



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER

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**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY**

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Evergreen Local School District
Fulton County
14544 County Road 6
Metamora, Ohio 43540-9741

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Evergreen Local School District, Fulton County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District'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 respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Basis for Opinions

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 District, 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 opinions.

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible 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 District'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 opinions. 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 District'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 District'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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) for the General Fund and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards 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 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) for the General Fund and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards 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 are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 25, 2025, 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. 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 District'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 District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

February 25, 2025

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EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 17,092,630</u>
Net position:	
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	954,565
Classroom facilities maintenance	169,428
Debt service	1,084,678
State funded programs	18,248
Federally funded programs	170,198
Food service operations	152,371
Extracurricular programs	41,915
Other purposes	14,501,227
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 17,092,630</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 17,092,630</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	Disbursements	Program Receipts		Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	
Governmental activities:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 7,164,556	\$ 200,495	\$ 157,584	\$ (6,806,477)
Special	2,978,021	53,734	873,346	(2,050,941)
Vocational	173,037	-	26,873	(146,164)
Other	187,070	-	-	(187,070)
Support services:				
Pupil	934,888	-	193,675	(741,213)
Instructional staff	338,758	-	-	(338,758)
Board of education	48,845	-	-	(48,845)
Administration	1,024,720	54,552	-	(970,168)
Fiscal	544,406	-	-	(544,406)
Business	19,519	-	-	(19,519)
Operations and maintenance	1,770,244	14,039	71,222	(1,684,983)
Pupil transportation	1,335,929	-	75,453	(1,260,476)
Central	477,853	-	8,681	(469,172)
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	503,746	280,964	275,608	52,826
Other non-instructional services	101,290	-	93,554	(7,736)
Extracurricular activities	1,048,535	243,700	107,307	(697,528)
Facilities acquisition and construction	30,451	-	-	(30,451)
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	1,025,000	-	-	(1,025,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	50,841	-	-	(50,841)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 19,757,709</u>	<u>\$ 847,484</u>	<u>\$ 1,883,303</u>	<u>(17,026,922)</u>

General receipts:

Property taxes levied for:

General purposes	6,402,000
Debt service	480,857
Capital outlay	322,019
Classroom facilities maintenance	89,450
School District Income Tax	4,377,354
Grants and entitlements not restricted	
to specific programs	5,749,911
Investment earnings	590,949
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	2,292
Reduction of prior year disbursements	47,982
Miscellaneous	103,503

Total general receipts 18,166,317

Change in net position 1,139,395

Net position at beginning of year 15,953,235

Net position at end of year \$ 17,092,630

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024**

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,122,100	\$ 3,970,530	<u>\$ 17,092,630</u>
Fund balances:			
Nonspendable:			
Scholarships	\$ -	\$ 31,450	\$ 31,450
Restricted:			
Debt service	-	1,084,678	1,084,678
Capital projects	-	954,565	954,565
Classroom facilities maintenance	-	169,428	169,428
Food service operations	-	170,198	170,198
State funded programs	-	18,248	18,248
Extracurricular programs	-	152,371	152,371
Other purposes	-	10,465	10,465
Committed:			
Capital improvements	-	1,405,440	1,405,440
Underground storage tanks	11,000	-	11,000
Assigned:			
Student and staff support	36,460	-	36,460
Track and stadium	133,688	-	133,688
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>12,940,952</u>	<u>(26,313)</u>	<u>\$ 12,914,639</u>
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 13,122,100</u>	<u>\$ 3,970,530</u>	<u>\$ 17,092,630</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY**

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - CASH BASIS
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts:			
Property taxes	\$ 6,402,000	\$ 892,326	\$ 7,294,326
Income taxes	4,377,354	-	4,377,354
Intergovernmental	6,191,212	1,301,257	7,492,469
Investment earnings	590,949	5,449	596,398
Tuition and fees	253,525	-	253,525
Extracurricular	55,157	243,700	298,857
Rental income	-	-	-
Charges for services	-	295,102	295,102
Contributions and donations	2,078	61,284	63,362
Miscellaneous	101,425	74,012	175,437
Total receipts	<u>17,973,700</u>	<u>2,873,130</u>	<u>20,846,830</u>
Disbursements:			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	7,094,526	70,030	7,164,556
Special	2,496,842	481,179	2,978,021
Vocational	173,037	-	173,037
Other	187,070	-	187,070
Support services:			
Pupil	911,203	23,685	934,888
Instructional staff	338,758	-	338,758
Board of education	48,845	-	48,845
Administration	1,024,720	-	1,024,720
Fiscal	527,962	16,444	544,406
Business	19,519	-	19,519
Operations and maintenance	1,423,152	347,092	1,770,244
Pupil transportation	1,334,879	1,050	1,335,929
Central	469,399	8,454	477,853
Operation of non-instructional services:			
Food service operations	-	503,746	503,746
Other non-instructional services	-	101,290	101,290
Extracurricular activities	692,478	356,057	1,048,535
Facilities acquisition and construction	30,451	-	30,451
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	-	1,025,000	1,025,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	50,841	50,841
Total disbursements	<u>16,772,841</u>	<u>2,984,868</u>	<u>19,757,709</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>1,200,859</u>	<u>(111,738)</u>	<u>1,089,121</u>
Other financing sources (uses):			
Proceeds from sale of capital assets	-	2,292	2,292
Transfers in	-	590,470	590,470
Transfers (out)	(500,000)	(90,470)	(590,470)
Reduction of prior year disbursement	47,982	-	47,982
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(452,018)</u>	<u>502,292</u>	<u>50,274</u>
Net change in fund balances	748,841	390,554	1,139,395
Fund balances at beginning of year	<u>12,373,259</u>	<u>3,579,976</u>	<u>15,953,235</u>
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 13,122,100</u>	<u>\$ 3,970,530</u>	<u>\$ 17,092,630</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

Evergreen Local School District (the District) is organized under Article VI, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. The District operates under a locally-elected Board form of government consisting of five members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. The District provides educational services as authorized by state and federal guidelines.

The District was established in 1967 through the consolidation of existing land areas and school districts. The District serves an area of approximately 130 square miles. It is located in Fulton and Lucas counties and includes the entire Villages of Berkey (Lucas County), Lyons and Metamora (Fulton County), all of Amboy, Chesterfield, and Royalton (Fulton County) and Richfield (Lucas County) townships, and portions of Fulton and Pike (Fulton County), and Harding, Spencer, and Sylvania (Lucas County) townships. It is staffed by 61 classified and 78 certified teaching personnel who provide services to 1,132 students and other community members. The District currently operates three buildings.

Reporting Entity

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

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the District is financially accountable. The District is financially accountable for an organization if the District appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and (1) the District is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the District is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources; the District is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to the organization; or the District is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the District in that the District approves the budget, the issuance of debt, or the levying of taxes. There are no component units of the Evergreen Local School District.

The District participates in three jointly governed organizations, three insurance pools, and is associated with a related organization. These organizations are the Northwest Ohio Computer Association, the Northern Buckeye Education Council, the Four County Career Center, the Northern Buckeye Health Plan Optimal Health Initiatives, the Ohio School Plan, the Optimal Health Initiatives Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan, and the Evergreen Community Library. These organizations are presented in Notes 14, 15, and 16 to the basic financial statements.

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

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed further in Note 2.C, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the District's accounting policies.

A. Basis of Presentation

The District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide financial statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. These statements usually distinguish between those activities of the District that are governmental activities (primarily supported by taxes and inter-governmental revenues) and those that are considered business-type activities (primarily supported by fees and charges). However, the District has no business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the District at fiscal year end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the District's general receipts.

Fund Financial Statements

During the fiscal year, the District segregates transactions related to certain District functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the District at this more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds. 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 type.

B. Fund Accounting

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the District are governmental.

Governmental

The District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g. grants), and other non-exchange transactions as governmental funds. The District's major fund is the General Fund.

General Fund - The General Fund is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The General Fund balance is available to the District for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Other governmental funds of the District are used to account for:

Nonmajor special revenue funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for and report the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects.

Nonmajor capital projects funds - Capital projects funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for capital outlays, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Nonmajor debt service funds - Debt service funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest.

C. Basis of Accounting

The District's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. Receipts are recorded in the District's financial records and reported in the financial statements when cash is received rather than when earned and disbursements are recorded when cash is paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

As a result of the use of the cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

D. Budgetary Process

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of 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 the Board of Education may appropriate.

The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of budgetary control selected by the Board is at the object level for the General Fund and the fund level for all other funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education. Budgetary allocations at the object level within the General Fund and at the function and object level within all other funds are made by the District Treasurer.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the 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 amended certificate of estimated resources in effect at the time final appropriations were passed by the Board.

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment throughout the fiscal 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 fiscal year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior fiscal years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

E. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the District is pooled and invested. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through District records. Interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents".

Investments of the District's cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the District are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months that were not purchased from the pool are reported as investments.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Investments are reported as assets. Accordingly, purchases of investments are not recorded as disbursements, and sales of investments are not recorded as receipts. Gains or losses at the time of sale are recorded as receipts or negative receipts (contra revenue), respectively.

The District invested in Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC) securities, Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA) securities, Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB) securities, Private Export Funding Corporation (PEFCO), Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) securities, Commercial Paper, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Treasury bonds, negotiable certificates of deposit, a money market mutual fund, and STAR Ohio. Investments are reported at cost, except for the money market mutual fund and STAR Ohio. The District's money market mutual fund investment is recorded at amount reported by US Bank at June 30, 2024.

The District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The District measures their investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value.

There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2024 amounted to \$590,949 which included \$96,623 assigned from other District funds.

F. Inventory and Prepaid Items

The District reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

G. Capital Assets

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

H. Interfund Receivables/Payables

The District reports advances-in and advances-out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities in the accompanying financial statements. The fund statements report interfund loans as advances when made or repaid. These amounts are eliminated in the statement of activities.

I. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the District's cash basis of accounting.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

J. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, 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.

K. Long-term Obligations

These cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease, financed purchase transaction, or Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangement (SBITA) is not the result of a cash transaction, neither another financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments, financed purchase payments, and SBITA payments are reported when paid.

L. Leases

The District is the lessee in various leases related to equipment under noncancelable leases. Lease payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

M. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

The District has Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) under noncancelable arrangements. SBITA payables are not reflected under the District's cash basis of accounting. SBITA disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

N. Net Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for capital improvements and classroom facilities.

The District first applies restricted resources when incurring a disbursement for which it may use either restricted or unrestricted resources. There were no amounts restricted by enabling legislation.

O. Fund Balance

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

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

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

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

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the General Fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by the District Board of Education or a District official delegated by that authority by resolution or by State Statute. State statute authorizes the District's Treasurer to assign fund balance for purchases in order provide such amounts have been lawfully appropriated.

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

The District applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which 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.

P. Inter-fund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as receipts in the seller funds and as disbursements in the purchaser funds. Subsidies from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular cash disbursements to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented in the financial statements.

Q. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans

The District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in 9 and 10, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2024, the District has implemented certain paragraphs of GASB Implementation Guide No. 2021-1, certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "Omnibus 2022", GASB Statement No. 100, "Accounting Changes and Error Corrections - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62" and Implementation Guide No. 2023-1.

GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

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GASB Statement No. 99 is to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 99 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Statement No. 100 is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 100 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

GASB Implementation Guide 2023-1 provides clarification on issues related to previously established GASB guidance. The implementation of GASB Implementation Guide 2023-1 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

B. Compliance

Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-2-03(B) requires the District to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. However, the District prepared its basic financial statements on a cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The accompanying basic financial statements omit assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, net position/fund balances, and disclosures that, while material, cannot be determined at this time. The District can be fined and various other administrative remedies may be taken against the District.

C. Deficit Fund Balances

Fund balances at June 30, 2024 included the following individual fund deficits:

<u>Nonmajor governmental funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency (ESSER)	\$ 5,116
IDEA, Part B	14,200
Title I, Disadvantaged Children	6,729
Title IV	268

The deficit fund balances resulted from a lag between disbursements made by the District and reimbursements from grantors and are allowable under Ohio Revised Code Section 3315.20.

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use, but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories.

Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation and Government National Mortgage 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 fair 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, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items (1) and (2) above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio); and
8. Certain bankers' acceptances for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

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. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the District and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Cash on Hand

At fiscal year end, the District had \$6,600 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the District as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$5,833,572 and the bank balance of all District deposits was \$6,018,434. Of the bank balance, \$507,713 was covered by the FDIC and the remaining was subject to custodial credit risk as described below.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) 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 fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a reduced rate set by the Treasurer of State.

C. Investments

As of June 30, 2024, the District had the following investments and maturities:

Investment type	Carrying Value	NAV/ Fair Value	Investment Maturities					
			6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months	
FHLMC	\$ 76,714	\$ 77,564	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 77,564
FNMA	90,317	91,075	-	-	-	-	-	91,075
FFCB	2,403,129	2,363,926	246,533	121,108	-	-	683,873	1,312,412
PEFCO	174,193	173,481	-	-	-	-	-	173,481
FHLB	2,103,119	2,043,682	253,452	722,360	287,765	232,595	547,510	
Commerical Paper	579,652	590,228	590,228	-	-	-	-	
U.S. Treasury notes	2,718,885	2,691,275	-	120,679	353,526	-	-	2,217,070
U.S. Treasury bonds	403,318	404,412	-	143,400	-	166,598	94,414	
Negotiable CDs	1,786,939	1,757,562	-	241,147	232,191	231,483	1,052,741	
U.S. Government money market	27,837	27,837	27,837	-	-	-	-	
STAR Ohio	888,355	888,355	888,355	-	-	-	-	
Total	\$ 11,252,458	\$ 11,109,397	\$ 2,006,405	\$ 1,348,694	\$ 873,482	\$ 1,314,549	\$ 5,566,267	

The weighted average maturity of investments is 2.26 years.

The District's investments in U.S. Government money market mutual funds are valued using quoted market prices in active markets (Level 1 inputs). Commercial paper, PEFCO, federal agency securities (FHLMC, FNMA, FFCB, FHLB), U.S. Treasury notes and negotiable CD's are valued using quoted market prices in markets that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs).

Interest Rate Risk: Interest rate risk is the risk potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to state law, the District's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

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Credit Risk: The District's investments in federal agency securities were rated AA+ and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAA by Standard & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The District's investment policy does not specifically address credit risk beyond requiring the District to only invest in securities authorized by State statute.

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The federal agency securities are exposed to custodial credit risk in that they are uninsured, unregistered and held by the counterparty's trust department or agent, but not in the District's name. The District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

Concentration of Credit Risk: The District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer. The following table includes the percentage of each investment type held by the District at June 30, 2024:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
FHLMC	\$ 76,714	0.68%
FNMA	90,317	0.80%
FFCB	2,403,129	21.36%
PEFCO	174,193	1.55%
FHLB	2,103,119	18.69%
Commercial Paper	579,652	5.15%
U.S. Treasury notes	2,718,885	24.16%
U.S. Treasury bonds	403,318	3.58%
Negotiable CDs	1,786,939	15.88%
U.S. Government money market	27,837	0.25%
STAR Ohio	<u>888,355</u>	<u>7.90%</u>
Total	<u>\$ 11,252,458</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

E. Reconciliation of Cash to the Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis

The following is a reconciliation of cash as reported in the note above to cash as reported on the statement of net position - cash basis as of June 30, 2024:

<u>Cash per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 5,833,572
Investments	11,252,458
Cash on hand	<u>6,600</u>
Total	<u>\$ 17,092,630</u>
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 17,092,630</u>

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

Transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, as reported on the fund statements, consist of the following:

<u>Transfers in</u>	<u>Transfers out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nonmajor governmental	Nonmajor governmental	\$ 90,470
Nonmajor governmental	General	<u>500,000</u>
		<u><u>\$ 590,470</u></u>

Transfers are used to move cash receipts from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to disburse them and to use unrestricted cash receipts collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations. All transfers were made in compliance with Ohio Revised Code Sections 5705.14, 5705.15 and 5705.16. The transfers of \$90,420 from the permanent improvement fund (a nonmajor governmental fund) to the bond retirement fund (a nonmajor governmental fund) were to pay for principal and interest on debt. The transfer of \$50 from the student managed activity fund (a nonmajor governmental fund) to the district managed student activity fund (a nonmajor governmental fund) was for a concession stand purchase.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements; therefore, no transfers are reported in the statement of activities.

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the District. Real property tax revenues received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised fair value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien on December 31, 2022, were levied after April 1, 2023, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The District receives property taxes from Fulton County. The County Auditor periodically advance to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the counties by June 30, 2024, are available to finance fiscal year 2024 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

The assessed values upon which fiscal year 2024 taxes were collected are:

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	2023 Second Half Collections		2024 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 222,935,520	70.68	\$ 281,767,980	75.88
Public utility personal	<u>92,484,660</u>	<u>29.32</u>	<u>89,544,220</u>	<u>24.12</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 315,420,180</u></u>	<u><u>100.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 371,312,200</u></u>	<u><u>100.00</u></u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation		\$43.60		\$40.02

NOTE 7 - INCOME TAXES

The District levies a voted tax of 0.75% for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was effective in 1990 and is a continuing tax. An additional 0.75% income tax was passed by voters in 2004, effective beginning 2005 for five years, for general operations. The additional 0.75% percent income tax was renewed by voters in 2009, effective beginning 2010 for five years, and was renewed again by voters in 2013, effective beginning 2016 for five years. Voters passed an additional 0.50% income tax effective beginning January 2013 for a total 2.00% income tax. 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 District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax receipts are recorded in the General Fund.

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The District maintains comprehensive insurance coverage through the Ohio School Plan, an insurance Pool, an insurance purchasing pool (Note 15), for liability, real property, building contents, and vehicles. Vehicle policies include liability coverage for bodily injury and property damage. In addition, real property contents are fully insured.

Coverage provided by the Ohio School Plan General Liability:

Per Occurrence	\$3,000,000
Total Per Year	\$5,000,000

Coverage provided by the Ohio School Plan Blanket Property Insurance (\$1,000 deductible)	\$77,701,310
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Coverage provided by the Ohio School Plan Auto Coverage Liability	\$3,000,000
Auto Medical Payment	\$5,000

Under the Plan, each participant enters into an individual agreement with the Plan for insurance coverage and pays annual premiums to the Plan based on types and limits of coverage from the prior fiscal year.

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

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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B. Workers' Compensation

The District participates in The Optimal Health Initiatives Group Rating Plan (Plan), an insurance purchasing pool. The intent of the Plan is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the Plan. The workers' compensation experience of the participants is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all participants in the Plan. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the Plan rather than its individual rate. Participation in the Plan is limited to participants that can meet the Plan's selection criteria. The firm Sheakley provides administrative, cost control, and actuarial services to the Plan.

C. Employee Medical Benefit

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan (Plan), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of educational entities within Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams, and Wood Counties. The District pays monthly premiums to the Northern Buckeye Education Council for the benefits offered to its employees including medical, dental, vision, and life insurance. The Northern Buckeye Education Council is responsible for the management and operations of the Plan. The agreement for the Plan provides for additional assessments to all participants if the premiums are insufficient to pay the program costs for the fiscal year. Upon withdrawal from the Plan, a participant is responsible for any claims not processed and paid and any related administrative costs.

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 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/OPEB liability (asset) represent the District'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/OPEB 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 these estimates annually.

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

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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, 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 net pension/net OPEB liability (asset) are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the cash basis framework.

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	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; or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit

* Members with 25 years of service credit as of August 1, 2017 will be included in this plan.

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service; 2.2% for the first thirty years of service and 2.5% 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. Beginning April 1, 2018, 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. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it will be indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0%. In 2023, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2024.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14.00% 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 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% 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, 2024, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00%. For fiscal year 2024, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$282,062 for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - Licensed teachers participate in STRS, 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 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS website 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 (CO) 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 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will 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 of their member contributions and 11.09% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS Ohio. The remaining 2.91% 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 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.

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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. 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.

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 fiscal year 2024 employer and employee contribution rate of 14% was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2024, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,050,074 for fiscal year 2024.

Net Pension Liability

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.054424100%	0.054788500%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.054258000%</u>	<u>0.053675940%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000166100%</u>	<u>-0.001112560%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,998,032	\$ 11,559,081	\$ 14,557,113

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 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. Future benefits for all current plan members were projected through 2137.

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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, 2023 and June 30, 2022, are presented below:

Wage inflation:	
Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%
Future salary increases, including inflation:	
Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Prior measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
COLA or ad hoc COLA:	
Current measurement date	2.00%
Prior measurement date	2.00%
Investment rate of return:	
Current measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
Prior measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
Discount rate:	
Current measurement date	7.00%
Prior measurement date	7.00%
Actuarial cost method	Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

In 2023, mortality rates 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% 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% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

In the prior measurement date, 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% 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% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% 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 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. Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3309.15 and the Board-adopted Investment Policy govern investment activity at SERS. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

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

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Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	0.75 %
US Equity	24.75	4.82
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	5.19
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	5.98
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	2.24
Private Equity	12.00	7.49
Real Estate/Real Assets	17.00	3.70
Private Debt/Private Credit	<u>5.00</u>	5.64
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Discount Rate - Total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. The discount rate determination did not use a municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 21-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarially determined contribution rate of fiscal year 2023 was 14%. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return, 7.00%. 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. The annual money weighted rate of return, calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, for fiscal year 2023 was 6.90%.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, 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 (6.00%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 4,424,945	\$ 2,998,032	\$ 1,796,133

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation are presented below:

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	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.00%
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%	0.00%

For the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% 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% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For the prior measurement date, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% 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% 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.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 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:

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% 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.

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Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2023. 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 previously. 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, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the District's 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, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 17,775,307	\$ 11,559,081	\$ 6,301,853

Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate remained at 7.00% for June 30, 2023 valuation. Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The 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 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

The Health Care program is financed through a combination of employer contributions, recipient premiums, investment returns, and any funds received on behalf of SERS' participation in Medicare programs. The System's goal is to maintain a health care reserve account with a 20-year solvency period in order to ensure that fluctuations in the cost of health care do not cause an interruption in the program. However, during any period in which the 20-year solvency period is not achieved, the System shall manage the Health Care Fund on a pay-as-you-go basis.

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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% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment 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 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% 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 2024, the District's surcharge obligation was \$39,833.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$39,833 for fiscal year 2024.

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 Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely. 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, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net OPEB liability/asset was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB liability/asset used to calculate the net OPEB liability/asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

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Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.055597500%	0.054788500%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.055671500%</u>	<u>0.053675940%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.000074000%</u>	<u>-0.001112560%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 917,157	\$ -	\$ 917,157
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (1,043,923)	\$ (1,043,923)

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, 2023 and June 30, 2022 are presented below:

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Wage inflation:

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
Prior measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%

Investment rate of return:

Current measurement date	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation
Prior measurement date	7.00% net of investment expense, including inflation

Municipal bond index rate:

Current measurement date	3.86%
Prior measurement date	3.69%

Single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation:

Current measurement date	4.27%
Prior measurement date	4.08%

Medical trend assumption:

Current measurement date	6.75 to 4.40%
Prior measurement date	7.00 to 4.40%

In 2023, the following mortality assumptions were used:

Healthy Retirees - 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females.

Disabled Retirees - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females.

Contingent Survivors - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5% for males and adjusted 122.5% for females.

Actives - PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table.

Mortality Projection - Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

In the prior measurement date, mortality rates 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% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% 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% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% 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 expected rate of return is reviewed as part of the regular experience studies prepared every five years for SERS. The most recent five-year experience study was performed for the period covering fiscal years 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 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

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distribution analysis in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) 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%, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. 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 long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a 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 asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	2.00 %	0.75 %
US Equity	24.75	4.82
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50	5.19
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75	5.98
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00	2.24
Private Equity	12.00	7.49
Real Estate/Real Assets	17.00	3.70
Private Debt/Private Credit	5.00	5.64
Total	<u>100.00 %</u>	

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2023, was 4.27%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2023, was 4.08%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50% of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is projected to be depleted in 2048 by SERS' actuaries. The Fidelity General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate was used in the determination of the single equivalent interest rate for both the June 30, 2022 and the June 30, 2023 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 was 3.86% at June 30, 2023 and 3.69% at June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the District's 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, what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.27%) and higher (5.27%) than the current discount rate (4.27%). Also shown is what the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%).

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,172,390	\$ 917,457	\$ 715,896

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	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
	\$ 673,804	\$ 917,157	\$ 1,239,634
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability			

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the latest actuarial valuation, reflecting experience study results used in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, compared with June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation, are presented below:

	June 30, 2023		June 30, 2022	
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%		
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%		Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0.00%		0.00%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.00%	
Blended discount rate of return	N/A		N/A	
Health care cost trends				
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	4.14%	7.50%	3.94%
Medicare	-10.94%	4.14%	-68.78%	3.94%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	-11.95%	4.14%	9.00%	3.94%
Medicare	1.33%	4.14%	-5.47%	3.94%

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

For the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% 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% 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 the prior measurement date, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% 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% 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.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 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.

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FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - The discount rate remained unchanged at 7.00% for the June 30, 2023 valuation.

Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date - Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience as well as benefit changes effective January 1, 2024.

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 Real Rate of Return **
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	100.00 %	

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25% 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% as of June 30, 2023. 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 those 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, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate - The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset 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.

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 883,544	\$ 1,043,923	\$ 1,183,596
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 1,190,077	\$ 1,043,923	\$ 867,883

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 11 - LONG-TERM DEBT

Changes in long-term obligations of the District during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

	<u>Balance</u>			<u>Balance</u>			<u>Amounts</u>
	<u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>June 30, 2024</u>			<u>Due in One Year</u>
General Obligation Bonds:							
2010 Energy Conservation	\$ 240,000	\$ -	\$ (80,000)	\$ 160,000	\$ 80,000		
2012 Classroom Facilities	420,000	-	(135,000)	285,000		140,000	
2016 School Improvement							
Refunding Bonds	<u>1,635,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(810,000)</u>	<u>825,000</u>	<u>825,000</u>		
Total Long-Term Obligations	<u>\$ 2,295,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (1,025,000)</u>	<u>\$ 1,270,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,045,000</u>		

On May 7, 2002 school district residents approved a \$2,182,000 bond issue to pay the local share of school construction of a new elementary and renovation of a middle school under the Ohio School Facilities Commission Exceptional Need Project. General obligation classroom facilities improvement bonds totaling \$2,182,000 were issued October 17, 2002 with interest rates ranging from 2 percent to 4.6 percent. The bond issue included serial, term, and capital appreciation bonds. Current interest serial bonds mature annually from 2003 through 2022. Current interest term bonds mature in 2025. Capital appreciation bonds matured in 2006, 2007, and 2008. The maturity amount of the capital appreciation bonds is \$240,000. On January 5, 2012, the remaining \$1,525,000 face value of the bonds was refunded through the issuance of new bonds. The refunding bonds have interest rates from 3.55% to 4.60% and mature on December 1, 2025.

On July 25, 2005, a bond issue for the purpose of refunding a portion of the 1999 School Improvement bond issue was made. The new issue has interest rates ranging from 3.0% to 4.2%. The bond issue included serial and capital appreciation bonds. Current interest serial bonds mature annually from 2005 through 2024. Capital appreciation bonds matured in 2016. The maturity amount of the capital appreciation bonds is \$530,000. On September 3, 2016, the remaining \$6,927,337 face values of the bonds were refunded through the issuance of new bonds. The refunding bonds have an interest rate of 2.203% and mature on December 1, 2024.

On November 2, 2010, a bond issue for the purpose of facilities improvements was made. The new issue has an interest rate of 5.21%. The bond issue included term bonds which mature December 1, 2025.

Total expenditures for interest for the above debt for the period ended June 30, 2024 was \$50,841.

The scheduled payments of principal and interest on debt outstanding at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

<u>Year Ending</u>			
<u>June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 1,045,000	\$ 23,466	\$ 1,068,466
2026	<u>225,000</u>	<u>4,825</u>	<u>229,825</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,270,000</u>	<u>\$ 28,291</u>	<u>\$ 1,298,291</u>

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Legal Debt Margin

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the School District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the School District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the School District. The code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the School District. The assessed valuation used in determining the School District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530 which became effective March 30, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the School District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2024 are a voted debt margin of \$33,392,776, including available funds of \$1,084,678 an unvoted debt margin of \$371,312 and an energy conservation debt margin of \$3,181,810.

NOTE 12 - SET-ASIDES

The District is required by State law to annually set-aside certain general fund revenue amounts, as defined by statutory formula, for the acquisition and construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by the end of the fiscal year or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in cash at fiscal year-end. This amount must be carried forward to be used for the same purpose in future years. Expenditures exceeding the set-aside requirement may not be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

The following cash-basis information describes the change in the fiscal year-end set-aside amount for capital improvements. Disclosure of this information is required by State statute.

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2023	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	239,401
Current year offsets	<u>(474,040)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (234,639)</u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2025	<u>\$ -</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2024	<u>\$ -</u>

NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The District received financial assistance from federal and State agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, the effect of any such disallowed claims on the overall financial position of the District at June 30, 2024, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

B. Litigation

The District is a party to legal proceedings for a special education issue. The District's legal counsel is not able to estimate any potential claims against the District resulting from the proceedings at this time.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

C. Foundation Funding

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Traditional districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODEW has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2024 Foundation funding for the District. There is no effect on the financial statement.

NOTE 14 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Northwest Ohio Computer Association

The District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Computer Association (NWOCA), which is a computer consortium. NWOCA is an association of educational entities within the boundaries of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams and Wood Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member educational entities.

The NWOCA Assembly consists of a superintendent from each participating educational entity and a representative from the fiscal agent. The Assembly elects the Governing Council of two representatives from each of the six counties in which the member educational entities are located and the representative from the member educational entity serving as fiscal agent for NWOCA. The degree of control exercised by any participating educational entity is limited to its representation on the Governing Council. Financial information can be obtained from the Northwest Ohio Computer Association, 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

B. Northern Buckeye Education Council

The Northern Buckeye Education Council (the Council) was established in 1979 to foster cooperation among educational entities located in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Williams and Wood Counties. NBEC is organized under Ohio laws as a regional council of governments pursuant to a written agreement entered into by its member educational entities and bylaws adopted by the representatives of the member educational entities. NBEC is governed by an elected board consisting of two representatives from each of the six counties in which the member educational entities are located. The Board is elected from an assembly consisting of a representative from each participating educational entity. Financial information can be obtained from the Northern Buckeye Education Council, 209 Nolan Parkway, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

C. Four County Career Center

The Four County Career Center (Career Center) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio which provides vocational education to students. The Career Center is operated under the direction of a Board consisting of five representatives from the Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center and one representative from the participating school districts elected boards. The Career Center possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. The degree of control exercised by the District is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained from the Four County Career Center, 22-900 State Route 34, Archbold, Ohio 43502.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 15 - INSURANCE POOLS

A. Employee Insurance Benefits Program

The District participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan, a Northwest Division of the Optimal Health Initiative Consortium (OHI), is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of educational entities throughout the state. The pool is governed by OHI and its participating members. The District contributed a total of \$2,060,694 to Northern Buckeye Health Plan, Northwest Division of OHI for health, dental, vision, and life plans. Financial information for the period can be obtained from the Cincinnati Assurance Services Team Leader Hospitality Services Team Leader, Private Equity Services Team Co-Leader, 513-898-8801 or fax 513-372-6796.

B. Optimal Health Initiatives Worker's Compensation Group Rating Plan

The District participates in a group rating plan for workers' compensation as established under section §4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Optimal Health Initiatives Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (the Plan) was established through Optimal Health Initiatives (OHI) an insurance purchasing pool. The Plan is governed by the OHI and the participants of the Plan. The Executive Director of the OHI coordinates the management and administration of the Plan. Each year, the participants pay an enrollment fee to the Plan to cover the costs of administering the program.

C. The Ohio School Plan

The District participates in the Ohio School Plan (Plan), an insurance purchasing pool established under Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Plan is an unincorporated nonprofit association of its members which enables the participants to provide for a formalized joint insurance purchasing program for maintaining adequate insurance protection and provides risk management programs and other administrative services. The Plan's business and affairs are conducted by a fifteen-member board consisting of superintendents, treasurers, the president of Harcum-Shuett Insurance Agency, Inc., and a member of the Hylant Group, Inc. The Hylant Group, Inc. is the Plan's administrator and is responsible for processing claims. Harcum-Shuett Insurance Agency serves as the sales and marketing representative which establishes agreements between the Plan and its members. Financial information can be obtained from the Harcum-Shuett Insurance Agency, 246 East Sycamore Street, Columbus, Ohio 43206.

NOTE 16 - RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Evergreen Community Library

The Evergreen Community Library (the Library) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio created under Chapter 3375 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Library is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Evergreen Local School District Board of Education. The Board of Trustees possesses its own contracting and budgeting authority, hires and fires personnel, and does not depend on the District for operational subsidies. Although the District does serve as the taxing authority and may issue tax related debt on behalf of the Library, its role is limited to a ministerial function. The determination to request approval of a tax, the rate and the purpose are discretionary decisions made solely by the Board of Trustees. Financial information can be obtained from the Evergreen Community Library located at 253 Maple Street, Metamora, Ohio 43540.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY**

SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final	Actual	
Budgetary receipts and other financing sources	\$ 17,051,531	\$ 17,051,531	\$ 17,964,348	\$ 912,817
Budgetary disbursements and other financing uses:				
Personal services - salaries	9,180,982	9,194,861	8,962,358	(232,503)
Employee retirement & insurance benefits	3,626,452	3,626,452	3,838,444	211,992
Purchased services	2,192,762	2,283,782	2,444,301	160,519
Supplies and materials	804,078	815,608	833,464	17,856
Capital outlay	520,306	545,441	393,763	(151,678)
Miscellaneous objects	255,376	255,565	243,817	(11,748)
Other uses of funds		502,250	502,250	-
Total budgetary disbursements and other financing uses	<u>16,579,956</u>	<u>17,223,959</u>	<u>17,218,397</u>	<u>(5,562)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>471,575</u>	<u>(172,428)</u>	<u>745,951</u>	<u>918,379</u>
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	<u>12,328,689</u>	<u>12,328,689</u>	<u>12,328,689</u>	<u>-</u>
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 12,800,264</u>	<u>\$ 12,156,261</u>	<u>\$ 13,074,640</u>	<u>\$ 918,379</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 1 – BUDGETARY PROCESS

The budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on the basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis presented for the general fund is prepared on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The difference between the budgetary basis and the cash basis are as follows:

1. Outstanding year end encumbrances are treated as a cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (cash basis).
2. Some funds are included in the general fund (cash basis) but have separate legally adopted budgets (budgetary basis).

Adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations at the end of the year on the budgetary basis to the cash basis are as follows:

	<u>General</u>
Budgetary Basis	\$ 745,951
Adjustment	(2)
Funds budgeted elsewhere	2,892
Cash basis	<u><u>\$ 748,841</u></u>

As part of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, “Fund Balance Reporting”, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund. This includes the public school support fund and the underground storage tanks fund.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> <i>Program / Cluster Title</i>	Federal AL Number	Provided to Subrecipients	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>			
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553		
Cash Assistance			\$81,133
National School Lunch Program	10.555		
Cash Assistance			204,736
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)			29,347
Total National School Lunch Program			234,083
Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability	10.579		9,488
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			324,704
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			324,704
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Office of Budget and Management</i>			
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027		205,781
Total U.S. Department of Treasury			205,781
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>			
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund			
COVID-19 Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER)	84.425U		61,407
Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies	84.010		137,257
Special Education Cluster (IDEA):			
Special Education - Grants to States (IDEA, Part B)	84.027		298,273
COVID-19 Special Education - Grants to States (IDEA, ARP)	84.027X		10,065
Total Special Education - Grants to States			308,338
Special Education - Preschool Grants (IDEA, Preschool)	84.173		6,801
COVID-19 Special Education - Preschool Grants (IDEA, ARP)	84.173X		68
Total Special Education - Preschool Grants			6,869
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)			315,207
English Language Acquisition State Grants	84.365	\$542	542
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367		38,096
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program (Stronger Connections Grant)	84.424F		697
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424		11,478
Total U.S. Department of Education		542	564,684
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards	\$542		\$1,095,169

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Evergreen Local School District, Fulton County, Ohio (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2024. 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 or changes in net position 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 Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

The District has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE D – SUBRECIPIENTS

The District passes certain federal awards received from Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to other governments or not-for-profit agencies (subrecipients). As Note B describes, the District reports expenditures of Federal awards to subrecipients when paid in cash.

As a pass-through entity, the District has certain compliance responsibilities, such as monitoring its subrecipients to help assure they use these subawards as authorized by laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements, and that subrecipients achieve the award's performance goals.

NOTE E – 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 F – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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

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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**

Evergreen Local School District
Fulton County
14544 County Road 6
Metamora, Ohio 43540-9741

To the Board of Education:

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 cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Evergreen Local School District, Fulton County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 25, 2025 wherein we noted the District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District'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 opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 District'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.

Evergreen Local School District
Fulton County
Independent Auditor's Report On Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters
Required By *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District'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 an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2024-001.

District's Response to Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and corrective action plan. The District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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 District'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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

February 25, 2025



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

Evergreen Local School District
Fulton County
14544 County Road 6
Metamora, Ohio 43540-9741

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Evergreen Local School District's, Fulton County, Ohio, (the District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Evergreen Local School District's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024. Evergreen Local School District's major federal programs are identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, Evergreen Local School District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by 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). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Evergreen Local School District
Fulton County
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements
Applicable to Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over
Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance
Page 2

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

The District's Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the District's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

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

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on 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, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. 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 type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Evergreen Local School District

Fulton County

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements

Applicable to Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over

Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Page 3

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of this testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

February 25, 2025

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EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FULTON COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2024

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

(d)(1)(i)	Type of Financial Statement Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(ii)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	No
(d)(1)(iii)	Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?	Yes
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(iv)	Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?	No
(d)(1)(v)	Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion	Unmodified
(d)(1)(vi)	Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?	No
(d)(1)(vii)	Major Programs (list):	Special Education Cluster Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – AL# 21.027
(d)(1)(viii)	Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
(d)(1)(ix)	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 2024-001

Noncompliance

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

Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(B) requires the District to file annual financial reports which are prepared using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The District prepared financial statements that, although formatted similar to financial statements prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, report on the cash basis of accounting rather than GAAP. The accompanying financial statements and notes omit certain assets, liabilities, deferred inflows/outflows of resources, fund equities/net position, and disclosures that, while presumed material, cannot be determined at this time.

Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 the District may be fined for its failure to file the required financial report. Failure to report on a GAAP basis compromises the District's ability to evaluate and monitor the overall financial condition of the District. To help provide the users with more meaningful financial statements, the District should prepare its annual financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Officials' Response:

See corrective action plan.

3. FINDINGS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None.



EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOLS

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SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

2 CFR 200.511(b)

JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2023-001	Finding first reported in 2014, Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03 (B) for not reporting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.	Not corrected and reissued as Finding 2024-001 in this report.	Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.
2023-002	Finding first reported in 2023, 2 CFR § 400.1, 7 CFR § 210.7(c)(1) and 7 CFR § 210.8(c) for inaccurate reporting on site claim forms.	Fully corrected.	



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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

2 CFR § 200.511(c)

JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number: 2024-001

Planned Corrective Action: Management believes reporting on a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) is more cost efficient.

Anticipated Completion Date: N/A

Responsible Contact Person: Brian Carroll, CFO/Treasurer

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



EVERGREEN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FULTON 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 3/18/2025

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