



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2024**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center  
Champaign County  
2200 South U.S. Highway 68  
Urbana, Ohio 43078

To the Governing Board:

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center, Champaign County, Ohio (the Center), as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position thereof for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

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

#### ***Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis***

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

### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Center'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 Center'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 Center's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Center'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 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, this schedule 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 May 5, 2025, on our consideration of the Center'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 Center'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 Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

May 5, 2025

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**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS  
JUNE 30, 2024**

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
<b>Assets:</b>	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 2,710,772</u>
<b>Net position:</b>	
Restricted for:	
State funded programs	98,994
Federally funded programs	62,690
Extracurricular	3,913
Other purposes	8,269
Unrestricted	2,536,906
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 2,710,772</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

		<b>Program Receipts</b>		<b>Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Cash Position</b>
	<b>Cash</b>	<b>Charges for</b>	<b>Operating Grants</b>	<b>Governmental</b>
	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Services and Sales</b>	<b>and Contributions</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>Governmental activities:</b>				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 139,155	\$ 140,360	\$ -	\$ 1,205
Special	9,018,966	8,834,874	275,488	91,396
Other	15,000	420	31,705	17,125
Support services:				
Pupil	6,136,122	5,953,024	229,651	46,553
Instructional staff	1,013,145	229,367	869,480	85,702
Board of education	37,089	-	-	(37,089)
Administration	1,729,444	1,742,403	1,998	14,957
Fiscal	565,167	9,233	4,993	(550,941)
Operations and maintenance	309,699	-	54,037	(255,662)
Pupil transportation	182,957	67,340	99,873	(15,744)
Central	216,091	-	-	(216,091)
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	73,142	20,231	50,576	(2,335)
Other non-instructional services	841	-	-	(841)
Facilities acquisition and construction	2,537,251	-	-	(2,537,251)
Debt service:				
Note issuance costs	56,910	-	-	(56,910)
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 22,030,979</u>	<u>\$ 16,997,252</u>	<u>\$ 1,617,801</u>	<u>(3,415,926)</u>
<b>General receipts:</b>				
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs				569,778
Investment earnings				30,862
Note proceeds				2,558,000
Miscellaneous				74,328
Total general receipts				<u>3,232,968</u>
Change in net cash position				(182,958)
Net cash position at beginning of year				<u>2,893,730</u>
Net cash position at end of year				<u>\$ 2,710,772</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>General</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
<b>Assets:</b>			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,536,906	\$ 173,866	\$ 2,710,772
<b>Fund balances:</b>			
Restricted:			
State funded programs	\$ -	\$ 98,994	\$ 98,994
Federally funded programs	-	62,690	62,690
Extracurricular	-	3,913	3,913
Other purposes	-	8,269	8,269
Assigned:			
Student instruction	73,027	-	73,027
Student and staff support	133,301	-	133,301
Other purposes	75,664	-	75,664
Unassigned	2,254,914	-	2,254,914
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 2,536,906</u>	<u>\$ 173,866</u>	<u>\$ 2,710,772</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<b>General</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>				
Intergovernmental	\$ 569,778	-	\$ 1,617,801	\$ 2,187,579
Investment earnings	30,862	-	-	30,862
Tuition and fees	16,887,199	-	1,300	16,888,499
Charges for services	32,675	-	90,938	123,613
Contributions and donations	2,475	-	-	2,475
Miscellaneous	56,993	-	-	56,993
Total receipts	<u>17,579,982</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,710,039</u>	<u>19,290,021</u>
<b>Disbursements:</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	139,155	-	-	139,155
Special	8,759,790	-	259,176	9,018,966
Other	-	-	15,000	15,000
Support services:				
Pupil	5,956,761	-	179,361	6,136,122
Instructional staff	209,736	-	803,409	1,013,145
Board of education	37,089	-	-	37,089
Administration	1,727,446	-	1,998	1,729,444
Fiscal	556,207	-	8,960	565,167
Operations and maintenance	267,895	-	41,804	309,699
Pupil transportation	3,751	-	179,206	182,957
Central	216,091	-	-	216,091
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	-	-	73,142	73,142
Other non-instructional services	841	-	-	841
Facilities acquisition and construction	-	2,500,000	37,251	2,537,251
Debt service:				
Note issuance costs	56,910	-	-	56,910
Total disbursements	<u>17,931,672</u>	<u>2,500,000</u>	<u>1,599,307</u>	<u>22,030,979</u>
Excess of receipts over disbursements	<u>(351,690)</u>	<u>(2,500,000)</u>	<u>110,732</u>	<u>(2,740,958)</u>
<b>Other financing sources (uses):</b>				
Note proceeds	58,000	2,500,000	-	2,558,000
Advances in	399,013	-	258,426	657,439
Advances (out)	(258,426)	-	(399,013)	(657,439)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>198,587</u>	<u>2,500,000</u>	<u>(140,587)</u>	<u>2,558,000</u>
Net change in fund balances	(153,103)	-	(29,855)	(182,958)
<b>Fund balances at beginning of year</b>	<u>2,690,009</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>203,721</u>	<u>2,893,730</u>
<b>Fund balances at end of year</b>	<u><u>\$ 2,536,906</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 173,866</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,710,772</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE ENTITY**

The Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center (the “Center”) is located in Urbana, Ohio, the Champaign County seat. The Center is an Educational Service Center as defined by Section 3311.03 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Center operates under a Board of five elected members. The Center supplies supervisory, special education, administrative and other services to the Graham, Jefferson, Jonathan Alder, Madison-Plains, West Liberty-Salem, Triad Local School Districts, London and Urbana City School Districts and Mechanicsburg Exempted Village School District. The Center furnishes leadership and consulting services designed to strengthen these school districts in areas they are unable to finance or staff independently. The Center is staffed by 186 non-certified and 141 certified employees.

The reporting entity is composed of the primary government, component units, and other organizations that are included to ensure the financial statements are not misleading.

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

As discussed further in Note 2.B., these financial statements are presented on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. In cases where these cash basis statements contain items that are the same as, or similar to, those items in financial statements prepared in conformity with GAAP, similar informative disclosures are provided.

**A. Reporting Entity**

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, “The Financial Reporting Entity” as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, “Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units” and GASB Statement No. 61, “The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34” and GASB Statement No. 90, “Majority Equity Interests: an amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 61”. The reporting entity is composed of the primary government and component units. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the Center. For the Center, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the Center.

Component units are legally separate organizations for which the Center is financially accountable. The Center is financially accountable for an organization if the Center appoints a voting majority of the organization’s Governing Board and (1) the Center is able to significantly influence the programs or services performed or provided by the organization; or (2) the Center is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization’s resources; or (3) the Center is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the responsibility to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization; or (4) the Center is obligated for the debt of the organization. Component units may also include organizations that are fiscally dependent on the Center in that the Center approves the budget, the issuance of debt or the levying of taxes. Certain organizations are also included as component units if the nature and significance of the relationship between the primary government and the organization is such that exclusion by the primary government would render the primary government’s financial statements incomplete or misleading. Based upon the application of these criteria, the Center has no component units. The basic financial statements of the reporting entity include only those of the Center (the primary government).

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

The following organizations are described due to their relationship to the Center:

*JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS*

Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO)

The Center is a participant in the Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO), which is a computer consortium. WOCO is an association of educational entities within the boundaries of Auglaize, Champaign, Hardin, Logan and Shelby counties. WOCO 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. This organization is governed by a board of directors consisting of 11 members: two Superintendents from each county that is represented, one treasurer representative, a student services representative, one city school representative and a non-voting independent district representative. The degree of control exercised by any participating member is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained from Debra Meyer, who serves as Fiscal Officer, at 129 East Court Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

*PUBLIC ENTITY PURCHASING POOLS*

Optimal Health Initiatives Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

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

Stark County Schools Council of Governments

The Stark County Schools Council of Governments (Council) is a shared risk pool created pursuant to State statute for the purpose of administering health care and dental benefits. The Council is governed by an Assembly which consists of one representative from each participating school district (usually the superintendent or designee). The Assembly elects officers for one year terms to serve on the Board of Directors. The Assembly exercises control over the operation of the Council. All Council revenues are generated from charges for services received from the participating school districts, based on the established premiums for the insurance plans. Each school district reserves the right to terminate the plan in whole or in part, at any time. If it is terminated, no further contributions will be made, but the benefits under the insurance contract shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the contract. Financial information can be obtained from the Treasurer for the Stark County Educational Service Center, who serves as fiscal agent, at 6057 Strip Avenue NW, North Canton, Ohio 44720.

Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority

The Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority (SORSA) is an Ohio non-profit organization formed by Ohio school districts to provide cost-effective pooled insurance to its members. SORSA is a self-funded, group insurance consortium that offers property, electronic data processing, boiler and machinery, crime, general liability, automobile liability and physical damage, and school board errors and omissions insurance coverage. SORSA is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors, comprised of Superintendents, Treasurers, and Business Managers elected directly by the members at the annual membership meeting. Premiums are paid on an annual basis. Pursuant to participation agreements with SORSA, each member agrees to pay all funding rates associated with the coverage elected; as such funding rates are set and billed to the members by SORSA. The assigned funding rates consist of the following components: administrative fees, stop loss fees, expected claims costs, and reserves. Reserves are determined by an independent actuary and allocated based on expected claim activity. Rates are calculated to cover the administrative expenses and expected claims costs of the program as well as provide additional member equity. Financial information can be obtained from the Treasurer, Randal Verhoff, at 555 Metro Place North, Suite 645, Dublin, Ohio 43017.

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

**B. Basis of Accounting**

Although required by Ohio Administrative Code § 117-2-03(B) to prepare its annual financial report in accordance with GAAP, the Center chooses to prepare its financial statements and notes on the cash basis of accounting. The cash basis of accounting is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than GAAP.

The Center's financial statements are prepared using the cash basis of accounting. The Center recognizes revenues when received in cash rather than when earned and recognizes expenditures when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

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

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the preceding paragraph.

**C. Fund Accounting**

The Center uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. There are three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary and fiduciary. The Center has no proprietary or fiduciary funds.

*GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS*

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Center are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of the current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. The following are the Center's major governmental funds:

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

Building fund - The building fund accounts for note proceeds and the transactions related to the purchase of property.

Other governmental funds of the Center 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.

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

**D. Basis of Presentation**

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position - cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis display information about the Center as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The Center has no fiduciary funds.

The government-wide statement of activities cash-basis compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the Center's governmental activities. These disbursements are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and are therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Receipts which are not classified as program receipts are presented as general receipts of the Center. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing on the cash basis or draws from the general receipts of the Center.

Fund Financial Statements - The Center segregates transactions related to certain Center 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 Center at a more detailed level. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column.

**E. Budgetary Process**

Although not legally required, the Center adopts its budget for all funds. The budget includes the estimated resources and expenditures for each fund and consists of three parts; Part (A) includes entitlement funding from the State, Part (B) includes the cost of all other lawful expenditures of the Center (which are apportioned by the State Department of Education and Workforce to each local Board of Education under the supervision of the Center), and Part (C) includes the adopted appropriation resolution.

In fiscal year 2004, the Center's requirement to file budgetary information with the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce was eliminated. Even though the budgetary process for the Center was discretionary, the Center continued to have its Board approve appropriations and estimated resources. The Center's Board adopts an annual appropriation resolution, which is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The level of control has been established by the Board at the fund level for all funds.

**F. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

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

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



**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

During fiscal year 2024, The Center 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 Center 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 per day, 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 or by policy of the Governing Board. Interest receipts credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2024 amounted to \$30,862, which includes \$2,079 of interest assigned from other funds.

For presentation on the cash basis basic financial statements, investments of the cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the Center are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

**G. Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment purchased are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. Depreciation has not been reported for any capital assets.

**H. Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave**

Employees are entitled to cash payments for unused vacation and sick leave in certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment. Unpaid vacation and sick leave are not reflected as liabilities under the cash basis of accounting.

**I. Employer Contributions to Cost-Sharing Pension Plans**

The Center recognizes the disbursements for employer contributions to cost sharing pension plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 6 and 7, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for post retirement health care benefits.

**J. Leases**

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

**K. Long-Term Obligations**

The Center's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds or other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid.

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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

**L. Restricted Assets**

Assets are reported as restricted when limitations on their use change the nature or normal understanding of the availability of the asset. Such constraints are either imposed by creditors, contributors, grantors, or laws of other governments, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The Center had no restricted assets as of June 30, 2024.

**M. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

The Center reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets.

**N. Interfund Receivables/Payables**

The Center reports advances in and advances out for interfund loans. These items are not reflected as assets and liabilities.

**O. Interfund Transactions**

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

**P. Fund Cash Balance**

The Center reports classifications of fund cash balance based on the extent to which the Center is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. The following categories are used:

Nonspendable - amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally required to be maintained intact.

Restricted - amounts that have constraints placed on the use of resources that are either (a) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed - amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Center's highest level of decision-making authority, the Governing Board.

Assigned - amounts that are constrained by the Center's intent to be used for specific purpose, but are neither restricted nor committed. Assigned amounts include those approved through the Center's formal purchasing procedure by the Treasurer. Through the Center's purchasing policy, the Governing Board has given the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

Unassigned - residual fund balance within the general fund that is in spendable form that is not restricted, committed, or assigned.

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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - (Continued)**

The Center applies restricted resources first when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which restricted and unrestricted fund cash balance is available. The Center considers committed, assigned, and unassigned fund cash balances, respectively, to be spent when disbursements are incurred for purposes for which any of the unrestricted fund cash balance classifications could be used.

**Q. Net Cash Position**

Net cash position is reported as restricted when enabling legislation or creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments have imposed limitations on its use. The Center first applies restricted resources when a disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net cash position is available.

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

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

**S. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)**

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

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE**

**A. Change in Accounting Principles**

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

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

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 Center.

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

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 Center.

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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)**

**B. Compliance**

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

**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

State statutes classify monies held by the Center 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 Center 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 Governing Board 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 five years from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts including passbook accounts.

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

1. United States Treasury Notes, Bills, Bonds, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligations or securities issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality, including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the fair value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio; and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;

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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)**

6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in items (1) and (2) above and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool, the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio); and,
8. Certain bankers' acceptances (for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

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 Center 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 Center had \$400 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the Center as part of "equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents".

**B. Deposits with Financial Institutions**

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of all Center deposits was \$2,701,065. Based on the criteria described in GASB Statement No. 40, "Deposits and Investment Risk Disclosures", as of June 30, 2024, \$1,044,694 of the Center's bank balance of \$2,927,106 was exposed to custodial risk as discussed below, while \$1,882,412 was covered by FDIC.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the Center will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Center 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 Center 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 rate set by the Treasurer of State. For fiscal year 2024, the Center's financial institutions were approved for a reduced collateral rate through the OPCS.

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NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

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

**C. Investments**

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

		<u>Investment Maturities</u>
<u>Investment/measurement type</u>	<u>Measurement</u>	<u>6 months</u>
	<u>Value</u>	<u>or less</u>
<i>Amortized cost:</i>		
STAR Ohio	\$ <u>9,307</u>	\$ <u>9,307</u>

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

*Credit Risk:* Standard & Poor's has assigned STAR Ohio an AAAm rating. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The Center has no investment policy dealing with investments credit risk beyond the requirements in State statutes.

*Concentration of Credit Risk:* The Center 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 Center at June 30, 2024:

<u>Investment/measurement type</u>	<u>Measurement Value</u>	<u>% of total</u>
<i>Amortized cost:</i>		
STAR Ohio	<u>\$ 9,307</u>	<u>100</u>

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

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

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 2,701,065
Investments	9,307
Cash on hand	<u>400</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,710,772</u>
<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 2,710,772</u>

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

**NOTE 5 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

**A. Risk Pool Membership**

The Center 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.

Coverages provided by Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority are as follows:

Automobile liability	\$15,000,000
General liability:	
Per occurrence	15,000,000
Aggregate	17,000,000

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

**B. Employee Medical Benefits**

For fiscal year 2024, the Center has contracted with the Stark County Schools Council of Governments (a shared risk pool) (Note 2.A) to provide health insurance, prescription drug benefits, dental insurance, vision insurance, and life insurance. Rates are set through an annual calculation process. The Center pays a monthly contribution which is placed in a common fund from which claim payments are made for all participating entities. The Center's Governing Board pays a percentage of the premiums. Insurance premiums will vary with each employee depending on marital and family status.

**C. Workers' Compensation**

The Center participates in the Northern Buckeye Health Plan, Northern Division of OHI (NBHP) Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (the Plan), an insurance purchasing pool. The Plan is intended to reduce premiums for the participants. 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 Plan. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the Plan rather than its individual rate. The Executive Director coordinates the management and administration of the program.

**NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

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

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

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

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represent the Center'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.

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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

The Ohio Revised Code limits the Center's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Center cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the Center 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 net pension/net OPEB liability (asset) are not reported on the face of the financial statements, but rather are disclosed in the notes because of the use of the cash basis framework.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 7 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

Plan Description - The Center'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.

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.



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**NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. New benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. The COLA was 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 Center 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 Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$590,167, for fiscal year 2024.

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

Plan Description - Licensed teachers and other faculty members 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.

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. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of-living increases are affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2023, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 1 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2024 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2019. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3307.67(E) the STRS Ohio Retirement Board may adjust the COLA upon a determination by the board's actuary that a change will not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. 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 34 years of service credit at any age.

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.

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**NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 11.09% of the 14% employer contributions into an investment account. The member determines how to allocate the member and employer money among various investment choices offered by STRS Ohio. The remaining 2.91% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

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

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

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The 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 Center's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,167,684 for fiscal year 2024.

***Net Pension Liability***

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.1009581%	0.0586183%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.1065628%</u>	<u>0.06016663%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.0056047%</u>	<u>0.00154833%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 5,888,143	\$ 12,956,846	\$ 18,844,989

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**NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

***Actuarial Assumptions - SERS***

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment 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.

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022, are presented below:

**Wage inflation:**

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%

**Future salary increases, including inflation:**

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

**COLA or ad hoc COLA:**

Current measurement date	2%, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
Prior measurement date	2%, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement

**Investment rate of return:**

Current measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses
Prior measurement date	7.00% net of system expenses

**Discount rate:**

Current measurement date	7.00%
Prior measurement date	7.00%

**Actuarial cost method** Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

In 2023, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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**NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

In the prior measurement date, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in the SERS' Statement of Investment Policy. Ohio Revised Code 3309.15 and the Board-adopted Investment Policy govern investment activity at SERS. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

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

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	100.00 %	

**Discount Rate** - Total pension liability for 2023 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 for 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%.

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**NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

***Sensitivity of the Center'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 Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 8,690,599	\$ 5,888,143	\$ 3,527,609

***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 Disable Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

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**NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

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

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

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total 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 Center's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** - The following table represents the Center's proportionate share of 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 Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 19,924,762	\$ 12,956,846	\$ 7,063,896

**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.

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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

***Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

See Note 6 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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

Health Care Plan Description - The Center 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. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981, do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org) under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

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 Center's surcharge obligation was \$81,066.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The Center's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$81,066 for fiscal year 2024.

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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

***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. Health care premiums were reduced by a Medicare Part B premium credit beginning in 2023. 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. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

***Net OPEB Liability/Asset***

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.1035554%	0.0586183%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.1098016%</u>	<u>0.06016663%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>0.0062462%</u>	<u>0.00154833%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,808,921	\$ -	\$ 1,808,921
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (1,170,158)	\$ (1,170,158)

***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.



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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2023 and June 30, 2022 are presented below:

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.

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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

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

In the prior measurement date, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

The long-term expected rate of return is reviewed as part of the regular experience studies prepared every five years for SERS. The most recent five-year experience study was performed for the period covering fiscal years 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a long-normal 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 as of June 30, 2023, are summarized as follows:

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

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NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

**Sensitivity of the Center'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 Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, what the Center's proportionate share of 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 Center's proportionate share of 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%).

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 2,312,319	\$ 1,808,921	\$ 1,411,972

  

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,328,952	\$ 1,808,921	\$ 2,444,946

**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	
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5% to 8.5%		Varies by service from 2.5% to 8.5%	
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%	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.00%	
Health care cost trends				
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
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%

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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

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

For the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

***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>100.00 %</u>	

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

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

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**NOTE 7 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)**

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2023.

**Sensitivity of the Center's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate** - The following table represents the Center's proportionate share of 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 Center's proportionate share of 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 Center's proportionate share of 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.

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 990,385	\$ 1,170,158	\$ 1,326,721

  

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Center's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 1,333,986	\$ 1,170,158	\$ 972,830

**NOTE 8 - CONTINGENCIES**

**A. Grants**

The Center receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, State and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the Center. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the Center.

**B. Litigation**

There are currently no matters in litigation with the Center as defendant.

**C. Foundation Funding**

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

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
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**NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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**NOTE 9 - OTHER COMMITMENTS**

Encumbrances outstanding at fiscal year-end are reservations of fund balance for subsequent-year expenditures and may be reported as part of restricted, committed, or assigned classifications of fund balance. At fiscal year end, the Center had the following outstanding commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds.

General Fund	\$217,813
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	<u>46,906</u>
Total	<u><u>\$264,719</u></u>

**NOTE 10 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS**

Interfund transactions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, consisted of the following, as reported on the fund financial statements:

<u>Advances from general fund to:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nonmajor governmental funds	\$ 258,426
 <u>Advances from nonmajor governmental funds to:</u>	
General fund	<u>399,013</u>
	<u><u>\$ 657,439</u></u>

The primary purpose of the advances to the nonmajor governmental funds is to cover costs in grant funds where the requested project cash requests were not received by June 30. These advances will be repaid once the anticipated revenues are received. All outstanding advances are expected to be repaid within one year.

The advances to the general fund represent repayment of prior period advances made from the general fund to nonmajor governmental funds.

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

**NOTE 11 - STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING**

The main sources of revenues of Educational Service Center (ESC) funding are the local funds that are deducted from the state foundation funding of the client districts and transferred to the ESC under ORC Sections 3313.843 or 3313.845 as well as state funds that are distributed directly to the ESCs. Additionally, ESCs can apply to any state or federal agency for competitive grants.

**A. State Funding**

State Per-Pupil Funding - One component of state funding is predicated on the per-pupil amounts. The per-pupil amount is applied to the total count of students of the client districts these entities serve. The law provides for \$45,600,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$47,600,000 in fiscal year 2025 for this purpose. As the appropriation for this funding is set and the funding is based on a constant per-pupil amount, it is often necessary and authorized by law for the fund distribution to be prorated in order to stay within the appropriations. As the data changes during the course of a fiscal year, so does the proration rate to maintain the appropriated levels.

HB 110 continued state per-pupil funding for ESCs.

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 11 - STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING - (Continued)**

State Gifted Funding - Another component of the state funding of ESCs is for gifted education. Under this section of the law the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) is authorized to set aside \$5,357,606 of the total statewide appropriation slated for Foundation Funding for ESC gifted education. DEW is to distribute this funding through the unit-based funding methodology in place under ORC Section 3317.024(L), ORC Section 3317.05(E) and ORC Section 3317.053(A), (B) and (C) as they existed prior to fiscal year 2010. These sections of the law provide for the cost of each gifted unit to be predicated on the salary and fringes of the full time equivalent of the personnel involved at 15% of the salary figure as well as any additional unit allowances the law allows. The law also provides for the proration of the resulting state funding if the appropriation is not sufficient.

In addition to the above-mentioned funding from the state, ESCs also receive funding to cover the costs associated with the transportation of special needs students and for special equipment needed for such transportation. This aid is calculated as the amount equal to the actual costs incurred in the prior fiscal year when transporting those students. The state covered 37.5% of this amount for fiscal year 2024.

**B. Local Funding**

*ORC Section 3313.843 Contracts*

Presently the law provides that city, exempted village and local school districts with an average daily enrollment of 16,000 or less must enter into an agreement with an ESC under ORC Section 3313.843. The services the ESC provides to the client district under this section may include a variety of services including special education for students with special needs. Since ESCs have no legal taxing or bonding authority they must depend on revenues from member school districts.

Local Per-Pupil Funding - ORC Section 3313.843(H) provides that pursuant to provisions of ORC Section 3317.023 DEW annually shall deduct from each school district that enters into an agreement with an ESC under this section, a per-pupil amount of \$6.50 or an alternative amount in excess of \$6.50 if agreed upon by both the ESC and the client districts to be paid to the ESC. The per-pupil amount is multiplied by the school age students count of the client district as reported on the latest Report Card.

Local Preschool Funding - In addition to services provided to school age children, ESCs can also provide preschool services to children with disabilities who are under the age of 6 and are not enrolled in kindergarten. Under the provisions of ORC 3317.0213, DEW shall compute and pay additional state aid to school districts for preschool children with disabilities. The state funding for preschool services goes directly to the school district based on the count of students the district reports. The district can choose to provide the services itself or contract with an ESC. Preschool funding will be calculated based on parameters specified in ORC Section 3317.0213(A). If the district provides the services itself, then the funding will remain with the district. If on the other hand the district contracts with an ESC, the calculated funding will be deducted from the foundation payment of the district and sent to the ESC.

School districts and ESCs can also agree on an alternative payment mechanism or they can agree on bypassing DEW altogether and base the payments directly from the district to the ESC. Should the district use these services for the preschool children and have DEW deduct the foundation from its foundation funding, the ESC funding will be based on a constant per-pupil amount of \$4,000 applied to the total count of all preschool children with disabilities plus special education per-pupil amounts as specified in the law, applied to each one of the 6 categories of special education preschool children. For this purpose special education preschool children are classified into 6 categories in accordance with their handicapping condition. The law provides for a unique per-pupil amount for each one of the categories that is applied at 50% strength to the number of children in the respective category. To wealth equalize this funding the law also calls for the application of the state share index which is the measure of the state contribution to the foundation formula of the district to this part of the funding calculation.

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, OHIO**

NOTES TO THE CASH BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

**NOTE 11 - STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING - (Continued)**

*ORC Section 3313.845 Contracts*

Service Contracts - In addition to service contracts under ORC Section 3313.843, districts may set up contracts with ESCs for various services based on agreed upon fees beyond those covered by ORC Section 3313.843 contracts. Funds for those contractual services can be deducted from contracting school districts' foundation calculation and sent to the appropriate ESCs. To receive payment for these contracts an ESC must furnish DEW with a copy of the contract or a written statement clearly indicating the amount of the contract for each contracting school district. ESCs also have the option of billing school districts directly for these contracts instead of having the state deduct the contract amounts from their foundation funding.

**NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

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

	Balance Outstanding 06/30/23	Additions	Reductions	Balance Outstanding 06/30/24	Amounts Due in One Year
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>					
<u>General Obligation debt:</u>					
Note payable	\$ -	\$ 2,558,000	\$ -	\$ 2,558,000	\$ 169,000
Total governmental activities	\$ -	\$ 2,558,000	\$ -	\$ 2,558,000	\$ 169,000

Note payable

On May 21, 2024, the Center entered into a note payable agreement in the amount of \$2,558,000 for the purpose of financing the costs of acquiring, renovating, improving, furnishing, and equipping new and existing educational services facilities. The note payable carries an interest of 4.48% and matures on December 1, 2038.

The following is a summary of the Center's future annual debt service requirements:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	<u>Note payable</u>	
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2025	\$ 169,000	\$ 113,996
2026	126,000	104,205
2027	132,000	98,425
2028	138,000	92,378
2029	144,000	86,061
2030 - 2034	823,000	325,181
2035 - 2039	<u>1,026,000</u>	<u>118,854</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,558,000</u>	<u>\$ 939,100</u>



**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY**

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

<b>FEDERAL GRANTOR Pass Through Grantor Program / Cluster Title</b>	<b>Federal AL Number</b>	<b>Pass Through Entity Identifying Number</b>	<b>(1) Total Federal Expenditures</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>			
<b>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</b>			
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	N/A	\$16,578
National School Lunch Program	10.555	N/A	32,511
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			49,089
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			<b>49,089</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY</b>			
<b>Passed Through Ohio Office of Budget and Management</b>			
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	N/A	101,985
Total U.S. Department of Treasury			<b>101,985</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>			
<b>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</b>			
Special Education Cluster (IDEA):			
Special Education Grants to States	84.027	N/A	25,555
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173	N/A	67,218
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)			92,773
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund:			
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425C	N/A	14,635
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425U	N/A	921,557
Total COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund			936,192
Total U.S. Department of Education			<b>1,028,965</b>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>			<b>\$ 1,180,039</b>

(1) There were no amounts passed through to subrecipients

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

**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY**

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

**NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center (the Center) under programs of the federal government for the fiscal 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 Center, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or change in net position of the Center.

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

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

**NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE**

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

**NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

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

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



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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

Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center  
Champaign County  
2200 South U.S. Highway 68  
Urbana, Ohio 43078

To the Governing Board:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center, Champaign County, Ohio (the Center) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Center's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated May 5, 2025, wherein we noted the Center uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

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

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Center's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Center'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 Center's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Center's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matter that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2024-001.

***Center's Response to Finding***

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

***Purpose of this Report***

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



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

May 5, 2025

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

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800-282-0370

## 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

Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center  
Champaign County  
2200 South U.S. Highway 68  
Urbana, Ohio 43078

To the Governing Board:

### Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

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

We have audited the Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center's, Champaign County, (the Center) 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 the Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center's major federal program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center's major federal program is identified in the *Summary of Auditor's Results* section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

In our opinion, the Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center 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 fiscal 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 Center 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 Center's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

### ***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

The Center'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 Center'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 Center'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 Center'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 Center'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 Center'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 Center'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.

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

May 5, 2025

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**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
2 CFR § 200.515  
JUNE 30, 2024**

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

<b>(d)(1)(i)</b>	<b>Type of Financial Statement Opinion</b>	Unmodified
<b>(d)(1)(ii)</b>	<b>Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(ii)</b>	<b>Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(iii)</b>	<b>Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</b>	Yes
<b>(d)(1)(iv)</b>	<b>Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(iv)</b>	<b>Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(v)</b>	<b>Type of Major Programs' Compliance Opinion</b>	Unmodified
<b>(d)(1)(vi)</b>	<b>Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR § 200.516(a)?</b>	No
<b>(d)(1)(vii)</b>	<b>Major Programs (list):</b>	COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund (ALN 84.425C and 84.425U)
<b>(d)(1)(viii)</b>	<b>Dollar Threshold: Type A\B Programs</b>	Type A: > \$ 750,000 Type B: all others
<b>(d)(1)(ix)</b>	<b>Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?</b>	No

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2024-001**

**Noncompliance**

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

**FINDING NUMBER 2024-001**  
**(Continued)**

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

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

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

**Officials' Response**

See corrective action plan on page 49.

<b>3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS</b>
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**None.**



# Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center

Mary Mitchell, Superintendent  
Matthew Ketcham, Treasurer

## SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS 2 CFR 200.511(b) JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2023-001	ORC 117.38 AND OAC 117-2-03(B) - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAAP	Not Corrected	<p>The Governing Board and Management of the Center are knowledgeable concerning the required reporting format (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and the similarities and differences from the required reporting format and the method currently incorporated by the Center (Cash Basis of Accounting). Center personnel considered the cost benefit of the two reporting formats and determined reporting of the Cash Basis of Accounting format to be the more fiscally responsible format at this time.</p> <p>Repeated as Finding 2024-001</p>



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## Madison-Champaign Educational Service Center

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Mary Mitchell, Superintendent  
Matthew Ketcham, Treasurer

### CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN 2 CFR § 200.511(c) JUNE 30, 2024

**Finding Number:**

2024-001

**Planned Corrective Action:**

The Governing Board and Management of the Center are knowledgeable concerning the required reporting format (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) and the similarities and differences from the required reporting format and the method currently incorporated by the Center (Cash Basis of Accounting). Center personnel considered the cost benefit of the two reporting formats and determined reporting of the Cash Basis of Accounting format to be the more fiscally responsible format at this time.

**Anticipated Completion Date:**

N/A

**Responsible Contact Person:**

Matthew Ketcham, Treasurer



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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**MADISON-CHAMPAIGN EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER**

**CHAMPAIGN 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 6/3/2025**

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

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