



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BUTLER COUNTY**

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**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BUTLER COUNTY**

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ross Local School District  
Butler County  
3371 Hamilton Cleves Road  
Ross, Ohio 45013

To the Board of Education:

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

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ross Local School District, Butler County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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

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

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

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

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

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ross Local School District, Butler County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2018, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 21 to the financial statements, during fiscal year 2018, the District adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions*. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

### **Other Matters**

#### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require this presentation to include *management's discussion and analysis, required budgetary comparison schedule*, and schedules of net pension and other post-employment benefit liabilities and pension and other post-employment benefit contributions listed in the table of contents, to supplement the basic financial statements. Although this information is not part of the basic financial statements, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board considers it essential for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, consisting of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, to the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not opine or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to opine or provide any other assurance.

#### *Supplementary and Other Information*

Our audit was conducted to opine on the District's basic financial statements taken as a whole.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and is not a required part of the financial statements.

The schedule is management's responsibility, and derives from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. We subjected this information to the auditing procedures we applied to the basic financial statements. We also applied certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling this information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, this information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 18, 2019, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

March 18, 2019

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
(Unaudited)

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The discussion and analysis of Ross Local School District, Ohio's (the District) financial performance provides an overall review of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and the notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the District's performance.

### **Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for 2018 are as follows:

- Net Position of governmental activities increased \$11,003,348 which represents a 114% increase from 2017.
- General revenues accounted for \$25,614,225 in revenue or 86% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$4,186,352 or 14% of total revenues of \$29,800,577.
- The District had \$18,797,229 in expenses related to governmental activities; \$4,186,352 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues of \$25,614,225 were also used to provide for these programs.

### **Overview of the Financial Statements**

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

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

### **Government-wide Financial Statements**

While this document contains the large number of funds used by the District to provide programs and activities, the view of the District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during 2018?" The Government-wide Financial Statements answer this question. These statements include *all assets and deferred outflows of resources, and 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 takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
(Unaudited)

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These two statements report the District's *net position* and changes in net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the District as a whole, the financial position has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, both financial and non-financial. Non-financial factors include the District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

In the Government-wide Financial Statements, the overall financial position of the District is presented as Governmental Activities. The District's programs and services include instruction, support services, operation of non-instructional services, extracurricular activities, and interest and fiscal charges.

**Fund Financial Statements**

The analysis of the District's major funds are presented in the Fund Financial Statements. Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the District's major funds. The District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the District's most significant funds.

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

**Fiduciary Funds.** Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the District's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is similar to proprietary funds.

**The District as a Whole**

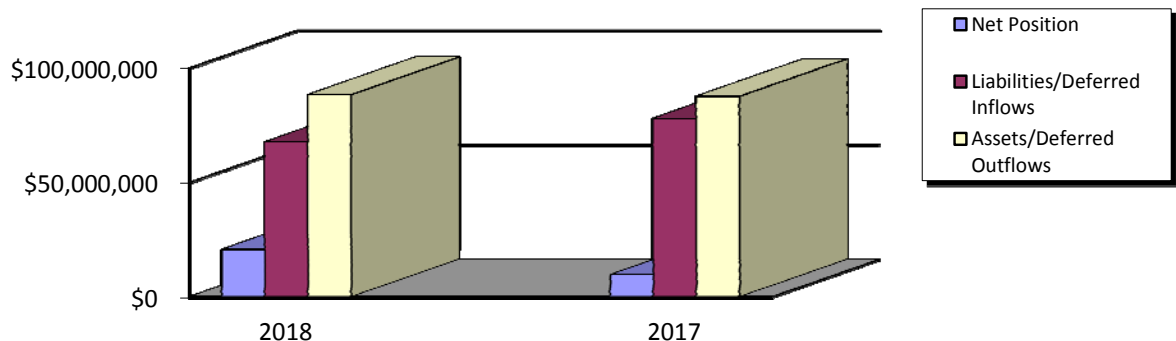
As stated previously, the Statement of Net Position looks at the District as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the District's net position for 2018 compared to 2017:

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
(Unaudited)

Table 1  
Net Position

	Governmental Activities	
	2018	2017 - Restated
<b>Assets:</b>		
Current and Other Assets	\$28,728,485	\$27,932,039
Capital Assets	49,314,696	51,266,873
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>78,043,181</b>	<b>79,198,912</b>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources:</b>		
Deferred Charge on Refunding	206,459	235,954
OPEB	379,750	59,108
Pension	9,712,494	8,156,094
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>10,298,703</b>	<b>8,451,156</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Other Liabilities	2,765,560	2,640,275
Long-Term Liabilities	52,781,209	65,341,411
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>55,546,769</b>	<b>67,981,686</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources:</b>		
Property Taxes	10,076,822	9,546,945
Revenue in Lieu of Taxes	256,348	362,471
OPEB	758,609	0
Pension	1,034,109	93,087
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>12,125,888</b>	<b>10,002,503</b>
<b>Net Position:</b>		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	34,240,017	35,388,876
Restricted	5,797,812	5,563,910
Unrestricted	(19,368,602)	(31,286,907)
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$20,669,227</b>	<b>\$9,665,879</b>



**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
**(Unaudited)**

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The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the School District at June 30, 2018 and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27." For fiscal year 2018, the School District adopted GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions," which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board standards are national and apply to all government financial reports prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Prior accounting for pensions (GASB 27) and postemployment benefits (GASB 45) focused on a funding approach. This approach limited pension and OPEB costs to contributions annually required by law, which may or may not be sufficient to fully fund each plan's *net pension liability* or *net OPEB liability*. GASB 68 and GASB 75 take an earnings approach to pension and OPEB accounting; however, the nature of Ohio's statewide pension/OPEB plans and state law governing those systems requires additional explanation in order to properly understand the information presented in these statements.

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to equal the District's proportionate share of each plan's collective:

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

GASB notes that pension and OPEB 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 and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this 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 District is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. 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 Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

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 retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *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 retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
**(Unaudited)**

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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 or the net OPEB liability. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities, but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required 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 and the net OPEB liability are satisfied, these liabilities are separately identified within the long-term liability section of the statement of net position.

In accordance with GASB 68 and GASB 75, the District's statements prepared on an accrual basis of accounting include an annual pension expense and an annual OPEB expense for their proportionate share of each plan's *change* in net pension liability and net OPEB liability, respectively, not accounted for as deferred inflows/outflows.

As a result of implementing GASB 75, the District is reporting a net OPEB liability and deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to OPEB on the accrual basis of accounting. This implementation also had the effect of restating net position at June 30, 2017, from \$17,888,311 to \$9,665,879.

Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2018, the District's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$20,669,227.

At year-end, capital assets represented 63% of total assets. Capital assets include land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, equipment, and vehicles. Capital assets, net of related debt to acquire the assets at June 30, 2018, was \$34,240,017. These capital assets are used to provide services to the students and are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

A portion of the District's net position, \$5,797,812 represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they must be used. The external restriction will not affect the availability of fund resources for future use.

Capital Assets decreased mainly due to current year depreciation expense exceeding current year additions. Long-Term Liabilities decreased mainly due to a decrease in Net Pension Liability.

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal years 2018 and 2017.

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
(Unaudited)

Table 2  
Changes in Net Position

	Governmental Activities	
	2018	2017
Revenues:		
Program Revenues		
Charges for Services	\$1,925,549	\$1,548,136
Operating Grants, Contributions	2,260,803	2,342,466
General Revenues:		
Income Taxes	3,262,154	3,125,753
Property Taxes	10,242,393	9,563,748
Grants and Entitlements	11,401,586	11,106,217
Other	708,092	680,386
Total Revenues	<u>29,800,577</u>	<u>28,366,706</u>
Program Expenses:		
Instruction	9,811,998	17,178,323
Support Services:		
Pupil and Instructional Staff	1,197,568	1,735,179
School Administrative, General		
Administration, Fiscal and Business	1,485,058	2,608,930
Operations and Maintenance	2,577,841	3,322,255
Pupil Transportation	1,431,979	2,072,186
Central	11,353	3,509
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	874,768	1,126,918
Extracurricular Activities	690,135	1,210,722
Interest and Fiscal Charges	716,529	965,395
Total Program Expenses	<u>18,797,229</u>	<u>30,223,417</u>
Change in Net Position	11,003,348	(1,856,711)
Net Position - Beginning of Year, Restated	<u>9,665,879</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u>\$20,669,227</u>	<u>\$9,665,879</u>

The information necessary to restate the 2017 beginning balances and the 2017 OPEB expense amounts for the effects of the initial implementation of GASB 75 is not available. Therefore, 2017 functional expenses still include OPEB expense of \$59,108 computed under GASB 45. GASB 45 required recognizing pension expense equal to the contractually required contributions to the plan. Under GASB 75, OPEB expense represents additional amounts earned, adjusted by deferred inflows/outflows. The contractually required contribution is no longer a component of OPEB expense. Under GASB 75, the 2018 statements report negative OPEB expense of \$983,082. Consequently, in order to compare 2018 total program expenses to 2017, the following adjustments are needed:

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
(Unaudited)

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Total 2018 operating expenses under GASB 75	\$18,797,229
Negative OPEB expense under GASB 75	983,082
2018 contractually required contribution	81,642
Adjusted 2018 operating expenses	19,861,953
Total 2017 operating expenses under GASB 45	30,223,417
Change in operating expenses not related to OPEB	(\$10,361,464)

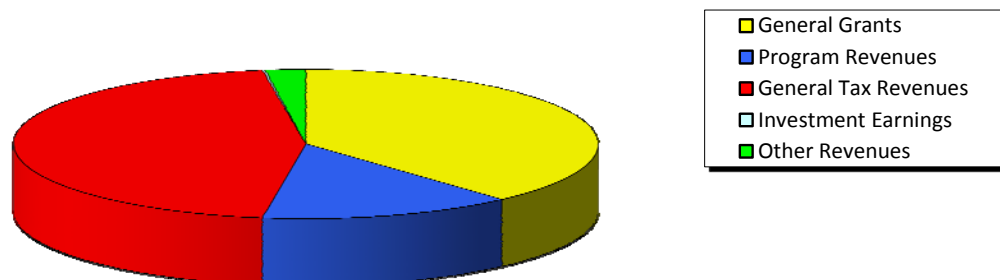
The District revenues are mainly from two sources. Property taxes levied for general, debt service, and capital project purposes and grants and entitlements comprised 73% of the District's revenues for governmental activities.

The District depends greatly on property taxes as a revenue source. The unique nature of property taxes in Ohio creates the need to routinely seek voter approval for operating funds. The overall revenues generated by a levy will not increase solely as a result of inflation. As an example, a homeowner with a home valued at \$100,000 and taxed at 1.0 mill would pay \$35.00 annually in taxes. If three years later the home were reappraised and increased to \$200,000 (and this inflationary increase in value is comparable to other property owners) the effective tax rate would become .5 mills and the owner would still pay \$35.00.

Thus, Ohio districts dependent upon property taxes are hampered by a lack of revenue growth and must regularly return to the voters to maintain a constant level of service. Property taxes made up 34% of revenue for governmental activities for the District in fiscal year 2018.

The District's reliance upon tax revenues is demonstrated in the following graph:

Revenue Sources	2018	Percent of Total
General Grants	\$11,401,586	38.4%
Program Revenues	4,186,352	14.0%
General Tax Revenues	13,504,547	45.3%
Investment Earnings	44,098	0.1%
Other Revenues	663,994	2.2%
Total Revenue Sources	\$29,800,577	100.0%



**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
(Unaudited)

Total expenses decreased mainly due to changes related to net pension liability and other post employment benefits liability.

Instruction comprises 52% of governmental program expenses. Support services expenses were 36% of governmental program expenses. All other expenses including interest expense were 12%. Interest expense was attributable to the outstanding bond and borrowing for capital projects.

The Statement of Activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. Table 3 shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and unrestricted State entitlements.

**Table 3**  
**Governmental Activities**

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Instruction	\$9,811,998	\$17,178,323	(\$7,401,096)	(\$15,155,081)
Support Services:				
Pupil and Instructional Staff	1,197,568	1,735,179	(1,174,865)	(1,712,656)
School Administrative, General				
Administration and Fiscal	1,485,058	2,608,930	(1,484,246)	(2,606,090)
Operations and Maintenance	2,577,841	3,322,255	(2,551,291)	(3,258,057)
Pupil Transportation	1,431,979	2,072,186	(1,405,991)	(2,053,070)
Central	11,353	3,509	(11,353)	(3,509)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	874,768	1,126,918	237,989	391
Extracurricular Activities	690,135	1,210,722	(103,495)	(579,348)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	716,529	965,395	(716,529)	(965,395)
Total Expenses	<u>\$18,797,229</u>	<u>\$30,223,417</u>	<u>(\$14,610,877)</u>	<u>(\$26,332,815)</u>

**The District's Funds**

The District has three major governmental funds: the General Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Classroom Facilities Project Fund. Assets of these funds comprised \$26,537,572 (92%) of the total \$28,949,287 governmental funds' assets.

**General Fund:** Fund balance at June 30, 2018 was \$9,493,331, a decrease in fund balance of \$60,438 from 2017. The fund balance remained relatively stable from 2017 to 2018.

**Debt Service Fund:** Fund balance at June 30, 2018 was \$988,036, an increase in fund balance of \$137,869 from 2017. The primary reason for the increase in fund balance was due to an increase in property tax revenue.

**Classroom Facilities Project Fund:** Fund balance at June 30, 2018 was \$2,932,101, a decrease in fund balance of \$76,667 from 2017. The primary reason for the decrease in fund balance was due to expenditures exceeding revenues during the fiscal year.



**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management’s Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
(Unaudited)

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**General Fund Budgeting Highlights**

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

During the course of fiscal year 2018, the District amended its general fund budget. The District uses site-based budgeting and the budgeting systems are designed to tightly control total site budgets but provide flexibility for site management.

For the General Fund, the original budget basis revenue was \$23,607,320, compared to final budget estimates of \$24,429,740. The difference between the original budget basis and final budget was \$822,420, which was mostly due to conservative estimates in taxes and intergovernmental revenue.

The District’s ending unobligated cash balance was \$9,812,762.

**Capital Assets and Debt Administration**

**Capital Assets**

At the end of fiscal year 2018, the District had \$49,314,696 invested in land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, equipment, and vehicles. Table 4 shows fiscal year 2018 balances compared to fiscal year 2017:

**Table 4**  
**Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation**

	Governmental Activities	
	2018	2017
Land	\$1,262,525	\$1,262,525
Land Improvements	480,752	514,466
Building and Improvements	46,480,618	48,273,973
Equipment	345,084	417,195
Vehicles	745,717	798,714
Total Net Capital Assets	<u>\$49,314,696</u>	<u>\$51,266,873</u>

Capital Assets decreased mainly due to current year depreciation expense and disposals exceeding current year additions

See Note 8 to the basic financial statements for further details on the District’s capital assets.

**Debt**

At June 30, 2018, the District had \$15,422,144 in debt outstanding and \$1,183,265 due within one year. Table 5 summarizes outstanding debt at year end.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Management’s Discussion and Analysis**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**  
(Unaudited)

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Table 5  
Outstanding Debt

	Governmental Activities	
	2018	2017
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>		
General Obligation Bonds:		
2003 School Improvement Bonds	\$0	\$380,000
2012 Refunding:		
Current Interest	6,190,000	6,300,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds - Principal	60,000	60,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds Accretion	141,006	106,890
2016 Refunding:		
Current Interest	8,280,000	8,500,000
Premiums	694,625	769,718
Discounts	0	(2,657)
Total Bonds	15,365,631	16,113,951
Capital Leases	56,513	0
Long-Term Debt	<u>\$15,422,144</u>	<u>\$16,113,951</u>

See Note 9 to the basic financial statements for further details on the District’s outstanding debt.

**For the Future**

On June 30, 2015, Governor John Kasich signed House Bill 64, the state biennium budget bill for fiscal years 2015 and 2016. The budget bill limits the total increased funding that will be provided to public school districts. Coupled with the funding gain limits, House Bill 64 also introduced new spending mandates and increased deductions from public school districts to fund charter and non-public options. These funding limits, spending mandates and deduction increases all have to be taken into account in monitoring the operation of the District and future decisions on pursuing additional revenue or expenditure reductions. This scenario requires management to plan carefully and prudently to provide the resources to meet student needs over the next several years.

All of the District’s financial abilities will be needed to meet the challenges of the future. With careful planning and monitoring of the District’s finances, the District’s management is confident that the District can continue to provide a quality education for our students and provide a secure financial future.

**Contacting the District’s Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the District’s finances and to show the District’s accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Treasurer’s office at the Ross Local School District, 3771 Hamilton Cleves Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45013.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Net Position  
June 30, 2018

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$16,064,996
Restricted Cash and Investments	324,996
Receivables (Net):	
Taxes	11,699,076
Accounts	82,132
Interest	13,391
Intergovernmental	501,860
Prepaid Items	42,034
Nondepreciable Capital Assets	1,262,525
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	<u>48,052,171</u>
 Total Assets	 <u>78,043,181</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources:	
Deferred Charge on Refunding Pension	206,459
OPEB	9,712,494
	<u>379,750</u>
 Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	 <u>10,298,703</u>
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	8,599
Accrued Wages and Benefits	2,724,467
Accrued Interest Payable	32,494
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	1,367,900
Due In More Than One Year	
Net Pension Liability	29,724,535
Net OPEB Liability	6,770,034
Other Amounts	<u>14,918,740</u>
 Total Liabilities	 <u>55,546,769</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:	
Property Taxes	10,076,822
Revenue In Lieu of Taxes	256,348
Pension	1,034,109
OPEB	<u>758,609</u>
 Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	 <u>12,125,888</u>
Net Position:	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	34,240,017
Restricted for:	
Debt Service	992,030
Capital Projects	3,862,305
Classroom facilities maintenance	596,820
Athletics	158,359
Auxiliary Services	22,618
Scholarships	132,712
Federal Grants	22,681
Other Purposes	10,287
Unrestricted	<u>(19,368,602)</u>
 Total Net Position	 <u>\$20,669,227</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Activities  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	
	Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>				
<b>Instruction:</b>				
Regular	\$7,531,147	\$614,437	\$143,499	(\$6,773,211)
Special	1,658,793	91,485	1,511,489	(55,819)
Vocational	0	0	6,795	6,795
Other	622,058	43,197	0	(578,861)
<b>Support Services:</b>				
Pupil	933,943	0	0	(933,943)
Instructional Staff	263,625	0	22,703	(240,922)
General Administration	36,249	0	0	(36,249)
School Administration	841,217	0	812	(840,405)
Fiscal	607,592	0	0	(607,592)
Operations and Maintenance	2,577,841	21,795	4,755	(2,551,291)
Pupil Transportation	1,431,979	0	25,988	(1,405,991)
Central	11,353	0	0	(11,353)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	874,768	598,371	514,386	237,989
Extracurricular Activities	690,135	556,264	30,376	(103,495)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	716,529	0	0	(716,529)
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	<b>\$18,797,229</b>	<b>\$1,925,549</b>	<b>\$2,260,803</b>	<b>(14,610,877)</b>
<b>General Revenues:</b>				
				3,262,154
				Income Taxes
				Property Taxes Levied for:
				General Purposes
				8,509,817
				Debt Service Purposes
				1,474,787
				Capital Projects Purposes
				257,789
				Grants and Entitlements, Not Restricted
				11,401,586
				Revenue in Lieu of Taxes
				276,727
				Unrestricted Contributions
				94,570
				Investment Earnings
				44,098
				Other Revenues
				292,697
				<b>Total General Revenues</b>
				<b>25,614,225</b>
				<b>Change in Net Position</b>
				<b>11,003,348</b>
				<b>Net Position - Beginning of Year, Restated</b>
				<b>9,665,879</b>
				<b>Net Position - End of Year</b>
				<b>\$20,669,227</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Balance Sheet  
Governmental Funds  
June 30, 2018

	General	Debt Service	Classroom Facilities Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets:</b>					
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$10,297,183	\$970,590	\$2,932,101	\$1,865,122	\$16,064,996
Restricted Cash and Investments	324,996	0	0	0	324,996
<b>Receivables (Net):</b>					
Taxes	9,772,192	1,635,376	0	291,508	11,699,076
Accounts	75,800	0	0	6,332	82,132
Interest	13,391	0	0	0	13,391
Intergovernmental	256,348	0	0	245,512	501,860
Interfund	220,802	0	0	0	220,802
Prepaid Items	38,793	0	0	3,241	42,034
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>20,999,505</b>	<b>2,605,966</b>	<b>2,932,101</b>	<b>2,411,715</b>	<b>28,949,287</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>					
Accounts Payable	7,725	0	0	874	8,599
Accrued Wages and Benefits	2,501,603	0	0	222,864	2,724,467
Compensated Absences	39,277	0	0	14,119	53,396
Interfund Payable	0	0	0	220,802	220,802
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>2,548,605</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>458,659</b>	<b>3,007,264</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources:</b>					
Property Taxes	8,472,299	1,617,930	0	288,455	10,378,684
Income Taxes	222,716	0	0	0	222,716
Grants and Other Taxes	256,348	0	0	179,916	436,264
Investment Earnings	6,206	0	0	0	6,206
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>8,957,569</b>	<b>1,617,930</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>468,371</b>	<b>11,043,870</b>
<b>Fund Balances:</b>					
Nonspendable	38,793	0	0	3,241	42,034
Restricted	0	988,036	2,935,688	1,930,564	5,854,288
Assigned	4,074,478	0	0	0	4,074,478
Unassigned	5,380,060	0	(3,587)	(449,120)	4,927,353
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>9,493,331</b>	<b>988,036</b>	<b>2,932,101</b>	<b>1,484,685</b>	<b>14,898,153</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$20,999,505</b>	<b>\$2,605,966</b>	<b>\$2,932,101</b>	<b>\$2,411,715</b>	<b>\$28,949,287</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balance to  
 Net Position of Governmental Activities  
 June 30, 2018

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Total Governmental Fund Balance \$14,898,153

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the  
 statement of net position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial  
 resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.

Capital assets used in the operation of Governmental Funds 49,314,696

Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-  
 period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.

Income Taxes	222,716	
Delinquent Property Taxes	301,862	
Interest	6,206	
Intergovernmental	<u>179,916</u>	
		710,700

In the statement of net position interest payable is accrued when  
 incurred; whereas, in the governmental funds interest is  
 reported as a liability only when it will require the use of  
 current financial resources. (32,494)

Some liabilities reported in the statement of net position do not  
 require the use of current financial resources and, therefore,  
 are not reported as liabilities in governmental funds.

Compensated Absences (811,100)

Deferred charge on refunding associated with long-term liabilities  
 that are not reported in the funds. 206,459

Deferred outflows and inflows or resources related to pensions and OPEB  
 are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not  
 reported in the funds.

Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions	9,712,494	
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions	(1,034,109)	
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB	379,750	
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB	<u>(758,609)</u>	
		8,299,526

Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current  
 period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.

Net Pension Liability	(29,724,535)	
Net OPEB Liability	(6,770,034)	
Other Amounts	<u>(15,422,144)</u>	
		<u>(51,916,713)</u>

Net Position of Governmental Activities \$20,669,227

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures  
and Changes in Fund Balance  
Governmental Funds  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

	General	Debt Service	Classroom Facilities Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues:</b>					
Property and Other Taxes	\$8,300,028	\$1,444,546	\$0	\$252,796	\$9,997,370
Income Taxes	3,081,996	0	0	168,209	3,250,205
Tuition and Fees	692,360	0	0	0	692,360
Investment Earnings	38,450	0	12,590	0	51,040
Intergovernmental	12,102,832	197,963	490	1,490,136	13,791,421
Extracurricular Activities	211,732	0	0	401,291	613,023
Charges for Services	0	0	0	605,993	605,993
Revenue in Lieu of Taxes	256,348	15,496	0	4,883	276,727
Other Revenues	191,795	0	0	117,225	309,020
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>24,875,541</b>	<b>1,658,005</b>	<b>13,080</b>	<b>3,040,533</b>	<b>29,587,159</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
<b>Current:</b>					
<b>Instruction:</b>					
Regular	12,843,662	0	0	187,026	13,030,688
Special	2,122,623	0	0	873,788	2,996,411
Other	645,310	0	0	0	645,310
<b>Support Services:</b>					
Pupil	1,377,001	0	0	265	1,377,266
Instructional Staff	506,263	0	0	0	506,263
General Administration	40,830	0	0	0	40,830
School Administration	2,038,707	35	0	1,026	2,039,768
Fiscal	782,211	16,326	0	2,857	801,394
Operations and Maintenance	2,181,815	0	0	104,118	2,285,933
Pupil Transportation	1,825,355	0	0	90,000	1,915,355
Central	11,353	0	0	0	11,353
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	0	0	0	1,217,347	1,217,347
Extracurricular Activities	617,362	0	0	421,769	1,039,131
Capital Outlay	0	0	89,747	194,426	284,173
<b>Debt Service:</b>					
Principal Retirement	29,981	710,000	0	0	739,981
Interest and Fiscal Charges	0	793,775	0	0	793,775
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>25,022,473</b>	<b>1,520,136</b>	<b>89,747</b>	<b>3,092,622</b>	<b>29,724,978</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>(146,932)</b>	<b>137,869</b>	<b>(76,667)</b>	<b>(52,089)</b>	<b>(137,819)</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>					
Proceeds of Capital Leases	86,494	0	0	0	86,494
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>86,494</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>86,494</b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<b>(60,438)</b>	<b>137,869</b>	<b>(76,667)</b>	<b>(52,089)</b>	<b>(51,325)</b>
<b>Fund Balance - Beginning of Year</b>	<b>9,553,769</b>	<b>850,167</b>	<b>3,008,768</b>	<b>1,536,774</b>	<b>14,949,478</b>
<b>Fund Balance - End of Year</b>	<b>\$9,493,331</b>	<b>\$988,036</b>	<b>\$2,932,101</b>	<b>\$1,484,685</b>	<b>\$14,898,153</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes  
 in Fund Balance of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities  
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Net Change in Fund Balance - Total Governmental Funds (51,325)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital asset additions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount of the difference between capital asset additions and depreciation in the current period.

Capital assets used in governmental activities	115,705	
Depreciation Expense	<u>(2,067,882)</u>	(1,952,177)

Governmental funds report district pension and OPEB contributions as expenditures. However in the Statement of Activities, the cost of pension and OPEB benefits earned net of employee contributions is reported as pension and OPEB expense.

District pension contributions	2,151,946	
Pension expense	8,947,837	
District OPEB contributions	81,642	
OPEB expense	<u>983,082</u>	12,164,507

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.

Income Taxes	11,949	
Delinquent Property Taxes	245,023	
Interest	(7,432)	
Intergovernmental	<u>(36,122)</u>	213,418

Repayment of bond principal, current refundings and the deferred charges and premiums associated with the old bonds are an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.

739,981

In the statement of activities interest expense is accrued when incurred; whereas, in governmental funds an interest expenditure is reported when due.

68,421

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

Compensated Absences	(101,808)	
Amortization of Bond Premium	75,093	
Amortization of Bond Discount	(2,657)	
Bond Accretion	(34,116)	
Amortization of Deferred Charge on Refunding	<u>(29,495)</u>	(92,983)

Proceeds from debt issues are an other financing source in the funds, but a debt issue increases long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.

(86,494)

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities \$11,003,348

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.



Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Funds  
June 30, 2018

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	Private Purpose Trust	Agency
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Assets:		
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$1,058	\$41,741
Total Assets	<u>1,058</u>	<u>41,741</u>
Liabilities:		
Other Liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>41,741</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>\$41,741</u>
Net Position:		
Held in Trust	<u>1,058</u>	
Total Net Position	<u>\$1,058</u>	

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position  
Fiduciary Fund  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

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	Private Purpose Trust
Additions:	
Donations	\$0
Total Additions	0
Deductions:	
Scholarships	0
Total Deductions	0
Change in Net Position	0
Net Position - Beginning of Year	1,058
Net Position - End of Year	\$1,058

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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**Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

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Description of the School District

The Ross Local School District (the "School District") is organized under Sections 2 and 3, Article VI, of the Constitution of the State of Ohio and Chapters 3311 and 3315 of the Ohio Revised Code. Under existing statutes, the Ross Local Board of Education, on behalf of the School District, has the authority to acquire, maintain and dispose of school property; develop and adopt school programs; and establish, organize and operate schools.

The financial statements of the Ross Local School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

Reporting Entity

The financial reporting entity is composed of the School District (primary government). The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. Potential component units were reviewed for possible inclusion in the financial statements. Component units are legally separate organizations for which the School District would be financially accountable. The School District would be financially accountable for an organization if the School District appointed a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the School District was able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the School District was legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the School District was legally obligated or had otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of or provided financial support to, the organization; or the School District was obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the School District in that the School District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. There were no component units included in the reporting entity.

The School District participates in two jointly governed organizations, one insurance purchasing pool, and a public entity risk pool. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Southwest Ohio Computer Association  
Butler Technology and Career Development Schools

Insurance Purchasing Pool:

Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber Worker's Compensation GRP

Public Entity Risk Pool:

Butler Health Plan

These organizations are described in Notes 12, 16, and 17.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting

*Government-wide Financial Statements* – The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include financial activities of the primary government except for fiduciary funds. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. The statements distinguish between those types of activities of the School District that are governmental and those that are considered to be business-type activities. The School District has no business type activities.

The government-wide statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus, which differs from the manner in which the governmental fund financial statements are prepared. Therefore, the governmental fund financial statements include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the School District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program, or department and are, therefore, identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by a program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operations or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the School District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each government function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School District.

*Fund Financial Statements* – Fund financial statements report detailed information about the School District. The focus of governmental financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Non-major funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental fund types are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets, deferred outflows of resources, current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present sources (i.e. revenues and other financial sources) and uses (i.e. expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources.

The School District uses funds to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid in financial management by segregating transactions related to certain School District functions or activities. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the School District are grouped into the categories governmental and fiduciary.

The following fund types are used by the School District:

**Governmental Funds** - Governmental funds focus on the sources, uses, and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is reported as fund balance.

The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

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

Classroom Facilities Project Fund – This fund was created to account for State monies to be received and used for improvements on existing facilities of the School District.

***Fiduciary Funds*** - Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The School District's fiduciary funds consist of a private purpose trust fund and an agency fund. The private-purpose trust fund accounts for scholarship programs for students. These assets are not available for the School District's use. Agency funds, which are used to account for student activities, are custodial in nature (assets equals liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

**Note 2 - Basis of Accounting**

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Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements and relates to the timing of the measurements made.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is used by the governmental funds. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current fiscal year or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. The available period for the School District is sixty days after fiscal year-end. Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are deemed both measurable and available: property taxes available for advance, income taxes, interest, tuition, student fees and grants.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences, are recorded only when payment is due. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation, are not recognized in governmental funds.

Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Also, fiduciary funds use accrual accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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Revenues – Exchange and Non-exchange Transactions

Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, are recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property and income taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property and income taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. 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 of the fiscal year in which use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the School District must provide local resources to be used for specific purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The deferred outflows of resources related to a deferred charge on refunding, OPEB, and pension are reported on the governmental-wide statement of net position. For more OPEB and pension related information, see Notes 13 and 14.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the School District, deferred inflows of resources include property taxes, revenue in lieu of taxes, OPEB, pension, grants and other taxes, income taxes, and investment earnings. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2018, but which were levied to finance year 2019 operations. These amounts have been recorded as deferred inflows on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Revenue in lieu of taxes (other taxes) has been recorded as deferred inflows on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Grants, income taxes, and investment earnings have been recorded as deferred inflows on the governmental fund financial statements. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension are reported on the government-wide statement of net position. For more OPEB and pension related information, see Notes 13 and 14.

Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments

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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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The Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 31 (GASB 31), "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools," requires that investments, with certain exceptions, be recorded at their fair value and that changes in the fair value are reported in the operations statements. The School District recorded investments held at June 30, 2018 at fair value.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings.

Restricted Assets

Restricted assets in the general fund represent equity in pooled cash and investments set aside for the budget stabilization and retainage owed to contractors.

Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2018, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which the services are consumed.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements but are not reported in the governmental fund financial statements. The School District defines capital assets as those with an individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. All capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets are stated at their estimated acquisition value when received. The School District does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

When capital assets are purchased, they are capitalized and depreciated in the government-wide statements. Capital assets are reported as expenditures of the current period in the governmental fund financial statements.

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

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Buildings and Improvements	30-50 years
Land Improvements	10-20 years
Furniture and Equipment	5-20 years
Vehicles	10 years

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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Compensated Absences

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the School District will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. The School District records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service. Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. The liability includes the employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the School District has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the School District's termination policy.

The entire compensated absences liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements. For governmental fund financial statements, a liability is recorded only for the portion of unpaid compensated absences that has matured, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements.

Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities are reported as obligations of the funds regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current resources with the exception of compensated absences as noted above. Net pension/OPEB liability should be recognized in the governmental funds to the extent that benefit payments are due and payable and the pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits.

Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

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

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and liabilities. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvements of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. The School District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available. Of the School District's \$5,797,812 in restricted net position, none were restricted for enabling legislation.



**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds.

On fund financials, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund receivable/payable." These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities column of the statement of net position.

Fund Balance

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, the School District classifies its fund balance based on the purpose for which the resources were received and the level of constraint placed on the resources. The following categories are used:

Nonspendable – resources that are not in spendable form (inventory) or have legal or contractual requirements to maintain the balance intact.

Restricted – resources that have external purpose restraints imposed on them by providers, such as creditors, grantors, or other regulators.

Committed – resources that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (board resolution) of the School District's Board of Education. The Board of Education is the highest level of decision making authority for the School District. Those committed resources cannot be used for any other purpose unless the School District's Board of Education removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (board resolution) it employed to previously commit those resources.

Assigned – resources intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts are intended to be used for specific purposes as approved through the School District's formal purchase order procedure by the Superintendent and the Treasurer. The adoption of the board appropriation resolution is the established policy, which gives the authorization to assign resources for a specific purpose.

Unassigned – residual fund balance within the General Fund that is not restricted, committed, or assigned. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance resulting from incurred expenses for specific purposes exceeding amounts which had been restricted, committed or assigned for said purposes.

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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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Estimates

The preparation of the 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 could differ from those estimates.

**Note 3 – Deficit Fund Balances**

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At June 30, 2018, the following funds had a deficit fund balance:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Other Governmental Funds:	
IDEA, Part B	\$92,813
Title I	50,765
Food Service	200,555
Improving Teacher Quality	16,753

These deficit balances were created by the application of generally accepted accounting principles. The General Fund provides transfers to cover deficit balances; however, this is done when cash is needed rather than when accruals occur.

**Note 4 - Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments**

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State statute requires the classification of monies held by the School District into three categories:

Active Deposits - Those monies required to be kept in a "cash" or "near cash" status for immediate use by the School District. Such monies must by law be maintained either as cash in the School District treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive Deposits - Those monies not required for use within the current two-year period of designated depositories. Ohio law permits inactive monies to be deposited or invested as certificates of deposit maturing not later than the end of the current period of designated depositories or as savings or deposit accounts, including, but not limited to, passbook accounts.

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

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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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Ohio law permits interim monies to be invested or deposited in the following securities:

- (1) United States treasury notes, bills, bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
- (2) Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including but not limited to, the federal national mortgage association, federal home loan bank, federal farm credit bank, federal home loan mortgage corporation, government national mortgage association, and student loan marketing association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
- (3) Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
- (4) Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
- (5) No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) of this section and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
- (6) The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
- (7) Certain bankers' acceptances and commercial paper notes for a period not to exceed 180 days from the date of purchase in an amount not to exceed 25 percent of the interim moneys available for investment at any one time; and
- (8) Under limited circumstances, debt interests rated in either of the two highest rating classifications by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies.

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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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

**Deposits**

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. As of June 30, 2018, \$11,428,465 of the School District's bank balance of \$11,678,465 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and collateralized.

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

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

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

**Investments**

The School District's investments at June 30, 2018 are as summarized as follows:

Investment Type	Value	Fair Value Hierarchy	Weighted Average Maturity (Years)
Federal National Mortgage Association	\$1,048,346	Level 2	2.37
Federal Farm Credit Corporation	122,890	Level 2	1.41
Negotiable CDs	1,858,897	Level 2	1.45
U.S. Treasury Bills	2,181,457	Level 1	0.31
U.S. Money Market Funds	5,128	N/A	0.00
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b><u>\$5,216,718</u></b>		

Portfolio Weighted Average Maturity 1.16

The School District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs. Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The above table identifies the School District's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2018.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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Credit Risk – It is the School District’s policy to limit its investments that are not obligations of the U.S. Government or obligations explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government to investments which have a credit quality rating of the top 2 ratings by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. The School District’s investments in Federal National Mortgage Association, and Federal Farm Credit Corporation were rated AAA by Standard & Poor’s and Aaa by Moody’s Investors Service. The School District’s investments in Negotiable CDs, U.S. Treasury Bills, and U.S. Money Market Funds were not rated.

Custodial Credit Risk – Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a failure of a counter party, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District’s investment securities are registered in the name of the School District.

Interest Rate Risk – In accordance with the investment policy, the School District manages its exposure to declines in fair value by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio to five years.

Concentration of Credit Risk – The School District’s investment policy does not place any limit on investments in any single issuer. The School District’s investments are in the following:

Investments	Percent
Federal National Mortgage Association	20%
Federal Farm Credit Corporation	2%
Negotiable CDs	35%
U.S. Treasury Bills	42%
U.S. Money Market Funds	1%

**Note 5 – Property Taxes**

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Property taxes are levied and assessed on a calendar year basis. Distributions from the second half of the calendar year occur in the subsequent fiscal year and are intended to finance the operations of that year, except monies available to be advanced against such distributions which may be appropriated and used in the current fiscal year. Property taxes include amounts levied against real and public utility property located within the School District.

Real property taxes and public utility taxes are levied after April against the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1, the lien date. Assessed values are established by State law at 35 percent of appraised value.

The School District receives property taxes from the Butler County Auditor, who periodically advances to the School District its portion of taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2018 are available to finance fiscal year 2019 operations.

Accrued property taxes receivable represents delinquent taxes outstanding and real property and public utility taxes that became measurable as of June 30, 2018. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, only the amount available as an advance at June 30 is intended to finance current fiscal year operations. The receivable is therefore offset by a credit to deferred inflows of resources for that portion not intended to finance current year operations.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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

	<u>Amount</u>
Agricultural/Residential and Other Real Estate	\$381,224,380
Public Utility/Personal Property	<u>37,466,700</u>
Total Assessed Value	<u><u>\$418,691,080</u></u>

**Note 6 – Interfund Transactions**

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Interfund transactions at June 30, 2018 consisted of the following interfund receivables and payables:

	Interfund	
	<u>Receivable</u>	<u>Payable</u>
General	\$220,802	\$0
Other Governmental Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>220,802</u>
Total	<u><u>\$220,802</u></u>	<u><u>\$220,802</u></u>

Interfund balance/transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budget authorizations; to segregate and to return money to the fund from which it was originally provided once a project is completed.

**Note 7 – Income Tax**

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The School District levies a voted tax of .75 percent for general operations on the income of residents and estates. The voted levy is for a continuous term. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue is credited to the General Fund and the Classroom Facilities Maintenance Fund. The State requires the School District to set aside a certain amount of money for maintaining classrooms. This is being funded with income tax as allowed by law.

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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**Note 8 – Capital Assets**

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A summary of the changes in capital assets for governmental activities during the fiscal year is as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance
<b>Governmental Activities</b>				
<b>Capital Assets, not being depreciated:</b>				
Land	\$1,262,525	\$0	\$0	\$1,262,525
<b>Capital Assets, being depreciated:</b>				
Land Improvements	2,262,901	25,705	0	2,288,606
Buildings and Improvements	78,809,991	0	0	78,809,991
Equipment	624,979	0	0	624,979
Vehicles	2,607,186	90,000	170,877	2,526,309
Totals at Historical Cost	<u>85,567,582</u>	<u>115,705</u>	<u>170,877</u>	<u>85,512,410</u>
<b>Less Accumulated Depreciation:</b>				
Land Improvements	1,748,435	59,419	0	1,807,854
Buildings and Improvements	30,536,018	1,793,355	0	32,329,373
Equipment	207,784	72,111	0	279,895
Vehicles	1,808,472	142,997	170,877	1,780,592
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>34,300,709</u>	<u>2,067,882</u>	<u>170,877</u>	<u>36,197,714</u>
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	<u>\$51,266,873</u>	<u>(\$1,952,177)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$49,314,696</u>

Depreciation expenses were charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:	
Regular	\$1,149,642
Support Services:	
School Administration	25,009
Operations and Maintenance	750,194
Pupil Transportation	123,080
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	6,397
Extracurricular Activities	13,560
Total Depreciation Expense	<u>\$2,067,882</u>

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

**Note 9 – Long-Term Obligations**

The changes in the School District’s long-term obligations during fiscal year 2018 were as follows:

	Interest Rate	Restated Beginning Balance	Issued	Retired	Ending Balance	Due In One Year
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>						
General Obligation Bonds:						
2003 School Improvement Bonds	3.1-5.0%	\$380,000	\$0	(\$380,000)	\$0	\$0
Discount		(2,657)	0	2,657	0	0
2012 Refunding:						
Current Interest	2.0-3.0%	6,300,000	0	(110,000)	6,190,000	955,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds - Principal		60,000	0	0	60,000	0
Capital Appreciation Bonds Accretion		106,890	34,116	0	141,006	0
Premium		262,789	0	(32,849)	229,940	0
2016 Refunding:						
Current Interest		8,500,000	0	(220,000)	8,280,000	200,000
Premium		506,929	0	(42,244)	464,685	0
Total Bonds		16,113,951	34,116	(782,436)	15,365,631	1,155,000
Capital Leases		0	86,494	(29,981)	56,513	28,265
Compensated Absences		745,795	251,173	(132,472)	864,496	184,635
Subtotal Bonds and Other Amounts		16,859,746	371,783	(944,889)	16,286,640	1,367,900
Net Pension Liability:						
STRS		32,332,177	0	(9,100,656)	23,231,521	0
SERS		7,876,762	0	(1,383,748)	6,493,014	0
Subtotal Net Pension Liability		40,208,939	0	(10,484,404)	29,724,535	0
Net OPEB Liability:						
STRS		5,165,753	0	(1,350,135)	3,815,618	0
SERS		3,106,973	0	(152,557)	2,954,416	0
Subtotal Net OPEB Liability		8,272,726	0	(1,502,692)	6,770,034	0
Total Long-Term Obligations		\$65,341,411	\$371,783	(\$12,931,985)	\$52,781,209	\$1,367,900

The School District issued \$24,900,000 in School Improvement Bonds in fiscal year 2003 that was originally scheduled to mature in fiscal year 2025, for the construction of a high school and improvements to the School District’s elementary schools. The original issue included current interest serial bonds and capital appreciation bonds. The School District advanced refunded \$16,105,000 of this issuance in fiscal years 2007 and 2012. The remaining current interest serial bonds will be fully matured in 2017. The refunded bonds were not included in the School District’s outstanding debt since the School District has satisfied its obligations through the advance refunding.

The School District issued \$6,690,000 in Series 2012 Refunding Bonds that mature in December 2024, for the partial advance refunding of \$6,690,000 in Series 2003 School Improvement Bonds. These bonds include serial bonds that will mature in December 2024 and capital appreciation bonds that will mature in December 2019. The maturity amount of the capital appreciation bonds is \$320,000.

On August 23, 2016 the School District issued \$8,715,000 in General Obligation Bonds with an interest rate between 1.00% and 3.00% which was used to current refund \$8,975,000 of the outstanding 2006 Refunding Bonds with an interest rate between 4.00% and 4.375%. The net proceeds of \$9,264,173



**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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(after payment of underwriting fees, insurance and other issuance costs) were used to purchase U.S. government securities. Those securities were deposited into an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent on September 13, 2016 and the securities matured and were paid off on December 1, 2016, within 90 days of purchase.

All general obligation debt is supported by the full faith and credit of the School District. The School Improvement and Refunding Bonds are paid from the Debt Service Fund. Compensated absences and the STRS early retirement incentive are generally paid by the General Fund and Special Revenue funds. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension liability and net OPEB liability; however, employer pension and OPEB contributions are made from the fund benefitting from their service.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the School District's long-term general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2018 are shown in the table below.

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	Current Interest Bonds			Capital Appreciation		
	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total
2019	\$1,155,000	\$365,525	\$1,520,525	\$0	\$0	\$0
2020	855,000	365,525	1,220,525	60,000	260,000	320,000
2021	1,195,000	606,362	1,801,362	0	0	0
2022	1,260,000	323,913	1,583,913	0	0	0
2023	1,300,000	293,776	1,593,776	0	0	0
2024-2028	7,155,000	707,088	7,862,088	0	0	0
2029	1,550,000	23,250	1,573,250	0	0	0
Total	<u>\$14,470,000</u>	<u>\$2,685,439</u>	<u>\$17,155,439</u>	<u>\$60,000</u>	<u>\$260,000</u>	<u>\$320,000</u>

**Note 10 – Capital – Lessee Disclosure**

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The School District entered into a lease with Apple, Inc. for computers, electronic devices, servers, and networking equipment. For fiscal year 2018, the school paid \$29,981 in principal payments.

The following is a schedule of the future long term minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2018.

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Long-Term Debt
2019	\$29,401
2020	28,822
Total Minimum Lease Payments	58,223
Less: Amount Representing Interest	(1,710)
Present Value of Minimum Lease Payments	<u>\$56,513</u>

**Note 11 – Other Employee Benefits**

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Accumulated Unpaid Vacation

School District classified employees earn vacation leave at varying rates based upon negotiated agreements and State laws. In the case of death or retirement, an employee (or his estate) is paid for his unused vacation leave.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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Accumulated Unpaid Sick Leave

School District employees may accumulate sick leave. Upon retirement, payment is made for 26.5% of the total unused sick leave balance up to a maximum of fifty days for certified and classified employees.

**Note 12 – Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber Worker’s Comp Program**

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The School District participates in the Group Retrospective Program of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, an insurance purchasing pool. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to cover the costs of administering the program.

**Note 13 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

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**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.

The net pension liability represents the employer’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 obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The employer cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions are financed; however, the employer 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 accrued wages and benefits on both the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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**Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)**

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire on or after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit Age 65 with 5 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; 2.20% for the first thirty years of service and 2.50% for years of service credit over 30 or \$86.00 multiplied by the years of service credit. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

Post-Retirement Increases – Before January 1, 2018; on each anniversary of the initial date of retirement, the allowances of all retirees and survivors are increased by 3% of the base benefit. On or after January 1, 2018; on each anniversary of the initial retirement, the allowance of all retirees and survivors are increased by the annual rate of increase in the CPI-W measured as of the June preceding the beginning of the applicable calendar year. The annual rate of increase shall not be less than 0% nor greater than 2.5%. COLA’s shall be suspended for calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the employer is required to contribute 14% 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% for plan members and 14% 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, 2018, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 13.5%. The remaining 0.5% was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The contractually required contribution to SERS was \$526,066 for fiscal year 2018. Of this amount \$213,900 is reported as accrued wages and benefits.

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

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

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

The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Effective July 1, 2017, the cost-of-living adjustment was reduced to zero. 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% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. Investment allocation decisions are determined by the member. The remaining 4.5% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The Combined Plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined Plan, 12% of the 14% member rate goes to the DC Plan and the remaining 2% is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the Combined Plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity 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 Ohio 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 Ohio bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS Ohio therefore has included all three plan options in the GASB 68 schedules of employer allocations and pension amounts by employer.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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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 10 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.

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, 2018, plan members were required to contribute 14% of their annual covered salary. The employer was required to contribute 14%; the entire 14% was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The fiscal year 2018 contribution rates were equal to the statutory maximum rates.

The contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,625,880 for fiscal year 2018. Of this amount \$300,144 is reported as accrued wages and benefits.

**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 June 30, 2017, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The proportion of the net pension liability was based on the share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$6,493,014	\$23,231,521	\$29,724,535
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Measurement Date	0.10867370%	0.09779546%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.10761960%	0.09659177%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.00105410%	0.00120369%	
Pension Expense	(\$251,772)	(\$8,696,065)	(\$8,947,837)

At June 30, 2018, reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

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**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$279,437	\$897,092	\$1,176,529
Changes of assumptions	335,759	5,080,989	5,416,748
Changes in employer proportionate share of net pension liability	89,397	877,874	967,271
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>526,066</u>	<u>1,625,880</u>	<u>2,151,946</u>
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$1,230,659</u>	<u>\$8,481,835</u>	<u>\$9,712,494</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$0	\$187,237	\$187,237
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	30,821	766,667	797,488
Changes in employer proportionate share of net pension liability	<u>49,384</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>49,384</u>
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$80,205</u>	<u>\$953,904</u>	<u>\$1,034,109</u>

\$2,151,946 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year			
Ending June 30:	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
2019	\$249,426	\$1,341,059	\$1,590,485
2020	415,627	2,529,640	2,945,267
2021	110,701	1,625,508	1,736,209
2022	<u>(151,365)</u>	<u>405,843</u>	<u>254,478</u>
Total	<u>\$624,389</u>	<u>\$5,902,050</u>	<u>\$6,526,439</u>

**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.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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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, 2017, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.00%
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.50% - 18.20%
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.50%
Investment Rate of Return	7.50% net of investments expense, including inflation
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Actuarial Assumptions Experience Study Date	5 year period ended June 30, 2015

Prior to 2017, an assumption of 3.0% was used for COLA or Ad Hoc COLA.

For 2017, the mortality rates were based on 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% of male rates, and 110% of female rates. Mortality among disable members were based upon the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

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 the 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 assets 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%
Total	100.00%	

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
**For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

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**Discount Rate**

The total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.50%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earning were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return 7.50%. 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 Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate**

Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.50%, 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%, or one percentage point higher 8.50% than the current rate.

	1% Decrease 6.50%	Current Discount Rate 7.50%	1% Increase 8.50%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$9,010,615	\$6,493,014	\$4,384,008

**Changes in Benefit Terms**

The COLA was changed from a fixed 3.00% to a COLA that is indexed to CPI-W not greater than 2.5% with a floor of 0% beginning January 1, 2018. In addition, with the authority granted the Board under HB 49, the Board has enacted a three-year COLA suspension for benefit recipients in calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

The total pension liability in the July 1, 2017, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

	July 1, 2017	July 1, 2016
Inflation	2.50%	2.75%
Projected salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65	12.25% at age 20 to 2.75% at age 70
Investment Rate of Return	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.75%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3.00%	3.50%
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0%, effective July 1, 2017	2% simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2% per year; for members retiring August 1 2013, or later, 2% COLA commences on fifth anniversary of retirement date.



**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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For the July 1, 2017, actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

For the July 1, 2016 actuarial valuation, 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 July 1 2017, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016. Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study, effective July 1, 2012.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Domestic Equity	28.00%	7.35%
International Equity	23.00%	7.55%
Alternatives	17.00%	7.09%
Fixed Income	21.00%	3.00%
Real Estate	10.00%	6.00%
Liquidity Reserves	1.00%	2.25%
Total	100.00%	

\*10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

**Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.45% as of June 30, 2017. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with the rates described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2017. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.45% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2017.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate**

The following table represents the net pension liability as of June 30, 2017, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.45%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower 6.45% or one percentage point higher 8.45% than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease 6.45%	Current Discount Rate 7.45%	1% Increase 8.45%
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$33,301,595	\$23,231,521	\$14,748,993

**Changes in Assumptions**

The Retirement Board approved several changes to the actuarial assumptions in 2017. The long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%, and total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25% due to lower inflation. The healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016. Rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.

**Changes in Benefit Terms**

Effective July 1, 2017, the COLA was reduced to zero.

**Note 14 – Defined Benefit Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Plans**

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**Net Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Liability**

The net OPEB liability reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to employees for OPEB. OPEB is a component of exchange transactions—between an employer and its employees—of salaries and benefits for employee services. OPEB are provided to an employee—on a deferred-payment basis—as part of the total compensation package offered by an employer for employee services each financial period. The obligation to sacrifice resources for OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred

The net OPEB liability represents the School District’s proportionate share of each OPEB plan’s collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each OPEB plan’s fiduciary net position. The net OPEB 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 these estimates annually.

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

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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GASB 75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because they benefit from employee services. OPEB contributions come from these employers and health care plan enrollees which pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. Any change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net OPEB liability. Resulting adjustments to the net OPEB liability would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

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

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

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

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2018, 0.5% of covered payroll was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2018, this amount was \$23,700. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2.0% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2018, the surcharge obligation was \$62,158.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$81,642 for fiscal year 2018. Of this amount \$62,158 is reported as accrued wages and benefits.

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

Plan Description – The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians’ fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued effective January 1, 2020. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

**OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB**

The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2017, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the employer's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$2,954,416	\$3,815,618	\$6,770,034
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability:			
Current Measurement Date	0.11008590%	0.09779546%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.10900245%	0.09659177%	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.00108345%</u>	<u>0.00120369%</u>	
OPEB Expense	\$172,043	(\$1,155,125)	(\$983,082)

At June 30, 2018, reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$0	\$220,261	\$220,261
Changes in employer proportionate share of net pension liability	22,669	55,178	77,847
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	81,642	0	81,642
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$104,311</b>	<b>\$275,439</b>	<b>\$379,750</b>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Changes of assumptions	\$280,359	\$307,360	\$587,719
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	7,802	163,088	170,890
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<b>\$288,161</b>	<b>\$470,448</b>	<b>\$758,609</b>

\$81,642 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2019	(\$95,316)	(\$46,093)	(\$141,409)
2020	(95,316)	(46,093)	(141,409)
2021	(72,909)	(46,092)	(119,001)
2022	(1,950)	(46,092)	(48,042)
2023	0	(5,320)	(5,320)
Thereafter	0	(5,320)	(5,320)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$265,491)</b>	<b>(\$195,010)</b>	<b>(\$460,501)</b>

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2017, are presented below:

Wage Inflation	3.00%
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.50% to 18.20%
Investment Rate of Return	7.50% net of investments expense, including inflation
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	3.56%
Prior Measurement Date	2.92%
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:	
Measurement Date	3.63%
Prior Measurement Date	2.98%
Medical Trend Assumption	
Medicare	5.50% to 5.00%
Pre-Medicare	7.50% to 5.00%

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates and 110 percent of female rates. RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates set back five years.

The most recent experience study was completed for the five year period ended June 30, 2015.

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2010 through 2015, and was adopted by the Board on April 21, 2016. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.50 percent, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2015 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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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%
Total	100.00%	

**Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2017 was 3.63 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2017 was 2.98 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the state statute contribution rate of 2.00 percent of projected covered employee payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and 0.50 percent of contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to present value the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and the Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index rate of 3.56 percent, as of June 30, 2017 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to present value the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The projection of future benefit payments for all current plan members was until the benefit payments ran out.

**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates**

The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (2.63%) and higher (4.63%) than the current discount rate (3.63%). Also shown is what SERS' net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.5% decreasing to 4.0%) and higher (8.5% decreasing to 6.0%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease 2.63%	Current Discount Rate 3.63%	1% Increase 4.63%
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$3,567,834	\$2,954,416	\$2,468,433

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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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	1% Decrease 6.50% decreasing to 4.00%	Current Trend Rate 7.50% decreasing to 5.00%	1% Increase 8.50% decreasing to 6.00%
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$2,397,287	\$2,954,416	\$3,691,786

**Changes in Assumptions – SERS**

Amounts reported for fiscal year 2018 incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

**Municipal Bond Index Rate:**

Fiscal year 2018	3.56 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.92 percent

**Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:**

Fiscal year 2018	3.63 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.98 percent

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2017, actuarial valuation are presented below:

Inflation	2.50%
Projected salary increases	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
Investment Rate of Return	7.45%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3.00%
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.00%, effective July 1, 2017
Blended Discount Rate of Return	4.13%
Health Care Cost Trends	6.00% to 11.00% initial, 4.5% ultimate

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

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2017, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016.

Since the prior measurement date, the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB) and the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and



**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

Also since the prior measurement date, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019. Subsequent to the current measurement date, the date for discontinuing remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements was extended to January 2020.

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Rate of Return*
Domestic Equity	28.00%	7.35%
International Equity	23.00%	7.55%
Alternatives	17.00%	7.09%
Fixed Income	21.00%	3.00%
Real Estate	10.00%	6.00%
Liquidity Reserves	1.00%	2.25%
Total	100.00%	

\*10 year annualized geometric nominal returns, which includes the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% and does not include investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actual rate of return, without net value added by management.

**Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 4.13 percent as of June 30, 2017. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was not projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. The OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make future benefit payments during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2037. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB plan assets was used to determine the present value of the projected benefit payments through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2036 and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 3.58 percent as of June 30, 2017 (i.e. municipal bond rate), was used to determine the present value of the projected benefit payments for the remaining years in the projection. The total present value of projected benefit payments from all years was then used to determine the single rate of return that was used as the discount rate. The blended discount rate of 4.13 percent, which

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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represents the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45 percent for the funded benefit payments and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 3.58 percent for the unfunded benefit payments, was used to measure the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017. A blended discount rate of 3.26 percent which represents the long term expected rate of return of 7.75 percent for the funded benefit payments and the Bond Buyer 20-year municipal bond rate of 2.85 percent for the unfunded benefit payments was used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2016.

**Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate**

The following table represents the net OPEB liability as of June 30, 2017, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 4.13%, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (3.13%) or one percentage point higher (5.13%) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB liability as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

	1% Decrease 3.13%	Current Discount Rate 4.13%	1% Increase 5.13%
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$5,122,406	\$3,815,618	\$2,782,828

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$2,650,928	\$3,815,618	\$5,348,487

**Changes in Assumptions – STRS**

For fiscal year 2018, the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB) and the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

Also for fiscal year 2018, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
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**Note 15 – Fund Balances**

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

Fund Balances	General	Debt Service	Classroom Facilities Project	Other Governmental Funds	Total
<b>Nonspendable:</b>					
Prepays	\$38,793	\$0	\$0	\$3,241	\$42,034
<b>Total Nonspendable</b>	<b>38,793</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>42,034</b>
<b>Restricted for:</b>					
Other Local Grants	0	0	0	6,687	6,687
Classroom Facilities Maintenance	0	0	0	627,196	627,196
Food Service	0	0	0	49,643	49,643
Athletics	0	0	0	160,101	160,101
Auxiliary Service	0	0	0	22,265	22,265
Data Communication	0	0	0	7,200	7,200
Special Revenue	0	0	0	132,697	132,697
Title III LEP	0	0	0	762	762
Debt Service	0	988,036	0	0	988,036
Permanent Improvement	0	0	0	924,013	924,013
Capital Improvements	0	0	2,935,688	0	2,935,688
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>988,036</b>	<b>2,935,688</b>	<b>1,930,564</b>	<b>5,854,288</b>
<b>Assigned to:</b>					
Budgetary Resource	3,074,521	0	0	0	3,074,521
Public School Support	48,037	0	0	0	48,037
Encumbrances	951,920	0	0	0	951,920
<b>Total Assigned</b>	<b>4,074,478</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,074,478</b>
<b>Unassigned (Deficit)</b>	<b>5,380,060</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(3,587)</b>	<b>(449,120)</b>	<b>4,927,353</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$9,493,331</b>	<b>\$988,036</b>	<b>\$2,932,101</b>	<b>\$1,484,685</b>	<b>\$14,898,153</b>

**Note 16 – Jointly Governed Organizations**

Southwest Ohio Computer Association

The Southwest Ohio Computer Association (SWOCA) is a jointly governed organization among a three county consortium of Ohio school districts. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to the administrative and instructional functions of the member school districts. Each member school district appoints a representative to the Board of Directors which is the legislative and managerial body

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of SWOCA. The degree of control exercised by any participating member school district is limited to its representation on the Board.

Butler Technology and Career Development Schools

The Butler Technology and Career Development Schools (BTCDS), a jointly governed organization, is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board, consisting of one representative from each of the participating school districts' elected board. The Board possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority as a separate body politic and corporate, established by the Ohio Revised Code. BTCDS was formed for the purpose of providing vocational education opportunities to the students of the member school districts which includes the students of the School District.

The School District has no ongoing financial interest in or responsibility for BTCDS. To obtain financial information, write to BTCDS, at 3603 Hamilton-Middletown, Hamilton, Ohio 45011.

**Note 17 – Risk Management**

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The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees and natural disasters. During the fiscal year, the School District contracted with commercial insurance carriers for property and general liability insurance and boiler and machinery insurance.

The School District has elected to provide employee medical and dental benefits through Butler Health Plan (BHP), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program. BHP is comprised of sixteen other school districts in Butler and Hamilton Counties. CareSource provides claims review and processing services for BHP. The School District pays a monthly premium to the pool for its general insurance coverage. The employees share the cost of the monthly premium for the coverage with the Board. The risk of loss transfers entirely to BHP.

There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year. Also, there were no settlements that exceeded insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

**Note 18 – Contingencies**

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Foundation Funding

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. 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. As of the date of this report, additional ODE adjustments for fiscal year 2018 are not finalized. As a result, the impact of future FTE adjustments on the fiscal year 2018 financial statements is not determinable, at this time. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or a liability of, the School District.

Litigation

The School District's attorney estimates that all potential claims against the School District not covered by insurance resulting from litigation would not materially affect the financial statements of the School District.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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Federal and State Funding

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2018, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

**Note 19 – Statutory Reserves**

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The School District is required by State statute to annually set aside in the general fund an amount based on the statutory formula for the acquisition, maintenance, and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by year-end or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at year-end and carried forward to be used for the same purposes in future years.

The following cash basis information describes the change in the year-end set aside amounts for capital acquisition and budget stabilization. Disclosure of this information is required by State statute.

	Capital Acquisition	Budget Stabilization
Set Aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2017	\$0	\$324,996
Current Year Set Aside Requirements	486,013	0
Current Year Qualifying Expenditures	0	0
Current Year Offsets	(506,948)	0
Set Aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2018	(20,935)	324,996
Restricted Cash as of June 30, 2018	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$324,996</u>
Carried Forward as of June 30, 2018	<u>\$15,207,828</u>	

The Ohio General Assembly eliminated the requirement for the budget stabilization set-aside and effective April 10, 2001, the Board of Education could choose to eliminate the set-aside with the exception of rebates received from the Bureau of Workers Compensation. The budget stabilization set-aside is no longer required. However, the School District has opted to leave this reserve intact.

**Note 20 – Significant Contractual Commitments**

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The School District utilizes encumbrance accounting to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. The School District's outstanding encumbrance amounts at June 30, 2018 were:

General Fund	\$959,974
Classroom Facilities Fund	32,308
Other Governmental Funds	146,617

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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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**Note 21 – Implementation of New Accounting Principles and Restatement of Net Position**

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For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the School District has implemented GASB Statement No. 81, Irrevocable Split-Interest Agreements, GASB Statement No. 82, Pensions Issues – An Amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, No. 68, and No. 73, and GASB No. 86, Certain Debt Extinguishment Issues, and GASB Statement No. 85, Omnibus 2017, GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions, and related guidance from (GASB) Implementation Guide No. 2017-3, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits other Than Pensions (and Certain Issues Related to OPEB Plan Reporting).

GASB Statement No. 81 sets out to improve accounting and financial reporting for irrevocable split interest agreements by providing recognition and measurement guidance for situations in which a government is a beneficiary of the agreement. Examples of these types of agreements include charitable lead trusts, charitable remainder trusts, and life-interests in real estate. This Statement requires that a government that receives resources pursuant to an irrevocable split-interest agreement recognize assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources at the inception of the agreement. Furthermore, this Statement requires that a government recognize assets representing its beneficial interests in irrevocable split-interest agreements that are administered by a third party, if the government controls the present service capacity of the beneficial interests. This Statement requires that a government recognize revenue when the resources become applicable to the reporting period. This Statement also enhances the decision-usefulness of general purpose external financial reports, and their value for assessing accountability, by more clearly identifying the resources that are available for the government to carry out its mission. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 81 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 82 addresses certain issues that have been raised with respect to Statements No. 67, Financial Reporting for Pension Plans, No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, and No. 73, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not within the Scope of GASB Statement 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68. Specifically, this Statement addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements. This Statement amends Statements 67 and 68 to instead require the presentation of covered payroll, defined as the payroll on which contributions to a pension plan are based, and ratios that use that measure. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 82 was included in the footnote disclosures for 2018.

GASB Statement No. 86 sets out to improve consistency in accounting and financial reporting for in-substance defeasance of debt by providing guidance for transactions in which cash and other monetary assets acquired with only existing resources—resources other than the proceeds of refunding debt—are placed in an irrevocable trust for the sole purpose of extinguishing debt. This Statement also improves accounting and financial reporting for prepaid insurance on debt that is extinguished and notes to financial statements for debt that is defeased in substance. One of the criteria for determining an in-substance defeasance is that the trust hold only monetary assets that are essentially risk-free. If the substitution of essentially risk-free monetary assets with monetary assets that are not essentially risk-free is not prohibited, governments should disclose that fact in the period in which the debt is defeased

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements**  
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in substance. In subsequent periods, governments should disclose the amount of debt defeased in substance that remains outstanding for which that risk of substitution exists. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 86 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB 85 addresses a variety of topics including issues related to blending component units, goodwill, fair value measurement and application, and postemployment benefits (pensions and other postemployment benefits (OPEB)). These changes were incorporated in the School District's fiscal year 2018 financial statements; however, there was no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

GASB 75 established standards for measuring and recognizing Postemployment benefit liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources and expense/expenditure. The implementation of this pronouncement had the following effect on net position as reported June 30, 2017:

Net position June 30, 2017	\$17,888,311
Adjustments:	
Net OPEB Liability	(8,272,726)
Deferred Outflow - Payments Subsequent to Measurement Date	<u>59,108</u>
Restated Net Position June 30, 2017	<u><u>\$9,674,693</u></u>

Other than employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date, the School District made no restatement for deferred inflows/outflows of resources as the information needed to generate these restatements was not available.

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# **REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**





Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share  
 of the Net Pension Liability  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Five Fiscal Years (1)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.09779546%	0.09659177%	0.09402434%	0.09263936%	0.09263936%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$23,231,521	\$32,332,177	\$25,985,577	\$22,533,098	\$26,768,995
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$10,683,257	\$10,214,657	\$9,786,343	\$10,193,277	\$10,774,062
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	217.46%	316.53%	265.53%	221.06%	248.46%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	75.30%	66.80%	72.10%	74.70%	69.30%

(1) - The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2014 is not available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share  
 of the Net Pension Liability  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Five Fiscal Years (1)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.10867370%	0.107620%	0.106055%	0.109146%	0.109146%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$6,493,014	\$7,876,762	\$6,051,573	\$5,523,817	\$6,492,508
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$3,580,629	\$3,687,600	\$4,136,449	\$3,203,608	\$3,842,428
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	181.34%	213.60%	146.30%	172.42%	168.97%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	69.50%	62.98%	69.16%	71.70%	65.52%

(1) - The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2014 is not available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of District Contributions  
 for Net Pension Liability  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Contractually Required Contribution	\$1,625,880	\$1,495,656	\$1,430,052	\$1,370,088	\$1,325,126	\$1,400,628	\$1,547,952	\$1,598,184	\$1,568,832	\$1,501,128
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(1,625,880)	(1,495,656)	(1,430,052)	(1,370,088)	(1,325,126)	(1,400,628)	(1,547,952)	(1,598,184)	(1,568,832)	(1,501,128)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
District Covered-Employee Payroll	\$11,613,429	\$10,683,257	\$10,214,657	\$9,786,343	\$10,193,277	\$10,774,062	\$11,907,323	\$12,293,723	\$12,067,938	\$11,547,138
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%	13.00%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of District Contributions  
 for Net Pension Liability  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Contractually Required Contribution	\$526,066	\$501,288	\$516,264	\$545,184	\$444,020	\$531,792	\$483,912	\$531,744	\$451,344	\$434,736
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(526,066)	(501,288)	(516,264)	(545,184)	(444,020)	(531,792)	(483,912)	(531,744)	(451,344)	(434,736)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
District Covered-Employee Payroll	\$3,896,785	\$3,580,629	\$3,687,600	\$4,136,449	\$3,203,608	\$3,842,428	\$3,597,859	\$4,230,263	\$3,333,412	\$4,418,049
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	13.50%	14.00%	14.00%	13.18%	13.86%	13.84%	13.45%	12.57%	13.54%	9.84%

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share  
 of the Net Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension (OPEB) Liability  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Two Fiscal Years (1)

	2018	2017
District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.09779546%	0.09659177%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$3,815,618	\$5,165,753
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$10,683,257	\$10,214,657
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	35.72%	50.57%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	47.10%	37.30%

(1) - The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2017 is not available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share  
 of the Net Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension (OPEB) Liability  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Two Fiscal Years (1)

	2018	2017
District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.11008590%	0.10900245%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$2,954,416	\$3,106,973
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$3,580,629	\$3,687,600
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	82.51%	84.25%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	12.46%	11.49%

(1) - The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2017 is not available.

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

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of District Contributions to  
 Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension (OPEB)  
 State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Three Fiscal Years (1)

	2018	2017	2016
Contractually Required Contribution to OPEB	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contributions to OPEB in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
District Covered-Employee Payroll	\$11,613,429	\$10,683,257	\$10,214,657
Contributions to OPEB as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

(1) - The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2016 is not available.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Ross Local School District, Ohio  
 Required Supplementary Information  
 Schedule of District Contributions to  
 Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pension (OPEB)  
 School Employees Retirement System of Ohio  
 Last Three Fiscal Years (1)

	2018	2017	2016
Contractually Required Contribution to OPEB (2)	\$81,642	\$59,108	\$54,904
Contributions to OPEB in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(81,642)</u>	<u>(59,108)</u>	<u>(54,904)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
District Covered-Employee Payroll	\$3,896,785	\$3,580,629	\$3,687,600
Contributions to OPEB as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

(1) - The schedule is intended to show information for the past 10 years and the additional years' information will be displayed as it becomes available. Information prior to 2016 is not available.

(2) - Includes Surcharge.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.



Ross Local School District, Ohio  
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance  
Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis)  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

	General Fund			
	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance from Final Budget
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Taxes	\$10,855,538	\$11,233,718	\$11,344,998	\$111,280
Tuition and Fees	400,137	414,077	418,179	4,102
Investment Earnings	67,909	70,275	70,971	696
Intergovernmental	11,731,745	12,140,449	12,260,711	120,262
Extracurricular Activities	125,957	130,345	131,636	1,291
Other Revenues	426,034	440,876	445,243	4,367
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>23,607,320</b>	<b>24,429,740</b>	<b>24,671,738</b>	<b>241,998</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
<b>Current:</b>				
<b>Instruction:</b>				
Regular	12,445,549	12,595,236	12,595,236	0
Special	2,147,166	2,172,991	2,172,991	0
Other	607,248	614,552	614,552	0
<b>Support Services:</b>				
Pupil	1,693,405	1,713,772	1,713,772	0
Instructional Staff	465,050	470,643	470,643	0
General Administration	50,342	50,947	50,947	0
School Administration	2,008,054	2,032,206	2,032,206	0
Fiscal	738,076	746,953	746,953	0
Operations and Maintenance	2,348,488	2,376,734	2,376,734	0
Pupil Transportation	1,829,624	1,851,630	1,851,630	0
Central	12,206	12,353	12,353	0
Extracurricular Activities	576,497	583,431	583,431	0
<b>Debt Service:</b>				
Principal Retirement	29,625	29,981	29,981	0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>24,951,330</b>	<b>25,251,429</b>	<b>25,251,429</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b>(1,344,010)</b>	<b>(821,689)</b>	<b>(579,691)</b>	<b>241,998</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</b>				
Advances In	76,809	79,485	80,272	787
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>76,809</b>	<b>79,485</b>	<b>80,272</b>	<b>787</b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<b>(1,267,201)</b>	<b>(742,204)</b>	<b>(499,419)</b>	<b>242,785</b>
<b>Fund Balance Beginning of Year, (includes prior year encumbrances appropriated)</b>	<b>10,312,181</b>	<b>10,312,181</b>	<b>10,312,181</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fund Balance - End of Year</b>	<b>\$9,044,980</b>	<b>\$9,569,977</b>	<b>\$9,812,762</b>	<b>\$242,785</b>

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Year Fiscal Ended June 30, 2018**

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**Note 1 - Budgetary Process**

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All funds, except agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriations resolution and the certificate of estimated resources which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by Board. The legal level of control has been established by Board at the fund level. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education. During the course of fiscal year 2018, the District amended its budget at several times, however none were significant.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the School District Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the certificate of estimated resources when the original appropriations were adopted. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts on the budgetary statements reflect the amounts on the final amended certificate of estimated resources issued during the fiscal year 2018.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation resolution for that fund that covered the entire year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by Board during the year. At the close of each fiscal year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriation. Encumbered appropriations are carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and are not reappropriated.

While the District is reporting financial position, results of operations and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP basis are as follows:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures for all funds (budget basis) rather than as an assignment of fund balance for governmental fund types and expendable trust funds (GAAP basis).
4. Advances in and advances out are operating transactions (budget basis) as opposed to balance sheet transactions.

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Year Fiscal Ended June 30, 2018**

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5. Some funds are reported as part of the general fund (GAAP basis) as opposed to the general fund being reported alone (budget basis).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP basis to the budgetary basis for the general fund.

Net Change in Fund Balance	
	General
GAAP Basis	\$19,681
Revenue Accruals	(77,114)
Expenditure Accruals	515,987
Proceeds of Capital Assets	(86,494)
Advances In	80,272
Encumbrances	(951,751)
Budget Basis	(\$499,419)

**Note 2 - SERS Change in Assumptions-Net Pension Liability**

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The COLA was changed from a fixed 3.00% to a COLA that is indexed to CPI-W not greater than 2.5% with a floor of 0% beginning January 1, 2018. In addition, with the authority granted the Board under HB 49, the Board has enacted a three-year COLA suspension for benefit recipients in calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

**Note 3 - STRS Change in Assumptions and Benefit Terms-Net Pension Liability**

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**Changes in Assumptions**

The Retirement Board approved several changes to the actuarial assumptions in 2017. The long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%, and total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25% due to lower inflation. The healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016. Rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.

**Changes in Benefit Terms**

Effective July 1, 2017, the COLA was reduced to zero.

**Note 4 - SERS Change in Assumptions-Net OPEB Liability**

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Amounts reported for fiscal year 2018 incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented below:

Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Fiscal year 2018	3.56 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.92 percent

**Ross Local School District, Ohio**  
**Notes to the Required Supplementary Information**  
**For The Year Fiscal Ended June 30, 2018**

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Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Fiscal year 2018	3.63 percent
Fiscal year 2017	2.98 percent

**Note 5 - STRS Change in Assumptions-Net OPEB Liability**

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For fiscal year 2018, the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under *GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB)* and the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

Also for fiscal year 2018, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.

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**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Butler County**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018**

FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title	Federal CFDA Number	Pass Through Entity Identifying Number	Total Federal Expenditures
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</u>			
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:			
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution):			
National School Lunch Program	10.555	3L60	\$69,751
Cash Assistance:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	3L70	19,689
National School Lunch Program	10.555	3L60	258,338
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			<u>347,778</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			<u>347,778</u>
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</u>			
Passed Through Ohio Department of Education:			
Special Education Cluster:			
Special Education-Grants to States	84.027	3M20	606,244
Special Education-Preschool Grants	84.173	3C50	12,372
Total Special Education Cluster			<u>618,616</u>
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367	3Y60	75,041
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	3M00	325,836
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424	3H10	4,725
Total Department of Education			<u>1,024,218</u>
Total Federal Assistance			<u>\$1,371,996</u>

See accompanying notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BUTLER COUNTY  
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018**

**NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Ross Local School District (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2018. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the District.

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

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement. The District has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

**NOTE C - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

The District commingles cash receipts from the U.S. Department of Agriculture with similar State grants. When reporting expenditures on this Schedule, the District assumes it expends federal monies first.

**NOTE D – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM**

The District reports commodities consumed on the Schedule at the fair value. The District allocated donated food commodities to the respective program that benefitted from the use of those donated food commodities.

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

Ross Local School District  
Butler County  
3371 Hamilton Cleves Road  
Ross, Ohio 45013

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ross Local School District, Butler County, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 18, 2019, wherein we noted that the District adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions*.

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

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Therefore, unidentified material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings, that we consider material weaknesses. We consider findings 2018-001, 2018-002 and 2018-004 to be material weaknesses.

***Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as items 2018-003.

***District's Response to Findings***

The District's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings. We did not subject the District's responses to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

***Purpose of this Report***

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



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

March 18, 2019



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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

Ross Local School District  
Butler County  
3371 Hamilton Cleves Road  
Ross, Ohio 45013

To the Board of Education:

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

We have audited Ross Local School District's (the District) compliance with the applicable requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could directly and materially affect's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2018. The *Summary of Auditor's Results* in the accompanying schedule of findings identifies the District's major federal program.

### ***Management's Responsibility***

The District's management is responsible for complying with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal program.

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

Our responsibility is to opine on the District's compliance for the District's major federal based on our audit of the applicable compliance requirements referred to above. Our compliance audit followed auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards for financial audits included in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). These standards and the Uniform Guidance require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether noncompliance with the applicable compliance requirements referred to above that could directly and materially affect a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our compliance opinion on the District's major program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance.

***Opinion on Major Federal Program***

In our opinion, Ross Local School District complied, in all material respects with the compliance requirements referred to above that could directly and materially affect its major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2018.

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

The District's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the applicable compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our compliance audit, we considered the District's internal control over compliance with the applicable requirements that could directly and materially affect a major federal program, to determine our auditing procedures appropriate for opining on each major federal program's compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance.

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

This report only describes the scope of our internal control over compliance tests and the results of this testing based on Uniform Guidance requirements. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

March 28, 2019

**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BUTLER COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
2 CFR § 200.515  
JUNE 30, 2018**

**1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

<i>(d)(1)(i)</i>	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iii)</i>	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
<i>(d)(1)(v)</i>	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
<i>(d)(1)(vi)</i>	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
<i>(d)(1)(vii)</i>	Major Programs (list):	CFDA #84.027/84.173 – Special Education Cluster
<i>(d)(1)(viii)</i>	Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs	Type A: > \$750,000 Type B: all others
<i>(d)(1)(ix)</i>	Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?	No

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2018-001**

**Material Weakness**

Sound accounting practices require that when designing the public office's system of internal control and the specific control activities, management should ensure adequate security of assets and records, and verify the existence and valuation of assets and liabilities and periodically reconcile them to the accounting records.

The reconciliation of cash (bank) balances to accounting system records (book) is the most basic and primary control process performed. Lack of completing an accurate and timely reconciliation may allow for accounting errors, theft and fraud to occur without timely detection.

**FINDING NUMBER 2018-001  
(Continued)**

An individual in the Treasurer's staff is responsible for reconciling the book (fund) balance to the total bank balance on a monthly basis, and the Treasurer and/or other administrator(s) are responsible for reviewing the reconciliations and related support.

The monthly bank to book reconciliations prepared by the Treasurer's office contained errors and unreconciled differences. There was no indication that the Treasurer reviewed the bank reconciliations and attempted to resolve the errors.

Due to numerous errors noted by the Auditor of State's office during the audit, the Treasurer contracted with a consultant to assist in reconciling the District at June 30, 2018. The consultant reconciled the Treasurer's fund balance to the bank as of June 30, 2018. The June 30, 2018 reconciliation presented by the District for audit contained errors which were identified by the consultant. These errors included:

- The District maintained a list of checks returned for insufficient funds; this list was included in the reconciliation process. The District used the June 30, 2017 insufficient check amount of \$1,827 in the June 30, 2018 bank reconciliation. The actual June 30, 2018 insufficient check amount was \$2,895, a difference of \$1,068. Also, the list included checks returned for insufficient funds dated as far back as 2008.
- The three construction bank accounts were carried at an incorrect total of \$4,258,913 instead of \$4,257,638, a difference of (\$1,275).
- The bank reconciliation double-counted a reconciling item related to merchant fees of \$1,986.
- The primary bank reconciliation accounted for payroll checks in the amount \$95 which had already been accounted for in the payroll bank reconciliation.
- The June 2018 bank reconciliation included reconciling items totaling \$2,052 for corrections from the prior month, which did not affect the June 2018 bank reconciliation.
- An outstanding check in the amount of \$7,548 was removed from the outstanding check list in July 2017, despite the fact that the check had not cleared the bank and the expense was still posted in the accounting system.
- Revenues totaling \$66,566 were deposited to the bank and not posted to the accounting system.
- Expenditures totaling \$81,575 cleared the bank and were not posted to the accounting system.

Once known factors were considered, the updated reconciliation variance at June 30, 2018 showed the bank balance was \$195 more than the District's fund balance recorded in the accounting system and on the adjusted financial statements.

Accurate and timely reconciliations are essential for District officials to fulfill their responsibilities to account for public funds. Failure to accurately and timely reconcile monthly increases the possibility that the District will not be able to identify, assemble, analyze, classify, and record its transactions correctly or to document compliance with finance related legal and contractual requirements. Further, the lack of accurate monthly reconciliations increases the risk of theft/fraud over the cash cycle and could lead to inaccurate reporting in the annual financial statements.

**FINDING NUMBER 2018-001  
(Continued)**

The Treasurer's office should record all transactions and prepare monthly bank-to-book cash reconciliations, which should include all bank accounts (including zero balance accounts) and all fund balances. Variances should be investigated, documented and corrected. In addition, the Treasurer and/or other administrator(s) should review the monthly cash reconciliations including the related support (such as reconciling items) and document the reviews. We also recommend the District review the returned insufficient funds check list and properly account for any such checks that are six months or older.

**Officials' Response:**

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

**FINDING NUMBER 2018-002**

**Material Weakness**

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, *Terms of Engagement*, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16. Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Cod. 1100 paragraph .101 states a governmental accounting system must make it possible both: (a) to present fairly and with full disclosure the funds and activities of the governmental unit in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, and (b) to determine and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions.

We identified the following activity that was on the bank statements but not posted to the District's accounting records nor to the financial statements at June 30, 2018:

- The District failed to post certain receipts:
  - The District failed to post a casino revenue receipt, resulting in the fund balance and intergovernmental revenue to be understated by \$74,779 in the General Fund.
  - The District failed to post a refund of a receipt resulting in the fund balance and intergovernmental revenue to be overstated by \$32,211 in the General Fund.
  - The District failed to post food service receipts resulting in the fund balance and charges for services revenue to be understated by \$20,948 in the Food Service Fund.
- The District failed to properly post several expenditures, resulting in the fund balance to be overstated and expenditures to be understated by a total of \$206,808 in the General Fund.

The above errors contributed to the cash not being properly reconciled, which is further addressed in Finding 2018-001.

We also identified the following misclassifications related to the District's financial statements at June 30, 2018:

- The District improperly posted tuition revenue from the school foundation settlements as intergovernmental revenue in the amount of \$170,071 in the General Fund.

**FINDING NUMBER 2018-002  
 (Continued)**

- The District improperly recorded income tax receipts at the net amount rather than gross, resulting in income tax revenue and fiscal expense to be understated by \$115,554 in the General Fund.
- The District improperly posted intergovernmental revenue from the school foundation settlements to the General Fund rather than the Classroom Facilities Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$30,376.

The financial statements and accounting records have been adjusted for these errors, where applicable.

The District did not have procedures in place for effective monitoring financial activity and the accuracy of accounting and financial reporting. Failure to accurately post financial activity and monitor financial activity increases the risk that errors, theft and fraud could occur and not be detected in a timely manner.

Due care should be exercised when posting entries to the financial records and preparation of the financial statements to prevent errors and to assist in properly reflecting the District's financial activity. In addition, the Board should adopt procedures for on-going reviews of the activity recorded in the underlying accounting records and reported on the financial statements so that errors can be detected and corrected in a timely manner.

**Officials' Response:**

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

**FINDING NUMBER 2018-003**

**Noncompliance**

**Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B)** states that no subdivision or taxing unit expend money unless it has been appropriated. The District had a material amount of expenditures in excess of appropriations in two out of five funds tested (40%), as follows:

Fund	Current Year: Expenditures plus Encumbrances	Current Year Appropriations plus Prior Year Carryover Encumbrances	Variance
Debt Service Fund	\$1,520,136	\$1,239,668	(\$280,468)
Classroom Facilities Fund	\$134,840	\$90,868	(\$43,972)

Expenditures in excess of appropriations can result in overspending and deficit in fund balances.

We recommend the District routinely compare actual expenditures to current appropriations and amend appropriations when needed and appropriate.

**Officials' Response:**

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

**FINDING NUMBER 2018-004**

**Material Weakness**

Sound accounting practices require accurately posting estimated appropriations to the ledgers to provide information for budget versus actual comparison and to allow the District Board to make informed decisions regarding budgetary matters.

The appropriation resolution and subsequent amendments establish the legal spending authority of the District and the appropriation ledger provides the process by which the District controls spending, it is therefore necessary the amounts appropriated by the Board are precisely stated and accurately posted to the appropriation ledger.

At June 30, 2018, for selected funds and overall total, appropriations were not properly posted to the financial accounting system in the Debt Service Fund, as follows:

<b>Approved Appropriations</b>	<b>Appropriations Posted</b>	<b>Variance</b>
\$1,239,668	\$1,520,136	\$280,468

The District did not have procedures in place to accurately post authorized budgetary measures to the accounting system. The appropriations (and/or amendments thereof) approved by Board were not properly posted to the accounting system.

Failure to accurately post the appropriations to the ledgers could result in overspending and negative cash balances. In addition, this could lead to inaccurate reporting of the budgetary information in the financial statements.

To effectively control the budgetary cycle and to maintain accountability over expenditures, the District should post to the ledgers, on a timely basis, appropriations approved by the Board. The District should then monitor budget versus actual reports to help ensure appropriations have been properly posted to the ledgers.

**Officials' Response:**

We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding

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

None

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# Ross Local School District

**SUPERINTENDENT** (513) 863-1253  
**TREASURER** (513) 863-1250  
3371 Hamilton-Cleves Road • Hamilton, OH 45013

**ROSS HIGH SCHOOL**  
3601 Hamilton-Cleves Rd.  
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(513) 863-1252

**ROSS MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
3425 Hamilton-Cleves Rd.  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013  
(513) 863-1251

**ELDA ELEMENTARY**  
3980 Hamilton-Cleves Rd.  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013  
(513) 738-1972

**MORGAN ELEMENTARY**  
3427 Chapel Rd.  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013  
(513) 738-1986

**SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS**  
**2 CFR 200.511(b)**  
**JUNE 30, 2018**

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>Finding Summary</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
2017-001	Monthly Reconciliation of Cash	Not Corrected	Reissued as Finding 2018-001; Treasurer was not reviewing the monthly reconciliations; see Corrective Action Plan.
2017-002	Extracurricular Revenues	Fully Corrected	

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**MORGAN ELEMENTARY**  
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 Hamilton, Ohio 45013  
 (513) 738-1986

**CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**  
**2 CFR § 200.511(c)**  
**JUNE 30, 2018**

<b>Finding Number</b>	<b>Planned Corrective Action</b>	<b>Anticipated Completion Date</b>	<b>Responsible Contact Person</b>
2018-001	We have implemented a daily cash reconciliation and monthly bank reconciliation that is reviewed regularly by the Treasurer.	8-15-2018	John Kinsel, Treasurer
2018-002	We have implemented a daily cash reconciliation and monthly bank reconciliation that is reviewed regularly by the Treasurer.	8-15-2018	John Kinsel, Treasurer
2018-003	Review of Neg Bud report monthly and Appcom report by fund	10-01-2018	John Kinsel, Treasurer
2018-004	Review approved temporary and final appropriations vs. posted amounts from Budsum report,	10-01-2018	John Kinsel, Treasurer

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**ROSS LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**BUTLER 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  
APRIL 23, 2019**