



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2024**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b><u>TITLE</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE</u></b>
Independent Auditor's Report .....	1
Prepared by Management:	
Management's Discussion and Analysis .....	5
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position .....	13
Statement of Activities.....	14
Fund Financial Statements:	
Balance Sheet	
Governmental Funds.....	15
Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Position of Governmental Activities .....	16
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds.....	17
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities.....	18
Statement of Net Position Internal Service Fund .....	19
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position Internal Service Fund .....	20
Statement of Cash Flows Internal Service Fund .....	21
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position Custodial Funds.....	22
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position Custodial Funds.....	23
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements.....	25

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2024**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS  
(Continued)**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Required Supplementary Information:	
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Non- GAAP Budgetary Basis) General Fund.....	68
Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and School District Pension Contributions (School Employees Retirement System (SERS) of Ohio) .....	69
Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability and School District Pension Contributions (State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) of Ohio) .....	70
Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability and School District OPEB Contributions (School Employees Retirement System (SERS) of Ohio) .....	71
Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset) and School District OPEB Contributions (State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) of Ohio).....	72
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information .....	73
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards .....	79
Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards .....	80
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> .....	81
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance.....	83
Schedule of Findings.....	87



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Fairfield Local School District  
Highland County  
11611 State Route 771  
Leesburg, Ohio 45135

To the Board of Education:

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fairfield Local School District, Highland County, Ohio (School District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School 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 financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fairfield Local School District, Highland County, Ohio as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***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 School 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***

As discussed in Note 3 to the financial statements, during 2024, the School District adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*. 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the School 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 School 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 School 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.

***Required Supplementary Information***

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

***Supplementary information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements. 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 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic 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 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 is 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 12, 2025, on our consideration of the School 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 School 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 School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio  
February 12, 2025

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024  
(UNAUDITED)**

Our discussion and analysis of the Fairfield Local School District's (the "School District") financial performance provides an overall review of the School District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the School District's financial performance as a whole; readers should also review notes to the basic financial statements and financial statements to enhance their understanding of the School District's financial performance.

### **Financial Highlights**

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- In total, governmental net position increased \$623,615.
- General revenues accounted for \$11,696,549, in revenue or 78.88% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales and operating grants and contributions accounted for \$3,131,976 or 21.12% of total revenues of \$14,828,525.
- The District had \$14,204,910 in expenses related to governmental activities; only \$3,131,976 of these expenses was offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues supporting governmental activities (primarily taxes and unrestricted grants and entitlements) of \$11,696,549 were adequate to provide for these programs.
- The District's major governmental funds are the General Fund and the Debt Service Fund. The General Fund had \$12,571,796 in revenues and other financing sources and \$12,672,331 in expenditures and other financing uses. During fiscal year 2024, the General Fund's fund balance decreased \$100,535, from a beginning fund balance of \$8,603,890 to \$8,503,355.
- The Debt Service Fund had \$423,605 in revenues and \$227,296 in expenditures. During fiscal year 2024, the Debt Service Fund's fund balance increased \$196,309, from a beginning fund balance of \$1,211,070 to \$1,407,379.

### **Using these Basic Financial Statements**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the School District as a financial whole, an entire operating entity.

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

### **Reporting the School District as a Whole**

#### ***Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities***

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, which appear first in the School District's financial statements, report information on the School District as a whole and its activities in a way that demonstrates how the School District did financially during fiscal year 2024. These statements include all assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current fiscal year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report net position and changes in net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the School District as a whole, the financial position of the School District has improved or diminished. Some factors may be financial while others such as mandated educational programs are non-financial factors.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024  
(UNAUDITED)**

**Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds**

***Fund Financial Statements***

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the School District's major funds. The School District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the School District's major funds, which are the General Fund and the Debt Service Fund.

***Governmental Funds***

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

***Proprietary Fund***

The School District maintains proprietary funds. Internal service funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the School District's various functions. The School District's internal service funds account for health self-insurance. The proprietary funds use the accrual basis of accounting.

***Fiduciary Funds***

The School District's only fiduciary fund is a custodial fund. All of the School District's fiduciary activities are reported in separate statements of fiduciary net position and changes in fiduciary net position. We exclude these activities from the School District's other financial statements because the School District cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The School District is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund.

***Notes to the Basic Financial Statements***

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

***Required Supplementary Information***

The required supplementary information provides detailed information regarding the School District's budgetary information, proportionate share of the net pension liability, and the net OPEB liability/asset of the retirement systems. It also includes a ten-year schedule of the School District's contributions to the retirement systems to fund pension and OPEB obligations.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024  
(UNAUDITED)**

**The School District as a Whole**

The statement of net position provides the perspective of the School District as a whole. The table on the following page provides a summary of the School District's net position at June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

	<b>Net Position</b>	
	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
<b><u>Assets</u></b>		
Current and other assets	\$ 16,276,722	\$ 15,699,760
Net OPEB Asset	664,978	957,163
Capital assets, net	<u>14,965,628</u>	<u>15,129,496</u>
Total assets	<u>31,907,328</u>	<u>31,786,419</u>
<b><u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u></b>		
Pension	2,094,521	2,803,447
OPEB	466,637	317,132
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>2,561,158</u>	<u>3,120,579</u>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>		
Current liabilities	1,001,167	894,047
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	192,931	213,477
Due in more than one year:		
Net pension liability	9,795,510	10,623,620
Net OPEB liability	742,535	636,185
Other amounts	<u>4,008,252</u>	<u>4,098,723</u>
Total liabilities	<u>15,740,395</u>	<u>16,466,052</u>
<b><u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u></b>		
Property taxes	2,589,240	2,715,643
Deferred Gain on Refunding	92,690	97,590
Pension and OPEB	<u>2,174,047</u>	<u>2,379,214</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>4,855,977</u>	<u>5,192,447</u>
<b><u>Net Position</u></b>		
Net investment in capital assets	11,038,754	11,129,342
Restricted	2,701,975	2,446,481
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>131,385</u>	<u>(327,324)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 13,872,114</u>	<u>\$ 13,248,499</u>

The net pension liability is reported pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 68, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27." The net other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability/asset is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 75, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions." For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the School District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability, and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB and the net OPEB asset.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024  
(UNAUDITED)**

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

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

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

GASB notes that pension and OPEB obligations, whether funded or unfunded, are part of the "employment exchange" – that is, the employee is trading his or her labor in exchange for wages, benefits, and the promise of a future pension and other postemployment benefits. GASB noted that the unfunded portion of this promise is a present obligation of the government, part of a bargained-for benefit to the employee, and should accordingly be reported by the government as a liability since they received the benefit of the exchange. However, the School District is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. The retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

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

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

Overall, an increase of \$120,909 occurred within total assets when compared to the prior fiscal year. Current and other assets increased \$576,962 due to an increase in cash and cash equivalents and intergovernmental receivable. This increase is due to grants not yet having received their reimbursements by year end.

Total Liabilities decreased \$725,657 for fiscal year 2024, mostly due to slight decreases in net pension and net OPEB liability as well as intergovernmental payables during the current fiscal year.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024  
(UNAUDITED)**

Unrestricted Net Position for governmental activities increased \$458,709 mainly due to changes in assumptions and benefits associated with the Statewide pension systems. Restricted net position increased due to an increase in restricted for OPEB compared to the prior fiscal year.

The following table shows the highlights of the School District's revenues and expenses. These two main components are subtracted to yield the change in net position. This table uses the full accrual method of accounting.

Revenue is further divided into two major components: Program Revenues and General Revenues. Program Revenues are defined as charges for services and sales and operating grants, contributions, and interest. General Revenues include property taxes, unrestricted grants, such as State foundation support, investment earnings and miscellaneous revenues.

Expenses are shown in programs that are easily identifiable utilizing the current Uniform School Accounting System (USAS) coding structure.

The following table shows the change in net position for fiscal years 2024 and 2024.

	<b>Change in Net Position</b>	
	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
<b><u>Revenues</u></b>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 601,315	\$ 655,341
Operating grants, contributions, and investments	2,530,661	2,508,450
General revenues:		
Property taxes	2,453,952	2,524,143
Grants and entitlements	8,586,817	8,490,798
Investment earnings	620,045	377,915
Miscellaneous	<u>35,735</u>	<u>98,851</u>
Total revenues	<u>14,828,525</u>	<u>14,655,498</u>

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024  
(UNAUDITED)**

**Change in Net Position (Continued)**

	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program expenses:		
Instruction:		
Regular	\$ 5,279,031	\$ 5,145,319
Special	1,940,456	1,784,935
Vocational	232,126	264,382
Support services:		
Pupils	866,381	863,218
Instructional staff	779,192	648,363
Board of education	67,852	71,643
Administration	1,195,831	1,362,336
Fiscal	419,374	462,200
Business	8,407	6,762
Operations and maintenance	1,252,191	1,048,393
Pupil transportation	851,493	859,228
Central	119,880	208,340
Operation of non-instructional services		
Other non-instructional services	630,899	565,092
Extracurricular activities	465,284	560,482
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>96,513</u>	<u>99,465</u>
Total expenses	<u>14,204,910</u>	<u>13,950,158</u>
Change in net position	623,615	705,340
Net position at beginning of year	<u>13,248,499</u>	<u>12,543,159</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ 13,872,114</u>	<u>\$ 13,248,499</u>

Overall, revenues increased \$173,027. Investment earnings increased \$242,130 due to market conditions continuing to recover from the pandemic low levels as well as better rates on investments.

Expenses for the School District increased \$254,752 from the prior fiscal year. The main factor was the result of an increase in instruction and support services expenses compared to the previous fiscal year.

**The School District's Funds**

The School District's funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues and other financing sources of \$16,256,753 and expenditures and other financing uses of \$15,609,034.

The fund balance in the General Fund decreased \$100,535 due to total expenditures and other financing uses exceeding revenues and other financing sources during the fiscal year. The School District transferred more money out to be used on future capital projects than it had in the past.

The fund balance in the Debt Service Fund increased \$196,309 due to revenues that were collected were more than current fiscal year debt payments.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024  
(UNAUDITED)**

Overall, governmental fund revenues exceeded expenditures by \$647,919 during the fiscal year due to the School District monitoring spending.

**General Fund - Budget Highlights**

The School District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements and encumbrances. The School District's most significant budgeted fund is the General Fund. The General Fund is budgeted at the fund level. Original budgeted expenditures were \$1,903,779 less than final budgeted expenditures. This was primarily due to an increase in instruction expenses as well as by increases in all other expenditures. Original budgeted revenues were \$1,439,362 less than final budgeted revenues, which is mainly due to an increase in intergovernmental revenue.

**Capital Assets**

At the end of fiscal year 2024, the School District had \$14,965,628 in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation/amortization). This investment in capital assets includes land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture, fixtures and equipment, intangible right-to-use assets, vehicles and textbooks. Net capital assets decreased \$163,868 from the prior fiscal year. This was due to additions for the current fiscal year being less than depreciation/amortization expense. For further information regarding the School District's capital assets, refer to Note 8 to the basic financial statements.

**Debt**

At June 30, 2024, the School District had outstanding general obligation bonds in the amount of \$3,525,000, for the purpose of paying for new construction, improvements and renovations to school facilities. In addition, the School District's long-term obligations include lease in the amount of \$68,477.

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$6,094,470 with an unvoted debt margin of \$108,105 at June 30, 2024.

For further information regarding the School District's long-term obligations, refer to Note 9 to the basic financial statements.

**Contacting the School District's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the School District's finances and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, contact Grant Amyx, Treasurer, Fairfield Local School District, 11611 S.R. 771, Leesburg, Ohio, 45135.

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2024**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,349,488
Receivables:	
Property taxes	2,728,178
Accounts	717
Accrued interest	20,046
Intergovernmental	158,633
Prepayments	13,559
Materials and supplies inventory	2,053
Inventory held for resale	4,048
Net OPEB asset	664,978
Capital assets:	
Nondepreciable capital assets	399,200
Depreciable capital assets, net	<u>14,566,428</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>14,965,628</u>
Total assets	<u>31,907,328</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources:</b>	
Pension	2,094,521
OPEB	<u>466,637</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>2,561,158</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Accounts payable	37,902
Contracts payable	40,319
Accrued wages and benefits payable	556,020
Compensated absences payable	14,494
Intergovernmental payable	61,506
Pension and postemployment benefits payable	154,011
Accrued interest payable	8,756
Claims payable	128,159
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	192,931
Due in more than one year:	
Net pension liability	9,795,510
Net OPEB liability	742,535
Other amounts due in more than one year	<u>4,008,252</u>
Total liabilities	<u>15,740,395</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources:</b>	
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	2,589,240
Deferred gains on refunding	92,690
Pension	1,024,781
OPEB	<u>1,149,266</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>4,855,977</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Net investment in capital assets	11,038,754
Restricted for:	
Endowment:	
Expendable	3,031
Nonexpendable	45,420
Classroom facilities maintenance	114,402
Debt service	1,408,108
OPEB	664,978
State funded programs	12
Federally funded programs	12,122
Food service operations	294,360
Student activities	135,383
Other purposes	24,159
Unrestricted (deficit)	131,385
Total net position	<u>\$ 13,872,114</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

<b>Governmental activities:</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Program Revenues</b>			<b>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position</b>
		<b>Charges for Services and Sales</b>	<b>Operating Grants and Contributions</b>		
				<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 5,279,031	\$ 65,111	\$ 82,087	\$ (5,131,833)	
Special	1,940,456	146,552	1,107,815	(686,089)	
Vocational	232,126	-	121,666	(110,460)	
Support services:					
Pupil	866,381	-	418,707	(447,674)	
Instructional staff	779,192	-	225,559	(553,633)	
Board of education	67,852	-	-	(67,852)	
Administration	1,195,831	-	9,813	(1,186,018)	
Fiscal	419,374	-	-	(419,374)	
Business	8,407	-	-	(8,407)	
Operations and maintenance	1,252,191	-	80	(1,252,111)	
Pupil transportation	851,493	17,926	67,144	(766,423)	
Central	119,880	-	13,407	(106,473)	
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	613,022	173,532	391,133	(48,357)	
Other non-instructional services	17,877	-	9,079	(8,798)	
Extracurricular activities	465,284	198,194	84,171	(182,919)	
Interest and fiscal charges	96,513	-	-	(96,513)	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 14,204,910</b>	<b>\$ 601,315</b>	<b>\$ 2,530,661</b>	<b>(11,072,934)</b>	
<b>General revenues:</b>					
Property taxes levied for:					
General purposes				1,842,318	
Debt service				402,807	
Capital outlay				208,827	
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs					
Investment earnings				8,586,817	
Miscellaneous				620,045	
Total general revenues				35,735	
				<b>11,696,549</b>	
Change in net position					
				623,615	
<b>Net position at beginning of year</b>					
				<b>13,248,499</b>	
<b>Net position at end of year</b>					
				<b>\$ 13,872,114</b>	

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2024**

	<b>General</b>	<b>Debt Service</b>	<b>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
<b>Assets:</b>				
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,869,373	\$ 1,377,369	\$ 2,925,755	\$ 13,172,497
Receivables:				
Property taxes	2,057,673	445,718	224,787	2,728,178
Accounts	590	-	127	717
Accrued interest	20,046	-	-	20,046
Interfund loans	200,000	-	-	200,000
Intergovernmental	14,574	-	144,059	158,633
Prepayments	13,559	-	-	13,559
Materials and supplies inventory	-	-	2,053	2,053
Inventory held for resale	-	-	4,048	4,048
Due from other funds	89,231	-	-	89,231
Total assets	<u>\$ 11,265,046</u>	<u>\$ 1,823,087</u>	<u>\$ 3,300,829</u>	<u>\$ 16,388,962</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Accounts payable	\$ 31,765	\$ -	\$ 6,137	\$ 37,902
Contracts payable	-	-	40,319	40,319
Accrued wages and benefits payable	497,241	-	58,779	556,020
Compensated absences payable	14,494	-	-	14,494
Intergovernmental payable	60,837	-	669	61,506
Pension and other postemployment benefits payable	136,997	-	17,014	154,011
Interfund loans payable	-	-	200,000	200,000
Due to other funds	-	-	89,231	89,231
Total liabilities	<u>741,334</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>412,149</u>	<u>1,153,483</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources:</b>				
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	1,968,191	406,508	214,541	2,589,240
Delinquent property tax revenue not available	46,697	9,200	5,347	61,244
Accrued interest not available	5,469	-	-	5,469
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>2,020,357</u>	<u>415,708</u>	<u>219,888</u>	<u>2,655,953</u>
<b>Fund balances:</b>				
Nonspendable:				
Materials and supplies inventory	-	-	2,053	2,053
Prepays	13,559	-	-	13,559
Endowment	-	-	45,420	45,420
Restricted:				
Debt service	-	1,407,379	-	1,407,379
Classroom facilities maintenance	-	-	114,402	114,402
Food service operations	-	-	294,957	294,957
State funded programs	-	-	12	12
Federally funded programs	-	-	12,122	12,122
Extracurricular	-	-	135,383	135,383
Endowment	-	-	3,031	3,031
Other purposes	-	-	24,159	24,159
Committed:				
Capital projects	-	-	552,533	552,533
Assigned:				
Student instruction	41,320	-	-	41,320
Student and staff support	187,447	-	-	187,447
Operation of non-instructional	3,258	-	-	3,258
Capital projects	-	-	1,484,720	1,484,720
Unassigned	<u>8,257,771</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,257,771</u>
Total fund balances	<u>8,503,355</u>	<u>1,407,379</u>	<u>2,668,792</u>	<u>12,579,526</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balances	<u>\$ 11,265,046</u>	<u>\$ 1,823,087</u>	<u>\$ 3,300,829</u>	<u>\$ 16,388,962</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO  
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES  
JUNE 30, 2024**

<b>Total governmental fund balances</b>	\$ 12,579,526
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities on the statement of net position are different because:</i>	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	14,965,628
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred inflows in the funds.	
Property taxes receivable	\$ 61,244
Accrued interest receivable	5,469
Total	<hr/> 66,713
An internal service fund is used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service fund are included in governmental activities on the statement of net position.	48,832
Unamortized premiums on bonds issued are not recognized in the funds.	(200,388)
Unamortized amounts on refundings are not recognized in the funds.	(92,690)
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and therefore is not reported in the funds.	(8,756)
The net pension/OPEB assets & liabilities are not due and payable in the current period; therefore, the assets, liabilities and related deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds.	
Deferred outflows - pension	2,094,521
Deferred inflows - pension	(1,024,781)
Net pension liability	(9,795,510)
Deferred outflows - OPEB	466,637
Deferred inflows - OPEB	(1,149,266)
Net OPEB asset	664,978
Net OPEB liability	<hr/> (742,535)
Total	(9,485,956)
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.	
General obligation bonds	(3,525,000)
Leases payable	(68,477)
Compensated absences	<hr/> (407,318)
Total	<hr/> (4,000,795)
<b>Net position of governmental activities</b>	<hr/> \$ 13,872,114

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<b>General</b>	<b>Debt Service</b>	<i>(Formerly Major)</i> <b>Capital Projects</b>	<b>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>					
Property taxes	\$ 1,898,334	\$ 413,841		\$ 215,241	\$ 2,527,416
Intergovernmental	9,680,576	9,764		1,332,775	11,023,115
Investment earnings	611,951	-		17,039	628,990
Tuition and fees	229,357	-		-	229,357
Extracurricular	34,962	-		163,464	198,426
Charges for services	-	-		173,532	173,532
Contributions and donations	5,160	-		43,985	49,145
Miscellaneous	30,575	-		40,316	70,891
Total revenues	<u>12,490,915</u>	<u>423,605</u>		<u>1,986,352</u>	<u>14,900,872</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular	4,558,107	-		194,631	4,752,738
Special	1,520,336	-		450,535	1,970,871
Vocational	234,409	-		5,021	239,430
Support services:					
Pupil	577,485	-		289,463	866,948
Instructional staff	535,225	-		247,742	782,967
Board of education	67,938	-		-	67,938
Administration	1,210,799	-		9,813	1,220,612
Fiscal	408,012	8,733		6,412	423,157
Business	8,407	-		-	8,407
Operations and maintenance	1,025,583	-		169,372	1,194,955
Pupil transportation	784,487	-		318	784,805
Central	107,592	-		13,410	121,002
Operation of non-instructional services:					
Food service operations	-	-		610,963	610,963
Other non-instructional services	7,267	-		10,610	17,877
Extracurricular activities	246,789	-		210,413	457,202
Facilities acquisition and construction	-	-		441,997	441,997
Capital outlay	80,881	-		-	80,881
Debt service:					
Principal retirement	21,218	110,000		47,940	179,158
Interest and fiscal charges	2,796	108,563		767	112,126
Total expenditures	<u>11,397,331</u>	<u>227,296</u>		<u>2,709,407</u>	<u>14,334,034</u>
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>1,093,584</u>	<u>196,309</u>		<u>(723,055)</u>	<u>566,838</u>
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>					
Transfers in	-	-		1,275,000	1,275,000
Transfers (out)	(1,275,000)	-		-	(1,275,000)
Lease transaction	80,881	-		-	80,881
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(1,194,119)</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>1,275,000</u>	<u>80,881</u>
Net change in fund balances	(100,535)	196,309		551,945	647,719
<b>Fund balance at beginning of year as previously reported</b>	8,603,890	1,211,070	671,104	1,445,743	11,931,807
Adjustment - change from major to nonmajor	-	-	(671,104)	671,104	-
<b>Fund balances at beginning of year, as adjusted</b>	<u>8,603,890</u>	<u>1,211,070</u>		<u>2,116,847</u>	<u>11,931,807</u>
<b>Fund balances at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 8,503,355</u>	<u>\$ 1,407,379</u>		<u>\$ 2,668,792</u>	<u>\$ 12,579,526</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

**Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds** \$ 647,719

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

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures.

However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation/amortization expense.

Capital asset additions	\$	719,224
Current year depreciation/amortization		<u>(883,092)</u>
Total		(163,868)

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

Property taxes	(73,464)
Earnings on investments	5,469
Intergovernmental	<u>(4,352)</u>
Total	(72,347)

Repayment of bond and lease principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the statement of net position.

179,158

Issuance of leases are recorded as other financing sources in the funds; however, in the statement of activities, they are not reported as other financing sources as they increase liabilities on the statement of net position.

(80,881)

In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding bonds, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due. The following items resulted in additional interest being reported in the statement of activities:

Change in accrued interest payable	291
Amortization of bond premiums	10,422
Amortization of deferred gains	<u>4,900</u>
Total	15,613

Contractually required contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows.

868,626  
31,517

Except for amounts reported as deferred inflows/outflows, changes in the net pension/OPEB liability/asset are reported as pension/OPEB expense in the statement of activities.

(902,821)  
77,999

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

2,318

An internal service fund used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds is not reported in the district-wide statement of activities. Governmental fund expenditures and the related internal service fund revenues are eliminated. The net revenue (expense) of the internal service fund is allocated among the governmental activities.

20,582

**Change in net position of governmental activities** \$ 623,615

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND  
JUNE 30, 2024**

	<b>Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund</b>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 176,991</u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Claims payable	<u>128,159</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Unrestricted	<u><u>\$ 48,832</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND  
CHANGES IN NET POSITION  
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	<b>Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund</b>
<b>Operating revenues:</b>	
Sales/charges for services	<u>\$ 251,591</u>
<b>Operating expenses:</b>	
Claims	<u>231,009</u>
Change in net position	20,582
<b>Net position at beginning of year</b>	<u>28,250</u>
<b>Net position at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 48,832</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<b>Governmental Activities - Internal Service Fund</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>	
Cash received from sales/charges for services	\$ 251,591
Cash payments for claims	<u>(233,823)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>17,768</u>
Net change in cash and cash cash equivalents	17,768
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<b>159,223</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<b><u>176,991</u></b>
<b>Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:</b>	
Operating income	\$ 20,582
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Claims payable	<u>(2,814)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$ 17,768</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
CUSTODIAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2024

	<u>Custodial</u>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 24,183</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Restricted for individuals, organizations and other governments	<u>\$ 24,183</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION  
CUSTODIAL FUNDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	<u>Custodial</u>
<b>Additions:</b>	
Contributions and donations	<u>\$ 26,234</u>
<b>Deductions:</b>	
Scholarships awarded	<u>2,051</u>
Change in net position	24,183
<b>Net position at beginning of year</b>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net position at end of year</b>	<u>\$ 24,183</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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

The Fairfield Local School District was established in 1962. The School District serves an area of approximately 53 square miles. It is located in Highland and Clinton Counties and includes all of the Villages of Leesburg and Highland, all of Fairfield Township, portions of Penn and Liberty Townships and a portion of Wayne Township in Clinton County. The School District currently operates one instructional building and one bus garage.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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

**A. Reporting Entity**

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

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

The School District participates in two jointly governed organizations and one insurance purchasing pool. These organizations are presented in Note 16 of the basic financial statements.

These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Miami Valley Educational Computer Association  
Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development

Insurance Purchasing Pool:

Ohio School Boards Association Workers’ Compensation Group Rating Plan

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

**B. Fund Accounting**

The School 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 School District are governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary.

*GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS*

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the School District are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is reported as fund balance. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

*Debt Service Fund* – The Debt Service Fund is used to account for and report the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general obligation bond principal and interest and certain other long-term obligations when the School District is obligated for the payment.

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.

*Nonmajor permanent funds* - Permanent funds are used to account for and report resources that are restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used for purposes that support the reporting government's programs – that is, for the benefit of the government or its citizenry.

*PROPRIETARY FUNDS*

Proprietary fund reporting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position and cash flows. Proprietary funds are classified as enterprise or internal service; the School District has no enterprise funds. The School District has one internal service fund for the operation of its health self-insurance.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

*FIDUCIARY FUNDS*

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension (and other employee benefits) trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are distinguished from custodial funds by the existence of a trust agreement or equivalent arrangements that has certain characteristics. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in a trust fund. The School District has two custodial funds which are used to account for scholarships.

**C. Basis of Presentation and Measurement Focus**

The School District's basic financial statements consist of government-wide 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.

*Government-wide Financial Statements*

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the School District, except for fiduciary funds. The government-wide financial statements usually distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental and those that are considered business-type activities; however, the School District has no business-type activities.

The Statement of Net Position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the School District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the School District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the School District.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the School District are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Activities presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total net position.

*Fund Financial Statements*

During the fiscal year, the School District segregates transactions related to certain School 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 School 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. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. The Internal Service Fund is presented in a single column on the face of the proprietary fund statement. Fiduciary funds are reported by type.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and deferred outflows of resources and current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources generally are included on the balance sheet. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include a reconciliation with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Like the government-wide statements, all proprietary and fiduciary funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of these funds are included on the statement of fund net position. In fiduciary funds, a liability to the beneficiaries of fiduciary activity is recognized when an event has occurred that compels the government to disburse fiduciary resources. Fiduciary fund liabilities other than those to beneficiaries are recognized using the economic resources measurement focus.

Fiduciary funds present a statement of changes in fiduciary net position which reports additions to and deductions from custodial funds.

**D. Basis of Accounting**

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred inflows/outflows of resources, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

*Revenues - Exchange and Nonexchange Transactions* - Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. "Measurable" means that the amount of the transaction can be determined, and "available" means that the resources are collectible within the current fiscal year, or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the School District, "available" means expected to be received within 60 days of fiscal year-end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied (See Note 6). Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the fiscal year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the School District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the School District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at fiscal year-end: property taxes available for advance and grants.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

*Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources* - In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the School District, deferred outflows of resources are reported in the government-wide statement of net position for pension and OPEB plans. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Note 11 and 12.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized until that time. For the School District, deferred inflows of resources included deferred gain on refunding, property taxes, pension and OPEB plans, and unavailable revenue. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2023, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2024 operations. These amounts have been recorded as a deferred inflow on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental fund balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. For the School District, unavailable revenue includes delinquent property taxes and intergovernmental. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. The details of these unavailable revenues are identified on the Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balance to Net Position of Governmental Activities. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are reported on the government-wide statement of net position (See Note 11 and 12).

*Expenses/Expenditures* - On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in the governmental funds.

**E. Budgets**

All funds, except for custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriation resolution and the certificate of estimated resources, 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 amounts that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the fund level.

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

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the fiscal year with the restriction that appropriations may not exceed estimated revenues. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriation for that fund that covered the entire fiscal year, including amounts automatically carried over 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, including all supplemental appropriations.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

**F. Cash and Investments**

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

The School District's investments were limited to nonnegotiable certificates of deposit, commercial paper, Federal Farm Credit Bank (FFCB) securities, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC) securities, negotiable certificates of deposit, U.S. Treasury bills, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Government money market accounts and STAR Ohio. Investments, except for STAR Ohio, are reported at fair value which is based on quoted market prices. For investments in open-end mutual funds, the fair value is determined by the fund's current share price. The School District's commercial paper is measured at amortized cost as it is a highly liquid debt instrument with a remaining maturity at the time of purchase less than one year.

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.

Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earnings are assigned to the general fund unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund. Investment earnings credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2024 amounted to \$611,951, which includes \$192,238 assigned from other School District funds.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the School District are presented on the financial statements as cash equivalents.

**G. Inventory**

Materials and supplies inventory is reported at cost, while inventory held for resale is presented at the lower of cost or market value, and donated commodities are presented at their entitlement value. Inventories are presented at cost on a first-in, first-out basis and are expended/expensed when used. Inventories consist of materials and supplies held for consumption and donated and purchased food held for resale.

**H. Capital Assets**

All capital assets of the School District are general capital assets that are associated with governmental activities. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide Statement of Net Position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

Capital assets (except for intangible right-to-use lease assets which are discussed below) are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the fiscal year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The School District maintains a capitalization threshold of \$1,000. The School District does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

All reported capital assets, except land, are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Land improvements		20 - 40 years
Buildings and improvements		20 - 40 years
Furniture, fixtures and equipment		8 - 20 years
Vehicles		10 years

The School District is reporting intangible right-to-use assets related to equipment and Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs). The asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the liability, adjusted for payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain initial direct costs. Subsequently, these intangible assets are being amortized in a systematic and rational manner over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset/subscription.

**I. Interfund Balances**

On fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund loans receivable/payable". Receivables and payables resulting from negative cash are classified as "due to/due from other funds". Interfund balances are eliminated in the Statement of Net Position.

**J. Compensated Absences**

Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the School District will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. The School District records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the termination method. An accrual for earned sick leave is made to the extent it is probable that benefits will result in termination payments. The liability is an estimate based on the School District's past experience of making termination payments.

The entire compensated absences liability is reported on the government-wide financial statements.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

**K. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations**

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements. In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources, are reported as obligations of the funds. However, compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current fiscal year. Net pension/OPEB liability should be recognized in the governmental funds to the extent that benefit payments are due and payable and the pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits. Bonds and leases are recognized as a liability in the governmental fund financial statements when due.

**L. Fund Balance**

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

*Nonspendable* - The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally required to be maintained intact. The "not in spendable form" criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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

*Committed* - The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the School District Board of Education (the highest level of decision making authority). Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the School 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 School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the School District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

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

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

**M. Net Position**

Net position represents the difference between all other elements in a statement of financial position. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. 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.

The School District applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available. Restricted Net Position for Pension and OPEB plans represent the corresponding restricted asset amounts after considering the related deferred outflows and deferred inflows.

**N. Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported on the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

**O. Interfund Activity**

Internal allocations of overhead expenses from one function to another or within the same function are eliminated on the Statement of Activities. Interfund payments for services provided and used are not eliminated.

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers and are eliminated from the Statement of Activities. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

**P. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)**

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

**Q. Prepaid Items**

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2024, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the fiscal year in which services are consumed.

**R. Bond Premiums**

For governmental activities, bond premiums are deferred and amortized over the term of the bonds using the straight-line method since the results are not significantly different from the effective interest method. Bond premiums are presented as an addition to the face amount of the bonds payable.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

On the governmental fund financial statements, bond premiums are recognized in the period in which the bonds were issued. Under Ohio law, premiums on the original issuance of debt are to be deposited to the bond retirement fund to be used for debt retirement and are precluded from being applied to the project fund. Ohio law does allow premiums on refunding debt to be used as part of the payment to the bond escrow agent.

**S. Leases Payable**

The School District serves as both lessee and lessor in various noncancellable leases which are accounted for as follows:

Lessee - At the commencement of a lease, the School District initially measures the lease liability at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease liability is reduced by the principal portion of lease payments made. The lease asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain initial direct costs. Subsequently, the lease asset is amortized on a straight-line basis over its useful life. Lease assets are reported with other capital assets and lease liabilities are reported with long-term debt on the statement of net position.

**T. Operating Revenues and Expenses**

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the proprietary fund. For the School District, these revenues are charges for services for the self- insurance programs. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of the fund. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are classified as non-operating.

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

**Change in Accounting Principles**

For fiscal year 2024, the School District has implemented certain paragraphs from 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 balances previously report by the School District.

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 School 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 required identifying a change in major fund reporting that is reflected on the face of the financial statements. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the Capital Projects Fund, which was formerly a major government fund is now reported as a non-major governmental fund.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)**

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 School District.

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

State statutes classify monies held by the School 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 School District treasury, in commercial accounts payable or withdrawable on demand, including negotiable order of withdrawal (NOW) accounts, or in money market deposit accounts.

Inactive deposits 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.

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 bills, bonds, notes, 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 obligation or security 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 division (1) or (2) 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,

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

8. Certain banker's acceptance 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.

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

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 School District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

**A. Cash On Hand**

At fiscal year end, the School District had \$180 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the School District as part of "equity in pooled cash and investments".

**B. Deposits with Financial Institutions**

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of all District deposits, including \$1,250,000 in nonnegotiable certificates of deposit, was \$2,034,968. As of June 30, 2024, \$1,628,137 of the District's bank balance of \$2,628,137 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below, while \$1,000,000 was covered by the FDIC.

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. Financial institutions which have received an extension (the "grace period") from the Ohio Treasurer of State to participate in the OPCS beyond June 30, 2023 may also pledge a single pool of eligible securities to secure the repayment of all public moneys deposited in the institution and not otherwise secured pursuant to law, provided that at all times the total fair value of the securities so pledged is at least equal to 105% of the total amount of all public deposits to be secured by the pooled securities that are not covered by any federal deposit insurance.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

**C. Investments**

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

Measurement/ <u>Investment type</u>	Measurement <u>Value</u>	Investment Maturities				
		6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
<i>Fair value:</i>						
Commercial paper	\$ 246,471	\$ 246,471	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FFCB	199,327	-	-	-	-	199,327
FHLMC	23,470	-	-	23,470	-	-
Negotiable CDs	3,825,726	494,745	357,530	744,773	1,239,199	989,479
US Treasury bills	204,957	-	204,957	-	-	-
US Treasury notes	99,574	-	-	-	-	99,574
US Government money market	1,239,858	1,239,858	-	-	-	-
<i>NAV per share:</i>						
STAR Ohio	<u>5,499,140</u>	<u>5,499,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 11,338,523</u>	<u>\$ 7,480,214</u>	<u>\$ 562,487</u>	<u>\$ 768,243</u>	<u>\$ 1,239,199</u>	<u>\$ 1,288,380</u>

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.65 years.

The School District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The above chart identifies the School District's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2024. The Money Market Mutual Fund is measured at fair value and is valued using quoted market prices (Level 1 inputs). The School District's remaining investments measured at fair value are valued using methodologies that incorporate market inputs such as benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data including market research publications. Market indicators and industry and economic events are also monitored, which could require the need to acquire further market data. (Level 2 inputs).

*Interest Rate Risk:* The School District's investment policy follows State statute, which requires that an investment mature within five years of the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and that an investment must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

*Credit Risk:* The Standard and Poor's or Moody's rating of the School District's investments is listed in the table above. STAR Ohio is permitted by Ohio Revised Code Section 135.45. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service and that the money market mutual funds be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized rating service. The negotiable certificates of deposit are in denominations of under \$250,000 each, in separate banks, and are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). The negotiable certificates of deposit are, therefore, not subject to credit risk. The Discount Commercial Paper investments are rated P1/A1 to A1+ by Moody's and Standard and Poor's. The School District has no investment policy that addresses credit risk.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

The following table summarizes the ratings assigned to the School District's investments by Standard & Poor's:

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Rating</u>
Commercial paper	A-1
Federal agency securities	AA+
Negotiable CDs	Not rated
U.S. Treasury bills	A-1+
U.S. Treasury notes	AA+
U.S. Government Money Market Funds	Not rated
STAR Ohio	AAAm

*Custodial Credit Risk:* For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. All of the School District's investments are either insured and registered in the name of the School District or at least registered in the name of the School District. The School District does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

*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>Measurement/Investment type</u>	<u>Measurement</u>	
	<u>Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
<i>Fair value:</i>		
Commercial paper	\$ 246,471	2.17
FFCB	199,327	1.76
FHLMC	23,470	0.21
Negotiable CDs	3,825,726	33.74
US Treasury bills	204,957	1.81
US Treasury notes	99,574	0.88
US Government money market	1,239,858	10.93
<i>NAV per share:</i>		
STAR Ohio	5,499,140	48.50
Total	<u>\$ 11,338,523</u>	<u>100.00</u>

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

**D. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position**

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

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 2,034,968
Investments	11,338,523
Cash on hand	<u>180</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 13,373,671</u></u>

<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	\$ 13,349,488
Custodial funds	<u>24,183</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 13,373,671</u></u>

**NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS**

**A. Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2024, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund statements:**

	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Transfers from general fund to:</u>	
Nonmajor governmental fund	<u><u>\$ 1,275,000</u></u>

Transfers are used to move revenues from the fund that statute or budget required to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them and to use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

**B. Interfund loans receivable/payable consisted of the following at June 30, 2024, as reported on the fund statement:**

<u>Receivable Fund</u>	<u>Payable Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General fund	Nonmajor governmental fund	<u><u>\$ 200,000</u></u>

The primary purpose of the interfund balances is to cover costs in specific funds where revenues were not received by June 30. These interfund balances will be repaid once the anticipated revenues are received.

Interfund balances between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide Statement of Net Position.

**C. Due to/from other funds consisted of the following at June 30, 2024 as reported on the fund statement:**

<u>Receivable fund</u>	<u>Payable fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	<u><u>\$ 89,231</u></u>

The primary purpose of the amount due to the general fund from the nonmajor governmental fund was to eliminate negative cash balances. The amount will be repaid once cash is received.

Amounts due to/from between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide statements.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES**

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property. 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 market 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 personal property taxes received in calendar year 2023 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 School District receives property taxes from Highland and Clinton Counties. The County Auditors periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2024, are available to finance fiscal year 2024 operations. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2024 and 2023 were:

	<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>June 30, 2023</u>
Major governmental funds:		
General fund	\$ 42,785	\$ 81,519
Bond retirement fund	30,010	37,465
Nonmajor governmental funds:		
Permanent improvement fund	4,899	9,334

The amount of second-half real property taxes available for advance at fiscal year-end can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

Accrued property taxes receivable includes real property, public utility property and delinquent tangible personal property taxes which are measurable as of June 30, 2024 and for which there is an enforceable legal claim. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, only the amount of real property taxes available as an advance at June 30 was levied to finance current fiscal year operations and is reported as revenue at fiscal year-end. The portion of the receivable not levied to finance current fiscal year operations is offset by a credit to deferred inflows.

On the accrual basis of accounting, collectible delinquent property taxes have been recorded as a receivable and revenue, while on a modified accrual basis of accounting the revenue has been reported as a deferred inflow.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES – (Continued)**

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

	2023 Second Half Collections		2024 First Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 102,675,650	96.49	\$ 103,969,450	96.17
Public utility personal	<u>3,730,650</u>	<u>3.51</u>	<u>4,135,770</u>	<u>3.83</u>
Total	<u>\$ 106,406,300</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>\$ 108,105,220</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation		\$30.44		\$30.44

**NOTE 7 - RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at June 30, 2024 consisted of property taxes, accounts, accrued interest and intergovernmental grants. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the ability to foreclose for the nonpayment of taxes, the stable condition of State programs, and the current fiscal year guarantee of federal funds. All receivables except delinquent property taxes are expected to be collected within one year. Property taxes, although ultimately collectible, include some portion of delinquents that will not be collected within one year.

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**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 8 - CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital asset activity for governmental activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, was as follows:

	<u>Balance</u>	<u>06/30/23</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>06/30/24</u>
<b>Governmental activities:</b>						
<i>Capital assets, not being depreciated/amortized:</i>						
Land	\$ 399,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 399,200	
Total capital assets, not being depreciated/amortized	<u>399,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>399,200</u>	
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated/amortized:</i>						
Land improvements	2,306,442	-	-	-	2,306,442	
Buildings and improvements	23,429,299	477,458	(1,266)	23,905,491		
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	2,522,142	126,008	(51,081)	2,597,069		
Vehicles	1,299,682	8,344	-	-	1,308,026	
Intangible right to use assets:						
Equipment	58,500	80,881	(58,500)	80,881		
SBITAs	-	26,533	-	-	26,533	
Textbooks	<u>970,875</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>970,875</u>	
Total capital assets, being depreciated/amortized	<u>30,586,940</u>	<u>719,224</u>	<u>(110,847)</u>	<u>31,195,317</u>		
<i>Less: accumulated depreciation/amortization</i>						
Land improvements	(914,592)	(60,331)	-	-	(974,923)	
Buildings and improvements	(11,320,330)	(601,143)	1,266	(11,920,207)		
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	(1,883,051)	(108,153)	51,081	(1,940,123)		
Vehicles	(717,654)	(82,413)	-	-	(800,067)	
Intangible right to use assets:						
Equipment	(50,142)	(22,067)	58,500	(13,709)		
SBITAs	-	(8,985)	-	-	(8,985)	
Textbooks	<u>(970,875)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(970,875)</u>	
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	<u>(15,856,644)</u>	<u>(883,092)</u>	<u>110,847</u>	<u>(16,628,889)</u>		
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 15,129,496</u>	<u>\$ (163,868)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 14,965,628</u>		

Depreciation/amortization expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

<b>Instruction:</b>	
Regular	\$ 631,627
Special	5,844
Vocational	6,128
<b>Support services:</b>	
Instructional staff	8,629
Administration	630
Fiscal	103
Operations and maintenance	122,445
Pupil transportation	82,279
Food service operations	10,698
Extracurricular activities	<u>14,709</u>
Total depreciation/amortization expense	<u>\$ 883,092</u>

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

A. During fiscal year 2024, the following activity occurred in governmental activities long-term obligations:

	<u>Balance 6/30/23</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance 6/30/24</u>	<u>Due Within One Year</u>
<i>General obligation bonds:</i>					
Direct Placement:					
2020 School Improvement					
Refunding Bonds:					
Serial and Term Bonds 1.50% to 4.00%	\$ 3,635,000	\$ -	\$ (110,000)	\$ 3,525,000	\$ 130,000
Premium on Debt Issuance	210,810	-	(10,422)	200,388	-
Total Direct Placement	3,845,810	-	(120,422)	3,725,388	130,000
Net Pension Liability	10,623,620	26,273	(854,383)	9,795,510	-
Net OPEB Liability	636,185	106,350	-	742,535	-
Financed Purchase	47,940	-	(47,940)	-	-
Leases Payable	8,814	80,881	(21,218)	68,477	15,160
Compensated Absences	409,636	142,534	(144,852)	407,318	47,771
Total Governmental Activities					
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>\$ 15,572,005</u>	<u>\$ 356,038</u>	<u>\$ (1,188,815)</u>	<u>14,739,228</u>	<u>\$ 192,931</u>

*School Improvement General Obligation Bonds 2020*

On March 3, 2020, the School District issued \$4,010,000 in School Improvement Refunding Bonds for the purpose of refunding the 2015 School Improvement General Obligation Bonds, in order to take advantage of lower interest rates. Of these bonds, \$1,205,000 were serial bonds and \$2,805,000 are term bonds. These bonds are paid from the Debt Service Funds and will mature in June 2043. At June 30, 2024, \$3,525,000 of the refunded bonds were still outstanding.

Principal and interest requirements to retire general obligation debt outstanding at June 30, 2024, are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending	<u>School Improvement General Obligation Bonds 2020</u>			
	<u>June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 130,000	\$ 106,912	\$ 236,912	
2026	140,000	101,712	241,712	
2027	145,000	96,112	241,112	
2028	150,000	90,312	240,312	
2029	155,000	84,312	239,312	
2030 - 2034	885,000	322,360	1,207,360	
2035 - 2039	1,015,000	187,376	1,202,376	
2040 - 2043	905,000	57,128	962,128	
Total	<u>\$ 3,525,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,046,224</u>	<u>\$ 4,571,224</u>	

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 9 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)**

Financed Purchase

In prior years, the School District entered into a financed purchase agreement for improvements, renovations and additions to the School District's building. This agreement met the criteria of a financed purchase which is defined as a financed purchase which transfers ownership to the lessee. Financed Purchase payments are reflected as debt expenditures in the fund financial statements. Principal payments made during fiscal year 2024 on the building totaled \$47,940. Payments are made from the Permanent Improvement Fund. As of June 30, 2024, there were no further obligations outstanding.

Leases Payable:

The School District has entered into lease agreements for the user of intangible right-to-use equipment. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 87, the School District will report an intangible capital asset and corresponding liability for the future scheduled payments under the leases. The lease payments will be paid from the general fund.

The School District has entered into lease agreements for copier machines with multiple companies at varying years and terms as follows:

<u>Lease</u>	<u>Lease Commencement Date (fiscal year)</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Lease End Date (fiscal year)</u>	<u>Payment Method</u>
Copier Lease	2022	2	2024	Monthly
Copier Lease	2024	5	2029	Monthly

Lease payments will be paid from the general fund. The following is a schedule of future lease payments under the lease agreements:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	15,160	3,080	18,240
2026	15,936	2,304	18,240
2027	16,752	1,488	18,240
2028	17,608	632	18,240
2029	3,021	19	3,040
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 68,477</b>	<b>\$ 7,523</b>	<b>\$ 76,000</b>

The School District pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service. Compensated absences will be paid from the General Fund, Food Service, Title VI-B and Title I Special Revenue Funds. There is no repayment schedule for the net pension/OPEB liabilities. However, employer pension/OPEB contributions are made from the following funds: General Fund, Food Service, Title VI-B, and Title I Special Revenue Funds. For additional information related to the net pension/OPEB liabilities see Note 11 and 12.

**B. Legal Debt Margin**

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$6,094,470 with an unvoted debt margin of \$108,105 at June 30, 2024.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 10 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. Property and Liability**

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2024, the School District contracted with the Liberty Mutual for property insurance coverage.

Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. There has been no significant decrease in coverage from the prior fiscal year.

**B. Employee Health Care Benefits**

The School District is partially self-insured for employee health care benefits for all of its employees. The health care benefits program is currently administered by Medical Mutual, which provides claims review and processing services.

The liability for unpaid claims of \$128,159 reported in the Health Self-Insurance Fund at June 30, 2024, is based on the requirements of GASB Statement No. 10, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Insurance Issues," as amended by GASB Statement No. 30, "Risk Management Omnibus," which requires that a liability for unpaid claims costs, including estimates of costs relating to incurred but not reported claims, be reported. Estimates were calculated based upon an independent actuarial evaluation of claims payable. The estimate was not affected by incremental claims adjustment expenses and does not include other allocated or unallocated claims adjustment expenses.

Employees choosing Medical Mutual have an unlimited lifetime benefit with the health reimbursement account covering 75 percent of the deductible. The School District has a preferred provider organization insurance plan that covers all expenses above the employee out-of-pocket maximum.

Changes in claims activity for employee health care benefits for the fiscal year is as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Claims Incurred</u>	<u>Claims Payments</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
2024	\$ 130,973	\$ 231,009	\$ (233,823)	\$ 128,159
2023	146,545	195,783	(211,355)	130,973

**C. Workers' Compensation**

For fiscal year 2024, the School District participated in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group-Retrospective Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 16). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Sedwick Managed Care Ohio provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the GRP. Each fiscal year, the School District pays an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

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

***Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

The net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset reported on the statement of net position represents a liability or asset to employees for pensions and OPEB, respectively.

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

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes pension costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the retirement systems to amortize unfunded pension liabilities within 30 years. If the pension amortization period exceeds 30 years, 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 remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 12 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

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

Plan Description - The School 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](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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.

**Funding Policy** - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the School 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 School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$239,616 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$10,206 is reported pension and postemployment benefits payable.

***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 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS website at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org).

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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 9.53% 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. The remaining 4.47% 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.

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 School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$629,010 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$112,288 is reported pension and postemployment benefits payable.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

***Net Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions***

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School 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 and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.044485300%	0.036965640%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.044021000%</u>	<u>0.034191530%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000464300%</u>	<u>-0.002774110%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,432,385	\$ 7,363,125	\$ 9,795,510
Pension expense	\$ 276,935	\$ 625,886	\$ 902,821

At June 30, 2024, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 104,550	\$ 268,445	\$ 372,995
Changes of assumptions	17,231	606,392	623,623
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	4,308	224,969	229,277
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>239,616</u>	<u>629,010</u>	<u>868,626</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 365,705</u>	<u>\$ 1,728,816</u>	<u>\$ 2,094,521</u>
 <b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 16,337	\$ 16,337
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	34,191	22,068	56,259
Changes of assumptions	-	456,440	456,440
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>17,691</u>	<u>478,054</u>	<u>495,745</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 51,882</u>	<u>\$ 972,899</u>	<u>\$ 1,024,781</u>

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

\$868,626 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$ 17,094	\$ (61,491)	\$ (44,397)
2026	(97,883)	(264,449)	(362,332)
2027	153,183	611,843	765,026
2028	<u>1,813</u>	<u>(158,996)</u>	<u>(157,183)</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ 74,207</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 126,907</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 201,114</u></b>

***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.

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.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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%
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Prior measurement date	2.40%
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Future salary increases, including inflation:

Current measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
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Prior measurement date	3.25% to 13.58%
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COLA or ad hoc COLA:

Current measurement date	2.00%
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Prior measurement date	2.00%
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Investment rate of return:

Current measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
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Prior measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
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Discount rate:

Current measurement date	7.00%
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Prior measurement date	7.00%
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Actuarial cost method

Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)	
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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 SERS' *Statement of Investment Policy*. Ohio Revised Code Section 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.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Cash	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** - 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 School 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.

	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 3,590,079	\$ 2,432,385	\$ 1,457,252

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

***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:

	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 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.

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>100.00 %</u>	

\* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

\*\*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 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 School 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:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 11,322,856	\$ 7,363,125	\$ 4,014,275

***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 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

***Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

See Note 11 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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

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

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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 School District's surcharge obligation was \$31,517.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$31,517 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$31,517 is reported as pension and postemployment benefits payable.

***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](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% 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 Liabilities/Assets, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB***

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 School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset was based on the School District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net OPEB			
liability/asset prior measurement date	0.045312000%	0.036965640%	
Proportion of the net OPEB			
liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.045071900%</u>	<u>0.034191530%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.000240100%</u>	<u>-0.002774110%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 742,535	\$ -	\$ 742,535
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (664,978)	\$ (664,978)
OPEB expense	\$ (64,247)	\$ (13,752)	\$ (77,999)

At June 30, 2024, the School District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 1,546	\$ 1,037	\$ 2,583
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	5,754	1,190	6,944
Changes of assumptions	251,072	97,960	349,032
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	60,629	15,932	76,561
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>31,517</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,517</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 350,518</u>	<u>\$ 116,119</u>	<u>\$ 466,637</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 382,951	\$ 101,425	\$ 484,376
Changes of assumptions	210,890	438,743	649,633
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	<u>13,955</u>	<u>1,302</u>	<u>15,257</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 607,796</u>	<u>\$ 541,470</u>	<u>\$ 1,149,266</u>

\$31,517 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability/asset in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2025	\$ (94,981)	\$ (187,245)	\$ (282,226)
2026	(84,016)	(88,315)	(172,331)
2027	(48,399)	(32,925)	(81,324)
2028	(31,357)	(45,271)	(76,628)
2029	(27,533)	(41,404)	(68,937)
Thereafter	<u>(2,509)</u>	<u>(30,191)</u>	<u>(32,700)</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$ (288,795)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (425,351)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (714,146)</u></b>

***Actuarial Assumptions - SERS***

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

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

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.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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:

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.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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 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
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>100.00 %</u></b>	

**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.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

***Sensitivity of the School 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
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 949,172	\$ 742,535	\$ 579,593
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 545,515	\$ 742,535	\$ 1,003,613

***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.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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.

***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	<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.

***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.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 12 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

***Sensitivity of the School 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.

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 562,817	\$ 664,978	\$ 753,950
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 758,078	\$ 664,978	\$ 552,840

**NOTE 13 - CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

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

**B. Litigation**

The School District is of the opinion that the ultimate disposition of any legal proceedings will not have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the School District.

**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 School District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODEW has not finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2024 Foundation funding for the School District; therefore, the financial statement impact is not determinable at this time. ODEW and management believe this will result in either a receivable to or liability of the School District.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 14 - SET-ASIDES**

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

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

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2023	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	192,689
Current year offsets	<u>(1,525,537)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ (1,332,848)</u></u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2025	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2024	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

Amounts of offsets and qualifying expenditures presented in the table for the capital acquisition set-asides were limited to those necessary to reduce the year-end balance to zero. Although the School District may have had additional offsets and qualifying expenditures for capital acquisitions, these amounts may not be used to reduce the set-aside requirements of future fiscal years and therefore is not presented as being carried forward to the next fiscal year.

**NOTE 15 - OTHER COMMITMENTS**

**A. Encumbrances**

Encumbrances are commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting is utilized to the extent necessary to assure effective budgetary control and accountability and to facilitate effective cash planning and control. At fiscal year-end, the amount of encumbrances expected to be honored upon performance by the vendor in the next fiscal year were as follows:

	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General	\$ 152,759
Nonmajor governmental funds	<u>319,765</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 472,524</u></u>

**NOTE 16 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS AND INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL**

**Miami Valley Educational Computer Association**

The School District is a participant in the Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA), which is a computer consortium. MVECA is an association of public schools within the boundaries of Clark, Clinton, Fayette, Greene, Highland, Madison, Montgomery and Ross 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 districts.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 16 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS AND INSURANCE PURCHASING POOL – (Continued)**

The governing board of MVECA consists of five Superintendents and two Treasurers of member school districts, with four of the five Superintendents and both Treasurers elected by a majority vote of all member school districts, except the Greene County Career Center. The fifth Superintendent is from the Greene County Career Center. The Board exercises total control over the operations of the association including budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. Each participant's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Board. The School District paid MVECA \$40,370 for services provided during fiscal year 2024. Financial information can be obtained from Liz Dunn, who serves as Treasurer, at 888 Dayton Street, Suite 102, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

***Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development***

The Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development, a jointly governed organization, is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio operated under the direction of a Board, consisting of one representative from each of the participating school districts' elected boards, which possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development was formed for the purpose of providing vocational education opportunities to the students of the school district including students of Fairfield Local School District. The School District has no ongoing financial interest in, nor responsibility for the Institute. The School District made no contributions during the fiscal year. The Board exercises total control over the operations of the Institute including budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. Each School District's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Board. Complete financial statements for Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development can be obtained from the Chief Financial Officer at 3254 East Kemper Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45241.

***Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan***

The School District participates in the Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), an insurance purchasing pool. The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect and the Immediate Past President of the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA). The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the program. Each fiscal year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

**NOTE 17 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

**A. Compensated Absences**

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. The classified employees working 12 months of the year earn 10 to 20 days of vacation per fiscal year, depending upon length of service. Accumulated, unused vacation time is paid to classified employees and the Treasurer upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month.

**B. Insurance Benefits**

For fiscal year 2024, medical/surgical and prescription drug insurance is offered to employees through Medical Mutual of Ohio. The employees share the cost of the monthly premium with the Board. The premium varies with the employee, depending on the terms of the contract.

For the period July 1, 2023 through September 30, 2023, the School District elected to provide dental insurance through Delta Dental. For the period October 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, the School District has elected to provide dental insurance through Superior Dental Care. The School District provides vision insurance to all employees through Vision Service Plan.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 17 - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - (Continued)**

**C. Retirement Incentive**

An employee, covered by the master contract, who retires between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2024, will receive a retirement incentive bonus using the following formula:

One-half percent (.005) of the employee's average total compensation for the last three full fiscal years of his/her employment in the School District.

The average is then multiplied by (X), where (X) equals the number of complete fiscal years of service in the Fairfield Local School District.

The following restrictions apply to this incentive:

1. The employee must be eligible for and taking initial regular retirement under either STRS or SERS. (Persons previously retired under STRS or SERS are ineligible.)
2. Effective June 30, 2011, this incentive applies to only those employees who retire with less than 31 years of service credit under either STRS or SERS.
3. The employee must give the Board of Education a minimum of 90 days written notice of his/her intent to retire.
4. An employee who retires during the school year receives no partial credit for that year in terms of bonus calculation; the bonus will be based on the last three complete fiscal years of service.
5. Compensation upon which the bonus is calculated includes all payments made to the employee from whichever retirement that has been withheld.

The retirement incentive bonus is paid within 30 days of the actual retirement date, provided written evidence of actual retirement (such as a copy of a retirement check or its stub) has been provided to the Treasurer.

Two employees accepted the retirement incentive bonus during fiscal year 2024.

**NOTE 18 - ENDOWMENTS**

The School District's permanent funds include donor-restricted endowments. The Net Position- Non-Expendable amounts of \$45,420 represent the principal portion of the endowments. The Net Position – Expendable amount of \$3,031 represents the interest earnings on donor-restricted investments and is available for expenditure by the governing board, for purposes consistent with the endowment's intent. State law permits the governing board to appropriate, for purposes consistent with the endowment's intent, net appreciation, realized and unrealized, unless the endowment terms specify otherwise.

**NOTE 19 - COVID-19**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ohio's state of emergency ended in June 2021 while the national state of emergency ended in April 2023. During fiscal year 2024, the School District received COVID-19 funding. The School District will continue to spend available COVID-19 funding consistent with the applicable program guidelines.

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## REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<b>Budgeted Amounts</b>		<b>Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis</b>	<b>Variance with Final Budget - over (under) Actual Amounts</b>
	<b>Original</b>	<b>Final</b>		
Budgetary revenues and other financing sources	\$ 11,769,850	\$ 13,209,212	\$ 13,171,982	\$ (37,230)
Budgetary expenditures and other financing uses	<u>11,288,006</u>	<u>13,191,785</u>	<u>12,875,254</u>	<u>(316,531)</u>
Net change in fund balance	481,844	17,427	296,728	279,301
<b>Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year as previously reported</b>	8,303,782	8,303,782	8,303,782	-
Restatement - exclude public school support fund	<u>(50,571)</u>	<u>(50,571)</u>	<u>(50,571)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year, as restated</b>	8,253,211	8,253,211	8,253,211	-
<b>Prior year encumbrances appropriated</b>	<u>162,590</u>	<u>162,590</u>	<u>162,590</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Budgetary fund balance at end of year</b>	<u><u>\$ 8,897,645</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,433,228</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,712,529</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 279,301</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND  
SCHOOL DISTRICT PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO**

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

<b>Fiscal Year (1)</b>	<b>School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>School District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability</b>
2024	0.044021000%	\$ 2,432,385	\$ 1,754,957	138.60%	76.06%
2023	0.044485300%	2,406,112	1,625,693	148.01%	75.82%
2022	0.044149100%	1,628,973	1,535,964	106.06%	82.86%
2021	0.040692800%	2,691,508	1,410,900	190.77%	68.55%
2020	0.041026300%	2,454,676	1,512,593	162.28%	70.85%
2019	0.039987300%	2,290,147	1,345,793	170.17%	71.36%
2018	0.039543900%	2,362,662	1,228,600	192.31%	69.50%
2017	0.037942900%	2,777,071	1,224,564	226.78%	62.98%
2016	0.037501300%	2,139,859	1,134,400	188.63%	69.16%
2015	0.038397000%	1,943,250	1,105,099	175.84%	71.70%

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>School District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2024	\$ 239,616	\$ (239,616)	\$ -	\$ 1,711,543	14.00%
2023	245,694	(245,694)	-	1,754,957	14.00%
2022	228,597	(228,597)	-	1,632,836	14.00%
2021	215,035	(215,035)	-	1,535,964	14.00%
2020	197,526	(197,526)	-	1,410,900	14.00%
2019	204,200	(204,200)	-	1,512,593	13.50%
2018	181,682	(181,682)	-	1,345,793	13.50%
2017	172,004	(172,004)	-	1,228,600	14.00%
2016	171,439	(171,439)	-	1,224,564	14.00%
2015	149,474	(149,474)	-	1,134,097	13.18%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the School District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND  
SCHOOL DISTRICT PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO**

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

<b>Fiscal Year (1)</b>	<b>School District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>School District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability</b>
2024	0.034191530%	\$ 7,363,125	\$ 4,649,364	158.37%	80.02%
2023	0.036965640%	8,217,508	4,764,193	172.48%	78.88%
2022	0.035030541%	4,478,969	4,511,943	99.27%	87.78%
2021	0.034624810%	8,377,974	4,181,157	200.37%	75.48%
2020	0.034037120%	7,527,105	4,262,000	176.61%	77.40%
2019	0.033977900%	7,814,033	3,777,936	206.83%	77.31%
2018	0.032893970%	7,814,033	3,811,514	205.01%	75.30%
2017	0.031891570%	10,675,070	3,603,471	296.24%	66.80%
2016	0.030061110%	8,308,013	3,132,371	265.23%	72.10%
2015	0.030086760%	7,318,141	3,053,169	239.69%	74.70%

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</b>		<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>School District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2024	\$ 629,010	\$ (629,010)	\$ -	\$ 4,492,929	14.00%
2023	650,911	(650,911)	-	4,649,364	14.00%
2022	666,987	(666,987)	-	4,764,193	14.00%
2021	631,672	(631,672)	-	4,511,943	14.00%
2020	585,362	(585,362)	-	4,181,157	14.00%
2019	596,680	(596,680)	-	4,262,000	14.00%
2018	528,911	(528,911)	-	3,777,936	14.00%
2017	533,612	(533,612)	-	3,811,514	14.00%
2016	504,486	(504,486)	-	3,603,471	14.00%
2015	438,532	(438,532)	-	3,132,371	14.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the School District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY AND  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO**

LAST EIGHT AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

<b>Fiscal Year (1) (2)</b>	<b>School District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability</b>	<b>School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability</b>	<b>School District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability</b>
2024	0.045071900%	\$ 742,535	\$ 1,754,957	42.31%	30.02%
2023	0.045312000%	636,185	1,625,693	39.13%	30.34%
2022	0.045547100%	862,017	1,535,964	56.12%	24.08%
2021	0.042291700%	919,138	1,410,900	65.15%	18.17%
2020	0.042020700%	1,056,733	1,512,593	69.86%	15.57%
2019	0.040458500%	1,122,428	1,345,793	83.40%	13.57%
2018	0.039788500%	1,067,819	1,228,600	86.91%	12.46%
2017	0.037965900%	1,082,169	1,224,564	88.37%	11.49%

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>School District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2024	\$ 31,517	\$ (31,517)	\$ -	\$ 1,711,543	2.00%
2023	31,730	(31,730)	-	1,754,957	1.81%
2022	28,698	(28,698)	-	1,632,836	1.76%
2021	29,369	(29,369)	-	1,535,964	1.91%
2020	27,476	(27,476)	-	1,410,900	1.95%
2019	33,102	(33,102)	-	1,512,593	2.19%
2018	28,104	(28,104)	-	1,345,793	2.09%
2017	20,116	(20,116)	-	1,228,600	1.64%
2016	17,130	(17,130)	-	1,224,564	1.40%
2015	26,079	(26,079)	-	1,134,097	2.30%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the School District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**SCHEDULE OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF  
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY/(ASSET) AND  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS  
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO**

**LAST EIGHT AND TEN FISCAL YEARS**

<b>Fiscal Year (1) (2)</b>	<b>School District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)</b>	<b>School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)</b>	<b>School District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability/(Asset)</b>
2024	0.034191530%	\$ (664,978)	\$ 4,649,364	14.30%	168.52%
2023	0.036965640%	(957,163)	4,764,193	20.09%	230.73%
2022	0.035030541%	(738,589)	4,511,943	16.37%	174.73%
2021	0.034624810%	(608,530)	4,181,157	14.55%	182.10%
2020	0.034037120%	(563,737)	4,262,000	13.23%	174.74%
2019	0.033973790%	(545,924)	3,777,936	14.45%	176.00%
2018	0.032893970%	1,283,401	3,811,514	33.67%	47.10%
2017	0.031891570%	1,705,569	3,603,471	47.33%	37.30%

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions</b>	<b>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</b>	<b>School District's Covered Payroll</b>	<b>Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll</b>
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,492,929	0.00%
2023	-	-	-	4,649,364	0.00%
2022	-	-	-	4,764,193	0.00%
2021	-	-	-	4,511,943	0.00%
2020	-	-	-	4,181,157	0.00%
2019	-	-	-	4,262,000	0.00%
2018	-	-	-	3,777,936	0.00%
2017	-	-	-	3,811,514	0.00%
2016	-	-	-	3,603,471	0.00%
2015	-	-	-	3,132,371	0.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the School District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

**SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS**

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts and disbursements.

The schedule of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance - budget and actual (non-GAAP budgetary basis) presented for the general fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are that:

- (a) Revenues and other financing sources are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
- (b) Expenditures and other financing uses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);
- (c) In order to determine compliance with Ohio law, and to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, total outstanding encumbrances (budget basis) are recorded as the equivalent of an expenditure, as opposed to assigned or committed fund balance for that portion of outstanding encumbrances not already recognized as an account payable (GAAP basis); and
- (d) Some funds are included in the general fund (GAAP basis), but have separate legally adopted budgets (budget basis).

The adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations for the year on the budget basis to the GAAP basis is as follows:

	<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<u>General fund</u>
Budget basis		\$ 296,728
Net adjustment for revenue and other financing sources accruals		(662,764)
Net adjustment for expenditure and other financing uses accruals		52,904
Funds budgeted elsewhere		28,455
Adjustments for encumbrances		<u>184,142</u>
GAAP Basis		<u><u>\$ (100,535)</u></u>

As part of 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.

At July 1, 2023, the beginning budgetary fund balance was restated from \$8,303,782 to \$8,253,211 to exclude the School District’s public school support fund.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

**PENSION**

*SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO*

*Change in benefit terms:*

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, SERS changed from a fixed 3% annual increase to a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), with a cap of 2.5% and a floor of 0%.
- For fiscal year 2019, with the authority granted the Board under Senate Bill 8, the Board has enacted a three year COLA delay for future benefit recipients commencing benefits on or after April 1, 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, SERS changed from a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 2.5% to 2.0%.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.

*Change in assumptions:*

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement and (h) the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50%-18.20% to 3.25%-13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)**

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

*STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO*

*Change in benefit terms:*

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS decreased the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to zero.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.

*Changes in assumptions:*

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (b) the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, (c) the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%, (d) total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25% due to lower inflation, (e) the healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016 and (f) rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: the projected salary increases went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)**

**OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)**

**SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO**

*Change in benefit terms:*

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.

*Change in assumptions:*

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to the following: RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement, (h) the municipal bond index rate increased from 2.92% to 3.56% and (i) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 2.98% to 3.63%.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate increased from 3.63% to 3.70%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.50%-5.00% to a range of 5.375%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.50%-5.00% to a range of 7.25%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate increased from 3.56% to 3.62% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 3.63% to 3.70%.
- For fiscal year 2020, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.375%-4.75% to a range of 5.25%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.25%-4.75% to a range of 7.00%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.62% to 3.13% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%.
- For fiscal year 2021, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.22% to 2.63% and (b) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.13% to 2.45%, and (c) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.22% to 2.63%.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)**

- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50%-18.20% to 3.25%-13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 1.92% to 3.69%, (b) single equivalent interest rate went from 2.27% to 4.08% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 5.125% to 4.40% Medicare and 6.75% to 4.40% Pre-Medicare to 7.00% to 4.40%.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumptions affect the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 3.69% to 3.86%, (b) single equivalent interest rate went from 4.08% to 4.27% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 7.00% to 4.40% to 6.75% to 4.40%.

**STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO**

*Change in benefit terms:*

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS reduced the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.
- For fiscal year 2019, STRS increased the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 1.9% to 1.944% per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.
- For fiscal year 2020, STRS increased the subsidy percentage from 1.944% to 1.984% effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.
- For fiscal year 2021, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- For fiscal year 2022, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022 from 2.055% to 2.100%. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in CY2022. The Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)**

*Change in assumptions:*

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB), (b) the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (c) valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified, (d) the percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased and (e) the assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability/asset since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13% to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB) and (b) decrease in health care cost trend rates from 6.00%-11.00% initial; 4.50% ultimate down to Medical Pre-Medicare 6.00% and Medicare 5.00% initial; 4.00% ultimate and Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare 8.00% and Medicare (5.23%) initial; 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2020, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 6.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 8.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate and (5.23%) initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2021, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to -6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%, (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (c) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical Medicare from -6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to -16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) projected salary increase went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by services from 2.50% to 8.50% and (b) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate; medical Medicare from -16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate to -68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate; Medicare from 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate to -5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 4.14% ultimate; medical Medicare from -68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate to -10.94% initial - 4.14% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate to -11.95% initial - 4.14% ultimate; Medicare from -5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 1.33% initial - 4.14% ultimate.

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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

<b>FEDERAL GRANTOR</b> <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> <b>Program / Cluster Title</b>	<b>Assistance Listing Number</b>	<b>Total Federal Expenditures</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
Child Nutrition Cluster:		
Cash Assistance		
School Breakfast Program	10.553	103,581
Non-Cash Assistance (Food Distribution)		
National School Lunch Program - Food Donations	10.555	36,861
Cash Assistance		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	204,670
COVID-19 - National School Lunch Program - CN COVID FOOD PRO MANF	10.555	27,682
Total National School Lunch Program		269,213
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		<u>372,794</u>
<b>Total U.S. Department of Agriculture</b>		<u>372,794</u>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY</b>		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Office of Budget and Management</i>		
COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - School Safety	21.027	<u>91,388</u>
<b>Total U.S. Department of the Treasury</b>		<u>91,388</u>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>		
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies: Improving Basic Programs FY23	84.010A	16,262
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies: Improving Basic Programs FY24	84.010A	186,626
Total Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies		202,888
Special Education Cluster:		
Special Education Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) FY23	84.027A	11,672
Special Education Grants to States (IDEA, Part B) FY24	84.027A	196,630
Total Special Education Grants to States		<u>208,302</u>
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173A	<u>3,811</u>
Total Special Education Cluster		<u>212,113</u>
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	<u>30,851</u>
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	<u>16,968</u>
Education Stabilization Fund		
COVID-19 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II)	84.425D	4,935
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School		
Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund FY23	84.425U	70,674
Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund FY24	84.425U	353,726
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School		
Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER Homeless Children and Youth Grant) Fund	84.425W	16,500
Total Education Stabilization Fund		<u>445,835</u>
<b>Total U.S. Department of Education</b>		<u>908,655</u>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>		<u><b>\$1,372,837</b></u>

*The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.*

**FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND COUNTY**

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

**NOTE 1 - BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of Fairfield Local School District (the School District) 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 School District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the School District.

**NOTE 2 - 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 3 - INDIRECT COST RATE**

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

**NOTE 4 - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

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

**NOTE 5 - FOOD DONATION PROGRAM**

The School District reports commodities consumed on the Schedule at the entitlement value. The School 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**

Fairfield Local School District  
Highland County  
11611 State Route 771  
Leesburg, Ohio 45135

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 financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Fairfield Local School District, Highland County, Ohio (the School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 12, 2025, wherein we noted the School District implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections*.

***Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting***

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

Fairfield Local School District  
Highland 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 School 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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

***Purpose of This Report***

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School 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 School District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio  
February 12, 2025



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

Fairfield Local School District  
Highland County  
11611 State Route 771  
Leesburg, Ohio 45135

To the Board of Education:

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

***Opinion on the Major Federal Program***

We have audited Fairfield Local School District's, Highland County, (School 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 Fairfield Local School District's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024. Fairfield Local School District's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

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

***Basis for Opinion on the 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 School 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 the major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

The School 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 School 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 School 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 School District's compliance with the requirements of the 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 School 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 School 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 School 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.

Fairfield Local School District

Highland County

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements

Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance

Required by the Uniform Guidance

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 12, 2025

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FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HIGHLAND 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)?	No
(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):	AL# 84.425D Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief, 84.425U American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief, and 84.425W American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Homeless Children and Youth
(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?	Yes

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

None

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



FAIRFIELD LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HIGHLAND 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 3/4/2025

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This report is a matter of public record and is available online at  
[www.ohioauditor.gov](http://www.ohioauditor.gov)