



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**LEGACY ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE
FRANKLIN COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2023**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County
2283 Sunbury Road
Columbus, Ohio 43219

To the Board of Directors:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Legacy Academy of Excellence, Franklin County, Ohio (the School), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Legacy Academy of Excellence, Franklin County, Ohio as of June 30, 2023, and the changes in financial position and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the School, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, and schedules of net pension and other post-employment benefit liabilities and pension and other post-employment benefit contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 22, 2024, on our consideration of the School's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

July 22, 2024

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Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023
(Unaudited)

The discussion and analysis of the Legacy Academy of Excellence's (the School) financial performance provides an overall review of the School's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the financial statements and the notes to the financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of the reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their *Statement No. 34 Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* issued June 1999. Certain comparative information between the current and prior year is required to be presented in the MD&A. However, because this is the first year of financial reporting for the School, comparative information does not exist. Subsequent reports will include comparative information.

Financial Highlights

- Fiscal year 2023 was the first year of operations for the School.
- In total, net position was a deficit of \$28,191 at June 30, 2023.
- Total assets were \$89,182 and total liabilities were \$185,759 at June 30, 2023.

Using this Financial Report

This report consists of the financial statements, notes to the financial statements, required supplementary information and notes to the required supplementary information. The financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows.

Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position answers the question of how well the School performed financially during 2023. This statement includes all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position, both financial and capital and current and long-term, using the accrual basis of accounting, which is the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues earned and expenses incurred during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or expended.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023
(Unaudited)

Table 1 provides a summary of the School's Net Position for fiscal year 2023. Comparative information is not available as fiscal year 2023 is the first year of operations for the School.

(Table 1)
Statement of Net Position

	<u>2023</u>
Assets	
Current Assets	\$ 89,182
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>89,182</u>
 Deferred Outflows	 <u>68,386</u>
 Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	96,259
Long Term Liabilities	<u>89,500</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>185,759</u>
 Net Position	
Unrestricted	<u>(28,191)</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ (28,191)</u>

Total assets for 2023 were \$89,182 primarily from the remaining cash due to 1st year operations and unpaid invoices at fiscal year-end. In addition, there are outstanding receivables owed to the school. Total liabilities were due to outstanding invoices and notes payable. The School issued a note during the year to assist with current cash flow needs while the School continues to work to increase enrollment. Deferred outflows represent contributions to SERS and STRS that were subsequent to the measurement date. (See Notes 9 and 10).

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position

Table 2 shows the change in Net Position for fiscal year 2023. In fiscal year 2024, there will be a comparison to fiscal year 2023.

(Table 2)
Change in Net Position

	<u>2023</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 777,962
Non-Operating Revenue	<u>317,308</u>
Total Revenue	<u>1,095,270</u>
 Operating Expenses	 <u>1,123,461</u>
 Change In Net Position	 <u>\$ (28,191)</u>

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023
(Unaudited)

The School's operating revenues are based on the School's full-time equivalent (FTE). The School's most significant expense was salaries and wages for teachers and other school employees. Purchased services was another significant expense with the largest component of that expense consisting of management company fees. See Note 6 for more details of the School's management company agreement.

The negative pension and OPEB expense are primarily related to pension and OPEB contributions which are explained in detail within their respective notes.

Capital Assets

The School has no capital assets to report.

Long Term Obligations

The School executed a promissory note during 2023 to help fund current year operations while the School looks to continue increasing enrollment. See Note 12 for more information.

Contacting the School's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our readers with a general overview of the School's finances and to show the School's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the Fiscal Officer at 2283 Sunbury Rd. Columbus, Ohio 43219.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2023

Assets

Current Assets

Cash	\$ 30,106
Grant Funding Receivable	2,504
State Aid Receivable	37,414
Pension Obligation Receivable	18,426
Prepaid Items	732
<i>Total Current Assets</i>	<u>89,182</u>

Deferred Outflows of Resources

Pension	66,595
OPEB	1,791
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>68,386</u>

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	34,635
State Aid Payable	11,624
Notes Payable	50,000
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	<u>96,259</u>

Long Term Liabilities

Notes Payable	89,500
<i>Total Long Term Liabilities</i>	<u>89,500</u>

Total Liabilities	<u>185,759</u>
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Net Position

Unrestricted	(28,191)
Total Net Position	<u>\$ (28,191)</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, And Changes in Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Operating Revenues

State Basic Aid	\$ 721,526
Casino Revenue	3,077
Facilities Aid	51,304
Other	2,055
Total Operating Revenues	<u>777,962</u>

Operating Expenses

Salaries and Wages	518,114
Fringe Benefits	16,881
Purchased Services	518,018
Supplies and Materials	56,072
Other	14,376
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,123,461</u>

Operating Income (Loss)	<u>(345,499)</u>
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Non-Operating Revenues/Expenses

Federal and State Grants	317,282
Interest Income	26
Net Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>317,308</u>

Change in Net Position	(28,191)
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Net Position Beginning of Year	<u>-</u>
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Net Position End of Year	<u>\$ (28,191)</u>
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See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Increase (Decrease) In Cash And Cash Equivalents

Cash Flows From Operating Activities

Cash Received From State Aid	\$ 750,117
Cash Received Other Operating Sources	2,055
Cash Payments for Wages and Fringe Benefits	(621,807)
Cash Payments for Goods and Services	(539,455)
Other Cash Payments	(15,108)
<i>Net Cash Used For Operating Activities</i>	<u>(424,198)</u>

Cash Flows From Noncapital Financing Activities

Cash Received From Grant Programs	314,778
Cash Received from Notes Issued	139,500
<i>Net Cash Received From Noncapital Financing Activities</i>	<u>454,278</u>

Cash Flows From Investing Activities

Cash Received From Interest	<u>26</u>
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Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash 30,106

Cash at Beginning of Year -

Cash at End of Year \$ 30,106

Reconciliation Of Operating Income (Loss) To Net Cash Used For Operating Activities

Operating Income (Loss) \$ (345,499)

Adjustments To Reconcile Operating Income (Loss) To Net

Cash Used For Operating Activities:

Changes in Assets, Liabilities, and Deferred Outflows/Inflows:

Pension Obligation Receivable	(18,426)
State Aid Receivable	(37,414)
Prepays	(732)
Deferred Outflows of Resources	(68,386)
State Aid Payable	11,624
Accounts Payable	34,635

Total Adjustments (78,699)

Net Cash Used For Operating Activities \$ (424,198)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL AND REPORTING ENTITY

Legacy Academy of Excellence (the School) is a federal tax exempt 501(c)(3) and state nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code Chapters 3314 and 1702 to maintain and provide a school exclusively for any educational, literary, scientific and related teaching service. The School, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school district. The School may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the School.

The School contracts with Ascension Investment Group, LLC (Ascension) for managing the overall operation of the School.

The School began operations at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year. The School signed a contract with Ohio Council of Community Schools (OCCS) (Sponsor) to operate for a period from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027. The School operates under a self-appointing, five-member Board of Directors (the Board). The School's Code of Regulations specify that vacancies that arise on the Board will be filled by the appointment of a successor director by a majority vote of the then existing directors. The Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract with the Sponsor, which include, but are not limited to, state-mandated provisions regarding student population, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admission standards, and qualifications of teachers. The School has one instructional/support facility, which is leased by the School. The facility is staffed with teaching personnel employed by the School.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Basis of Presentation

The School's financial statements consist of a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows. Enterprise fund reporting focuses on the determination of the change in Net Position, financial position and cash flows.

Auditor of State of Ohio Bulletin No. 2000-005 requires the presentation of all financial activity to be reported within one enterprise fund for year-end reporting purposes. Enterprise accounting is used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent is that the costs (expenses) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and deferred outflows of resources as well as all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position. Operating statements present increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in Net Position. The accrual basis of accounting is utilized for reporting purposes. Revenues are recognized when they are earned, and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Budgetary Process

Community schools are statutorily required to adopt a budget by Ohio Revised Code 3314.032(C). However, unlike traditional public schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the specific budgetary process and limits set forth in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided in the contract between the School and its Sponsor. The contract between the School and its Sponsor does not require the School to follow the provisions Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705; therefore, no budgetary information is presented in the basic financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

All cash received by the School is maintained in a checking account.

Intergovernmental Revenues

The School currently participates in the State Foundation Program, facilities aid, and casino tax distributions, which are reflected under “Operating revenues” on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. Revenues received from these programs are recognized as operating revenue in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include grants, entitlements, and contributions. Grants, entitlements, and contributions are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the School must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expense requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School on a reimbursement basis.

Capital Assets and Depreciation

For purposes of recording capital assets, the Board has a capitalization threshold of \$5,000.

The School has no capital assets.

Use of Estimates

In preparing the financial statements, management is sometimes required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets, deferred outflows/ inflows of resources, liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction, or improvements of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. There was no net position restricted for enabling legislation at fiscal year-end. The School applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the School's primary activities. For the School, these revenues are primarily state aid payments. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the goods and services that are the primary activities of the School. Revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating.

Pensions and Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB asset/liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension/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.

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the School, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the statement of net position for pension and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Notes 9 and 10.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized until that time. The School did not report any deferred inflows for fiscal year 2023.

Prepays

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

NOTE 3 - DEPOSITS

At June 30, 2023, the School's bank balance was fully covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

NOTE 4 – RECEIVABLES

The School has recorded the grant funding receivable to account for incurred expenses for state and federal grants, but not received as of June 30, 2023. State aid receivable is being recorded for state aid reconciling adjustments that took place after June 30. The School also reported a pension obligation receivable for over payments to the pension system. These are considered fully collectable and will be received in the next fiscal year.

NOTE 5 - RISK MANAGEMENT

Property and Liability -

The School is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft or damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The School maintains insurance coverage through GuideOne Insurance for rental/theft; general liability and directors' and officers' liability with a coverage limit of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and in aggregate. This is the first year of operations for the School.

Workers' Compensation -

The School paid the State Workers' Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage during the fiscal year. The premium is calculated by multiplying the gross total payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

Employee Medical, Dental, and Vision Benefits -

The School does not currently offer any paid medical, dental, or vision benefits to employees. Employees can voluntarily elect certain AFLAC coverages and pay the premiums through regular payroll deductions.

NOTE 6 - AGREEMENT WITH ASCENSION INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC

Effective March 1, 2022, the School entered into a management agreement (Agreement) with Ascension Investment Group, LLC (AIG, LLC), which is an educational consulting and management company. The term of the Agreement with AIG, LLC is for 4 years, ending on June 30, 2026. The School is required to pay AIG, LLC a monthly fixed fee of \$14,658 out of the School's qualified gross revenues. AIG, LLC will be made whole at the end of each year up to 19% management fee based on the monthly community school foundation report. The Monthly 'fixed fee' is due on the 1st day of each month. In December 2022, the management fee was reduced to 13%. In October 2023, it reverted back to 19%.

The School had purchased services for the year ended June 30, 2023, to AIG, LLC, of \$137,826. AIG, LLC will be provide the functions relating to the provision of educational services and the operation of the School, including but not limited to curriculum oversight, professional development for school administrators and teachers, management and management consulting, student recruitment, enforcing rules and procedures, personnel management and training and life coaching and mentoring services.

NOTE 7 - SPONSORSHIP FEES

Under Paragraph D(1) of the sponsor contract with OCCS, it states that the School "...agrees to pay the Sponsor three percent (3%) of the total amount of payments for operating expenses that the School receives from the State in consideration for providing monitoring, oversight, and technical assistance to the School." Such fees are paid to the Sponsor monthly.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

NOTE 8 - PURCHASED SERVICES

For the year ended June 30, 2023, purchased service expenses were as follows:

Purchased Services	Amount
Direct Expenses:	
Professional Services	\$ 285,860
Sponsor Fees	27,244
Property Services	49,956
Professional Development	28,545
Communications and Travel	12,570
Utilities	38,062
Trade Services	63,309
Other	12,472
Total	\$ 518,018

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

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

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

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

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes pension costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the retirement systems to amortize unfunded pension liabilities within 30 years. If the pension amortization period exceeds 30 years,

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

each retirement system's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension/OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio revised Code permits, but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The proportionate share of each plan's unfunded benefits is presented as a long-term *net pension/OPEB liability (asset)*. Any liability for the contractually-required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *intergovernmental payable*.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 10 for the required OPEB disclosures.

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. For fiscal year 2023, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$24,340 for fiscal year 2023.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description – School licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee 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.

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 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Effective August 1, 2017 – July 1, 2019, any member could retire with reduced benefits who had (1) five years of service credit and age 60; (2) 27 years of service credit and age 55; or (3) 30 years of service credit regardless of age. Effective August 1, 2019 – July 1, 2021, any member may retire with reduced benefits who has (1) five years of service credit and age 60; (2) 28 years of service credit and age 55; or (3) 30 years of service credit regardless of age. Eligibility changes will continue to be phased in until August 1, 2023, 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.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility will be five years of qualifying service credit and age 60, or 30 years of service credit regardless of age.

The DC Plan allows members to place all their member contributions and 9.53 percent of the 14 percent employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS. The remaining 4.47 percent of the 14 percent employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

The Combined plan offers features of both the DB Plan and the DC Plan. In the Combined plan, 12 percent of the 14 percent member rate is deposited into the member's DC account and the remaining 2 percent is applied to the DB Plan. Member contributions to the DC Plan are allocated among investment choices by the member, and contributions to the DB Plan from the employer and the member are used to fund the defined benefit payment at a reduced level from the regular DB Plan. The defined benefit portion of the

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Combined plan payment is payable to a member on or after age 60 with five years of service. The defined contribution portion of the account may be taken as a lump sum payment or converted to a lifetime monthly annuity at age 50 and after termination of employment.

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

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

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The 2023 employer and employee contribution rate of 14 percent was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For 2023, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$42,255 for fiscal year 2023.

Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions

Pension liabilities, pension expense, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources (with the exception of deferred outflows of resources related to School contributions subsequent to the measurement date), and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions are not applicable to the School at June 30, 2023, due to the School not being in operation during the measurement period.

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
School Contributions Subsequent to the			
Measurement Date	24,340	42,255	66,595
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 24,340</u>	<u>\$ 42,255</u>	<u>\$ 66,595</u>

\$66,595 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

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

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potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2021, are presented below:

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expense, including inflation
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.00 percent, on and after April 1, 2018, COLA's for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward two years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward five years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward three years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

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

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategies	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Discount Rate The total pension liability for 2022 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00 percent). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation, are presented below:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary Increases	
Current Measurement Period	Varies by service from 2.50 percent to 8.50 percent
Prior Measurement Period	Varies by age from 2.50 percent to 12.50 percent
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.00 percent effective July 1, 2017

For 2022, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For 2021, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees 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. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee

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Mortality Tables, 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 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, 2022 valuation, were based on the results of the latest available actuarial experience study, which is for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation*</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Rate of Return**</u>
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.60 %
International Equity	22.00	6.80
Alternatives	19.00	7.38
Fixed Income	22.00	1.75
Real Estate	10.00	5.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	1.00
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

*Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2022. 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 rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. 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, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

See Note 9 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides healthcare

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benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981 do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org 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 2023, no allocation 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 2023, this amount was \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2023, the School's surcharge obligation was \$1,791. The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School's contractually required contribution to SERS was equal to its surcharge obligation for fiscal year 2023.

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. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting 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,

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currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to OPEB

OPEB liabilities, OPEB expense, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources (with the exception of deferred outflows of resources related to School contributions subsequent to the measurement date), and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB are not applicable to the School at June 30, 2023, due to the School not being in operation during the measurement period.

At June 30, 2023, the School reported deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB from the following source:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
School Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	1,791	-	1,791
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 1,791</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,791</u>

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.

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, 2022, are presented below:

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Inflation	2.40 percent
Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of investment expense, including inflation
Fiduciary Net Position Depletion	Projected to be 2044
Municipal Bond Index Rate	
Measurement Date	3.69 percent
Prior Measurement Date	1.92 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate	
Measurement Date	4.08 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation
Prior Measurement Date	2.27 percent, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	
Medicare	5.125 percent - 4.40 percent
Pre-Medicare	6.750 percent - 4.40 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	7.00 percent - 4.40 percent

Mortality rates among healthy retirees were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

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

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 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board in 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a long-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00 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, 2020 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

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Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	(0.45) %
US Equity	24.75	5.37
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	6.22
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	8.22
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	1.20
Private Equity	11.00	10.05
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00	4.87
Multi-Asset Strategies	4.00	3.39
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00	5.38
Total	100.00 %	

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2022, was 4.08 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2022 was 2.27 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the plan at the contribution rate of 1.50 percent of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to become insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination of the SEIR for both the June 30, 2022 and the June 30, 2021 total OPEB liability. The Municipal Bond Index rate is the single rate that will generate a present value of benefit payments equal to the sum of the present value determined by the long-term expected rate of return, and the present value determined by discounting those benefits after the date of depletion. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is 3.69 percent at June 30, 2022 and 1.92 percent at June 30, 2021.

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation are presented below:

	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021
Projected Salary Increases	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent	Varies by age from 2.5 percent to 12.50 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3 percent	3 percent
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	7.00 percent
Health Care Cost Trends		
Medical		
Pre-Medicare	7.50 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	5.00 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	-68.78 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	-16.18 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug		
Pre-Medicare	9.00 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	6.50 percent initial 4 percent ultimate
Medicare	-5.47 percent initial 3.94 percent ultimate	29.98 percent initial 4 percent ultimate

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

For 2022, healthy retirees post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For 2021, 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, 2022, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation*</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Rate of Return**</u>
Domestic Equity	26.00 %	6.60 %
International Equity	22.00	6.80
Alternatives	19.00	7.38
Fixed Income	22.00	1.75
Real Estate	10.00	5.75
Liquidity Reserves	1.00	1.00
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

*Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022.

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NOTE 11 – CONTINGENCIES

School Foundation

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

Under Ohio Revised Code Section 3314.08, ODE may also perform a FTE review for the fiscal year that may result in an additional adjustment to the enrollment information as well as claw backs of Foundation funding due to a lack of evidence to support student participation and other matters of noncompliance.

In addition, the School's contracts with their Sponsor and Management Company require payment based on revenues received from the state. As a result of fiscal year 2023 review, \$25,792 is owed to the School. This amount has been included in the financial statements.

Grants

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

Litigation

The School is not party to legal proceedings that, in the opinion of management, would have a material adverse effect on the financial statements.

NOTE 12 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

During the fiscal year, the following activity occurred in long-term liabilities:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>6/30/2022</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>6/30/2023</u>	<u>Due Within</u> <u>One Year</u>
Direct Borrowing:					
Note Payable	\$ -	\$ 139,500	\$ -	\$ 139,500	\$ 50,000

On December 16, 2022, the School entered into a promissory note with Ascension Investment Group LLC, borrowing a principal balance of \$139,500. The interest rate on the note is 0%. The note states that the School and lender will review payment options based on the School's financial condition. The School agreed to pay \$50,000 in fiscal year 2024.

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Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Contributions - Pension
Last Fiscal Year (1)

	2023
<i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i>	
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 24,340
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(24,340)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 173,857
Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%
 <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i>	
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 42,255
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(42,255)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 301,821
Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%

(1) Information prior to 2023 is not available.

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County, Ohio
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School's Contributions - OPEB
Last Fiscal Year (2)

	2023
<i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i>	
Contractually Required Contribution (1)	\$ 1,791
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(1,791)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 173,857
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (1)	1.03%
 <i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i>	
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ -
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>-</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>
School's Covered Payroll	\$ 301,821
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.00%

(1) Includes surcharge

(2) Information prior to 2023 is not available.



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

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County
2283 Sunbury Road
Columbus, Ohio 43219

To the Board of Directors:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the Legacy Academy of Excellence, Franklin County, (the School) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 22, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

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



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

July 22, 2024

**LEGACY ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE
FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
JUNE 30, 2023**

OTHER – FINDINGS FOR RECOVERY

We identified the following other issue related to Findings for Recovery. This issue did not impact our GAGAS Compliance and Controls report.

FINDING NUMBER 2023-001

Finding for Recovery – Repaid Under Audit

State ex rel. McClure v. Hagerman, 155 Ohio St. 320 (1951) provides that expenditures made by a governmental unit should serve a public purpose. Typically, the determination of what constitutes a “proper public purpose” rests with the judgment of the governmental entity, unless such determination is arbitrary or unreasonable. Even if a purchase is reasonable, **Ohio Attorney General Opinion 82-006** indicates that it must be memorialized by a duly enacted ordinance or resolution and may have a prospective effect only. **Auditor of State Bulletin 2003-005 Expenditure of Public Funds/Proper “Public Purpose”** states that the Auditor of State’s Office will only question expenditures where the legislative determination of a public purpose is manifestly arbitrary and incorrect.

During fiscal year 2023, the Superintendent of the School:

1. received reimbursements totaling \$512.74 for items that were previously paid for by the School's debit card.
2. received reimbursements totaling \$205.03 for items in which the School did not maintain support for.
3. received a reimbursement in the amount of \$1,300.00 for gift cards in which there was no documentation providing support that the purchase served a proper public purpose.
4. received duplicate reimbursements totaling \$109.99.

In accordance with the foregoing facts and pursuant to **Ohio Rev. Code § 117.28**, a Finding for Recovery for public monies illegally expended is hereby issued against the Superintendent, and Former Treasurer, jointly and severally, and the Former Treasurer's bonding company, Liberty Mutual Surety, in the amount of \$2,127, and in favor of the School’s General Fund.

The Finding for Recovery was repaid in full to the General Fund and deposited on July 19, 2024.

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

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Legacy Academy of Excellence
Franklin County
2283 Sunbury Road
Columbus, Ohio 43219

To the Board of Directors:

Ohio Rev. Code § 117.53 states “the auditor of state shall identify whether the school district or community school has adopted an anti-harassment policy in accordance with Section 3313.666 of the Revised Code. This determination shall be recorded in the audit report. The auditor of state shall not prescribe the content or operation of any anti-harassment policy adopted by a school district or community school.”

Accordingly, we have performed the procedures enumerated below solely to assist the Board in evaluating whether Legacy Academy of Excellence (the School) has adopted an anti-harassment policy in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 3313.666 and Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.03(a)(11)(d) for the period ended June 30, 2023. Management is responsible for complying with this requirement.

The Board has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of whether the School has adopted an anti-harassment policy in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 3313.666. No other party acknowledged the appropriateness of the procedures. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of the report and may not meet the needs of all users of the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the Board. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

1. We inspected the Board minutes and observed that the Board adopted an anti-harassment policy at its meeting on July 19, 2022.

Ohio Rev. Code § 3313.666(B) and Ohio Rev. Code § 3314.03(a)(11)(d) specify the following requirements must be included in anti-harassment policies. We inspected the policy for proper inclusion of these requirements:

1. A statement prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying of any student on school property, on a school bus, or at school-sponsored events and expressly providing for the possibility of suspension of a student found responsible for harassment, intimidation, or bullying by an electronic act;

2. A definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying that includes the definition in division (A) of Ohio Rev. Code § 3313.666. The act defines that term as “any intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once and the behavior both (1) causes mental or physical harm to the other student, (2) is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student,” and violence within a dating relationship;
3. A procedure for reporting prohibited incidents;
4. A requirement that school personnel report prohibited incidents of which they are aware to the school principal or other administrator designated by the principal;
5. A requirement that the custodial parent or guardian of any student involved in a prohibited incident be notified and, to the extent permitted by section 3319.321 of the Revised Code and the “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974,” 88 Stat. 571, 20 U.S.C. 1232q, as amended, have access to any written reports pertaining to the prohibited incident;
6. A procedure for documenting any prohibited incident that is reported;
7. A procedure for responding to and investigating any reported incident;
8. A strategy for protecting a victim from new or additional harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and from retaliation following a report, including a means by which a person may report an incident anonymously;
9. A disciplinary procedure for any student guilty of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, which shall not infringe on any student’s rights under the first amendment to the Constitution of the United States;
10. A statement prohibiting students from deliberately making false reports of harassment, intimidation, or bullying and a disciplinary procedure for any student responsible for deliberately making a false report of that nature;
11. A requirement that the administration semiannually provide the president of the district board a written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on its web site, if the district has a web site, to the extent permitted by section 3319.321 of the Revised Code and the “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974,” 88 Stat. 571, 20 U.S.C. 1232q, as amended.

We noted the School’s policy did not include the following requirement:

1. A requirement that the administration semiannually provide the president of the district board a written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on its web site, if the district has a web site, to the extent permitted by section 3319.321 of the Revised Code and the “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974,” 88 Stat. 571, 20 U.S.C. 1232q, as amended.

We were engaged by the School to perform this agreed-upon procedure engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the AICPA and the Comptroller General of the United States’ *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on compliance with the anti-harassment policy. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the School and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the ethical requirements established by the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* related to our agreed upon procedures engagement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Keith Faber". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

July 22, 2024

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



LEGACY ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE

FRANKLIN COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 8/6/2024

65 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov