

NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCIOTO COUNTY
SINGLE AUDIT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024



Millhuff-Stang

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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Board of Education
Northwest Local School District
800 Mohawk Drive
McDermott, Ohio 45652

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Northwest Local School District, Scioto County, prepared by Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc., for the audit period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. The Northwest Local School District is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Faber".

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

June 11, 2025

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Northwest Local School District
Scioto County
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Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Education
Northwest Local School District
800 Mohawk Drive
McDermott, Ohio 45652

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

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

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Northwest Local School District, Scioto County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, the schedules of the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability, the schedules of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset), and the schedules of District contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context.

We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Northwest Local School District
Independent Auditor's Report
Page 3

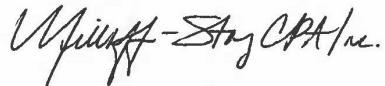
Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 17, 2025 on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Millhuff-Stang CPA, Inc.
Wheelersburg, Ohio

March 17, 2025

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Northwest Local School District
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
Unaudited

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

Financial Highlights

- The School District's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at June 30, 2024 by \$9,417,658.
- The School District's net position of governmental activities decreased \$1,359,539.
- General revenues accounted for \$17,754,091 or 76 percent of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, and operating grants and contributions accounted for \$5,489,156 or 24 percent of total revenues of \$23,243,247.
- The School District had \$24,602,786 in expenses related to governmental activities; \$5,489,156 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services and sales, and operating grants and contributions.

Using This Annual Financial Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. These statements are presented so that the reader can understand the School District's financial situation as a whole and also give a detailed view of the School District's financial activities.

The statement of net position and statement of activities provide information about the activities of the School District as a whole and present a longer-term view of the School District's finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as the amount of funds available for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the School District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column.

Reporting the School District as a Whole

These statements provide information that will help the reader to determine whether the School District is financially improving or declining as a result of the year's financial activities. These statements include all assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by private sector companies. All current year revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the School District's net position and changes in net position. This change informs the reader whether the School District's financial position, as a whole, has improved or diminished. In evaluating the overall financial health, the user of these financial statements needs to take into account nonfinancial factors that also impact the School District's financial well-being. Some of these factors include the condition of capital assets and required educational support services to be provided.

Northwest Local School District
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
Unaudited

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, the School District has only one kind of activity.

- Governmental activities. All of the School District's programs and services are reported here including instruction and support services.

Reporting the School District's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the School District's major funds – not the School District as a whole. Some funds are required by State law and bond covenants. Other funds may be established by the Treasurer with approval from the Board to help control, manage and report money received for a particular purpose or to show that the School District is meeting legal responsibilities for use of grants. The School District's major fund is the general fund.

Governmental Funds

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

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Northwest Local School District
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
Unaudited

The School District as a Whole

As stated previously, the statement of net position provides the perspective of the School District as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the School District's net position for 2024 compared to 2023.

Table 1
 Net Position

	2024	2023*
Assets:		
Current and Other Assets	\$12,808,183	\$14,066,884
Capital Assets, Net	<u>24,507,986</u>	<u>25,326,997</u>
Total Assets	37,316,169	39,393,881
Deferred Outflows of Resources	5,264,081	5,389,097
Liabilities:		
Current and Other Liabilities	2,782,827	2,813,320
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>24,084,573</u>	<u>24,395,313</u>
Total Liabilities	26,867,400	27,208,633
Deferred Inflows of Resources	6,295,192	6,797,148
Net Position:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	22,803,244	23,089,846
Restricted	1,367,484	1,178,532
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>(14,753,070)</u>	<u>(13,491,181)</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$9,417,658</u>	<u>\$10,777,197</u>

*As adjusted. See note 21 to the basic financial statements for more detailed information related to this adjustment.

Total net position of the School District as a whole decreased \$1,359,539. Current and other assets decreased \$1,258,701, due primarily to decreases in cash balances and intergovernmental receivables. Capital assets decreased \$819,011 due to current year depreciation exceeding current year additions. Deferred outflows of resources decreased \$125,016, due to changes in actuarially determined amounts related to the School District's proportionate share of the state-wide net pension and OPEB liabilities. Current and other liabilities decreased \$30,493 due to a decrease for matured compensated absences payable, which was partially offset by increases in accounts payable and accrued wages and benefits. Long-term liabilities decreased \$310,740, due primarily to principal payments on long-term debt which was partially offset by increases in the net pension and OPEB liabilities. Deferred inflows of resources decreased \$501,956, due to changes in actuarially determined amounts related to the School District's proportionate share of the state-wide net pension and OPEB liabilities (assets).

Northwest Local School District
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
Unaudited

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

Table 2
 Change in Net Position

	2024	2023
Revenues		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for Services and Sales	\$607,589	\$544,264
Operating Grants and Contributions	<u>4,881,567</u>	<u>7,732,533</u>
Total Program Revenues	<u>5,489,156</u>	<u>8,276,797</u>
General Revenues:		
Taxes Levied for:		
General Purposes	2,802,948	3,183,487
Permanent Improvement	76,815	80,761
Grants and Entitlements, Not Restricted to Specific Programs	14,527,937	13,950,071
Insurance Recoveries	7,314	25,434
Investment Earnings	291,782	135,278
Miscellaneous	<u>47,295</u>	<u>282,278</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>17,754,091</u>	<u>17,657,309</u>
Total Revenues	<u>23,243,247</u>	<u>25,934,106</u>
Program Expenses:		
Instruction:		
Regular	11,129,696	11,520,976
Special	2,613,856	2,691,134
Vocational	116,815	104,634
Student Intervention Services	2,951	15,120
Other	24,819	32,250
Support Services:		
Pupils	1,197,416	1,083,468
Instructional Staff	737,281	541,706
Board of Education	121,371	86,017
Administration	1,531,242	1,593,511
Fiscal	443,747	428,458
Business	0	32,245
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	2,865,417	2,490,510
Pupil Transportation	1,713,254	1,745,727
Central	181,259	121,396
Operation of Noninstructional Services	1,010,422	1,030,860
Extracurricular Activities	843,616	801,244
Interest on Long-Term Debt	<u>69,624</u>	<u>83,313</u>
Total Expenses	<u>24,602,786</u>	<u>24,402,569</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>(1,359,539)</u>	<u>1,531,537</u>
Net Position at Beginning of Year*	<u>10,777,197</u>	<u>9,245,660</u>
Net Position at End of Year	<u><u>\$9,417,658</u></u>	<u><u>\$10,777,197</u></u>

*As adjusted. See note 21 to the basic financial statements for more detailed information related to this adjustment.

Northwest Local School District
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
Unaudited

Charges for services and sales increased between years due to increases in tuition and fees and lunchroom sales. Operating grants and contributions decreased due to a decrease in ESSER grant funding recognized. Investment earnings increased due to an increase in interest revenues and a reduction in the decrease in fair value of investments recognized between years. Miscellaneous revenues decreased due to a decrease in refunds received.

Expenses increased \$200,217 due mainly to an increase in operation and maintenance of plant.

Governmental Activities

Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs comprised 63 percent of revenue for governmental activities, while operating grants and contributions comprised 21 percent of revenue for governmental activities, and property taxes comprised 12 percent of revenue for governmental activities of the School District for fiscal year 2024.

As indicated by governmental program expenses, instruction is emphasized. Regular instruction comprised 45 percent of governmental program expenses while special instruction comprised 11 percent of governmental expenses. Administration, operation and maintenance of plant, and pupil transportation expenses comprised 6 percent, 12 percent, and 7 percent, respectively.

The statement of activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and sales, grants and contributions offsetting those services. Table 3 shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by unrestricted State entitlements and other general revenues.

Table 3
Total and Net Cost of Program Services

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Instruction	\$13,888,137	\$14,364,114	\$10,586,826	\$9,052,468
Support Services	8,790,987	8,123,038	7,579,496	6,285,228
Operation of Noninstructional Services	1,010,422	1,030,860	152,352	8,429
Extracurricular Activities	843,616	801,244	725,332	696,334
Interest on Long-Term Debt	69,624	83,313	69,624	83,313
Total Expenses	\$24,602,786	\$24,402,569	\$19,113,630	\$16,125,772

The School District's Funds

Governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. All governmental funds had total revenues and other financing sources of \$23,900,001 and expenditures and other financing uses of \$24,949,751. The net change in fund balance for the year was most significant in the general fund.

The fund balance of the general fund decreased in the amount of \$735,919. This was a result of expenditures and other financing uses in excess of revenues and other financing sources. Total expenditures increased between years due to increases in personnel and contract services costs.

Northwest Local School District
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024
Unaudited

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

The School District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. During 2024, there were several revisions to the general fund budget. In part, these revisions increased appropriations by \$1,172,593 as a result of an increase in regular instruction, pupil transportation, and extracurricular activities. These revisions increased estimated resources by \$1,007,751 as a result of increased budgeting for intergovernmental monies and tuition and fees as well as property tax revenues. The Treasurer has been given the authority by the Board of Education to make line item adjustments within the budget. The general fund's ending unobligated cash balance was \$6,103,037.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2024, the School District had \$24,507,986 invested in its capital assets. Table 4 shows the fiscal year 2024 balances compared to 2023.

Table 4
Capital Assets
(Net of Accumulated Depreciation)

	2024	2023*
Land	\$403,451	\$403,451
Land Improvements	1,972,384	2,105,473
Buildings and Improvements	18,159,071	18,730,056
Furniture and Equipment	2,118,269	2,210,240
Vehicles	1,748,882	1,771,848
Textbooks	105,929	105,929
Totals	\$24,507,986	\$25,326,997

*As restated due to a capitalization threshold change. See note 7 to the basic financial statements for more information.

Changes in capital assets from the prior year resulted from current year additions and depreciation expense. See note 7 to the basic financial statements for more detailed information related to capital assets.

Debt

At June 30, 2024, the School District had one note and one financed purchase agreement outstanding. These obligations had balances of \$83,000, and \$1,621,742, respectively, at the end of the year. See note 12 to the basic financial statements for more detailed information regarding debt.

Contacting the School District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, creditors, and investors with a general overview of the School District's financial condition and to show the School District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Julie Smith, Treasurer, Northwest Local School District, 800 Mohawk Drive, McDermott, Ohio 45652.

Northwest Local School District

Statement of Net Position

As of June 30, 2024

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$7,126,712
Accrued Interest Receivable	16,075
Intergovernmental Receivable	177,653
Prepaid Items	74,825
Property Taxes Receivable	4,005,727
Net OPEB Asset	1,407,191
Nondepreciable Capital Assets	403,451
Depreciable Capital Assets, net	<u>24,104,535</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	37,316,169
Deferred Outflows of Resources:	
Pension	4,513,814
OPEB	<u>750,267</u>
<i>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</i>	5,264,081
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	171,081
Accrued Wages and Benefits	2,285,877
Intergovernmental Payable	320,813
Accrued Interest Payable	5,056
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	494,211
Due in More Than One Year	3,114,158
Net Pension Liability	19,336,483
Net OPEB Liability	<u>1,139,721</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	26,867,400
Deferred Inflows of Resources:	
Property Taxes not Levied to Finance Current Year Operations	2,590,573
Pension	1,375,570
OPEB	<u>2,329,049</u>
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	6,295,192
Net Position:	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	22,803,244
Restricted for Capital Outlay	312,090
Restricted for Other Purposes	602,798
Restricted for Net OPEB Asset	452,596
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>(14,753,070)</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u><u>\$9,417,658</u></u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement

Northwest Local School District
Statement of Activities
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	
Governmental Activities:				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$11,129,696	\$337,592	\$1,149,321	(\$9,642,783)
Special	2,613,856	0	1,766,644	(847,212)
Vocational	116,815	0	12,593	(104,222)
Student Intervention Services	2,951	0	0	(2,951)
Other	24,819	0	35,161	10,342
Support Services:				
Pupils	1,197,416	13,123	335,582	(848,711)
Instructional Staff	737,281	0	400,351	(336,930)
Board of Education	121,371	0	0	(121,371)
Administration	1,531,242	0	31,389	(1,499,853)
Fiscal	443,747	0	0	(443,747)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	2,865,417	41,699	352,087	(2,471,631)
Pupil Transportation	1,713,254	0	11,107	(1,702,147)
Central	181,259	0	26,153	(155,106)
Operation of Noninstructional Services	1,010,422	102,673	755,397	(152,352)
Extracurricular Activities	843,616	112,502	5,782	(725,332)
Interest	69,624	0	0	(69,624)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$24,602,786</u>	<u>\$607,589</u>	<u>\$4,881,567</u>	<u>(19,113,630)</u>

General Revenues:

Property Taxes Levied for:	
General Purposes	2,802,948
Permanent Improvements	76,815
Grants and Entitlements not	
Restricted for Specific Programs	14,527,937
Insurance Recoveries	7,314
Investment Earnings	291,782
Miscellaneous	47,295
<i>Total General Revenues</i>	<u>17,754,091</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	<u>(1,359,539)</u>
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year as Previously Reported</i>	<u>11,235,100</u>
<i>Adjustment for Increase in Capitalization Threshold</i>	<u>(457,903)</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u>\$9,417,658</u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement

Northwest Local School District
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
As of June 30, 2024

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:			
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$6,321,741	\$804,971	\$7,126,712
Accrued Interest Receivable	16,075	0	16,075
Interfund Receivable	12,863	0	12,863
Intergovernmental Receivable	17,536	160,117	177,653
Prepaid Items	0	74,825	74,825
Property Taxes Receivable	<u>3,904,561</u>	<u>101,166</u>	<u>4,005,727</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u><u>\$10,272,776</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,141,079</u></u>	<u><u>\$11,413,855</u></u>
Liabilities:			
Accounts Payable	\$171,081	\$0	\$171,081
Accrued Wages and Benefits	2,069,871	216,006	2,285,877
Interfund Payable	0	12,863	12,863
Intergovernmental Payable	<u>293,150</u>	<u>27,663</u>	<u>320,813</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u><u>2,534,102</u></u>	<u><u>256,532</u></u>	<u><u>2,790,634</u></u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources:			
Property Taxes not Levied to Finance Current Year Operations	2,524,499	66,074	2,590,573
Unavailable Revenue-Property Taxes	1,039,373	26,366	1,065,739
Unavailable Revenue-Grants	<u>0</u>	<u>52,811</u>	<u>52,811</u>
<i>Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u><u>3,563,872</u></u>	<u><u>145,251</u></u>	<u><u>3,709,123</u></u>
Fund Balances:			
Nonspendable	0	74,825	74,825
Restricted	0	802,146	802,146
Committed	115,005	0	115,005
Assigned	375,588	0	375,588
Unassigned (Deficit)	<u>3,684,209</u>	<u>(137,675)</u>	<u>3,546,534</u>
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u><u>4,174,802</u></u>	<u><u>739,296</u></u>	<u><u>4,914,098</u></u>
<i>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances</i>	<u><u>\$10,272,776</u></u>	<u><u>\$1,141,079</u></u>	<u><u>\$11,413,855</u></u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Northwest Local School District
Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to
Net Position of Governmental Activities
As of June 30, 2024

Total Governmental Fund Balances	\$4,914,098
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	24,507,986
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Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds.	
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Taxes	1,065,739
Intergovernmental	<u>52,811</u>
Total	1,118,550

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) is not due and payable (receivable) in the current period. Therefore, the liability (asset) and related deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds:

Deferred Outflows-Pension	4,513,814
Deferred Outflows-OPEB	750,267
Deferred Inflows-Pension	(1,375,570)
Deferred Inflows-OPEB	(2,329,049)
Net OPEB Asset	1,407,191
Net Pension Liability	(19,336,483)
Net OPEB Liability	<u>(1,139,721)</u>
Total	(17,509,551)

Long-term liabilities, including notes, financed purchase agreements, and the long-term portion of compensated absences, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.

Accrued Interest Payable	(5,056)
Compensated Absences	(1,903,627)
Notes Payable	(83,000)
Financed Purchase Agreements	<u>(1,621,742)</u>
Total	<u>(3,613,425)</u>

Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$9,417,658</u>
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The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement

Northwest Local School District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:			
Property Taxes	\$2,773,036	\$76,057	\$2,849,093
Intergovernmental	16,589,872	2,757,561	19,347,433
Interest	237,784	15,081	252,865
Change in Fair Value of Investments	53,998	0	53,998
Tuition and Fees	337,592	0	337,592
Lease and Rent	41,699	0	41,699
Extracurricular Activities	14,855	110,770	125,625
Gifts and Donations	14,979	25,862	40,841
Customer Sales and Services	0	102,673	102,673
Miscellaneous	37,312	9,983	47,295
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<i>20,101,127</i>	<i>3,097,987</i>	<i>23,199,114</i>
Expenditures:			
Current:			
Instruction:			
Regular	9,467,557	1,160,648	10,628,205
Special	2,568,993	39,194	2,608,187
Vocational	118,503	0	118,503
Student Intervention Services	2,944	0	2,944
Other	569	24,250	24,819
Support Services:			
Pupils	1,188,041	7,618	1,195,659
Instructional Staff	311,455	400,351	711,806
Board of Education	120,993	0	120,993
Administration	1,539,218	31,389	1,570,607
Fiscal	441,495	2,029	443,524
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	2,204,836	122,720	2,327,556
Pupil Transportation	1,560,415	11,107	1,571,522
Central	132,302	48,418	180,720
Operation of Noninstructional Services	0	1,006,566	1,006,566
Extracurricular Activities	266,934	178,669	445,603
Capital Outlay	226,532	590,005	816,537
Debt Service:			
Principal	0	411,707	411,707
Interest	0	70,720	70,720
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<i>20,150,787</i>	<i>4,105,391</i>	<i>24,256,178</i>
<i>Excess of Revenues Under Expenditures</i>	<i>(49,660)</i>	<i>(1,007,404)</i>	<i>(1,057,064)</i>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Transfers In	0	693,573	693,573
Insurance Recoveries	7,314	0	7,314
Transfers Out	(693,573)	0	(693,573)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<i>(686,259)</i>	<i>693,573</i>	<i>7,314</i>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	<i>(735,919)</i>	<i>(313,831)</i>	<i>(1,049,750)</i>
<i>Fund Balance at Beginning of Year</i>	<i>4,910,721</i>	<i>1,053,127</i>	<i>5,963,848</i>
<i>Fund Balance at End of Year</i>	<i>\$4,174,802</i>	<i>\$739,296</i>	<i>\$4,914,098</i>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Northwest Local School District
*Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes
 in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities
 For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds (\$1,049,750)

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

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount of depreciation and capital asset additions in the current period.

Capital Asset Additions	816,537	
Current Year Depreciation	<u>(1,635,548)</u>	
Total		(819,011)

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

Intergovernmental	6,149	
Taxes	<u>30,670</u>	
Total		36,819

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

Pension	1,629,485	
OPEB	<u>50,383</u>	
Total		1,679,868

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

Pension	(1,878,769)	
OPEB	<u>167,364</u>	
Total		(1,711,405)

Repayments of note principal are expenditures in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces liabilities in the statement of net position and does not result in an expense in the statement of activities. 105,000

Repayments of financed purchase obligations are expenditures in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces liabilities in the statement of net position and does not result in an expense in the statement of activities. 306,707

Interest is reported as an expenditure when due in the governmental funds, but is accrued on outstanding debt on the statement of net position. 1,096

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

Decrease in Compensated Absences	<u>91,137</u>	
Total		<u>91,137</u>

Net Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (\$1,359,539)

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement

Northwest Local School District
*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Change
in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis)*
General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget: Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final	Actual	
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$18,972,074	\$19,979,825	\$19,979,825	\$0
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	<u>19,534,325</u>	<u>20,706,918</u>	<u>20,706,918</u>	<u>0</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balance</i>	(562,251)	(727,093)	(727,093)	0
<i>Fund Balance at Beginning of Year</i>	6,721,233	6,721,233	6,721,233	0
<i>Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated</i>	108,897	108,897	108,897	0
<i>Fund Balance at End of Year</i>	<u>\$6,267,879</u>	<u>\$6,103,037</u>	<u>\$6,103,037</u>	<u>\$0</u>

The notes to the basic financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 1 – Description of the School District and Reporting Entity

Description of the School District

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

The School District was established in 1957 through the consolidation of existing land areas and school districts. The School District serves an area of approximately 187 square miles. It is located in Scioto County, and includes all of the Villages of Rarden and Otway and portions of Brush, Rush, Union, Morgan and Rarden Townships. It is staffed by 79 noncertified and administrative employees and 103 certificated full-time teaching personnel who provide services to 1,187 students and other community members. The School District currently operates 3 instructional buildings, 1 administrative building, and 1 garage.

Reporting Entity

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

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

The following organizations which perform activities within the School District's boundaries for the benefit of its residents are excluded from the accompanying financial statements because the School District is not financially accountable for these organizations nor are they fiscally dependent on the School District:

- Parent Teacher Organizations
- Booster Associations
- Alumni Associations

The School District is associated with four organizations, three of which are defined as jointly governed organizations and one as a public entity shared risk pool. These organizations are the META Solutions, the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools, the Ohio Coalition of Equity and Adequacy of School Funding, and Optimal Health Initiatives. These organizations are presented in notes 14 and 15 to the basic financial statements.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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

Basis of Presentation

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

Government-wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government.

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

Fund Financial Statements

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

Fund Accounting

The School District's accounts are maintained on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to specific School District functions or activities. The operation of each fund is accounted for within a separate set of self-balancing accounts.

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 purpose for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources is reported as fund balance. The following is the School District's major governmental fund:

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

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

The other governmental funds of the School District account for grants and other resources, and capital projects, whose use is restricted to a particular purpose.

Measurement Focus

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources associated with the operation of the School District are included on the statement of net position. The statement of activities presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in total net position.

Fund Financial Statements

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

Basis of Accounting

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

Revenues – Exchange and Non-Exchange Transactions

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

Non-exchange transactions, in which the School District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. (See note 5). Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements; which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the School District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditures requirements, in which the resources are provided to

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

the School District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

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

Deferred Inflows/Outflows of Resources

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

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position and balance sheet sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represents an acquisition of net position/fund balance that applies to a future period and will not be recognized until that time. For the School District, deferred inflows of resources included property taxes, pension and OPEB, and unavailable revenue. Property taxes for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2024, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2025 operations, and other revenues received in advance of the year for which they were intended to finance, have been recorded as deferred inflows of resources on the statement of net position and governmental funds balance sheet. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet and represents grants and entitlements not received within the available period and delinquent property taxes due at June 30, 2024. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB are reported on the government-wide statement of net position and are further explained in notes 9 and 10.

Expenses/Expenditures

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable, except for (1) principal and interest on general long-term debt and financed purchase obligations, which is recorded when due, (2) the costs of accumulated unpaid vacation, personal leave, and sick leave are reported as fund liabilities as payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirements. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

Budgetary Process

All funds are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriation resolution, and the certificate of estimated resources, which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amounts that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and set annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the fund level. The Treasurer maintains budgetary information at the fund and object level and has the authority to allocate appropriations at the function and object level without resolution by the Board.

The certificate of estimated resources may be amended during the fiscal year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the School District Treasurer. The amounts reported as the original budgeted amounts in the budgetary statement reflect the amounts in the amended certificate in effect when the permanent appropriations

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

were passed. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts in the budgetary statement reflect the amounts in the final amended certificate issued during fiscal year 2024.

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

Encumbrances

Encumbrance accounting is utilized by the School District for all funds in the normal course of operations for purchase orders and contract-related expenditures. An encumbrance is a reserve on the available spending authority due to a commitment for a future expenditure and does not represent a liability. On the fund financial statements, encumbrances outstanding at fiscal year-end are reported as a restriction, commitment, or assignment of fund balance for subsequent year expenditures for governmental funds. A restriction, commitment, or assignment for encumbrances is not reported on the government-wide financial statements. Encumbrances are reported as part of expenditures on a non-GAAP budgetary basis in the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances – budget and actual (budgetary basis) presented for the general fund.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

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

During fiscal year 2024, the School District invested funds in negotiable certificates of deposit, money market funds, federal government agency securities, and the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAROhio). 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 School District measures its 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.

For the fiscal year 2024, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. Twenty-four hours advanced notice is appreciated for deposits and redemptions of \$100 million or more. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million per day, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest revenue credited to the general fund and other governmental funds during fiscal year 2024 amounted to \$237,784 and \$15,081, respectively. The School District also recognized an increase in the fair value of investments in the general fund in the amount of \$53,998 for 2024.

Investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the School District are considered to be cash equivalents.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2024, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of the purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the fiscal year in which services are consumed. The School District reports a prepaid item at June 30, 2024 for a down payment paid on a fire pump replacement project.

Capital Assets and Depreciation

All capital assets of the School District are general capital assets that are associated with governmental activities. General capital assets result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The School District maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The School District does not possess any infrastructure.

Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not. The School District does not capitalize interest for capital asset purchases.

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

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Land Improvements	10-25 Years
Buildings and Improvements	20-25 Years
Furniture and Equipment	10-15 Years
Vehicles	10-15 Years
Textbooks	5-10 Years

Interfund Balances

On the fund financial statements, receivables and payables resulting from short-term interfund loans are classified as "interfund receivables" and "interfund payables." These amounts are eliminated in the governmental activities column of the statement of net position.

Compensated Absences

Vacation and personal leave benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the School District will compensate its employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the termination payment method.

The liability includes the employees who are currently eligible to receive severance benefits and those the School District has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The School District records an accrual for sick leave to the extent it is probable that benefits will result in termination payments. The accrual amount is based upon an estimate of the School District's past experience of making termination payments.

On the governmental fund financial statements, compensated absences are recognized as liabilities and expenditures to the extent that payments come due each period upon the occurrence of employee resignations and retirements.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

These amounts are recorded in the account “matured compensated absences payable” in the fund from which the employees will be paid. The School District did not have any matured compensated absences payable to report as of June 30, 2024.

Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities, and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements. In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources are reported as obligations of the funds. However, compensated absences and net pension/OPEB liability that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment in the current year. Notes and financed purchases are recognized as a liability on the fund financial statements when due.

Fund Balances

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

Nonspendable – The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of loans receivable, as well as property acquired for resale, unless the use of the proceeds from the collection of those receivables or from the sale of those properties is restricted, committed, or assigned.

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

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

Assigned – Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the School District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the general fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount that is not restricted or committed. In the general fund, assigned amounts would represent intended uses established by the School District’s Board of Education.

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

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

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

The School District applies restricted resources first when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

Of the School District's restricted net position, none is restricted for enabling legislation.

Interfund Transactions

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures 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. Interfund transfers within governmental activities are eliminated in the statement of activities. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

Pensions/OPEB

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

Note 3 – Budgetary Basis of Accounting

While the School District is reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balances on the basis of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The statement of revenues, expenditures and change in fund balance - budget and actual (budgetary basis) presented for the general fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget.

The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP (modified accrual) basis are as follows:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
2. Expenditures are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures (budget basis) rather than as a restriction, commitment, or assignment of fund balance (GAAP basis);
4. Certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund on a GAAP basis. This includes the uniform school supplies, public school support funds, and termination benefits.

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP and budgetary basis statements for the general fund.

Net Change in Fund Balance	
	General
GAAP Basis	(\$735,919)
Revenue Accruals	(91,511)
Expenditure Accruals	213,250
Encumbrances	(85,474)
(Excess) Deficit of Funds Combined with the General Fund for Reporting	
Purposes	(27,439)
Budget Basis	<u><u>(\$727,093)</u></u>

Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

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

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

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

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

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

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and Government National Mortgage Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided the market 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 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;

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

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

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements, and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage, and short selling are also prohibited. An investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase, unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the School District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity.

Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

Deposits

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. As of June 30, 2024, the School District's bank balance of \$1,585,076 was either covered by FDIC or collateralized by the financial institution's public entity deposit pool in the manner described below.

The School District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or be protected by:

Eligible securities pledged to the School District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured; or

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 market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of State.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Investments

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

	Carrying/Fair Value	Weighted Average Maturity (Years)	S&P Credit Rating	Percentage of Portfolio
STAROhio	\$2,749,287	<1 Year	AAAm	48.43%
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	1,704,364	<1 Year	N/A	30.02%
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	361,107	1-2 Years	N/A	6.36%
Federal Farm Credit Bank	191,626	<1 Year	AA+	3.38%
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	94,831	1-2 Years	AA+	1.67%
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	198,004	2-5 Years	AA+	3.49%
Federated Government Obligations Money Market Fund	377,919	<1 Year	AAAm	6.65%
Total	\$5,677,138			100.00%

The School District categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs. Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The above table identifies the School District's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2024. As discussed further in note 2, STAR Ohio is reported at its share price. All other investments of the School District are valued using quoted market prices (Level 1 inputs).

Interest Rate Risk – Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. In accordance with the investment policy, the School District manages its exposure to declines in fair value by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio.

Credit Risk – Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The School District's investment policy does not address credit risk beyond the requirements of the Ohio Revised Code. The School District limited its investments to securities in negotiable certificates of deposit, STAROhio, federal government agency obligations, and money market funds.

Concentration of Credit Risk – Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single user. The School District's investment policy allows investments in STAROhio, repurchase agreements, and securities or obligations of federal agencies or instrumentalities.

Custodial Credit Risk – Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District's investment policy does not address custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of the Ohio Revised Code. All of the School District's securities are held in the name of the School District.

Note 5 – Property Taxes

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real, public utility, and tangible personal property (used in business) located in the School District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar year 2024 represents collections of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1,

Northwest Local School District
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For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

2023 on the assessed value listed as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State law at thirty-five percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semi-annually, 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 revenue received in calendar year 2024 represents collections 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 in 2024 with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at thirty-five percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

Tangible personal property tax revenue received during calendar year 2024 (other than public utility property tax) represents the collection of 2024 taxes levied against local and inter-exchange telephone companies. Tangible personal property tax on business inventory, manufacturing machinery and equipment, and furniture and fixtures is no longer levied and collected. The October 2008 tangible personal property tax settlement was the last property tax settlement for general personal property taxes. Tangible personal property taxes received from telephone companies in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023 on the value as of December 31, 2023. Payments by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semi-annually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semi-annually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20. Tangible personal property taxes paid by April 30 are usually received by the School District prior to June 30.

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	\$138,882,850	91.16%	\$140,044,890	90.86%
Public Utility	13,475,810	8.84%	14,080,030	9.14%
Total Assessed Value	\$152,358,660	100.00%	\$154,124,920	100.00%
Tax rate per \$1000 of Assessed Valuation		\$20.21		\$20.21

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

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

The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2024 was \$340,689 in the general fund and \$8,726 in the permanent improvement nonmajor capital projects fund.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 6 - Receivables

Receivables at June 30, 2024 consisted of accrued interest, taxes receivable, interfund receivables, and intergovernmental grants. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the ability to foreclose for the nonpayment of taxes, the stable condition of state programs, and the current fiscal year guarantee of federal funds. A summary of the principal items of intergovernmental receivables follows:

<i>Major Fund</i>	
General	\$17,536
<i>Nonmajor Funds</i>	
Early Childhood	37,000
Title I-A	117,376
Drug Free Schools	1,262
Title II-A	3,137
Miscellaneous Federal Grants	1,342
Total Nonmajor Funds	<u>160,117</u>
Total All Funds	<u><u>\$177,653</u></u>

Note 7 – Capital Assets

Capital assets activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, was as follows:

	Ending Balance 6/30/23*	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balance 6/30/24
Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated				
Land	\$403,451	\$0	\$0	\$403,451
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	403,451	0	0	403,451
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated				
Land Improvements	3,570,972	13,500	0	3,584,472
Buildings and Improvements	40,948,089	580,027	0	41,528,116
Furniture and Equipment	5,150,101	108,377	0	5,258,478
Vehicles	2,405,103	114,633	0	2,519,736
Textbooks	1,076,386	0	0	1,076,386
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	53,150,651	816,537	0	53,967,188
Less Accumulated Depreciation				
Land Improvements	(1,465,499)	(146,589)	0	(1,612,088)
Buildings and Improvements	(22,218,033)	(1,151,012)	0	(23,369,045)
Furniture and Equipment	(2,939,861)	(200,348)	0	(3,140,209)
Vehicles	(633,255)	(137,599)	0	(770,854)
Textbooks	(970,457)	0	0	(970,457)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(28,227,105)	(1,635,548)	0	(29,862,653)
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated, Net	24,923,546	(819,011)	0	24,104,535
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$25,326,997	(\$819,011)	\$0	\$24,507,986

*The School District changed their threshold for capitalization from \$1,000 to \$5,000. The beginning balances reflect that change.

Northwest Local School District
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For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:	
Regular	\$569,466
Support Services:	
Instructional Staff	1,415
Board of Education	366
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	527,061
Pupil Transportation	136,271
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	3,495
Extracurricular Activities	397,474
Total Depreciation Expense	<u>\$1,635,548</u>

Note 8 – Risk Management

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

Coverages provided were as follows:

Building and contents – replacement cost	\$350,000,000
General liability	
Per occurrence	15,000,000
Total aggregate	17,000,000
Crime one occurrence	1,000,000
Wrongful acts	
Per occurrence	15,000,000
Total aggregate	15,000,000
Automobile Liability	15,000,000

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

The School District is a member of Optimal Health Initiatives (OHI), Scioto Health Plan, Southeast Division of OHI (the Plan), a public entity shared risk pool (note 15), offering employee medical and dental insurance to participating school districts within the county. Monthly premiums are paid to Mountjoy Chilton Medley LLP as fiscal agent. This fiscal agent in turn pays the claims on the School District's behalf. The Plan is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon a school district's termination from the Plan, the Plan shall have no obligation to the school district beyond paying claims incurred prior to termination and any applicable extended benefits that were provided under the Plan. All claims and expenses shall be paid from the funds of the Plan.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 9 – Defined Benefit Pension Plans and Defined Benefit OPEB Plans

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability (Asset)

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) reported on the statement of net position represents a liability to (asset for) employees for pensions/OPEB. 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 pension/OPEB is a present obligation because it was created as a result of employment exchanges that already have occurred.

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

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

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

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

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

School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

* Members with 25 years of service credit as of August 1, 2017, 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 percent for the first thirty years of service and 2.5 percent for years of service credit over 30. Final average salary is the average of the highest three years of salary.

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

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14 percent of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended by the SERS’ Retirement Board up to statutory maximum amounts of 10 percent for plan members and 14 percent for employers. The Retirement Board, acting with the advice of the actuary, allocates the employer contribution rate among four of the System’s funds (Pension Trust Fund, Death Benefit Fund, Medicare B Fund, and Health Care Fund). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14.0 percent. For fiscal year 2024, the Retirement Board did not allocate any employer contribution to the Health Care Fund.

The School District’s contractually required contributions to SERS were \$384,018 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$0 was reported as an intergovernmental payable.

State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description – School District licensed teachers and other certified faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, 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 Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307.

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients’ base benefit and past cost-of-living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2023, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 1

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For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2024 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2019. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3307.67(E), the STRS Ohio Retirement Board may adjust the COLA upon a determination by the board's actuary that a change will not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 34 years of service credit at any age.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The School District's contractually required contributions to STRS were \$1,245,467 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$220,836 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

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

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

Northwest Local School District
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contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Current Measurement Date	0.06795780%	0.072354350%	
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Prior Measurement Date	0.07464830%	0.068274020%	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.00669050%</u>	<u>0.004080330%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability			
\$3,755,019	\$15,581,464	\$19,336,483	
Pension Expense	\$249,104	\$1,629,665	\$1,878,769

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
<i>Deferred Outflows of Resources</i>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$161,399	\$568,068	\$729,467
Changes of assumptions	26,601	1,283,217	1,309,818
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	1,862	843,182	845,044
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	384,018	1,245,467	1,629,485
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$573,880</u>	<u>\$3,939,934</u>	<u>\$4,513,814</u>
<i>Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$0	\$34,576	\$34,576
Changes of assumptions	0	965,894	965,894
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	52,778	46,697	99,475
Changes in proportion and differences between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	265,938	9,687	275,625
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$318,716</u>	<u>\$1,056,854</u>	<u>\$1,375,570</u>

\$1,629,485 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense (gain) as follows:

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Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	(\$66,783)	\$133,450	\$66,667
2026	(239,488)	(275,704)	(515,192)
2027	174,613	1,705,546	1,880,159
2028	<u>2,804</u>	<u>74,321</u>	<u>77,125</u>
Total	<u>(\$128,854)</u>	<u>\$1,637,613</u>	<u>\$1,508,759</u>

Actuarial Assumptions – SERS

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment termination). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual review and potential modifications, as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and plan members to that point. The projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes does not explicitly incorporate the potential effects of legal or contractual funding limitations. Future benefits for all current plan members were projected through 2137.

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

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

Inflation	2.4 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.00 percent, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of System expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

Mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. 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.

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The long-term return expectation for the Pension Plan Investments has been determined by using a building-block approach and assumes a time horizon, as defined in SERS' Statement of Investment Policy. A forecasted rate of inflation serves as the baseline for the return expectation. Various real return premiums over the baseline inflation rate have been established for each asset class. The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating an arithmetic weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. As of June 30, 2023:

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

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

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$5,542,215	\$3,755,019	\$2,249,645

Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation are presented below:

Inflation	2.50 percent
Projected Salary Increases	From 2.50 percent to 8.50 percent based on service
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent
Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)	0.00 percent, effective July 1, 2017

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

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

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

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected 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	<u>1.00</u>	1.00
 Total	 <u>100.00 %</u>	

*Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 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 rate increases described above. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2023. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00 percent was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$23,960,843	\$15,581,464	\$8,494,802

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Note 10 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans

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

School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The School District contributes to the SERS Health Care Fund, administered by SERS for non-certificated retirees and their beneficiaries. For GASB 75 purposes, this plan is considered a cost-sharing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan. SERS' Health Care Plan provides health care benefits to eligible individuals receiving retirement, disability, and survivor benefits, and to their eligible dependents. Members who retire after June 1, 1986, need 10 years of service credit, exclusive of most types of purchased credit, to qualify to participate in SERS' health care coverage. The following types of credit purchased after January 29, 1981, do not count toward health care coverage eligibility: military, federal, out-of-state, municipal, private school, exempted, and early retirement incentive credit. In addition to age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and beneficiaries who are receiving monthly benefits due to the death of a member or retiree, are eligible for SERS' health care coverage. Most retirees and dependents choosing SERS' health care coverage are over the age of 65 and therefore enrolled in a fully insured Medicare Advantage plan; however, SERS maintains a traditional, self-insured preferred provider organization for its non-Medicare retiree population. For both groups, SERS offers a self-insured prescription drug program. Health care is a benefit that is permitted, not mandated, by statute. The financial report of the Plan is included in the SERS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which can be obtained on SERS' website at www.ohsers.org under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2024, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$50,383.

The surcharge, added to the allocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS for health care was \$50,383 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$50,383 was reported as an intergovernmental payable.

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

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drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Health care premiums were reduced by a Medicare Part B premium credit beginning in 2023. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

Funding Policy – Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. All benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14 percent 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), OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the School District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense (gain):

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Current Measurement Date	0.06918120%	0.072354350%	
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Prior Measurement Date	0.07614890%	0.068274020%	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.00696770%</u>	<u>0.004080330%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$1,139,721	\$0	\$1,139,721
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset	\$0	(\$1,407,191)	(\$1,407,191)
OPEB Expense (Gain)	(\$87,181)	(\$80,183)	(\$167,364)

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

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	SERS	STRS	Total
<i>Deferred Outflows of Resources</i>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$2,373	\$2,194	\$4,567
Changes of assumptions	385,375	207,300	592,675
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	8,835	2,509	11,344
Changes in proportionate share and difference between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	87,620	3,678	91,298
School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date	50,383	0	50,383
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$534,586</u>	<u>\$215,681</u>	<u>\$750,267</u>
<i>Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$587,797	\$214,629	\$802,426
Changes of assumptions	323,692	928,443	1,252,135
Changes in proportionate share and difference between School District contributions and proportionate share of contributions	247,283	27,205	274,488
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$1,158,772</u>	<u>\$1,170,277</u>	<u>\$2,329,049</u>

\$50,383 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from School District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability or increase in the net OPEB asset in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense (gain) as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2025	(\$186,022)	(\$419,799)	(\$605,821)
2026	(158,687)	(190,958)	(349,645)
2027	(100,075)	(75,108)	(175,183)
2028	(75,427)	(101,131)	(176,558)
2029	(64,076)	(92,907)	(156,983)
Thereafter	<u>(90,282)</u>	<u>(74,693)</u>	<u>(164,975)</u>
Total	<u>(\$674,569)</u>	<u>(\$954,596)</u>	<u>(\$1,629,165)</u>

Actuarial Assumptions – SERS

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

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

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

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

Inflation	2.40 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expense
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Fiduciary Net Position is Projected to be Depleted	2048
Municipal Bond Index Rate:	
Measurement Date	3.86 percent
Prior Measurement Date	3.69 percent
Single Equivalent Interest Rate:	
Measurement Date	4.27 percent
Prior Measurement Date	4.08 percent
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	
Medical Trend Assumption:	
Measurement Date	6.75 percent to 4.40 percent
Prior Measurement Date	7.00 percent to 4.40 percent

Mortality rates among healthy retirees were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females. Mortality rates for contingent survivors were based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Contingent Survivor mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 105.5 percent for males and adjusted 122.5 percent for females. Mortality rates for actives is based on PUB-2010 General Amount Weighted Below Median Employee mortality table. Mortality rates are projected using a fully generational projection with Scale MP-2020.

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

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial five-year experience study. The most recent study covers fiscal years 2016 through 2020 and was adopted by the Board 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 percent, 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

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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. As of June 30, 2023:

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 Assets/Real Assets	17.00%	3.70%
Private Debt/Private Credit	5.00%	5.64%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	

Discount Rate The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2023, was 4.27 percent. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2023, was 4.08 percent. 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 percent of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50 percent payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to 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 percent at June 30, 2023, and 3.69 percent at June 30, 2022.

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability of SERS, what SERS' 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 SERS' 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.

	1% Decrease (3.27%)	Current Discount Rate (4.27%)	1% Increase (5.27%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$1,456,891	\$1,139,721	\$889,622
	1% Decrease (5.75% decreasing to 3.40%)	Current Trend Rate (6.75% decreasing to 4.40%)	1% Increase (7.75% decreasing to 5.40%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$837,315	\$1,139,721	\$1,540,454

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Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation compared to the prior year are presented below:

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Projected Salary Increases	Varies by service from 2.50 percent to 8.50 percent	Varies by service from 2.50 percent to 8.50 percent
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00 percent, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Payroll Increases	3.00 percent	3.00 percent
Discount Rate of Return	7.00 percent	7.00 percent
Health Care Cost Trends:		
Medical:		
Pre-Medicare	7.50 percent initial, 4.14 percent ultimate	7.50 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate
Medicare	-10.94 percent initial, 4.14 percent ultimate	-68.78 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate
Prescription Drug:		
Pre-Medicare	-11.95 percent initial, 4.14 percent ultimate	9.00 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate
Medicare	1.33 percent initial, 4.14 percent ultimate	-5.47 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate

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

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

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023, valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis. STRS' investment consultant develops an estimate range for the investment return assumption based on the target allocation adopted by the Retirement Board. The target allocation and long-term expected rate of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

Asset Class	Target Allocation*	Long-Term Expected 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	<u>1.00</u>	1.00
 Total	 <u>100.00 %</u>	

*Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

**10-year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 percent

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and is net of investment expenses. Over a 30-year period, STRS investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

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

Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2023, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00 percent, 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 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) 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.

	1% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1% Increase (8.00%)
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$1,191,004)	(\$1,407,191)	(\$1,595,469)
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$1,604,206)	(\$1,407,191)	(\$1,169,892)

Note 11 – Employee Benefits

Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave components 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 and administrators upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time. Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated up to maximum of 289 days for both classified and 276 days for certified personnel. Upon retirement, payment is made for one-third of accrued, but unused sick leave credit to a maximum of 62 days for classified and 66 days for certified personnel.

Insurance Benefits

The School District provides life insurance to most employees through the Metropolitan Education Council.

Deferred Compensation

School District employees may participate in the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan. This plan was created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. Participation is on a voluntary payroll deduction basis. The plan permits deferral of compensation until future years. According to the plan, the deferred compensation is not available until termination, retirement, death, or an unforeseeable emergency.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 12 – Long-Term Liabilities

The changes in the School District's long-term liabilities during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

	Principal Outstanding 6/30/23	Additions	Deductions	Principal Outstanding 6/30/24	Due Within One Year
HB 264 Notes	\$188,000	\$0	(\$105,000)	\$83,000	\$83,000
Athletic Complex Financed Purchase	1,928,449	0	(306,707)	1,621,742	312,443
Total Notes	2,116,449	0	(411,707)	1,704,742	395,443
Compensated Absences	1,994,764	679,140	(770,277)	1,903,627	98,768
Net Pension Liability	19,214,962	121,521	0	19,336,483	0
Net OPEB Liability	1,069,138	70,583	0	1,139,721	0
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$24,395,313	\$871,244	(\$1,181,984)	\$24,084,573	\$494,211

In October 2014, the School District issued \$993,000 in notes to fund an energy conservation project. These notes carry a 2.7% interest rate and a final maturity date of December 1, 2024. These notes are general obligations of the School District. The notes are being paid from the debt service fund.

Financed Purchase

In a prior fiscal year, the School District entered into a financed purchase. This agreement meets the criteria of a financed purchase which is defined as a financed purchase which transfers ownership to the lessee. Payments have been reclassified and are reflected as debt service expenditures in the financial statements for the governmental funds.

In December 2018, the School District entered into a financed purchase agreement for the purpose of constructing, improving, furnishing, and equipping an athletic complex. This financed purchase agreement can be drawn upon for up to \$3,100,000. This agreement carries a 3.74% interest rate and a final maturity date of December 1, 2028. This financed purchase agreement is a general obligation of the School District and is being paid from the debt service fund.

Compensated absences will be paid from the funds from which the employees' salaries are paid, with the most significant fund being the general fund. The School District pays obligations related to employee compensation from the fund benefitting from their service.

The School District's overall legal debt margin was \$13,871,243 with an unvoted debt margin of \$154,125 at June 30, 2024.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Principal and interest requirements to retire notes at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	HB 264 Notes		Athletic Complex Financed Purchase	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2025	\$83,000	1,575	\$312,443	\$54,811
2026	0	0	318,285	43,016
2027	0	0	324,237	31,001
2028	0	0	330,300	18,761
2029	0	0	336,477	6,292
Total	<u>\$83,000</u>	<u>\$1,575</u>	<u>\$1,621,742</u>	<u>\$153,881</u>

Note 13 – Interfund Activity

Interfund Transfers

Interfund transfers for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 were as follows:

	Transfers In	Transfers Out
<i>Major Fund</i>		
General Fund	\$0	\$693,573
<i>Nonmajor Funds</i>		
Bond Retirement	482,427	0
Permanent Improvement	31,200	0
Food Service	114,946	0
Athletics	65,000	0
Total Nonmajor Funds	<u>693,573</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Transfers	<u>\$693,573</u>	<u>\$693,573</u>

Transfers were made from the general fund to various funds to subsidize operations.

Interfund Balances

Interfund balances at June 30, 2024 consist of the following individual fund receivables and payables, which are expected to be repaid during fiscal year 2025:

	Receivable	Payable
<i>Major Fund</i>		
General Fund	\$12,863	\$0
<i>Nonmajor Funds</i>		
Early Childhood	0	11,601
Title IV-A	<u>0</u>	<u>1,262</u>
Total Nonmajor Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>12,863</u>
Total Interfund Receivables/Payables	<u>\$12,863</u>	<u>\$12,863</u>

The amounts due to the general fund are the result of the School District moving unrestricted monies to support grant funds whose grants operate on a reimbursement basis. The general fund will be reimbursed when funds become available in the nonmajor special revenue funds.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 14 – Jointly Governed Organizations

Metropolitan Educational Technology Association (META) Solutions

META Solutions is an educational solutions partner providing services across Ohio. META Solutions provides cost-effective fiscal, network, technology and student services, a purchasing cooperative, and other individual services based on each client's needs.

The governing board of META Solutions consists of a president, vice president and six board members who represent the members of META Solutions. The board works with META Solutions' Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, an Chief Financial Officer to manage operations and ensure the continued progress of the organization's mission, vision, and values. The Board exercises total control over the operations of the Council including budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. Each member's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Board. The School District paid META Solutions \$56,137 for services provided during the fiscal year. Financial information can be obtained from Ashley Widby, who serves as Chief Financial Officer, at 100 Executive Drive, Marion, Ohio 43302.

Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools

The Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools is a jointly governed organization of over one hundred school districts in southeastern Ohio. The Coalition is operated by a board which is composed of fourteen members. The board members are composed of one superintendent from each county elected by the school districts within that county. The Coalition provides various services for school district administrative personnel; gathers data regarding conditions of education in the region; cooperates with other professional groups to assess and develop programs designed to meet the needs of member districts; and provides staff development programs for school district personnel. The Coalition is not dependent upon the continued participation of the School District and the School District does not maintain an equity interest in or a financial responsibility for the Coalition. During fiscal year 2024, the School District paid \$400 to the Coalition.

The Ohio Coalition of Equity and Adequacy of School Funding

The Ohio Coalition of Equity and Adequacy of School Funding is organized as a council of governments pursuant to Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Coalition was organized in 1990 to challenge the constitutionality of the Ohio school funding system. The Coalition is governed by a Steering Committee of 90 school district representatives. Though most of the members are superintendents, some treasurers, board members, and administrators also serve. Several persons serve as ex officio members. The membership of the coalition includes over 500 school districts throughout the State of Ohio. The Committee exercises total control over budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and the designation of management. Member school districts and joint vocational schools pay dues of \$.05 per pupil. School districts and joint vocational schools may also pay supplemental dues in the amount of \$.50 per pupil for K-12 districts and educational service centers pay dues of \$.05 per pupil. The Coalition is not dependent on the continued participation of the School District and the School District does not maintain an equity interest or financial responsibility for the Coalition. During fiscal year 2024, the School District paid \$2,468 to the Coalition. To obtain financial information write to Ohio Coalition of Equity and Adequacy of School Funding at 100 South Third Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Note 15 – Public Entity Shared Risk Pool

Optimal Health Initiatives

The School District is a member of the Optimal Health Initiatives (OHI), a public entity shared risk pool. Several Scioto County school districts have entered into an agreement with the South Central Ohio Educational Service Center to form the Optimal Health Initiatives (OHI), Scioto Health Plan, Southeast Division of OHI (the Plan), formerly called the Scioto County Schools Council. The overall objectives of the Plan are to formulate and

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

administer a program of health insurance for the benefit of the Plan members' employees and their dependents, to obtain lower costs for health coverage, and to secure cost control by implementing a program of comprehensive loss control. The Plan's business and affairs are managed by a Board of Directors, consisting of the superintendents from each of the participating school districts. The School District pays premiums based on what the Plan estimates will cover the costs of all claims for which the Plan is obligated. If the School District's claims exceed its premiums, there is no individual supplemental assessment; on the other hand, if the School District's claims are low, it will not receive a refund.

The Plan views its activities in the aggregate, rather than on an individual entity basis. To obtain financial information, write to the fiscal agent, Mountjoy Chilton Medley LLP, 2600 Meidinger Tower, 462 South Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40202.

Note 16 – Set-Aside Calculation and Fund Balance Restrictions

The School District is required by state statute to annually set aside in the general fund an amount based on a statutory formula for the acquisition or construction of capital improvements. Amounts not spent by year-end or offset by similarly restricted resources received during the year must be held in restricted cash at year-end and carried forward to be used for the same purposes in future years. The School District is no longer required to set aside funds in the budget stabilization set-aside, with the exception of monies received from the Bureau of Worker's Compensation, which must be spent for specified purposes. The School District has elected to maintain its budget stabilization set-aside to be used to offset future fund deficits. As such, this set-aside is not reflected as restricted fund balance on the fund financial statements, but is instead reflected in the unassigned fund balance classification.

The following information describes the change in the year-end set-aside amounts for capital acquisition. Disclosure of this information is required by state statute.

	<u>Capital Acquisition</u>
Set-aside balance as of June 30, 2023	\$0
Current year set-aside requirement	263,600
Current year qualifying disbursements	<u>(263,600)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$0</u></u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2025	<u><u>\$0</u></u>
Set-aside balance as of June 30, 2024	<u><u>\$0</u></u>

The School District had qualifying disbursements during the year that reduced the set-aside amount below zero in the capital acquisition set-aside. The carryover amount in the capital acquisition set-aside is limited to the balance of the offsets attributed to bond or tax levy proceeds. The School District is responsible for tracking the amount of the bond proceeds that may be used as an offset in future periods, which was \$2,900,207 at June 30, 2024.

Note 17 - Contingencies

Grants

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits 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 School District at June 30, 2024, if applicable, cannot be determined at this time.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

State Foundation Funding

School District Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. Adjustments for fiscal year 2024 have been finalized. A receivable of \$844 has been reported in the accompanying financial statements as a result of these adjustments.

Litigation

The School District is not currently party to legal proceedings.

Note 18 – Fund Balances

Fund balance is classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and/or unassigned based primarily on the extent to which the School District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The constraints placed on fund balance for the major governmental funds and all other governmental funds are presented below:

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<i>Nonspendable</i>			
Prepaid Items	\$0	\$74,825	\$74,825
Total Nonspendable	0	74,825	74,825
<i>Restricted</i>			
Capital Projects and Maintenance	0	212,889	212,889
Scholarships	0	152,200	152,200
Student Activities	0	33,093	33,093
Athletics	0	225,704	225,704
State Grants	0	525	525
Federal Grants	0	177,735	177,735
Total Restricted	0	802,146	802,146
<i>Committed</i>			
Termination Benefits	115,005	0	115,005
Total Committed	115,005	0	115,005
<i>Assigned</i>			
Future Purchases	31,164	0	31,164
Student and Staff Support	46,831	0	46,831
Future Budget Deficit	297,593	0	297,593
Total Assigned	375,588	0	375,588
<i>Unassigned (Deficit)</i>			
	3,684,209	(137,675)	3,546,534
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$4,174,802</u>	<u>\$739,296</u>	<u>\$4,914,098</u>

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Note 19 – Accountability and Compliance

Fund Balance Deficits

At June 30, 2024, the nonmajor food service, early childhood, and Title I special revenue funds had fund balance deficits of \$96,415, \$13,798, and \$27,462, respectively, which were created by the application of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The general fund provides transfers to cover deficit balances; however, this is done when cash is needed rather than when accruals occur.

Note 20 – Significant Commitments

Encumbrances

At June 30, 2024, the School District had significant encumbrance commitments in governmental funds as follows:

<i>Major Fund</i>	
General	\$85,474
<i>Nonmajor Funds</i>	
Permanent Improvement	\$74,825
Student Activities	6,637
Athletics	1,809
Miscellaneous Federal Grants	177,734

Note 21 – New Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2024, the School District implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 100, “Accounting Changes and Error Corrections”.

GASB Statement No. 100, “Accounting Changes and Error Corrections”, prescribes accounting and financial reporting for (1) each category of accounting change and (2) error corrections. Statement 100 also addresses how accounting changes and error corrections should be displayed in financial statements, disclosed in notes, and presented in required supplementary information and supplementary information.

For fiscal year 2024, the ESSER special revenue fund presentation was changed from major to nonmajor. The ESSER special revenue fund had a \$0 beginning fund balance. In addition, the School District implemented a change in the capitalization threshold for capital assets. The effect on beginning net position of governmental activities was a reduction of \$457,903.

Northwest Local School District
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<i>State Teachers Retirement System</i>										
School District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.06177841%	0.06292845%	0.06247950%	0.06444220%	0.06344606%	0.06500100%	0.06578606%	0.066204336%	0.068274020%	0.072354350%
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$15,026,647	\$17,391,583	\$20,913,775	\$15,308,383	\$13,950,364	\$14,374,581	\$15,917,886	\$8,464,819	\$15,177,401	\$15,581,464
School District's covered payroll	\$6,881,715	\$6,529,100	\$6,938,914	\$7,070,343	\$7,234,907	\$7,710,336	\$7,859,636	\$8,134,800	\$8,831,286	\$9,868,493
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	218.4%	266.4%	301.4%	216.5%	192.8%	186.4%	202.5%	104.1%	171.9%	157.9%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	74.7%	72.1%	66.8%	75.3%	77.3%	77.4%	75.5%	87.8%	78.9%	80.0%
<i>School Employees Retirement System</i>										
School District's proportion of the net pension liability	0.06934399%	0.07399760%	0.07140490%	0.06816490%	0.06937990%	0.06956720%	0.07414080%	0.07411390%	0.07464830%	0.06795780%
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$3,509,460	\$4,222,374	\$5,226,180	\$4,072,702	\$3,973,515	\$4,162,328	\$4,903,829	\$2,734,588	\$4,037,561	\$3,755,019
School District's covered payroll	\$1,913,853	\$2,269,765	\$2,278,971	\$2,100,000	\$2,189,378	\$2,269,067	\$2,380,179	\$2,276,286	\$2,622,550	\$2,660,800
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	183.4%	186.0%	229.3%	193.9%	181.5%	183.4%	206.0%	120.1%	154.0%	141.1%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	71.7%	69.2%	63.0%	69.5%	71.4%	70.9%	68.6%	82.9%	75.8%	76.1%

The amounts presented are as of the School District's measurement date, which is the prior fiscal year end.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Northwest Local School District
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)
Last Eight Fiscal Years

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<i>State Teachers Retirement System</i>								
School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset)	0.06247950%	0.06444220%	0.06344606%	0.06500100%	0.06578606%	0.066204336%	0.068274020%	0.072354350%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset)	\$3,341,420	\$2,514,297	(\$1,019,513)	(\$1,076,573)	(\$1,156,189)	(\$1,395,864)	(\$1,767,841)	(\$1,407,191)
School District's covered payroll	\$6,938,914	\$7,070,343	\$7,234,907	\$7,710,336	\$7,859,636	\$8,134,800	\$8,831,286	\$9,868,493
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll	48.2%	35.6%	-14.1%	-14.0%	-14.7%	-17.2%	-20.0%	-14.3%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability (asset)	37.3%	47.1%	176.0%	174.7%	182.1%	174.7%	230.7%	168.5%
<i>School Employees Retirement System</i>								
School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.07140490%	0.06760910%	0.07021620%	0.06950020%	0.07325330%	0.07607200%	0.07614890%	0.06918120%
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$2,032,075	\$1,814,451	\$1,947,987	\$1,747,784	\$1,592,033	\$1,439,724	\$1,069,138	\$1,139,721
School District's covered payroll	\$2,278,971	\$2,100,000	\$2,189,378	\$2,269,067	\$2,380,179	\$2,276,286	\$2,622,550	\$2,660,800
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered payroll	89.2%	86.4%	89.0%	77.0%	66.9%	63.2%	40.8%	42.8%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	11.5%	12.5%	13.6%	15.6%	18.2%	24.1%	30.3%	30.0%

The amounts presented are as of the School District's measurement date, which is the prior fiscal year end. Information not available prior to 2017.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Northwest Local School District
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of School District Contributions
Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<i>State Teachers Retirement System</i>										
Contractually required contribution - pension	\$914,074	\$971,448	\$989,848	\$1,012,887	\$1,079,447	\$1,100,349	\$1,138,872	\$1,236,380	\$1,381,589	\$1,245,467
Contractually required contribution - OPEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contractually required contribution - total	914,074	971,448	989,848	1,012,887	1,079,447	1,100,349	1,138,872	1,236,380	1,381,589	1,245,467
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	914,074	971,448	989,848	1,012,887	1,079,447	1,100,349	1,138,872	1,236,380	1,381,589	1,245,467
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
School District's covered payroll	\$6,529,100	\$6,938,914	\$7,070,343	\$7,234,907	\$7,710,336	\$7,859,636	\$8,134,800	\$8,831,286	\$9,868,493	\$8,896,193
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll - pension	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll - OPEB	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll - total	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%
<i>School Employees Retirement System</i>										
Contractually required contribution - pension	\$299,155	\$319,056	\$294,000	\$295,566	\$306,324	\$333,225	\$318,680	\$367,157	\$372,512	\$384,018
Contractually required contribution - OPEB (1)	18,612	0	0	10,947	11,345	0	0	0	0	0
Contractually required contribution - total	317,767	319,056	294,000	306,513	317,669	333,225	318,680	367,157	372,512	384,018
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	317,767	319,056	294,000	306,513	317,669	333,225	318,680	367,157	372,512	384,018
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
School District's covered payroll	\$2,269,765	\$2,278,971	\$2,100,000	\$2,189,378	\$2,269,067	\$2,380,179	\$2,276,286	\$2,622,550	\$2,660,800	\$2,742,986
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll - pension	13.18%	14.00%	14.00%	13.50%	13.50%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll - OPEB	0.82%	0.00%	0.00%	0.50%	0.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll - total	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%

(1) Excludes surcharge.

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

State Teachers Retirement System

Pension

Changes in benefit terms

There were no changes to benefit terms for fiscal years 2015 through 2017. For fiscal year 2018, the cost of living adjustment (COLA) was reduced to 0 percent effective July 1, 2017. There were no changes to benefit terms for fiscal years 2019 through 2024.

Changes in assumptions

There were no changes in assumptions for fiscal years 2015 through 2017.

For fiscal year 2018, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- Inflation assumptions were lowered from 2.75 percent to 2.5 percent.
- Investment return assumptions were lowered from 7.75 percent to 7.45 percent.
- Total salary increases rates were lowered by decreasing merit component of the individual salary increases, as well as by 0.25 percent due to lower inflation.
- Payroll growth assumptions were lowered from 3.5 percent to 3.0 percent.
- Updated the health and disability mortality assumption to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016.
- Rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.

There were no changes in assumptions for fiscal years 2019 through 2021.

For fiscal year 2022, the following was the most significant change of assumptions that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- Investment rate of return and discount rate of return assumptions were lowered from 7.45 percent to 7.0 percent.

For fiscal year 2023, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- Updated the health and disability mortality assumption to the PUB-2010 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2020.
- The projected salary increases changed from 12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65 to varying by service from 2.50 percent to 8.50 percent.

There were no changes in assumptions for fiscal year 2024.

OPEB

Changes in benefit terms

There were no changes to benefit terms for fiscal year 2017.

For fiscal year 2018, STRS has the following changes in benefit terms since the previous measurement date:

- The HealthSpan HMO plans were eliminated.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

- The subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced to 1.9 percent per year of service from 2.1 percent.
- Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for survivors and beneficiaries who were age 65 by 2008 and either receiving a benefit or named as a beneficiary as of January 1, 2008.
- The remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be phased out over a three-year period.

For fiscal year 2019, the following was the most significant change in benefit terms that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients increased from 1.9 percent to 1.944 percent per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium increased effective January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were scheduled to be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020, though the STRS Board voted in June 2019 to extent the current Medicare Part B partial reimbursement for one year.

For fiscal year 2020, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were trended to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 to reflect the current price renewals. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2020 from 1.944% to 1.984% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.

For fiscal year 2021, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 premium based on June 30, 2020 enrollment distribution. The non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984 percent to 2.055 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1 percent for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

For fiscal year 2022, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022 from 2.055 percent to 2.1 percent per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D Subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in calendar year 2022. The Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

There were no changes to benefit terms for fiscal years 2023 and 2024.

Changes in assumptions

There were no changes in assumptions for fiscal year 2017.

For fiscal year 2018, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent based on the methodology defined under GASB 74.
- The long-term rate of return was reduced to 7.45 percent.
- Valuation-year per capita health costs were updated.
- The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data.
- The assumed future trend rates were modified.
- Decrement rates including mortality, disability, retirement, and withdrawal were modified.
- The assumed percentage of future disabled retirees assumed to elect health coverage was decreased from 84 percent to 65 percent, and the assumed percentage of terminated vested participants assumed to elect health coverage at retirement was decreased from 47 percent to 30 percent.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

- The assumed salary scale was modified.

For fiscal year 2019, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The discount rate increased from a 4.13 percent blended discount rate to 7.45 percent.
- The health care trend assumption rate changed from 6 to 11 percent initial, 4.5 percent ultimate to:
 - Medical Medicare – 5 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Medical Pre-Medicare – 6 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Medicare – -5.23 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare – 8 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate

For fiscal year 2020, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The health care trend assumption rate changed as follows:
 - Medical Medicare – from 5 percent to 4.93 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Medical Pre-Medicare – from 6 percent to 5.87 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Medicare – from -5.23 percent to 9.62 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare – from 8 percent to 7.73 initial, 4 percent ultimate

For fiscal year 2021, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The health care trend assumption rate changed as follows:
 - Medical Medicare – from 4.93 percent to -6.69 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Medical Pre-Medicare – from 5.87 percent to 5 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Medicare – from 9.62 percent to 11.87 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare – from 7.73 percent to 6.5 initial, 4 percent ultimate

For fiscal year 2022, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The discount rate increased from 7.45 percent to 7.0 percent.
- The health care trend assumption rate changed as follows:
 - Medical Medicare – from -6.69 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate to -16.18 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Medicare – from 11.87 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate to 29.98 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate

For fiscal year 2023, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The health care trend assumption rate changed as follows:
 - Medical Pre-Medicare – from 5.00 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate to 7.50 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate
 - Medical Medicare – from -16.18 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate to -68.78 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare – from 6.50 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate to 9.00 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Medicare – from 29.98 percent initial, 4 percent ultimate to -5.47 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate
- Updated the health and disability mortality assumption to the PUB-2010 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2020.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

- The projected salary increases changed from 12.50 percent at age 20 to 2.50 percent at age 65 to varying by service from 2.50 percent to 8.50 percent.

For fiscal year 2024, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The health care trend assumption rate changed as follows:
 - Medical Pre-Medicare – from 7.50 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate to 7.50 percent initial, 4.14 percent ultimate
 - Medical Medicare – from -68.78 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate to -10.94 percent initial, 4.14 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare – from 9.00 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate to -11.95 percent initial, 4.14 percent ultimate
 - Prescription Drug Medicare – from -5.47 percent initial, 3.94 percent ultimate to 1.33 percent initial, 4.14 percent ultimate

School Employees Retirement System

Pension

Changes in benefit terms

There were no changes to benefit terms for fiscal years 2015 through 2017.

For fiscal year 2018, the following were the most significant changes in benefit that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- The cost-of-living adjustment was changed from a fixed 3.00 percent to a cost-of-living adjustment that is indexed to CPI-W not greater than 2.5 percent with a floor of 0 percent beginning January 1, 2018. In addition, with the authority granted the Board under HB 49, the Board has enacted a three-year COLA suspension for benefit recipients in calendars 2018, 2019, and 2020.

There were no changes to benefit terms for fiscal years 2019 through 2021.

For fiscal year 2022, the following was the most significant change in benefit that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- The cost-of-living adjustment was changed from 2.5 percent to 2.0 percent.

For fiscal year 2023, the following was the most significant change in benefit that affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date:

- The cost-of-living adjustment was changed from 2.0 percent to 2.5 percent.

There were no changes to benefit terms for fiscal year 2024.

Changes in assumptions

There were no changes in assumptions for fiscal years 2015 through 2017.

For fiscal year 2018, the following changes were made to the actuarial assumptions as identified. These new assumptions compared with those used in fiscal year 2016 and prior are presented below:

- Assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25 percent to 3.0 percent

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

- Payroll Growth Assumption was reduced from 4.0 percent to 3.5 percent
- Assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75 percent to 0.5 percent
- Investment rate of return was reduced from 7.75 percent to 7.5 percent
- Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience.
- Mortality among active members was updated to the following:
 - RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age setback for both males and females. The above rates represent the base rates used.
- Mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries was updated to the following:
 - RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120 percent of male rates, and 110 percent of female rates.
- Mortality among disabled member was updated to the following:
 - RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90 percent for male rates and 100 percent for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

There were no changes in assumptions for fiscal years 2019 through 2021.

For fiscal year 2022, the following changes were made to the actuarial assumptions as identified. These new assumptions compared with those used in fiscal year 2021 and prior are presented below:

- Assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.0 percent to 2.4 percent
- Payroll Growth Assumption was reduced from 3.5 percent to 3.25 percent
- Investment rate of return was reduced from 7.5 percent to 7.0 percent
- Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience.
- Mortality among members was updated to the following:
 - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females.
- Mortality among disabled members was updated to the following:
 - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females.

There were no changes in assumptions for fiscal years 2023 and 2024.

OPEB

Changes in benefit terms

There were no changes to benefit terms for fiscal years 2017 through 2024.

Changes in assumptions

For fiscal year 2017, the following was the most significant change of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- Assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25 percent to 3.0 percent
- Payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.0 percent to 3.5 percent
- Assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75 percent to 0.5 percent
- Rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience.
- Mortality among active members was updated to the following:
 - RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age setback for both males and females.
- Mortality among service retired members, and beneficiaries was updated to the following:

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

- RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates.
- Mortality among disabled members was updated to the following:
 - RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement.

For fiscal year 2018, the following was the most significant change of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The discount rate was increased from 2.98 percent to 3.63 percent.
- The municipal bond index rate increased from 2.92 percent to 3.56 percent.
- The single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 2.98 percent to 3.63 percent.

For fiscal year 2019, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The discount rate was changed from 3.63 percent to 3.70 percent.
- The municipal bond index rate increased from 3.56 percent to 3.62 percent.
- The single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 3.63 percent to 3.70 percent.
- The medical trend assumption rate changed as follows:
 - Medicare – 2018 – 5.50 to 5.00 percent, 2019 – 5.375 to 4.75 percent
 - Pre-Medicare – 2018 – 7.50 to 5.00 percent, 2019 – 7.25 to 4.75

For fiscal year 2020, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.62 percent to 3.13 percent.
- The single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.70 percent to 3.22 percent.
- The medical trend assumption rate changed as follows:
 - Medicare – 2019 – 5.375 to 4.75 percent, 2020 – 5.25 to 4.75 percent
 - Pre-Medicare – 2019 – 7.25 to 4.75, 2020 – 7 to 4.75 percent

For fiscal year 2021, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.13 percent to 2.45 percent.
- The single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.22 percent to 2.63 percent.

For fiscal year 2022, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The inflation rate decreased from 3.0 percent to 2.4 percent.
- Projected salary increases decreased from 3.5 percent to 3.25 percent.
- Investment rate of return decreased from 7.5 percent to 7.0 percent.
- The municipal bond index rate decreased from 2.45 percent to 1.92 percent.
- The single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 2.63 percent to 2.27 percent.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

- The medical trend assumption rate changed as follows:
 - Medicare – 2020 – 5.25 to 4.75 percent, 2022 – 5.125 to 4.4 percent
 - Pre-Medicare – 2020 – 7 to 4.75 percent, 2022 – 6.75 to 4.4 percent
- Mortality among members was updated to the following:
 - PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weight Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20 percent for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35 percent for females.
- Mortality among disabled members was updated to the following:
 - PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8 percent for females.

For fiscal year 2023, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The municipal bond index rate increased from 1.92 percent to 3.69 percent.
- The single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 2.27 percent to 4.08 percent.

For fiscal year 2024, the following were the most significant changes of assumptions that affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date:

- The municipal bond index rate increased from 3.69 percent to 3.86 percent.
- The single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 4.08 percent to 4.27 percent.
- The medical trend assumption decreased from 7.00 percent to 6.75 percent.

Northwest Local School District
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Federal Grantor/Pass Through Grantor/Program Title	Pass Through Entity Number	Federal Assistance Listing Number	Federal Awards Expenditures
<u>United States Department of Agriculture</u>			
<i>Passed through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>			
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
School Breakfast Program	N/A	10.553	\$212,113
National School Lunch Program	N/A	10.555	484,922
National School Lunch Program - Non-Cash Assistance	N/A	10.555	67,912
National School Lunch Program Supply Chain	N/A	10.555	<u>47,261</u>
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			812,208
COVID-19 Pandemic EBT Administrative Costs	N/A	10.649	3,576
Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability	N/A	10.579	6,750
Total United States Department of Agriculture			822,534
<u>United States Department of Treasury</u>			
<i>Direct from the Federal Government</i>			
COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	N	21.027	<u>44,404</u>
Total United States Department of Treasury			44,404
<u>United States Department of Education</u>			
<i>Passed through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>			
Special Education Cluster (IDEA):			
Special Education-Grants to States	N/A	84.027	400,351
Total Special Education Cluster (IDEA)			400,351
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	N/A	84.010	606,601
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies-School Improvement	N/A	84.010	67,763
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies-Expanding Opportunities	N/A	84.010	<u>28,473</u>
Total Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies			702,837
Rural Education	N/A	84.358B	27,785
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	N/A	84.425D	128,728
COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund	N/A	84.425U	<u>570,819</u>
Total COVID-19 Education Stabilization Fund			699,547
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	N/A	84.367	79,849
Student Support and Academic Enrichment Program	N/A	84.424	<u>71,157</u>
Total United States Department of Education			1,981,526
Total Federal Financial Assistance			<u>\$2,848,464</u>

N/A - pass through entity number not available.

N - direct award.

The notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are an integral part of this schedule.

Northwest Local School District
Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
2 CFR 200.510(b)(6)
For the Fiscal Year Ended 2024

Note 1 – Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the schedule) is a summary of the activity of the School District's federal award programs. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the School District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the School District.

Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the schedule are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be allowable or may be limited as to reimbursement.

Note 3 – Indirect Cost Rate

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

Note 4 – Child Nutrition Cluster

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

Note 5 – Food Donation Program

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

Note 6 – Transfers Between Program Years

Federal regulations require schools to obligate certain federal awards by June 30. However, with ODE's consent, schools can transfer unobligated amounts to the subsequent fiscal year's program.

The School District transferred the following amounts from 2024 to 2025 programs:

Program Title	AL Number	Amount Transferred
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	\$84,217
Title II A Supporting Effective Instruction	84.367	\$10,807
Title IV A Student Support and Academic Enrichment	84.424	\$8,105



**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based
on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards***

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Education
Northwest Local School District
800 Mohawk Drive
McDermott, Ohio 45652

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, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Northwest Local School District, Scioto County, Ohio (the School District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 17, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Northwest Local School District

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

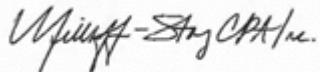
As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the School District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and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

School District's Response to Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the School District's response to the finding identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. The School 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 School District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc.
Wheelerburg, Ohio

March 17, 2025



**Report on Compliance For Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance
Required by the Uniform Guidance**

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Education
Northwest Local School District
800 Mohawk Drive
McDermott, Ohio 45652

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We have audited Northwest Local School District's (the School District) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on the School District's major federal program for the year ended June 30, 2024. The School District's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

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

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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



Northwest Local School District

Report on Compliance For Each Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance Page 2

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the School District's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the School District's compliance with the requirements of 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 School District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of the School District's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

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

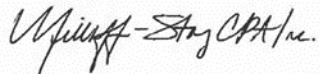
Northwest Local School District, Ohio

Report on Compliance For Each Major Federal Program; Report on Internal Control Over Compliance; and Report on the Schedule of Federal Awards Expenditures Required by the Uniform Guidance

Page 3

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 that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Millhuff-Stang, CPA, Inc.
Wheelerburg, Ohio

March 17, 2025

Northwest Local School District
Scioto County
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
2 CFR Section 200.515
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

Section I – Summary of Auditor’s Results

<i>Financial Statements</i>	
Type of report the auditor issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP:	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting:	
Material weakness(es) identified?	No
Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	None reported
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	Yes
<i>Federal Awards</i>	
Internal control over major program(s):	
Material weakness(es) identified?	No
Significant deficiency(ies) identified?	None reported
Type of auditor’s report issued on compliance for major programs:	Unmodified
Any auditing findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)?	No
Identification of major program(s):	Child Nutrition Cluster, AL #10.553 & AL #10.555
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs:	Type A: >\$750,000 Type B: all others
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	Yes

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

Finding 2024-001 – Noncompliance – 412 Certificates

Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.412 states in part that no school district shall adopt any appropriation measure, make any qualifying contract, or increase any wage or salary schedule unless a certificate (412 certificate) is attached that certifies the School District has adequate revenues sufficient to maintain all personnel and programs. The School District’s appropriation measure did not have the required 412 certificate attached. The School District should ensure that 412 certificates be executed for all appropriation measures, increased salary or wage schedules, and qualifying contracts (including negotiated agreements and contracts for benefits).

Client response:

See accompanying corrective action plan.

Section III – Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

None



NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Offices

800 Mohawk Drive • McDermott, OH 45652

Telephone: (740) 259-5558 • Fax: (740) 259-3476

A. Todd Jenkins, Superintendent

Julie L. Smith, Treasurer

*Corrective Action Plan
2 CFR Section 200.511(c)
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

Finding Number	Planned Corrective Action	Anticipated Completion Date	Responsible Contact Person
2024-001	Completing 412 certificates will be a process that occurs as appropriations are updated throughout the year. 412s have been completed for 2025 and will be updated as needed.	Immediately	Julie Smith, Treasurer



NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Offices

800 Mohawk Drive • McDermott, OH 45652

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*Schedule of Prior Audit Findings
2 CRF Section 200.511(b)
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; Explain
Finding 2023-001	Noncompliance with ORC Section 5705.41(B) – Expenditures in Excess of Appropriations	Yes	
Finding 2023-002	Noncompliance with ORC Section 5705.39 – Appropriations in Excess of Estimated Resources	Yes	
Finding 2023-003	Noncompliance with ORC Section 5705.36(A)(5) – Certification of Available Revenue	Yes	

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



NORTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCIOTO COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

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



Certified for Release 6/24/2025

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