the accompanying Statement of Net Position.

Intergovernmental Revenues - The School currently participates in the State Foundation Program. Revenues received from this program are recognized as operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Grants and entitlements are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which eligibility requirements have been met.

Intergovernmental Revenues (continued)

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 School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

The School also participates in various federal programs passed through the Ohio Department of Education.

Under the above programs the School recorded \$2,501,168 this fiscal year from the Foundation Program and Casino Tax Revenue and \$538,023 from Federal Grants and other intergovernmental sources.

Compensated Absences - Vacation is taken in a manner which corresponds with the school calendar; therefore, the School does not accrue vacation time as a liability.

Sick/personal leave benefits are earned by full-time employees at the rate of ten days per year and cannot be carried into the subsequent years. No accrual for sick time is made since unused time is not paid to employees upon employment termination.

Accrued Liabilities - Obligations incurred but unpaid at June 30 are reported as accrued liabilities in the accompanying financial statements. These liabilities consisted of Accounts Payable, Accrued Expenses, Advances Payable, Notes Payable, and Withholdings Payable totaling \$1,541,031 at June 30, 2017 of which \$1,371,778 is considered current.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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. Non-exchange transactions, in which the School receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements and donations. 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 School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditures requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

Deferred Inflows and Deferred Outflows of Resources - In addition to assets, the statements of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position that applies to future periods and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the School, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the statement of net position for pension. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension are explained in Note 9.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of net position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to future periods and will not be recognized until that time. These amounts have been recorded as a deferred inflow on the statement of net position. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension are reported on the statement of net position. (See Note 9)

Net Position - Net position represents the difference between assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources. Net Position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restriction imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. The School applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted Net Position are available. Net Position invested in capital assets 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.

Operating and Non-Operating Revenues and Expenses - Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities of the School. For the School, these revenues are primarily the State Foundation program. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the School. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

Non-operating revenues are those revenues that are not generated directly from the primary activities of the School. Various federal and state grants, interest earnings, if any, and other miscellaneous revenues comprise the non-operating revenues of the School. Interest and fiscal charges on outstanding obligations, as well as gain or loss on capital asset disposals, if any comprise the non-operating expenses.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Implementation of New Accounting Principles - For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, the School has implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*, GASB Statement No. 78, *Pensions Provided through Certain Multiple-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Plans*, GASB Statement No. 80, *Blending Requirements for Certain Component Units - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 14* and GASB Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues - an amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73*.

GASB Statement No. 77 requires disclosure of tax abatement information about (1) a reporting government's own tax abatement agreements and (2) those that are entered into by other governments and that reduce the reporting government's tax revenues. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 77 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

GASB Statement No. 78 amends the scope of GASB Statement No. 68 to exclude certain multiple-employer defined benefit pension plans provided to employees of state and local governments on the basis that obtaining the measurements and other information required by GASB Statement No. 68 was not feasible. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 78 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

GASB Statement No. 80 amends the blending requirements for the financial statement presentation of component units of all state and local governments. The additional criterion requires blending of a component unit incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in which the primary government is the sole corporate member. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 80 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School.

GASB Statement No. 82 improves consistency in the application of pension accounting. These changes were incorporated in the School's fiscal year 2017 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position.

Pensions - For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension plans and additions to/deletions 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.

NOTE 3 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The following information classifies deposits by category of risk as defined in GASB Statement No.3 "Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments (including Repurchase Agreements) and Reverse Repurchase Agreements," as amended by GASB Statement No.40, "Deposit, and Investment Risk Disclosures".

The School maintains its cash balances at one financial institution, PNC Bank, located in Ohio. The balances are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000, per qualifying account.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 3 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (continued)

At June 30, 2017, the book amount of the School’s deposits was \$34,268 and the bank balance was \$46,583.

The School had no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirement of state statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or be protected by eligible securities pledged to and deposited either with the School or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment or by a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee to secure repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution whose market value shall be at least 105% of deposits being secured. At June 30, 2017, none of the bank balance was exposed to custodial credit risk.

NOTE 4 - RECEIVABLES

The School has accounts receivables totaling \$80,669 at June 30, 2017. These receivables represented monies earned, but not received as of year-end. The School also had receivables totaling \$12,246 at June 30, 2017. These receivables represented monies earned from the State Aid Foundation and Medicare but not received as of year-end. All receivables are expected to be collected within one year.

NOTE 5 - CAPITAL ASSETS

For the period ending June 30, 2017, the School’s capital assets consisted of the following:

| | Balance <u>06/30/16</u> | <u>Additions</u> | <u>Deletions</u> | Balance <u>06/30/17</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Capital Assets: | | | | |
| Computers & Technology Assets | \$ 332,957 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 332,957 |
| Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment | 42,464 | - | - | 42,464 |
| Textbooks | 40,397 | - | - | 40,397 |
| Total Capital Assets | 415,818 | - | - | 415,818 |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation: | | | | |
| Computers & Technology Assets | (332,957) | - | - | (332,957) |
| Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment | (29,551) | (8,493) | - | (38,044) |
| Textbooks | (40,397) | - | - | (40,397) |
| Total Accumulated Depreciation | (402,905) | (8,493) | - | (411,398) |
| Capital Assets, Net | \$ 12,913 | \$ (8,493) | \$ - | \$ 4,420 |

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 6 - ADVANCES PAYABLE

During the fiscal year ending 2017, the School received working capital advances from Charter School Capital through a receivables purchase agreement. As the School receives its monthly State funding, these advances are repaid, however, the School may elect to receive future advances from Charter School Capital by entering into additional agreements.

The total amount of advances payable outstanding from Charter School Capital at June 30, 2017 was \$633,900. Total interest expense for the year was \$108,695. The activity for the year is reflected as follows:

NOTE 6 - ADVANCES PAYABLE (continued)

| <u>Balance</u> <u>July 1, 2016</u> | <u>Additions</u> | <u>Reductions</u> | <u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2017</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--|
| \$ 594,000 | \$ 1,893,800 | \$ (1,853,900) | \$ 633,900 |

NOTE 7 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS AND NOTES PAYABLE

The changes in the School’s long-term obligations during fiscal year 2017 were as follows:

| | <u>Balance</u> <u>06/30/16</u> | <u>Additions</u> | <u>Reductions</u> | <u>Balance</u> <u>06/30/17</u> | <u>Due</u> <u>Within</u> <u>One Year</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Net Pension Liability: | | | | | |
| STRS | \$3,001,571 | \$239,755 | \$ - | \$ 3,241,326 | \$ - |
| SERS | 517,388 | | (154,754) | 362,634 | - |
| Total Net Pension Liability | <u>3,518,959</u> | <u>239,755</u> | <u>(154,754)</u> | <u>3,603,960</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Notes Payable | <u>187,000</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(1,849)</u> | <u>185,151</u> | <u>15,898</u> |
| Total Long-Term Obligations | <u>\$3,705,959</u> | <u>\$239,755</u> | <u>\$(156,603)</u> | <u>\$ 3,789,111</u> | <u>\$ 15,898</u> |

The School had notes payable totaling \$187,000 which were converted on June 30, 2016 from advances payable. The note is from Northeast Ohio College Preparatory School at June 30, 2017. The note began on June 30, 2016 and matures on June 30, 2026. The annual interest rate is 3.5%. Principal paid was \$1,849 during 2017.

Future obligations under the note are as follows:

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 7 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS AND NOTES PAYABLE (continued)

| <u>Fiscal Year Ending</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <u>June 30</u> | |
| 2018 | \$ 22,190 |
| 2019 | 22,190 |
| 2020 | 22,190 |
| 2021 | 22,190 |
| 2022 | 22,190 |
| 2023-2026 | <u>88,760</u> |
| Total minimum payments | 199,710 |
| Less: amount representing interest | <u>(14,559)</u> |
| Principal amount of future payments | <u>\$ 185,151</u> |

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Property & Liability - The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, the School contracted with Cincinnati Insurance Company for general liability insurance with a \$1,000,000 each occurrence/ \$2,000,000 annual aggregate, as well as, an umbrella policy with a \$10,000,000 aggregate limit. The School also had a \$1,000,000 School Leaders policy in place through National Union Fire Insurance. There were no settlements in excess of insurance coverage over the past 3 years, nor was there a significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

Workers' Compensation - The School pays the State Worker's Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

Employee Medical and Dental Benefits - The School provides medical, vision, and dental insurance benefits through Anthem to all full-time employees. During the School year, the School paid 90% of the monthly premiums for all employees.

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS

Net Pension Liability - The net pension liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for pensions. 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 obligation to sacrifice resources for pensions is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

Net Pension Liability (continued)

The net pension liability represents the School'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 School's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The School cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the School 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 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.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term net pension liability on the accrual basis of accounting. Any liability for the contractually-required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in withholding payable on the accrual basis of accounting.

School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

School Employees Retirement System (SERS) – (continued)

| | Eligible to Retire 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 30 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 School 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, 2017, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14 percent. SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to the Health Care Fund for fiscal year 2017.

The School’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$24,071 for fiscal year 2017.

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description – School 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.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) – (continued)

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 was 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Members are eligible to retire at age 60 with five years of qualifying service credit, or at age 55 with 26 years of service, or 31 years of service regardless of age. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2026, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

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 to 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.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) – (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. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, plan members were required to contribute 14 percent of their annual covered salary. The School was required to contribute 14 percent; the entire 14 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2017 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The School’s contractually required contribution to STRS was \$154,717 for fiscal year 2017.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions - The net pension liability was measured as of July 1 2016, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an independent actuarial valuation as of that date. The School's employer allocation percentage of the net pension liability was based on the employer’s share of employer contributions in the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating employers. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

| | <u>STRS</u> | <u>SERS</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 3,241,326 | \$ 362,634 | \$ 3,603,960 |
| Proportion of the Net Pension Liability: | | | |
| Current Measurement Date | 0.00968340% | 0.00495465% | |
| Prior Measurement Date | <u>0.01086067%</u> | <u>0.00906729%</u> | |
| Change in Proportionate Share | <u>(0.00117727%)</u> | <u>(0.00411264%)</u> | |
| Pension Expense | \$ 409,107 | \$ 22,805 | \$ 431,912 |

Deferred outflows/inflows of resources represent the effect of changes in the net pension liability due to the difference between projected and actual investment earnings, differences between expected and actual actuarial experience, changes in assumptions and changes in the School’s proportion of the collective net pension liability. The deferred outflows and deferred inflows are to be included in pension expense over current and future periods. The difference between projected and actual investment earnings is recognized in pension expense using a straight-line method over a five year period beginning in the current year. Deferred outflows and deferred inflows resulting from changes in sources other than differences between projected and actual investment earnings are amortized over the average expected remaining service lives of all members (both active and inactive) using the straight-line method. Employer contributions to the pension plan subsequent to the measurement date are also required to be reported as a deferred outflow of resources.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (continued)

At June 30, 2017, the School reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

| | <u>STRS</u> | <u>SERS</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Deferred Outflows of Resources | | | |
| Differences between Expected and Actual Experience | \$ 130,965 | \$ 4,891 | \$ 135,856 |
| Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments | 269,118 | 29,911 | 299,029 |
| Changes of Assumptions | 0 | 24,208 | 24,208 |
| Changes in Proportion and Differences between School Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions | 575,552 | 103,981 | 679,533 |
| School Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date | 154,717 | 24,071 | 178,788 |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources | <u>\$ 1,130,352</u> | <u>\$ 187,062</u> | <u>\$ 1,317,414</u> |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources | | | |
| Changes in Proportion and Differences between School Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions | \$ 261,580 | \$ 173,116 | \$ 434,696 |

\$178,788 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

| | <u>STRS</u> | <u>SERS</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Fiscal Year Ending June 30: | | | |
| 2018 | \$ 235,243 | \$ (62) | \$ 235,181 |
| 2019 | 235,245 | (86) | 235,159 |
| 2020 | 202,182 | (18,577) | 183,605 |
| 2021 | 41,385 | 8,600 | 49,985 |
| | <u>\$ 714,055</u> | <u>\$ (10,125)</u> | <u>\$ 703,930</u> |

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

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, 2016, are presented below:

| | |
|--|---|
| Wage Inflation | 3.00 percent |
| Future Salary Increases, including inflation | 3.50 percent to 18.20 percent |
| COLA or Ad Hoc COLA | 3.00 percent |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.50 percent net of investment expense, including inflation |
| Actuarial Cost Method | Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll) |

Mortality rates among active members were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females. Mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries were based upon the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates and 110 percent of female rates. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period ending July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2015. The assumed rate of inflation, payroll growth assumption and assumed real wage growth were reduced in the June 30, 2016 actuarial valuation. The rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability updated to reflect recent experience and mortality rates were also updated.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

Actuarial Assumptions – SERS (continued)

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

| Asset Class | Target Allocation | Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return |
|------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Cash | 1.00 % | 0.50 % |
| US Stocks | 22.50 | 4.75 |
| Non-US Stocks | 22.50 | 7.00 |
| Fixed Income | 19.00 | 1.50 |
| Private Equity | 10.00 | 8.00 |
| Real Assets | 15.00 | 5.00 |
| Multi-Asset Strategies | 10.00 | 3.00 |
| | 100.00 % | |

Discount Rate The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.50 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 School'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 School's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.50 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 (6.50 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.50 percent) than the current rate.

| | 1% Decrease (6.50%) | Current Discount Rate (7.50%) | 1% Increase (8.50%) |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 480,106 | \$ 362,634 | \$ 264,307 |

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS - The total pension liability in the June 30, 2016, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Inflation | 2.75 percent |
| Projected Salary Increase | 12.25 percent at age 20 to 2.75 percent at age 70 |
| Investment Rate of Return | 7.75 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation |
| 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 commences on the fifth anniversary of the 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 no set back from age 90 and above.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study, effective July 1, 2012.

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

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Target Allocation</u> | <u>Long Term Expected Real Rate of Return*</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 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 |
| Total | <u>100.00 %</u> | <u>7.61 %</u> |

*10-year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.50 percent and does not include investment expenses. The total fund long-term expected return reflects diversification among the asset classes and therefore is not a weighted average return of the individual asset classes.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
 CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSIONS PLANS (continued)

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS (continued)

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.75 percent as of June 30, 2016. 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, 2016. 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, 2016.

Sensitivity of the School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate The following table presents the School's proportionate share of the net pension liability as of June 30, 2016, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.75 percent, as well as what the School'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:

| | <u>1% Decrease (6.75%)</u> | <u>Current Discount Rate (7.75%)</u> | <u>1% Increase (8.75%)</u> |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 4,307,459 | \$ 3,241,326 | \$ 2,341,980 |

Changes Between Measurement Date and Report Date In March 2017, the STRS Board adopted certain assumption changes which will impact their annual actuarial valuation prepared as of June 30, 2017. The most significant change is a reduction in the discount rate from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent. In April 2017, the STRS Board voted to suspend cost of living adjustments granted on or after July 1, 2017. Although the exact amount of these changes is not known, the overall decrease to School's net pension liability is expected to be significant.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOTE 10 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 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 on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any health plan or program. 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 2017, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to the Health Care fund. In addition, employers pay a surcharge for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated according to service credit earned. For fiscal year 2017, this amount was \$23,500. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2017, the School's surcharge obligation was \$1,816.

For fiscal years 2016 and 2017, SERS did not allocate employer contributions to the Health Care fund. The School's contributions for health care for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, was \$1,572. The full amount has been contributed for fiscal year 2015.

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - The School participates in the cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit Health 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 this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 10 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (continued)

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) – (continued)

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS Ohio to offer the 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. All benefit recipients, for the most recent year, pay a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions. For fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care; therefore, the School did not contribute to health care in the last three fiscal years.

NOTE 11 - CONTINGENCIES

Grants - The School received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of the School, any such adjustments will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the School.

Litigation - There are currently no matters in litigation with the School as defendant.

Full-time Equivalency - School foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. However, there is an important nexus between attendance and enrollment for Foundation funding purposes. Community schools must provide documentation that clearly demonstrates students have participated in learning opportunities. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end.

Under Ohio Rev. Code Section 3314.08, ODE may also perform a FTE Review subsequent to the fiscal year end that may result in an additional adjustment to the enrollment information as well as claw backs of Foundation funding due to a lack of evidence to support student participation and other matters of noncompliance. ODE did not perform such a review on the School for fiscal year 2017.

As of the date of this report, all ODE adjustments through fiscal year 2017 have been completed. In addition, the School's contracts with their Sponsor and Management Company require payment based on revenues received from the State. A reconciliation between payments previously made and the FTE adjustments have taken place with these contracts.

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 12 - SPONSOR CONTRACT

The School contracted with Ohio Council of Community Schools (OCCS) as its sponsor and oversight services as required by law. Sponsorship fees are calculated as a 2.25% of state funds received by the School from the State of Ohio. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, the total sponsorship fees paid totaled \$56,469.

NOTE 13 - MANAGEMENT CONTRACT AND DEBT FORGIVENESS

The School entered into an agreement with I CAN Schools, a local nonprofit management company, to provide legal, financial, and other management support services for fiscal year 2017. The agreement was for a period of five years beginning July 1, 2013. Management fees are calculated as 18% of the total revenues received from the State of Ohio. The total amount due from the School for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 was \$545,585 and is included under "Purchased Services" on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position.

The School terminated their management agreement with I CAN Schools on March 2, 2017 and entered into a new agreement with ACCEL Schools effective May 1, 2017 through June 30, 2027. Management fees are to be calculated as 18% of the total revenues received from the State of Ohio. \$104,200 in AP was accrued under this new agreement as of June 30, 2017.

At the end of the fiscal year, I CAN Schools provided debt forgiveness in the amount of \$63,953. This forgiveness was applied against open obligations of the School that were owed to I CAN Schools. During the fiscal year the School also received a total of \$139,651 in debt forgiveness from other vendors that was applied against open obligations to those vendors.

NOTE 14 - PURCHASED SERVICES

For the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, the School made the following purchased services commitments.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Professional and Technical Services | \$ 808,094 |
| Property Services | 394,929 |
| Utilities | 64,478 |
| Communications | 31,724 |
| Contractual Trade Services | 177,564 |
| Pupil Transportation | 361,189 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 1,837,978 |
| | <hr/> |

**LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017**

NOTE 15 - LEASE OBLIGATIONS

On December 21, 2015, the School entered into a lease with the AEP Charter Lake Erie, LLC for 51,560 square feet of space located at 14405 St Clair Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio. The term of the lease is for a period of ten years.

Base rent expense for the fiscal year ended 2017 was \$274,928. Future lease obligations are as follows:

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| FY2018 | \$ 283,175 |
| FY2019 | 291,670 |
| FY2020 | 300,420 |
| FY2021 | 309,433 |
| FY 2022 | 318,716 |
| FY2023-25 | 1,014,671 |
| Total | <u>\$ 2,518,085</u> |

NOTE 16 - MANAGEMENT PLAN

For fiscal year 2017, the School had a net position deficit of \$(4,126,118). The School's net deficit in fiscal year 2017 increased from the \$(3,556,153) net deficit in fiscal 2016. Enrollment increased in fiscal year 2017 to 296, up from 290 in fiscal year 2016. The School's ability to maintain a stable administrative and instructional team along with active advertising via print, radio, mailings and through referrals of current parents is anticipated to help produce the likelihood of future enrollment growth leading to surpluses and provide an opportunity for the school to recover from its prior deficits

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL - CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO
LAST FOUR FISCAL YEARS (1)**

| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability | 0.00495465% | 0.00906729% | 0.00561452% | 0.00561452% |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 362,634 | \$ 517,388 | \$ 284,148 | \$ 333,877 |
| School's Covered-Employee Payroll | \$ 167,486 | \$ 123,100 | \$ 31,656 | \$ 32,000 |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll | 216.52% | 420.29% | 897.51% | 1043.32% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability | 62.98% | 69.16% | 71.70% | 65.52% |

(1) Information prior to 2014 is not available

Amounts presented as of the School's measurement date which is the prior fiscal year end.

Notes:

School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Changes of Benefit Terms: None.

Changes of Assumptions: Amounts reported in 2017 reflect an adjustment of the rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability to more closely reflect actual experience and the expectation of retired life mortality was based on RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Tables and RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table. The following reductions were also made to the actuarial assumptions:

- . Discount rate from 7.75% to 7.50%
- . Assumed rate of inflation from 3.25% to 3.00%
- . Payroll growth assumption from 4.00% to 3.50%
- . Assumed real wage growth from 0.75% to 0.50%

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL - CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO
LAST FOUR FISCAL YEARS (1)**

| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| School's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability | 0.00968340% | 0.01086067% | 0.00909487% | 0.00909487% |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability | \$ 3,241,326 | \$ 3,001,571 | \$ 2,212,187 | \$ 2,635,143 |
| School's Covered-Employee Payroll | \$ 1,068,557 | \$ 1,038,660 | \$ 883,184 | \$ 642,815 |
| School's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll | 303.34% | 288.98% | 250.48% | 409.94% |
| Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability | 66.80% | 72.10% | 74.70% | 69.30% |

(1) Information prior to 2014 is not available

Amounts presented as of the School's measurement date which is the prior fiscal year end.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL - CUYAHOGA COUNTY

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL'S CONTRIBUTIONS
 SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO
 LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS (1)

| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2013</u> |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Contractually Required Contribution | \$ 24,071 | \$ 23,448 | \$ 16,225 | \$ 4,388 | \$ 4,429 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>\$ (24,071)</u> | <u>\$ (23,448)</u> | <u>\$ (16,225)</u> | <u>\$ (4,388)</u> | <u>\$ (4,429)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> |
| School's Covered-Employee Payroll | \$171,936 | \$167,486 | \$123,100 | \$ 31,656 | \$ 32,000 |
| Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll | 14.00% | 14.00% | 13.18% | 13.86% | 13.84% |

(1) Information prior to 2013 is not available.

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL - CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
 SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL'S CONTRIBUTIONS
 STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO
 LAST FIVE FISCAL YEARS (1)

| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> | <u>2013</u> |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Contractually Required Contribution | \$ 154,717 | \$ 149,598 | \$ 145,412 | \$ 114,814 | \$ 83,566 |
| Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution | <u>\$ (154,717)</u> | <u>\$ (149,598)</u> | <u>\$ (145,412)</u> | <u>\$ (114,814)</u> | <u>\$ (83,566)</u> |
| Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ -</u> |
| School's Covered-Employee Payroll | \$ 1,105,121 | \$ 1,068,557 | \$ 1,038,660 | \$ 883,184 | \$642,815 |
| Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll | 14.00% | 14.00% | 14.00% | 13.00% | 13.00% |

(1) Information prior to 2013 is not available.

This page intentionally left blank.

February 21, 2018

To the Board of Trustees
Lake Erie Preparatory School
14405 St Clair Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44110

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, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Lake Erie Preparatory School, Cuyahoga County, Ohio (the "School") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 21, 2018, in which we noted the School has suffered recurring losses from operations and has a net position deficit of \$4,126,118, including the net effect of net pension liability and related accruals totaling \$2,721,242, that raises substantial doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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*.

Purpose of this Report

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

Hea & Associates, Inc.

Medina, Ohio



Dave Yost • Auditor of State

LAKE ERIE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

CUYAHOGA 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
MAY 10, 2018