



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Prepared by Management:	
Basic Financial Statements:	
Government-Wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis	5
Statement of Activities – Cash Basis	6
Fund Financial Statements:	
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances – Cash Basis – Governmental Funds	7
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances – Cash Basis – Governmental Funds	8
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements	9
Supplementary Information:	
Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) – General Fund	44
Notes to the Supplementary Information	45
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards.....	47
Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	48
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	49
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance.....	51
Schedule of Findings.....	55
Prepared by Management:	
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings.....	57
Corrective Action Plan	59

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

North Union Local School District
Union County
12920 State Route 739
Richwood, Ohio 43344

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the North Union Local School District, Union County, Ohio (the District), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof for the 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 District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter - Accounting Basis

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Supplementary Information

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

The budgetary comparison schedule and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards are presented for purposes of additional analysis and 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, these schedules are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 8, 2025, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L. Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

July 8, 2025

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**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 16,503,732
Total assets	<u>\$ 16,503,732</u>
Net position:	
Restricted for:	
Capital improvements	\$ 192,206
Classroom facilities maintenance	563,483
Debt service	439,512
State funded programs	11,287
Federally funded programs	2,626
Food service operations	95,758
Student activities	268,716
Other purposes	211,154
Unrestricted	<u>14,718,990</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 16,503,732</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	Cash Disbursements	Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Change in Net Position	
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions		
						Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:						
Instruction:						
Regular	\$ 7,636,005	\$ 506,295	\$ 90,064	\$ 19,725	\$	(7,019,921)
Special	3,371,174	48,355	1,116,568	-		(2,206,251)
Vocational	939,359	-	239,794	-		(699,565)
Other	55,332	-	-	-		(55,332)
Support services:						
Pupil	2,082,352	-	560,017	-		(1,522,335)
Instructional staff	775,169	-	119,604	-		(655,565)
Board of education	41,315	-	-	-		(41,315)
Administration	1,639,983	-	36,996	-		(1,602,987)
Fiscal	595,852	99,225	261	-		(496,366)
Operations and maintenance	2,415,649	-	39,984	-		(2,375,665)
Pupil transportation	1,361,144	-	47,751	-		(1,313,393)
Central	5,159	-	-	-		(5,159)
Operation of non-instructional services:						
Food service operations	981,559	373,217	496,620	-		(111,722)
Other non-instructional services	37,374	-	1,952	35,000		(422)
Extracurricular activities	725,714	276,294	32,468	17,775		(399,177)
Facilities acquisition and construction	1,027,323	-	-	-		(1,027,323)
Debt service:						
Principal retirement	622,000	-	-	-		(622,000)
Interest and fiscal charges	113,043	-	-	-		(113,043)
Total governmental activities	\$ 24,425,506	\$ 1,303,386	\$ 2,782,079	\$ 72,500		(20,267,541)

General receipts:

Property taxes levied for:

General purposes	6,658,860
Debt service	571,793
Capital outlay	303,756
Classroom facilities maintenance	67,584

Income taxes levied for:

General purposes	2,740,195
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs	9,254,550
Investment earnings	687,855
Miscellaneous	25,420
Total general receipts	20,310,013

Change in net position

42,472

Net position at beginning of year

16,461,260

Net position at end of year

\$ 16,503,732

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:			
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ 14,721,836</u>	<u>\$ 1,781,896</u>	<u>\$ 16,503,732</u>
Fund balances:			
Nonspendable:			
Scholarships	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Restricted:			
Debt service	- 439,512	439,512	439,512
Capital improvements	- 192,206	192,206	192,206
Classroom facilities maintenance	- 563,483	563,483	563,483
Food service operations	- 95,758	95,758	95,758
State funded programs	- 11,287	11,287	11,287
Federally funded programs	- 3,406	3,406	3,406
Scholarships	- 161,154	161,154	161,154
Extracurricular activities	- 268,716	268,716	268,716
Assigned:			
Student instruction	307,076	-	307,076
Student and staff support	793,086	-	793,086
Extracurricular activities	161,923	-	161,923
Facilities acquisition and construction	5,850	-	5,850
Subsequent year's appropriations	4,114,439	-	4,114,439
Unassigned (deficit)	<u>9,339,462</u>	<u>(3,626)</u>	<u>9,335,836</u>
Total fund balances	<u>\$ 14,721,836</u>	<u>\$ 1,781,896</u>	<u>\$ 16,503,732</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	General	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Receipts:			
Property taxes	\$ 6,658,860	\$ 943,133	\$ 7,601,993
Income taxes	2,740,195	-	2,740,195
Intergovernmental	10,374,891	1,623,332	11,998,223
Investment earnings	687,855	4,170	692,025
Tuition and fees	463,019	-	463,019
Extracurricular	81,547	276,294	357,841
Charges for services	99,225	373,217	472,442
Contributions and donations	10,084	105,127	115,211
Miscellaneous	25,120	1,909	27,029
Total receipts	<u>21,140,796</u>	<u>3,327,182</u>	<u>24,467,978</u>
Disbursements:			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	7,515,591	120,414	7,636,005
Special	2,974,110	397,064	3,371,174
Vocational	912,815	26,544	939,359
Other	55,332	-	55,332
Support services:			
Pupil	1,506,218	576,134	2,082,352
Instructional staff	646,737	128,432	775,169
Board of education	41,315	-	41,315
Administration	1,612,006	27,977	1,639,983
Fiscal	580,841	15,011	595,852
Operations and maintenance	2,232,627	183,022	2,415,649
Pupil transportation	1,361,144	-	1,361,144
Central	5,159	-	5,159
Operation of non-instructional services:			
Food service operations	-	981,559	981,559
Other non-instructional services	385	36,989	37,374
Extracurricular activities	445,431	280,283	725,714
Facilities acquisition and construction	660,144	367,179	1,027,323
Debt service:			
Principal retirement	-	622,000	622,000
Interest and fiscal charges	-	113,043	113,043
Total disbursements	<u>20,549,855</u>	<u>3,875,651</u>	<u>24,425,506</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	<u>590,941</u>	<u>(548,469)</u>	<u>42,472</u>
Other financing sources (uses):			
Transfers in	-	1,200	1,200
Transfers (out)	<u>(1,200)</u>	-	<u>(1,200)</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(1,200)</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	589,741	(547,269)	42,472
Fund balances at beginning of year	14,132,095	2,329,165	16,461,260
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 14,721,836</u>	<u>\$ 1,781,896</u>	<u>\$ 16,503,732</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

The District was established in 1963. The District serves an area of approximately one hundred sixty square miles and is located in Union and Delaware Counties. The District is staffed by 108 classified employees, 90 certified teaching personnel, and 13 administrative employees who provide services to 1,460 students and other community members. The District currently operates an elementary school, a middle school, a high school, an administration building, a bus garage and an athletic field house.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

As discussed 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”. 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 District. For the District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the District.

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

**NOTES TO THE BASIC 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 District:

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS AND RELATED ORGANIZATION

Meta Solutions

The District is a participant in Meta Solutions which is a computer consortium that develops, implements and supports the technology and instructional needs of schools in a cost-effective manner. Meta Solutions provides instructional, core, technology and purchasing services for its member districts. The Board of Directors consists of the Superintendents from eight of the member districts. During fiscal year 2024, the District paid Meta Solutions \$79,932 for services. Financial information can be obtained from Meta Solutions, 100 Executive Drive, Marion, Ohio 43302.

Tri-Rivers Career Center

The Tri-Rivers Career Center (CC) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio which provides vocational education. The CC operates under the direction of a Board consisting of one representative from each of the nine participating school districts' Board of Education. The Board possesses its own budgeting and taxing authority. The degree of control exercised by the District is limited to its representation on the Board. Financial information can be obtained from the Tri-Rivers Career Center, 2222 Marion Mt. Gilead Road, Marion, Ohio 43302.

Richwood North Union Public Library

Richwood North Union Public Library, Union County, is a body politic and corporate established in 1915 to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Library is directed by an appointed seven-member non-compensated Board of Trustees appointed by the Board of Education of the North Union Local School District. The Library is fiscally independent of the Board of Education. Financial information can be obtained from Richwood North Union Public Library, 4 East Ottawa Street, Richwood, Ohio 43344.

GROUP PURCHASING POOLS

Ohio School Plan

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

Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The District participates in a group rating plan for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio School Boards Association Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP) was established through the Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) as an insurance purchasing pool.

The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a three member Board of Directors consisting of the President, the President-Elect, and the Immediate Past President of the OSBA. The Executive Director of the OSBA, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the GRP. Each year, the participants pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Stark County Schools Council of Governments Health Benefit Plan

The District participates in a public entity shared risk pool, the Stark County Schools Council of Governments Health Benefit Plan (Plan) for employee medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. The Plan is administered by the Stark County Schools Council (SCSC), a regional council of governments established in accordance with Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. The SCSC is governed by an assembly consisting of one representative from each participant. Each participant pays its premiums to the Plan based on an apportionment of estimated costs established by the SCSC prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. Should estimated program costs be insufficient to pay all claims for the fiscal year, the SCSC notifies each participant of any additional program costs for the fiscal year. Upon withdrawal from the Health Benefit Plan, a participant is entitled to be refunded any excess contributions being held by the Plan.

Participation in the Health Benefit Plan is by written application subject to acceptance by the Board of Directors of the Assembly and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information can be obtained from the Stark County Educational Service Center, who serves as fiscal agent, 6057 Strip Avenue NW, North Canton, Ohio 44720.

B. Basis of Accounting

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

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

C. Fund Accounting

The District 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.

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

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

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.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

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

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

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

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

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

Proprietary funds are used to account for the District's ongoing activities which are similar to those often found in the private sector. The District has no proprietary funds.

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private purpose trust funds, and custodial funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are not available to support the District's own programs. Custodial funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in trust funds. The District has no fiduciary funds.

D. Basis of Presentation

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

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position - cash basis and the statement of activities - cash basis display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government.

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

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

E. Budgets

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the alternative tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The alternative tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of budgetary control is at the fund level for all funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education. Budgetary allocations at the function and object level within all funds are made by the District Treasurer.

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

The appropriations resolution is subject to amendment throughout the fiscal year with the restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts reflect the first appropriations resolution for that fund that covered the entire fiscal year, including amounts automatically carried forward from prior fiscal years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

F. Cash and Investments

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

During fiscal year 2024, investments were limited to negotiable certificates of deposit and the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio). Except for nonparticipating investment contracts, investments are reported at fair value, which is based on quoted market prices.

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

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

Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earnings are assigned to the general fund unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund. The Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2024 amounted to \$687,855, which includes \$86,438 assigned from other District funds.

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

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.

An analysis of the District's investment account at fiscal year-end is provided in Note 4.

G. Capital Assets

Acquisition 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.

H. Compensated Absences

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. Long-Term Obligations

Bonds and other long-term obligations are not recognized as a liability in the financial statements under the cash basis of accounting. These statements report proceeds of debt when cash is received, and debt service disbursements for debt principal payments. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease, financed purchase transaction, or Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) is not the result of a cash transaction, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments, financed purchase payments, and SBITA payments are reported when paid.

J. Net Cash Position

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes primarily includes resources restricted for scholarships. The District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

K. Fund Cash Balance

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

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

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

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

Assigned - Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted nor committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts represent intended uses established by policies of the District Board of Education, which includes giving the Treasurer the authority to constrain monies for intended purposes.

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

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

L. Interfund Activity

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

M. Restricted Assets

Assets are reported as restricted assets when limitations on their use change the 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 enabling legislation. The District does not have any restricted assets.

N. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board of Education and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. Neither type of transaction occurred during fiscal year 2024.

O. 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.

P. Fair Value

The District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

Q. Leases

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

R. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

The District has Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs) under noncancelable arrangements for several types of software including contracts arrangements related to scheduling, grading systems and various other software. SBITA payables are not reflected under the District'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 District has implemented certain paragraphs of GASB Implementation Guide No. 2021-1, certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "Omnibus 2022", GASB Statement No. 100, "Accounting Changes and Error Corrections - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 62" and Implementation Guide No. 2023-1.

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE - (Continued)

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

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

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

B. Compliance

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

C. Deficit Fund Balances

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

<u>Nonmajor governmental funds</u>	<u>Deficit</u>
IDEA Preschool Grant for the Handicapped	\$ 3,626

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

A. Cash on Hand

At fiscal year end, the District had \$25 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the District as part of “equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents”.

B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$3,707,235 and the bank balance of all District deposits was \$3,917,973. Of the bank balance, \$3,917,973 was covered by the FDIC.

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

D. Investments

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

Investment type	Carrying Value	NAV/ Fair Value	Investment Maturities				
			6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
Negotiable CD's	\$ 3,044,000	\$ 2,930,959	\$ 268,692	\$ 898,777	\$ 433,844	\$ 320,656	\$ 1,008,990
STAR Ohio	<u>9,752,472</u>	<u>9,752,472</u>	<u>9,752,472</u>	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 12,796,472</u>	<u>\$ 12,683,431</u>	<u>\$ 10,021,164</u>	<u>\$ 898,777</u>	<u>\$ 433,844</u>	<u>\$ 320,656</u>	<u>\$ 1,008,990</u>

The weighted average maturity of investments is 0.37 years.

Negotiable CD's are valued using quoted market prices in markets that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs).

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

Credit Risk: STAR Ohio carries a rating of AAA by Standard & Poor's. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The District's investment policy does not specifically address credit risk beyond requiring the District to only invest in securities authorized by State statute.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk: For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the treasurer or qualified trustee.

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

<u>Investment type</u>	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Negotiable CD's	\$ 3,044,000	23.79%
STAR Ohio	<u>9,752,472</u>	<u>76.21%</u>
Total	<u>\$ 12,796,472</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

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

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

<u>Cash per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 3,707,235
Investments	12,796,472
Cash on hand	<u>25</u>
Total	<u>\$ 16,503,732</u>

<u>Cash per statement of net position - cash basis</u>	
Governmental activities	<u>\$ 16,503,732</u>

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

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

	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Transfers from general fund to:</u>	
Nonmajor governmental fund	\$ <u>1,200</u>

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

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

	2023 Second Half Collections		2024 First Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 297,313,680	94.06	\$ 308,698,710	94.13
Public utility personal	<u>18,772,240</u>	<u>5.94</u>	<u>19,257,170</u>	<u>5.87</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 316,085,920</u></u>	<u><u>100.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 327,955,880</u></u>	<u><u>100.00</u></u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation		\$31.37		\$31.17

NOTE 7 - INCOME TAX

The District levies a voted tax of 1 percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was effective on January 1, 1991 and is a continuing tax. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue is credited to the general fund.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Coverage provided by Ohio School Plan is as follows:

General School District Liability

Per Occurrence	\$5,000,000
Total per Year	7,000,000
Automobile Liability	5,000,000
Buildings and Contents - replacement cost	99,063,933

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

For fiscal year 2024, the District participated in the Ohio School Plan (Plan), an insurance purchasing pool. Each participant enters into an individual agreement with the Plan for insurance coverage and pays annual premiums to the Plan based on the types and limits of coverage and deductibles selected by the participant.

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

The District participates in the Stark County Schools Council of Governments Health Benefit Plan (Plan), a public entity shared risk pool. The District pays monthly premiums to the Plan for employee medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. The Plan is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the Plan, the participant is responsible for the payment of all Plan liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

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

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

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes pension costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits. In addition, health care plan enrollees pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. State statute requires the retirement systems to amortize unfunded pension liabilities within 30 years. If the pension amortization period exceeds 30 years, each retirement system's board must propose corrective action to the State legislature. Any resulting legislative change to benefits or funding could significantly affect the net pension/OPEB liability (asset). Resulting adjustments to the net pension/OPEB liability (asset) would be effective when the changes are legally enforceable. The Ohio Revised Code permits, but does not require, the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

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

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

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire after August 1, 2017
Full benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially reduced benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit; or Age 55 with 25 years of service credit	Age 62 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 60 with 25 years of service credit

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

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension was in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Upon resumption of the COLA, it will be indexed to the percentage increase in the CPI-W, not to exceed 2.5% and with a floor of 0%. In 2023, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2024.

Funding Policy - Plan members are required to contribute 10.00% of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute 14.00% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS' Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10.00% for plan members and 14.00% for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System's funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.00%. For fiscal year 2024, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$438,288 for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

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

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

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

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

Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy - Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The fiscal year 2024 employer and employee contribution rate of 14% was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2024, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,182,395 for fiscal year 2024.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Net Pension Liability

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.079859800%	0.062266960%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.078102600%</u>	<u>0.060240160%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.001757200%</u>	<u>-0.002026800%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 4,315,569	\$ 12,972,681	\$ 17,288,250

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.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

Wage inflation:

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

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

COLA or ad hoc COLA:

Current measurement date	2.00%
Prior measurement date	2.00%

Investment rate of return:

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

Discount rate:

Current measurement date	7.00%
Prior measurement date	7.00%

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

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

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

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

Discount Rate - Total pension liability was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. The discount rate determination did not use a municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 21-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarially determined contribution rate of fiscal year 2023 was 14%. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return, 7.00%. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability. The annual money weighted rate of return, calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, for fiscal year 2023 was 6.90%.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - Net pension liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate, and to illustrate the potential impact the following table presents the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%), or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 6,369,562	\$ 4,315,569	\$ 2,585,475

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

Discount Rate - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with the rates described previously. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate - The following table represents the net pension liability as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 19,949,112	\$ 12,972,681	\$ 7,072,529

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the District's surcharge obligation was \$56,985.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$56,985 for fiscal year 2024.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description - The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.081962200%	0.062266960%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.080475300%</u>	<u>0.060240160%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.001486900%</u>	<u>-0.002026800%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,325,787	\$ -	\$ 1,325,787
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (1,171,588)	\$ (1,171,588)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

Wage inflation:

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

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

Investment rate of return:

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

Municipal bond index rate:

Current measurement date	3.86%
Prior measurement date	3.69%

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

Current measurement date	4.27%
Prior measurement date	4.08%

Medical trend assumption:

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

In 2023, the following mortality assumptions were used:

Healthy Retirees - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females.

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

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

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

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB 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 expected rate of return is reviewed as part of the regular experience studies prepared every five years for SERS. The most recent five-year experience study was performed for the period covering fiscal years 2016 through 2020, and was adopted by the Board on April 15, 2021. Several factors are considered in evaluating the long-term rate of return assumption including long-term historical data, estimates inherent in current market data, and a long-normal distribution analysis in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected return, net of investment expense and inflation) were developed by the investment consultant for each major asset class. These ranges were combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return, 7.00%, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes.

The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

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

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates - The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability, what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.27%) and higher (5.27%) than the current discount rate (4.27%). Also shown is what the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%).

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 1,694,734	\$ 1,325,787	\$ 1,034,856
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 974,009	\$ 1,325,787	\$ 1,791,939

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

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

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 991,596	\$ 1,171,588	\$ 1,328,342
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
	\$ 1,335,616	\$ 1,171,588	\$ 974,019

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**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 11 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

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

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at a rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to a maximum of two hundred eighty days for all employees. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-fourth of accrued but unused sick leave credit up to a maximum of fifty days for all employees. Employees who have accumulated more than one hundred twenty days of sick leave may, at retirement, be granted up to an additional five days of sick leave payment dependent on their years of service with the District.

B. Employee Insurance Benefits

The District offers medical, dental, vision, and life insurance to most employees through the Stark County Schools Council of Governments Health Benefit Plan. The employees share the cost of the monthly premium with the Board. The premium varies with each employee depending on marital and family status.

C. Separation Benefits

The District offers a separation benefit in addition to regular severance benefits and STRS pension benefits to certified employees who notify the District of their retirement by July 9th of that year and they meet one of the following conditions:

Criteria	Cash Benefit
55 or older and 25 years of service or 30 years of service	\$5,000
55 or older and 26 years of service or 31 years of service	\$3,000
55 or older and 27 years of service or 32 years of service	\$1,000

At June 30, 2024, the District did not have any liability for separation benefits.

NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM DEBT

During fiscal year 2024, the following changes occurred in the District's long-term obligations:

Governmental Activities: <u>General Obligation Bonds:</u>	Balance Outstanding 06/30/23	Additions	Reductions	Balance Outstanding 06/30/24	Amounts Due in One Year
Series 2019 Refunding Bonds					
Serial Bonds, 2.20%	\$ 2,835,000	\$ -	\$ (540,000)	\$ 2,295,000	\$ 555,000
Notes Payable - Finance Purchase	1,711,000	-	(82,000)	1,629,000	85,000
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 4,546,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (622,000)</u>	<u>\$ 3,924,000</u>	<u>\$ 640,000</u>

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM DEBT (Continued)

Series 2019 Refunding General Obligation Bonds

On September 17, 2019, the District issued bonds, in the amount of \$4,375,000, to refund bonds previously issued in fiscal year 2012 for constructing and renovating the District's buildings. This bond issuance is considered a direct borrowing. Direct borrowings have terms negotiated directly between the District and the lender and are not offered for public sale. The refunding bond issue consists of serial bonds, in the amount of \$4,375,000. The bonds were issued for a ten year period, with final maturity in fiscal year 2028. The bonds are being repaid from the bond retirement debt service fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

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

Fiscal Year <u>Ending June 30.</u>	General Obligation Serial Bonds		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 555,000	\$ 44,385	\$ 599,385
2026	570,000	32,010	602,010
2027	580,000	19,360	599,360
2028	590,000	6,490	596,490
Total	<u>\$ 2,295,000</u>	<u>\$ 102,245</u>	<u>\$ 2,397,245</u>

Notes Payable – Finance Purchase

On May 14, 2019, the District entered into a finance purchase agreement with Sterling National Bank for \$2,044,000 to assist in financing the construction, furnishing, and equipping of an athletic field house. The finance purchase agreement bears an interest rate of 3.39%. Interest payments on the finance purchase agreement are due on June 1 and December 1 each year. The final maturity stated in the issue is December 1, 2038. This finance purchase agreement is considered a direct borrowing. Direct borrowings have terms negotiated directly between the District and the lender and are not offered for public sale. The finance purchase agreement will be retired through the permanent improvement fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

The scheduled payments of principal and interest on the finance purchase agreement at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Fiscal Year <u>Ending June 30.</u>	Finance Purchase Agreement		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 85,000	\$ 53,782	\$ 138,782
2026	88,000	50,850	138,850
2027	91,000	47,816	138,816
2028	94,000	44,680	138,680
2029	97,000	41,443	138,443
2030 - 2034	538,000	154,584	692,584
2035 - 2039	636,000	55,324	691,324
Total	<u>\$ 1,629,000</u>	<u>\$ 448,479</u>	<u>\$ 2,077,479</u>

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 12 - LONG-TERM DEBT (Continued)

Legal Debt Margin

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530 which became effective March 30, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2024, are a voted debt margin of \$27,660,541 (including available funds of \$439,512) and an unvoted debt margin of \$327,956.

NOTE 13 - SET-ASIDES

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

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

	<u>Capital</u> <u>Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2023	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	301,998
Current year offsets	<u>(459,343)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ (157,345)</u></u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2024	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>

NOTE 14 - DONOR RESTRICTED ENDOWMENTS

The District's special revenue funds include donor restricted endowments. Endowments, in the amount of \$50,000, represent the principal portion. The amount of net appreciation in donor restricted investments that is available for expenditures by the District is \$161,154 and is included as "restricted for scholarships". State law permits the District to appropriate, for purposes consistent with the endowment's intent, net appreciation, realized and unrealized, unless the endowment terms specify otherwise. The endowments indicate that the interest should be used to provide scholarships each year.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 15 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

The District utilizes encumbrance accounting as part of its budgetary controls. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end may be reported as part of restricted, committed, or assigned classifications of fund balance. At year-end, the District's commitments for encumbrances in the governmental funds were as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End</u>
	<u>Encumbrances</u>
General	\$ 1,178,662
Nonmajor governmental	<u>386,011</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 1,564,673</u></u>

NOTE 16 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

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

B. Litigation

The District is involved in no material litigation as either plaintiff or defendant.

NOTE 17 - COVID-19

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

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis	Variance with Final Budget - Over (Under) Actual Amounts
	Original	Final		
Budgetary receipts and other financing sources	\$ 19,885,540	\$ 20,632,540	\$ 20,967,365	\$ 334,825
Budgetary disbursements and other financing uses	<u>25,121,863</u>	<u>25,959,658</u>	<u>21,529,739</u>	<u>(4,429,919)</u>
Net change in fund balance	(5,236,323)	(5,327,118)	(562,374)	4,764,744
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	12,894,395	12,894,395	12,894,395	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	1,121,884	1,121,884	1,121,884	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 8,779,956</u>	<u>\$ 8,689,161</u>	<u>\$ 13,453,905</u>	<u>\$ 4,764,744</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

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

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

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

	<u>General</u>
Budgetary basis	\$ (562,374)
Net adjustment for revenue accruals	(1)
Net adjustment for expenditure accruals	67,828
Net adjustment for other financing sources (uses)	(67,831)
Funds budgeted elsewhere	(26,543)
Encumbrances	<u>1,178,662</u>
Cash basis	<u>\$ 589,741</u>

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

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**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY**

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

FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Passed Through Grantor</i> <i>Program / Cluster Title</i>	Federal AL Number	Total Federal Expenditures
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</u>		
<i>Passed through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
Child Nutrition Cluster:		
Non-Cash Assistance:		
National School Lunch Program	10.555	\$ 62,736
Cash Assistance:		
School Breakfast Program	10.553	84,099
National School Lunch Program	10.555	350,434
COVID-19 National School Lunch Program	10.555	40,386
Total Child Nutrition Cluster		<u>537,655</u>
Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability	10.579	<u>35,000</u>
TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		<u>572,655</u>
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY</u>		
<i>Passed Through the Ohio Office of Budget and Management</i>		
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027	<u>17,986</u>
TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY		<u>17,986</u>
<u>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</u>		
<i>Passed through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>		
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010A	169,423
Special Education Cluster (IDEA):		
Special Education Grants to States	84.027A	382,423
Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173A	8,625
COVID-19 Special Education Preschool Grants	84.173X	655
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)		<u>391,703</u>
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	84.367A	39,812
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424A	14,661
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	84.424F	1,015
Total Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program		<u>15,676</u>
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425D	39,009
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425U	286,725
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	84.425W	11,957
Total Education Stabilization Fund		<u>337,691</u>
TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		<u>954,305</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS		<u>\$ 1,544,946</u>

The Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of this schedule.

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)
FOR THE 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 North Union Local School District (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2024. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the District.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

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

NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE E – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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

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

North Union Local School District
Union County
12920 State Route 739
Richwood, Ohio 43344

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the North Union Local School District, Union County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 8, 2025, wherein we noted the District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

North Union Local School District
Union County
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other 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.

District's Response to Finding

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

Purpose of This Report

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

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

July 8, 2025



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

North Union Local School District
Union County
12920 State Route 739
Richwood, Ohio 43344

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

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

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

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance* section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

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

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

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

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

North Union Local School District

Union County

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements

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

Required by the Uniform Guidance

Page 3

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

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

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

KEITH FABER
Ohio Auditor of State



Tiffany L Ridenbaugh, CPA, CFE, CGFM
Chief Deputy Auditor

July 8, 2025

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**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY**

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2024

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

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

**NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNION COUNTY**

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2024
(Continued)

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

FINDING NUMBER 2024-001

Material Noncompliance

GAAP Reporting

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

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

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

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

Officials' Response:

Refer to Corrective Action Plan.

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None



North Union Local School District
12920 State Route 739
Richwood, OH 43344

Phone: (740) 943-2509
Fax: (740) 943-2534

Board of Education

Brian Davis, President
Matt Staley, Vice President
Shelly Ehret
Bradley DeCamp
Matthew Hall

Administrative Team

Richard J. Baird, Superintendent
Scott W. Maruniak, Treasurer
Sandy Richards, Chief Academic Officer
Jared Evans, Director of Technology
Dar Allison, Director of Special Education
Brian Nauman, Director of Maintenance/
Transportation
Beverly Wasserbeck, Director of
Food Service

North Union Elementary

*420 Grove Street
Richwood, Ohio 43344*
Tom Montgomery, Interim Principal
Brent Markham, Assistant Principal
(740) 943-3113

North Union Middle School

*12555 Mulvane Road
Richwood, Ohio 43344*
Matt Burggraf, Principal
(740) 943-2369

North Union High School

*401 North Franklin Street
Richwood, Ohio 43344*
Justin Ufferman, Principal
Keith Conkling, Assistant Principal
(740) 943-3012

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Preparing students for a changing world
Challenging students to grow
Empowering students to achieve with purpose*

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

2 CFR 200.511(b)
JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2023-001	Material Noncompliance – Ohio Rev. Code §117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code § 117-2-03(B) – GAAP Reporting (this was first reported in 2010)	Not Corrected	Finding is being repeated in the current audit as Finding 2024-001.

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Deana Adams, Director of Student Services
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Beverly Wasserbeck, Director of
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Nick Withrow, Principal
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Kyle Burris, Assistant Principal
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Empowering students to achieve with purpose*

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

2 CFR § 200.511(c)

JUNE 30, 2024

Finding Number	Planned Corrective Action	Anticipated Completion Date	Responsible Contact Person
2024-001	The District does not have plans to correct the finding. The District will continue filing a cash basis financial report due to the cost of preparing a GAAP basis report.	N/A	Scott Maruniak, Treasurer

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



NORTH UNION LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

UNION COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 8/12/2025

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