

# **PIONEER CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

**RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

**SINGLE AUDIT**

**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
JUNE 30, 2024**



# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

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Board of Education  
Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
27 Ryan Road  
Shelby, Ohio 44875

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center, Richland County, prepared by Julian & Grube, 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 Pioneer Career and Technology Center is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.



Keith Faber  
Auditor of State  
Columbus, Ohio

May 22, 2025

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**PIONEER CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER  
RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County  
27 Ryan Road  
Shelby, Ohio 44875

To the Members of the Board of Education:

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

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center, Richland County, Ohio, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the fiscal 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 and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### ***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 Pioneer Career and Technology Center's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards 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 generally accepted auditing standards 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 Pioneer Career and Technology Center's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

***Required Supplementary Information***

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



***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 26, 2025 on our consideration of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center'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 solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Julian & Grube, Inc.  
February 26, 2025

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**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*  
*(Unaudited)*

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

***Financial Highlights***

Key financial highlights for 2024 are as follows:

- Net position increased \$10,947,199 over the fiscal year 2023 net position.
- Capital assets decreased \$282,320 during fiscal year 2024.

***Using this Annual Report***

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements and notes to those statements. The statements are organized so the reader can understand the District as a whole entire operating entity. The statements then proceed to provide an increasingly detailed look at specific financial activities.

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

***Reporting the District as a Whole***

*Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities*

While the basic financial statements contain the large number of funds used by the District to provide programs and activities, the view of the District as a whole looks at all financial transactions and asks the question, "How did we do financially during fiscal year 2024?" The *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities* answer this question. These statements include all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

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These two statements report the District's net position and changes in net position. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the District as a whole, the financial position of the District has improved or diminished. The causes of this change may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the District's property tax base, current property tax laws in Ohio which restrict revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs, and other factors.

In the *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities*, governmental activities include the District's programs and services, including instruction, support services, extracurricular activities, and non-instructional services, i.e., food service operations.

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

***Fund Financial Statements***

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been safeguarded for specific activities or objectives. The District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions; however, these fund financial statements focus on the District's most significant fund. The District's major governmental funds are the general fund and the OFCC career technical construction fund.

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

***Proprietary Fund*** The District maintains one type of proprietary fund. Internal service funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the District's various functions. The District uses an internal service fund to account for its health insurance benefits. Because this service predominately benefits governmental functions, it has been included within the governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements.

***Reporting the District's Fiduciary Responsibilities***

The District acts in a trustee capacity as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units and/or other funds. These activities are reported in custodial funds. These activities are excluded from the District's other financial statements because the assets cannot be utilized by the District to finance its operations. Custodial funds are reported on the accrual basis and present a statement of fiduciary net position and statement of changes in fiduciary net position.

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**Richland County, Ohio**  
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**The District as a Whole**

Recall that the Statement of Net Position provides the perspective of the District as a whole. Table 1 provides a summary of the District's net position for 2024 compared to 2023:

<b>Table 1</b>			
<b>Net Position</b>			
	Governmental Activities		
	2024	2023	Change
<b>Assets</b>			
Current & Other Assets	\$ 53,842,561	\$ 44,244,153	\$ 9,598,408
Net OPEB Asset	1,421,693	1,963,464	(541,771)
Capital Assets	25,058,147	25,340,467	(282,320)
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>80,322,401</u>	<u>71,548,084</u>	<u>8,774,317</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Deferred Charges	769,225	829,556	(60,331)
Pension & OPEB	4,589,886	5,605,930	(1,016,044)
<i>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</i>	<u>5,359,111</u>	<u>6,435,486</u>	<u>(1,076,375)</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current & Other Liabilities	2,019,156	2,304,425	(285,269)
Long-Term Liabilities:			
Due Within One Year	939,047	850,288	88,759
Due in More Than One Year:			
Pension & OPEB	19,639,125	22,388,131	(2,749,006)
Other Amounts	8,030,508	8,497,661	(467,153)
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>30,627,836</u>	<u>34,040,505</u>	<u>(3,412,669)</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Property Taxes	6,583,817	6,543,851	39,966
Pension & OPEB	5,905,874	5,782,428	123,446
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u>12,489,691</u>	<u>12,326,279</u>	<u>163,412</u>
<b>Net Position</b>			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	18,115,925	18,032,221	83,704
Restricted	13,030,809	6,972,332	6,058,477
Unrestricted	11,417,251	6,612,233	4,805,018
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ 42,563,985</u>	<u>\$ 31,616,786</u>	<u>\$ 10,947,199</u>

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The net pension liability (NPL) is the largest single liability reported by the District at June 30, 2024, and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27*. In a prior period, the District also adopted GASB Statement 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the District's actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB and the net OPEB asset.

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

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

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

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

The employee enters the employment exchange with the knowledge that the employer's promise is limited not by contract but by law. The employer enters the exchange also knowing that there is a specific, legal limit to its contribution to the retirement system. In Ohio, there is no legal means to enforce the unfunded liability of the pension/OPEB plan *as against the public employer*. State law operates to mitigate/lessen the moral obligation of the public employer to the employee, because all parties enter the employment exchange with notice as to the law. For STRS, the plan's fiduciary net OPEB position was sufficient to cover the plan's total OPEB liability resulting in a net OPEB asset for fiscal year 2024 that is allocated to each school based on its proportionate share. The retirement system is responsible for the administration of the pension and OPEB plans.

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

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

A portion of the District's net position, represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of net position is unrestricted.

There was a significant change in net pension/OPEB liability/asset and related accruals for the District. These fluctuations are due to changes in the actuarial liabilities/assets and related accruals that are passed through to the District's financial statements. All components of pension and OPEB accruals contribute to the fluctuations in deferred outflows/inflows and NPL/NOL/NOA and are described in more detail in their respective notes.

The significant increase in current and other assets was mainly due to an increase in equity in pooled cash and investments and a significant intergovernmental receivable due from the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC). Equity in pooled cash and investments primarily increased due to significant increases in investment income due to improved economic conditions, an increase in State funding related to the continued phase in of the Ohio Fair School Funding Plan and increased enrollment, and the receipt of grant monies from the OFCC for a building renovation that will house instructional space for the electrical and welding trades. The intergovernmental receivable due from OFCC is for the same project.

The significant decrease in current and other liabilities is due to decreases in accrued wages and benefits payable and in matured compensated absences payable.

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In order to further understand what makes up the changes in net position for the current year, table 2 gives readers further detail regarding the results of activities for 2024 and 2023:

**Table 2**  
**Changes in Net Position**

	Governmental Activities		
	2024	2023	Change
<b>Revenues</b>			
<i>Program Revenues</i>			
Charges for Services	\$ 1,368,148	\$ 1,072,806	\$ 295,342
Operating Grants	2,863,464	2,877,917	(14,453)
Capital Grants	10,745	25,000	(14,255)
<i>Total Program Revenues</i>	<u>4,242,357</u>	<u>3,975,723</u>	<u>266,634</u>
<b>General Revenues</b>			
Property Taxes	8,854,688	8,810,888	43,800
Grants & Entitlements	13,923,843	11,948,414	1,975,429
Grants & Entitlements - OFCC	6,613,375	-	6,613,375
Other	1,730,589	2,410,448	(679,859)
<i>Total General Revenues</i>	<u>31,122,495</u>	<u>23,169,750</u>	<u>7,952,745</u>
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>35,364,852</u>	<u>27,145,473</u>	<u>8,219,379</u>
<b>Program Expenses</b>			
Instruction:			
Regular	1,408,290	1,315,453	92,837
Special	1,265,933	1,150,834	115,099
Vocational	11,569,464	11,647,854	(78,390)
Adult/Continuing	380,237	369,687	10,550
Support Services:			
Pupils	1,394,445	1,685,230	(290,785)
Instructional Staff	1,203,950	1,229,177	(25,227)
Board of Education	99,891	90,340	9,551
Administration	1,305,335	1,274,329	31,006
Fiscal	583,251	550,501	32,750
Business	341,827	217,726	124,101
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,168,180	1,277,293	(109,113)
Pupil Transportation	1,461	1,633	(172)
Central	486,181	483,107	3,074
Operation of Non-Instructional Services:			
Food Service Operations	547,389	559,140	(11,751)
Extracurricular Activities	413,775	372,256	41,519
Interest and Fiscal Charges	338,474	356,763	(18,289)
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<u>22,508,083</u>	<u>22,581,323</u>	<u>(73,240)</u>
Special Item (See Note 2)	<u>(1,909,570)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,909,570)</u>
<i>Total General Revenues and Special Items</i>	<u>29,212,925</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,043,175</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	<u>10,947,199</u>	<u>4,564,150</u>	<u>6,383,049</u>
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>	<u>31,616,786</u>	<u>27,052,636</u>	<u>4,564,150</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 42,563,985</u>	<u>\$ 31,616,786</u>	<u>\$ 10,947,199</u>



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The increase in charges for services is due to increases in tuition for adult education. The significant increase in grants and entitlements is primarily due to the continued phase in of the Ohio Fair School Funding Plan and increased enrollment. Grants and entitlements - OFCC increased significantly due the OFCC funding for the electrical and welding trades construction project previously discussed. The significant decrease in other revenue is primarily due to the receipt of the settlement money in the previous year that is not present in the current fiscal year.

Fluctuations in expense classifications are primarily due to change in the pension and OPEB accruals.

The District performed the final close-out process of a Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) construction project. Since the construction project came in under budget, the District was required, under the terms of the project agreement, to refund a portion of the remaining funds to the OFCC. The amount of the refund is presented as a special item on the financial statements in the amount of \$1,909,570.

Governmental activities are supported through taxes and other general revenues. The community, as a whole, is by far the primary support for the District students.

**Table 3**  
**Fund Balances**

	Fund Balance 6/30/2023	Fund Balance 6/30/2024	Increase (Decrease)
General	\$ 25,383,999	\$ 21,271,662	\$ 4,112,337
OFCC Career Technical Construction	6,330,998	-	6,330,998

***Governmental Funds***

As noted earlier, the District's governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual method of accounting. The focus of the District's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the District's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for discretionary use as they represent the portion of the fund balance which has not yet been limited to use for a particular purpose by either an external party, the District itself, or a group or individual that has been delegated authority to assign resources for use for particular purposes by the District's Board.

The general fund is the chief operating fund of the District. For the fiscal year 2024, the general fund's increase in fund balance is primarily due to increases in investment income and intergovernmental revenues related to the Ohio Fair School Funding Plan and increased enrollment.

The increase in the OFCC Career Technical Construction fund balance is mainly due to the receipt of grant monies and an intergovernmental receivable from the OFCC for the construction project previously mentioned.

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*(Unaudited)*

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***General Fund Budgeting Highlights***

The District's budget is prepared according to Ohio law and is based on accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The most significant budgeted fund is the general fund.

During the course of fiscal year 2024, the District made no amendments to its general fund appropriation budget. The District uses site-based budgeting and budgeting systems are designed to tightly control total site budgets but provide flexibility for site management.

***Original Budget Compared to Final Budget*** During the year there was no need for any significant amendments to either the original estimated revenues or original budgeted appropriations.

***Final Budget Compared to Actual Results*** For the general fund, there was a significant variance between expected and actual intergovernmental revenue and interest income due to the Ohio Fair School Funding Plan and increased enrollment, and better-than-expected investment earnings. There were no significant variances to the actual expenditures and other financing uses compared to the appropriations in the final budget.

***Capital Assets and Debt Administration***

**Capital Assets**

Capital assets include land, buildings and building improvements, furniture and equipment, vehicles, and construction in progress. These capital assets are used to provide services to students and are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

During the fiscal year the District started a renovation project to provide instructional space for electrical and welding trades.

See Note 6 for additional information about the capital assets of the District.

**Debt**

During the fiscal year, the District made regular principal and interest payments on its debt. See Note 13 for additional details.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*  
*(Unaudited)*

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***Current Issues***

The District remains fiscally stable and ended fiscal year 2024 in a good financial position. The District has carefully managed its general fund budgets in order to optimize the dollars available for educating the students it serves, and to minimize the levy millage amounts needed periodically from the community's citizens. As the preceding information shows, the District's general fund is performing well. This amount incorporates the "equity in pooled cash and investments" balance of all the various funds that are considered part of the general fund on a GAAP-basis. The "equity in pooled cash and investments" balance of the general fund at June 30, 2024 was \$25,550,305. The District continues to maintain a healthy cash balance in the general fund in the midst of funding uncertainties.

In March 2015, with interest rates low, the District seized the opportunity to refinance the original COPS issue that funded the renovations completed to the District in fiscal year 2012. The refinance yielded a NPV savings of \$458,397 to the District and their taxpayers over the remaining life of the COPS. The remaining original 2008 COPS were paid in full in December of 2022. Only the 2015 COPS remain payable.

Beginning at the end of fiscal year 2018 and ending in October 2018, replacement of the faulty HVAC system installed during the School Renovations in 2009 to 2012 was completed. Funds from the original renovation budget have been used to cover the costs of this replacement. The Ohio Attorney General's office sought recovery of funds for the replacement and filed a lawsuit to recover HVAC replacement costs. The lawsuit was settled in July 2022 for \$1,750,000. The Ohio Facilities Construction Commission, which shared the cost of the project, received their portion of \$1,909,570 in September 2023 upon closeout. See Note 2 for additional information.

In the fiscal years 2022 and 2023 State biennial budget, Ohio's legislature passed what is known as the "Fair School Funding Plan" (FSFP). This legislation builds on three years of feedback from education professionals who do this work for a living every day of their lives and actually represent Ohio's diverse school districts: urban and rural, large and small. The current biennial budget for fiscal years 2024 and 2025 continues the phase-in of the FSFP.

The Bill creates a comprehensive school funding plan for primary and secondary education by: 1. Establishing a base cost amount to meet the cost of basic student educational needs; 2. Adding additional resources for specific needs, such as special education, educating students living in poverty, and transportation, etc.; and, 3. Allocating state and local funding shares based on local capacity measured by property values and resident income. The major downfall of this budget is that the new funding formula is only funded through each biennium. There are no guarantees that this formula will be in effect after fiscal year 2025. For fiscal year 2022, the formula was phased in at 16.67 percent and for fiscal year 2023 the formula was phased in at 33.34 percent. In fiscal year 2024, the phase-in is 50% and for fiscal year 2025 the phase-in will be 66.67%

The District's biggest challenge in recent years has been the world-wide COVID-19 pandemic. The District has spent general fund monies trying to best serve their students by purchasing technology, software and new equipment to help students through this trying time. The District has also received relief monies in fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024 to assist the District in staying open for the students.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Management's Discussion and Analysis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*  
*(Unaudited)*

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The District has committed itself to educational and financial excellence for many years. Each challenge identified in this section is viewed simultaneously as an opportunity for the District to continue its commitment to excellence. The District is committed to living within its financial means and working with the community it serves in order to garner adequate resources to support educational programs.

**Contacting the District's Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Gavyn Bazley, Treasurer of Pioneer Career and Technology Center, 27 Ryan Road, Shelby OH 44875-0309.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Net Position*  
*June 30, 2024*

	Governmental Activities
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$ 32,763,073
Cash and Cash Equivalents in Segregated Accounts	317,072
Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agent	2,410,740
Accounts Receivable	185,085
Intergovernmental Receivable	5,069,479
Taxes Receivable	13,097,112
Net OPEB Asset	1,421,693
Non-Depreciable Capital Assets	307,376
Depreciable Capital Assets, net	24,750,771
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>80,322,401</u>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	
Deferred Charges on Refunding	769,225
Pension	3,944,901
OPEB	644,985
<i>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</i>	<u>5,359,111</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts Payable	111,836
Accrued Wages and Benefits	1,211,043
Contracts Payable	94,000
Intergovernmental Payable	189,856
Claims Payable	144,438
Unearned Revenue	267,983
Long-Term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	939,047
Due In More Than One Year:	
Net Pension Liability	18,726,494
Net OPEB Liability	912,631
Other Amounts Due in More Than One Year	8,030,508
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>30,627,836</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	
Property Taxes Levied for the Next Year	6,583,817
Pension	3,160,181
OPEB	2,745,693
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u>12,489,691</u>
<b>Net Position</b>	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	18,115,925
Restricted for:	
Capital Outlay	7,871,211
Classroom Facilities Maintenance	2,877,987
Other Purposes	2,281,611
Unrestricted	11,417,251
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u>\$ 42,563,985</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Activities*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

		Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
	Expenses	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants, Contributions and Interest	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$ 1,408,290	\$ 19,224	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,389,066)
Special	1,265,933	-	1,738,962	-	473,029
Vocational	11,569,464	326,321	105,377	-	(11,137,766)
Adult/Continuing	380,237	242,446	241,209	-	103,418
Support Services:					
Pupils	1,394,445	75	355,368	-	(1,039,002)
Instructional Staff	1,203,950	266,821	33,563	-	(903,566)
Board of Education	99,891	-	-	-	(99,891)
Administration	1,305,335	6,770	15,397	-	(1,283,168)
Fiscal	583,251	-	-	-	(583,251)
Business	341,827	-	-	-	(341,827)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,168,180	-	3,962	-	(1,164,218)
Pupil Transportation	1,461	-	-	10,745	9,284
Central	486,181	-	5,263	-	(480,918)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services:					
Food Service Operations	547,389	256,942	363,713	-	73,266
Extracurricular Activities	413,775	249,549	650	-	(163,576)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	338,474	-	-	-	(338,474)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 22,508,083</b>	<b>\$ 1,368,148</b>	<b>\$ 2,863,464</b>	<b>\$ 10,745</b>	<b>(18,265,726)</b>

**General Revenues**

Property Taxes Levied for:

General Purposes	8,429,328
Classroom Facilities Maintenance	425,360
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs	13,923,843
Grant and Entitlements - OFCC	6,613,375
Investment Earnings	1,630,953
Miscellaneous	99,636
<b>Total General Revenues</b>	<b>31,122,495</b>
Special Item (See Note 2)	(1,909,570)
<b>Total General Revenues and Special Items</b>	<b>29,212,925</b>
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	<b>10,947,199</b>
<b>Net Position Beginning of Year</b>	<b>31,616,786</b>
<b>Net Position End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 42,563,985</b>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Balance Sheet*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*June 30, 2024*

	General	OFCC Career Technical Construction	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	\$ 25,550,305	\$ 1,464,967	\$ 5,747,801	\$ 32,763,073
Cash and Cash Equivalents in Segregated Accounts	-	-	317,072	317,072
Accounts Receivable	78,159	-	106,926	185,085
Interfund Receivable	46,465	-	-	46,465
Intergovernmental Receivable	-	4,960,031	109,448	5,069,479
Property Taxes Receivable	13,097,112	-	-	13,097,112
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$ 38,772,041</u>	<u>\$ 6,424,998</u>	<u>\$ 6,281,247</u>	<u>\$ 51,478,286</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 45,678	\$ -	\$ 66,158	\$ 111,836
Accrued Wages and Benefits	1,177,383	-	33,660	1,211,043
Contracts Payable	-	94,000	-	94,000
Intergovernmental Payable	180,884	-	8,972	189,856
Interfund Payable	-	-	46,465	46,465
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	<u>1,403,945</u>	<u>94,000</u>	<u>155,255</u>	<u>1,653,200</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>				
Property Taxes Levied for the Next Year	6,583,817	-	-	6,583,817
Unavailable Revenue	5,400,280	-	35,724	5,436,004
<i>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>	<u>11,984,097</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,724</u>	<u>12,019,821</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
Nonspendable	24,194	-	-	24,194
Restricted	-	6,330,998	5,169,861	11,500,859
Committed	-	-	188,421	188,421
Assigned	779,364	-	733,076	1,512,440
Unassigned	24,580,441	-	(1,090)	24,579,351
<i>Total Fund Balance</i>	<u>25,383,999</u>	<u>6,330,998</u>	<u>6,090,268</u>	<u>37,805,265</u>
<i>Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$ 38,772,041</u>	<u>\$ 6,424,998</u>	<u>\$ 6,281,247</u>	<u>\$ 51,478,286</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to*  
*Net Position of Governmental Activities*  
June 30, 2024

<b>Total Governmental Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$ 37,805,265</b>
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:</i>		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.		25,058,147
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds:		
Intergovernmental	\$ 35,724	
Accounts Receivable	78,159	
Delinquent Property Taxes	5,322,121	5,436,004
An internal service fund is used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service fund are included in governmental activities in the statement of net position.		1,998,319
Unamortized loss on refunding represents deferred outflows, which do not use current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		769,225
The net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset are not due and payable in the current period, therefore, the liability and related deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds.		
Net OPEB Asset	1,421,693	
Deferred Outflows - Pension	3,944,901	
Deferred Outflows - OPEB	644,985	
Net Pension Liability	(18,726,494)	
Net OPEB Liability	(912,631)	
Deferred Inflows - Pension	(3,160,181)	
Deferred Inflows - OPEB	(2,745,693)	(19,533,420)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds:		
Certificates of Participation	(7,515,000)	
Leases Payable	(102,447)	
Compensated Absences	(1,352,108)	(8,969,555)
<i>Net Position of Governmental Activities</i>		<b><u>\$ 42,563,985</u></b>



**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

	General	OFCC Career Technical Construction	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>				
Property and Other Local Taxes	\$ 7,257,051	\$ -	\$ 425,360	\$ 7,682,411
Intergovernmental	15,653,495	6,613,375	1,178,829	23,445,699
Investment Income	1,538,398	-	45,457	1,583,855
Tuition and Fees	133,308	-	507,742	641,050
Extracurricular Activities	9,316	-	247,956	257,272
Charges for Services	199,301	-	258,990	458,291
Contributions and Donations	9,310	-	8,676	17,986
Miscellaneous	39,092	-	585	39,677
<i>Total Revenues</i>	<u>24,839,271</u>	<u>6,613,375</u>	<u>2,673,595</u>	<u>34,126,241</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Instruction:				
Regular	1,380,191	-	-	1,380,191
Special	1,322,685	-	-	1,322,685
Vocational	10,513,631	248	856,797	11,370,676
Adult/Continuing	-	-	481,904	481,904
Support Services:				
Pupils	1,055,354	-	426,218	1,481,572
Instructional Staff	953,898	-	314,353	1,268,251
Board of Education	93,991	-	5,900	99,891
Administration	1,252,407	-	12,686	1,265,093
Fiscal	732,171	-	-	732,171
Business	389,875	-	-	389,875
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	1,105,525	-	174,013	1,279,538
Pupil Transportation	1,461	-	-	1,461
Central	501,538	-	3,358	504,896
Operation of Non-Instructional/Shared Services:				
Food Service Operations	-	-	584,062	584,062
Extracurricular Activities	146,628	-	230,380	377,008
Capital Outlay	-	282,129	133,356	415,485
Debt Service				
Principal Retirement	520,355	-	-	520,355
Interest and Fiscal Charges	278,143	-	-	278,143
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<u>20,247,853</u>	<u>282,377</u>	<u>3,223,027</u>	<u>23,753,257</u>
<i>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</i>	<u>4,591,418</u>	<u>6,330,998</u>	<u>(549,432)</u>	<u>10,372,984</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	59,959	-	-	59,959
Transfers In	-	-	821,219	821,219
Transfers Out	(539,040)	-	(282,179)	(821,219)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>(479,081)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>539,040</u>	<u>59,959</u>
<b>Special Items</b>				
Special Item (See Note 2)	-	-	(1,909,570)	(1,909,570)
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	<u>4,112,337</u>	<u>6,330,998</u>	<u>(1,919,962)</u>	<u>8,523,373</u>
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	<u>21,271,662</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,010,230</u>	<u>29,281,892</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 25,383,999</u>	<u>\$ 6,330,998</u>	<u>\$ 6,090,268</u>	<u>\$ 37,805,265</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes  
in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

<b>Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds</b>		<b>\$ 8,523,373</b>
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:</i>		
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.		
Capital Asset Additions	\$ 663,240	
Current Year Depreciation/Amortization	<u>(861,475)</u>	(198,235)
Governmental funds only report the disposal of capital assets to the extent proceeds are received from the sale. In the statement of activities, a gain or loss is reported for each disposal.		(84,085)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.		
Intergovernmental	(77,716)	
Tuition and Fees	11,535	
Property Tax	<u>1,172,278</u>	1,106,097
Repayment of principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.		
Certificates of Participation	455,000	
Leases	<u>65,355</u>	520,355
In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding bonds, and bond premium and the gain/loss on refunding are amortized over the term of the bonds, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when bonds are issued.		
Amortization of Refunding Loss		(60,331)
Contractually required pension/OPEB contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows.		
Pension	1,702,246	
OPEB	<u>37,682</u>	1,739,928
Except for amount reported as deferred inflows/outflows, changes in the net pension/OPEB liability/asset are reported as pension/OPEB expense in the statement of activities.		
Pension	(903,623)	
OPEB	<u>231,440</u>	(672,183)
The internal service fund used by management to charge the costs of insurance to individual funds is not reported in the statement of activities. Governmental expenditures and related internal service fund revenues are eliminated. The net revenue (expense) of the internal service fund is allocated among the governmental activities.		214,241
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.		
Compensated Absences		<u>(141,961)</u>
<i>Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities</i>		<u><u>\$ 10,947,199</u></u>

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in*  
*Fund Balance - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual*  
*General Fund*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$ 21,472,520	\$ 21,472,520	\$ 24,806,015	\$ 3,333,495
Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	22,087,488	22,087,488	21,056,222	1,031,266
Net Change in Fund Balance	(614,968)	(614,968)	3,749,793	4,364,761
<i>Fund Balance Beginning of Year</i>	20,961,164	20,961,164	20,961,164	-
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	276,654	276,654	276,654	-
<i>Fund Balance End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 20,622,850</u>	<u>\$ 20,622,850</u>	<u>\$ 24,987,611</u>	<u>\$ 4,364,761</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Fund Net Position*  
*Proprietary Funds*  
*June 30, 2024*

	Governmental Activities
	Internal Service Fund
<b>Assets</b>	
<i>Current Assets:</i>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agent	\$ 2,410,740
 <i>Current Liabilities:</i>	
Unearned Revenue	267,983
Claims Payable	144,438
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	412,421
 <b>Net Position</b>	
Unrestricted	1,998,319
<b>Total Net Position</b>	\$ 1,998,319

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position*  
*Proprietary Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

	Governmental Activities
	Internal Service Fund
<b>Operating Revenues</b>	
Charges for Services	\$ 3,774,751
Other	151,789
<i>Total Operating Revenues</i>	<u>3,926,540</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
Purchased Services	1,072,900
Claims	2,701,209
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<u>3,774,109</u>
<i>Operating Income (Loss)</i>	<u>152,431</u>
<b>Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)</b>	
Interest Income	<u>61,810</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	214,241
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>	<u>1,784,078</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$ 1,998,319</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Cash Flows*  
*Proprietary Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

	Governmental Activities
	Internal Service Fund
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	
Cash Received from Customers	\$ 3,741,237
Cash Received from Other Operating Revenues	151,789
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(1,072,900)
Cash Payments for Claims	(2,701,704)
<i>Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities</i>	<u>118,422</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	
Interest Income	<u>61,810</u>
<i>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents</i>	180,232
<i>Cash and Cash Equivalents Beginning of Year</i>	<u>2,230,508</u>
<i>Cash and Cash Equivalents End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$ 2,410,740</u></u>
<b>Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided by (Used for) Operating Activities</b>	
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 152,431
Adjustments:	
Increase (Decrease) in Liabilities:	
Claims Payable	(495)
Unearned Revenue	(33,514)
<i>Net Cash Provided by (Used For) Operating Activities</i>	<u><u>\$ 118,422</u></u>

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Fiduciary Net Position*  
*Fiduciary Funds*  
*June 30, 2024*

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	<u>Custodial</u>
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Investments	<u>\$ 33,943</u>
<b>Net Position</b>	
Restricted for Individuals, Organizations, and Other Governments	<u>33,943</u>
<i>Total Net Position</i>	<u><u>\$ 33,943</u></u>

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position*  
*Fiduciary Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

	<u>Custodial</u>
<b>Additions</b>	
Amounts Received as Fiscal Agent	<u>\$ 19,450</u>
<b>Deductions</b>	
Distributions as Fiscal Agent	<u>18,999</u>
<i>Change in Net Position</i>	451
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>	<u>33,492</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$ 33,943</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements



**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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**NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF THE DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY**

The Pioneer Career and Technology Center (the “District”) was formed on June 18, 1965. The District is a Vocational District as defined by Section 3311.18 of the Ohio Revised Code and is a body politic and corporate. The District was established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District operates under an appointed 11 member Board of Education and is responsible for the provision of public education to residents of the District.

The District’s primary missions are to provide students with job training to lead to the students’ employment upon graduation from high school, and/or college preparation to lead to higher education attainment. The District includes 14 member Districts throughout Richland, Crawford, Huron, Morrow, Wyandot, Seneca, Marion and Ashland Counties.

The District also provides support services for the pupils, instructional staff, operation and maintenance, food services, extracurricular activities, and nonprogrammed services.

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

The District participates in one jointly governed organization and three public entity risk pools.

***Jointly Governed Organization***

**Northeast Ohio Network for Educational Technology (“NEOnet”)**

The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions for members. Each of the governments of these members supports NEONET based on a per pupil charge dependent upon the software package utilized. The NEONET assembly consists of a superintendent or designated representative from each participating member and a representative from the fiscal agent. NEONET is governed by a board of directors chosen from the general membership of the NEONET assembly. The board of directors consists of a representative from the fiscal agent, the chairman of each operating committee, and at least one assembly member from each county from which participating members are located. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Northeast Ohio Network for Educational Technology, located at 700 Graham Road, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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***Public Entity Risk Pools***

**Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority**

The District participates in the Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority Board (SORSA), an insurance purchasing pool. SORSA's business affairs are conducted by a nine-member Board of Directors consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and five delegates. SORSA was created to provide joint self-insurance coverage and to assist members to prevent and reduce losses and injuries to the participants' property and person. It is intended to provide liability and property insurance at reduced premiums for the participants. SORSA is organized as a nonprofit corporation under provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 2744.

**The Jefferson Health Plan**

The District participates in The Jefferson Health Plan (the "Plan"), a council of governments of school districts and other political subdivisions organized and existing as a joint self-insurance program pursuant to Section 9.833 of the Ohio Revised Code to provide healthcare and related insurance benefits to member organizations. The Plan's business affairs are conducted by a Board of Directors elected from member organizations and composed of one representative from each county served and a career center representative. Each member organization pays a monthly premium based on its claims history and a monthly administration fee.

**Workers' Compensation Group Experience Rating Program**

The District participates in a Workers' Compensation Group Retrospective Program. The program is offered by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation and is administered by Sedgwick Group Retro is a performance based refund program in which participating employers pay their annual premiums as scheduled. The BWC will then conduct three (3) annual evaluations following the completion of the retro year to determine refund opportunities.

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

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

***Basis of Presentation***

The 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 District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The activity of the internal service fund is also eliminated to avoid "doubling up" revenues and expenses.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the 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.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
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Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the District, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each business segment or governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the District.

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

***Fund Accounting***

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

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

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

***OFCC Career Technical Construction Fund*** - The OFCC career technical construction fund accounts for monies received through the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) to assist with facilities construction projects that support establishing or expanding career-technical education programs under OFCC's Career Technical Construction Program.

The other governmental funds of the District account for grants and other resources to which the District is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources.

***Proprietary Funds*** Proprietary funds focus on the determination of changes in net position, financial position and cash flows and are classified as either enterprise or internal service. The District's only proprietary fund is an internal service fund.

***Internal Service Fund*** - The internal service fund accounts for the financing of services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the District on a cost reimbursement basis. The District's internal service fund accounts for the operation of the District's self-insurance program for employee medical, dental, prescription, and vision benefits.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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

The District's fiduciary funds are custodial funds which account for assets held by the District as fiscal agent for an endowment fund and for Pell grants.

***Measurement Focus***

***Government-wide Financial Statements*** The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the 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 and deferred outflows of resources and current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements, therefore, include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Like the government-wide statements, the internal service fund and custodial funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of these funds are included on the statement of fund net position. The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net position presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net total position. The statement of cash flows provides information about how the District finances and meets the cash flow needs of its internal service fund activity.

The statement of changes in fiduciary net position presents increases (i.e., additions) and decreases (i.e., deductions) in total net position. The statement of changes in fiduciary net position reports additions to and deductions from custodial 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 and the statements for the proprietary and fiduciary funds are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue, the recording of deferred inflows/outflows of resources, and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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***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. 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 District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of the fiscal year-end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the 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 fiscal year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

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

***Deferred Inflows of Resources and Deferred Outflows of Resources*** In addition to assets, the statements of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. For the District, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the government-wide statement of net position for deferred charges on refunding and for pension and Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB). A deferred charge on refunding results from the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and its reacquisition price. This amount is deferred and amortized over the shorter of the life of the refunded or refunding debt. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB are explained in Notes 10 and 11.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. For the District, deferred inflows of resources include property taxes, pension, OPEB and unavailable revenue. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2024, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2025 operations. These amounts have been recorded as a deferred inflow on both the government-wide statement of net position and governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet, and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. For the District, unavailable revenue may include delinquent property taxes, grants and entitlements, and miscellaneous revenues. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. The details of these unavailable revenues are identified on the Reconciliation of Total Governmental Fund Balances to Net Position of Governmental Activities. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are reported on the government-wide statement of net position. See Notes 10 and 11.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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

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

***Budgetary Process***

All funds, other than custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the appropriation resolution and the certificate of estimated resources, which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amounts that the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriation resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on expenditures plus encumbrances at a level of control selected by the Board. The legal level of control has been established by the Board of Education at the fund level. Budgetary modifications at this level require a resolution of the Board of Education. The Treasurer has been given the authority to allocate Board appropriations to the function and object levels within each fund.

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

The appropriation resolution is subject to amendment by the Board throughout the year with the restriction that appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. 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 years. The amounts reported as the final budgeted amounts represent the final appropriation amounts passed by the Board during the fiscal year.

***Cash and Investments***

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

The District participates in the Jefferson Health Plan. The Jefferson Health Plan is an insurance consortium for self-insurance. These monies are held separate from the District's central bank account and are reflected in the financial statement as "Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agent."

The District holds cash relating to their Ohio Facilities Construction Commission project in the Classroom Facilities fund. These funds are presented on the financial statements as "cash and cash equivalents in segregated accounts."

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

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

There were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, 24 hours advance notice for deposits and withdrawals of \$100 million or more is appreciated. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million per day.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2024 was \$1,538,398, which included \$316,638 assigned from other District funds.

***Inventory***

Inventories are presented at the lower of cost or market on a first-in, first-out basis and are expensed when used. Inventories are accounted for using the consumption method, which means that the costs of inventory items are recorded as expenditures in the governmental funds when consumed.

***Capital Assets***

All capital assets of the District are classified as general capital assets. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

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 value as of the date received. The District has a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The 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 assets or materially extend an asset's life are not.

Depreciation of capital assets is provided over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Description	Estimated Lives
Building and Improvements	25-50 Years
Furniture and Equipment	5-20 Years
Vehicles	5-15 Years

The District is reporting intangible right to use assets related to furniture and equipment. These intangible assets are being amortized in a systematic and rational manner over the shorter of the lease term or the useful life of the underlying asset.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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***Compensated Absences***

Compensated absences of the District consist of vacation leave and sick leave to the extent that payments to the employee for these absences are attributable to services already rendered and are not contingent on a specific event that is outside the control of the District and the employee.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. An accrual for earned sick leave is made to the extent that it is probable that benefits will result in termination payments. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year-end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the District's termination policy. The District records a liability for accumulated unused sick leave for employees after twenty years of service based on historical trends.

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

For governmental fund financial statements, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount expected to be paid using expendable available resources. These amounts are recorded in the account matured compensated absences payable. The noncurrent portion of the liability is not reported.

***Pensions and Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)***

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

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

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

***Unearned Revenue***

The Unearned Revenue reported on the statement of net position and the entire amount reported on the statement of fund net position represents early payments received for self-insurance funding for July 2024 for the internal service fund.



**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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***Net Position***

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets or related debt also should be included in this component of net position.

Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. At June 30, 2024, there was no net position restricted by enabling legislation. The amounts restricted for other purposes consisted of scholarships, education foundation, state mandated set-asides, state and federally funded programs, and net OPEB asset.

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

***Fund Balance***

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, the District classifies its fund balance based on the purpose for which the resources were received and the level of constraint placed on the resources. The classifications are as follows:

*Nonspendable* – The nonspendable fund balance category includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The “not in spendable form” criterion includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash. It also includes the long-term amount of 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* – The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes imposed by a formal action (resolution) of the District Board of Education. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District Board of Education removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (resolution) it employed to previously commit those amounts. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

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

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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

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

***Interfund Activity***

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

***Operating Revenues and Expenses***

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the proprietary fund. For the District, these revenues are charges for services and other related revenues for self-insurance programs. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the goods or services that are the primary activity of the fund. All revenues and expenses not meeting these definitions are reported as non-operating.

***Estimates***

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles 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.

***Extraordinary and Special Items***

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events that are within the control of the Board of Education and that are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence. The District did not report an extraordinary item in fiscal year 2024. The District reported a special item in fiscal year 2024. The District performed the final close-out process of an Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) construction project. Since the construction project came in under budget, the District was required, under the terms of the project agreement, to refund a portion of the remaining funds to the OFCC. The amount of the refund is presented as a special item on the financial statements in the amount of \$1,909,570.

***Implementation of New Accounting Principles***

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the District has implemented certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 99, Omnibus 2022 and GASB Statement No. 100, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
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GASB Statement No. 99 enhances comparability in accounting and financial reporting and improves the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The implementation of certain provisions of GASB Statement No. 99 that relate to financial guarantees and the classification and reporting of derivative instruments within the scope of Statement 53 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the District.

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

**NOTE 3: BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

While the District is reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual, is presented for the general fund on the budgetary basis to provide meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP basis are:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures/expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget) rather than when the liability is incurred (GAAP).
3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditure (budget) rather than as a component of restricted, committed or assigned fund balance (GAAP).
4. Some funds are included in the general fund (GAAP basis), but have separate legally adopted budgets (budget basis).

The following table summarizes the adjustments necessary to reconcile GAAP basis statement to the budgetary basis statement on a fund type basis for the general fund:

<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	
GAAP Basis	\$ 4,112,337
Net Adjustment for Revenue Accruals	255,327
Net Adjustment for Expenditure Accruals	(339,810)
Funds Budgeted Elsewhere	(39,828)
Adjustment for Encumbrances	(238,233)
Budget Basis	<u>\$ 3,749,793</u>

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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**\*\*As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, 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 unclaimed funds, uniform school supplies, special rotary, rotary, public school support, and portions of the special trust funds.**

**NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

Monies held by the District are classified by State statute into three categories.

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

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

Interim deposits are deposits of interim monies. Interim monies are those monies which are not needed for immediate use but which will be needed before the end of the current period of designation of depositories. Interim deposits must be evidenced by time certificates of deposit maturing not more than one year from the date of deposit or by savings or deposit accounts, including passbook accounts.

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

Interim monies may be invested or deposited 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 30 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;

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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5. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts;
6. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
7. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).
8. Certain bankers' acceptances (for a period not to exceed 180 days) and commercial paper notes (for a period not to exceed 270 days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

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

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

***Deposits***

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. At year end, \$606,828 of the District's bank balance of \$2,316,789 was exposed to custodial credit risk because it was uninsured and collateralized.

The 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 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.

***Funds Held by Fiscal Agent***

The District participates in the Jefferson Health Plan for employee benefits. All benefit deposits are made to the Plan's depository account. Collateral is held by a qualified third-party trustee in the name of the Plan.

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*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
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***Funds Held in Segregated Accounts***

The funds for the local portion of the OFCC building project are maintained separately from the District's deposits. The carrying amount of the deposits is reported as "Cash and Cash Equivalents in Segregated Accounts."

***Investments***

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

S&P Global Ratings	Investment Type	Measurement Value	Investment Maturities			Percent of Total
			12 Months or Less	12 to 36 Months	More Than 36 Months	
	Net Asset Value (NAV):					
AAAm	STAR Ohio	\$23,629,888	\$23,629,888	\$ -	\$ -	75.84%
N/A	Money Market	75,441	75,441	-	-	0.24%
	Fair Value:					
N/A	Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	2,790,339	411,818	957,865	1,420,656	8.96%
AA	Federal Agency Securities	4,659,539	1,184,160	2,822,732	652,647	14.96%
	Total Investments	<u>\$31,155,207</u>	<u>\$25,301,307</u>	<u>\$ 3,780,597</u>	<u>\$ 2,073,303</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

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

The above table identifies the District's recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2024. The District's fair value investments are Level 2 since valued using methodologies that incorporate market inputs such as benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers, and reference data including market research publications. Market indicators and industry and economic events are also monitored which could require the need to acquire further market data.

***Interest Rate Risk*** Interest rate risk arises because potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The District's investment policy addresses interest rate risk by requiring that the District's investment portfolio be structured so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations and/or long-term debt payments, thereby avoiding that need to sell securities on the open market prior to maturity, and by investing operating funds primarily in short-term investments.

***Credit Risk*** The District has no investment policy dealing with investment credit risk beyond the requirements in state statutes. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The weighted average of maturity of the portfolio held by STAR Ohio as of June 30, 2024, is 47 days.

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***Custodial Credit Risk*** For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party.

***Concentration of Credit Risk*** The District places no limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

**NOTE 5: PROPERTY TAXES**

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real and public utility property located in the District. Real property tax revenue received in calendar 2024 represents collections of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 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 35 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 2024 represents collections of calendar year 2023 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien December 31, 2022, were levied after April 1, 2023, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The District receives property taxes from Ashland, Crawford, Huron, Morrow, Marion, Richland, Seneca, and Wyandot Counties. The County Auditor periodically advances to the 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 of second-half real property taxes available for advance at fiscal year-end can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

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

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

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

	2023 Second Half Collections		2024 First Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Real Estate	\$ 2,464,415,010	76%	\$ 2,987,121,280	79%
Public Utility	798,371,350	24%	801,190,110	21%
Total	<u>\$ 3,262,786,360</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$ 3,788,311,390</u>	<u>100%</u>
Full Tax Rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	<u>\$ 3.70</u>		<u>\$ 3.70</u>	

**NOTE 6: CAPITAL ASSETS**

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

	Balance 6/30/2023	Additions	Deletions	Balance 6/30/2024
<b>Governmental Activities</b>				
<b><i>Capital Assets not being depreciated/amortized:</i></b>				
Land	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000
Construction in Progress	78,732	286,375	(82,731)	282,376
<i>Total Capital Assets, not being depreciated</i>	<u>103,732</u>	<u>286,375</u>	<u>(82,731)</u>	<u>307,376</u>
<b><i>Capital Assets, being depreciated/amortized:</i></b>				
Building and Improvements	33,868,141	84,515	-	33,952,656
Furniture and Equipment	5,926,344	320,796	(259,620)	5,987,520
Intangible Right to Use, Furniture and Equipment	284,442	-	(130,176)	154,266
Vehicles	740,041	54,285	(59,945)	734,381
<i>Total Capital Assets, being depreciated/amortized</i>	<u>40,818,968</u>	<u>459,596</u>	<u>(449,741)</u>	<u>40,828,823</u>
<b><i>Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization:</i></b>				
Building and Improvements	(10,475,938)	(604,820)	-	(11,080,758)
Furniture and Equipment	(4,382,588)	(184,747)	257,570	(4,309,765)
Intangible Right to Use, Furniture and Equipment	(53,580)	(42,768)	48,141	(48,207)
Vehicles	(670,127)	(29,140)	59,945	(639,322)
<i>Total Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization</i>	<u>(15,582,233)</u>	<u>(861,475) *</u>	<u>365,656</u>	<u>(16,078,052)</u>
<i>Total Capital Assets being depreciated/amortized, net</i>	<u>25,236,735</u>	<u>(401,879)</u>	<u>(84,085)</u>	<u>24,750,771</u>
<i>Governmental Activities Capital Assets, net</i>	<u>\$ 25,340,467</u>	<u>\$ (115,504)</u>	<u>\$ (166,816)</u>	<u>\$ 25,058,147</u>



**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
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\* Depreciation/amortization expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:	
Regular	\$ 45,524
Special	10,957
Vocational	540,610
Adult/Continuing	9,101
Support Services:	
Pupil	2,375
Administration	47,017
Fiscal	1,612
Business	4,000
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	87,593
Central	31,196
Food Service	44,723
Extracurricular Activities	<u>36,767</u>
Total Depreciation/Amortization Expense	<u><u>\$ 861,475</u></u>

**NOTE 7: RECEIVABLES**

Receivables at June 30, 2024 consisted of taxes, accounts (billings for user charged services and student fees), interfund 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 the State programs, and the current fiscal year guarantee of Federal funds.

**NOTE 8: RISK MANAGEMENT**

***General Insurance***

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, natural disasters and injuries to employees (also covered with Worker's Compensation coverage as required by Ohio State statute). The District contracted with Schools of Ohio Risk Sharing Authority (SORSA) for general liability, school board legal liability, employee benefits liability, auto liability, property, crime coverage, and cyber liability coverage. Crime coverage is for public employee dishonesty, forgery, computer fraud and money and securities. The crime coverage limit applies separately to each line of crime coverage.

Automobile physical damage is covered with a policy providing Actual Cash Value (ACV) for physical damage or cost of repair, whichever is less, with no deductible. Educator's legal liability policy is provided by SORSA.

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

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
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***Workers' Compensation***

The District participates in a Workers' Compensation Group Retrospective Program. The Group Retrospective is a performance based refund program in which participating employers pay their annual premiums as scheduled. The BWC will then conduct three (3) annual evaluations following the completion of the retro year to determine refund opportunities. Sedgwick also provides a comprehensive suite of risk management and safety solutions that can help you save time, decrease accidents, ensure compliance, and reduce your overall costs. Available services include PERRP recordkeeping, drug & alcohol program management, safety training, return-to-work programs, unemployment administration and hearing representation.

***Employee Health Insurance***

The District has elected to provide employee medical/surgical benefits through a self-insured program, which is administered through The Jefferson Health Plan. The District maintains a self-insurance internal service fund to account for and finance its uninsured risk of loss in this program. The Plan provides a medical/surgical plan. The Plan also provides dental and vision care. The third-party administrator reviews and pays all claims. The administrator purchases stop-loss coverage. The District pays into the self-insurance internal service fund. The District also offers an HSA plan.

The claims liability of \$144,438 reported at June 30, 2024 is based on the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 10, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Risk Financing and Related Insurance Issues*, as amended by GASB Statement No. 30, Risk Financing Omnibus, which requires that a liability for unpaid claims cost, including estimates of cost relating to incurred but not reported claims, be reported.

Changes in the fund's claim liability for 2023 and 2024 are listed below.

	Balance Beginning of Year	Current Year Claims	Claims Payments	Balance End of Year
2023	\$ 295,360	\$ 2,768,291	\$ 2,918,718	\$ 144,933
2024	144,933	2,701,209	2,701,704	144,438

**NOTE 9: OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

***Compensated Absences***

The criteria for determining vacation, personal and sick leave benefits are derived from negotiated agreements and state laws. All employees earn three days of personal leave per year.

Classified employees earn ten to twenty-five days of vacation per fiscal year, depending upon length of service. Vacation days may accumulate equal to two years of vacation. Accumulated, unused vacation time is paid to classified employees upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time.

Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-half days per month. Sick leave may be accumulated to a maximum of 235 days for certified personnel and 260 days for classified personnel. There is no carryover or conversion of personal leave.

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Employees retiring with a minimum of three years of service with the District will be paid for one-third of accumulated, unused sick leave credit, not to exceed 75 days. Upon completion of ten or more years of service to the District, and first year eligible (according to the appropriate retirement system rules) retirement from the profession, payment is made for one-half of accumulated, unused sick leave credit with no cap.

***Life Insurance***

The District provides \$40,000 for staff members and 2.5 times administrative salary in life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment insurance to its general employees and to its administrators, respectively, through Madison National Life Insurance.

**NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS**

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

***Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability (Asset)***

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

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) represents the District's proportionate share of each pension/OPEB plan's collective actuarial present value of projected benefit payments attributable to past periods of service, net of each pension 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 this estimate annually.

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

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

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

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The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 11 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

	Eligible to Retire on or before August 1, 2017 *	Eligible to Retire after August 1, 2017
Full Benefits	Any age with 30 years of service credit	Age 67 with 10 years of service credit; or Age 57 with 30 years of service credit
Actuarially Reduced Benefits	Age 60 with 5 years of service credit 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, may be included in this plan.

Annual retirement benefits are calculated based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on year of service; 2.2 percent for the first 30 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 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 District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$316,616 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$6,657 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

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

Plan Description – District licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee 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 Web site at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org).

New members have a choice of three retirement plans: a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan, and a Combined 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 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 charges 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.

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

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$1,385,630 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$131,324 is reported as an intergovernmental payable.

***Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows/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 independent actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the employer's share of employer contributions in the pension plan relative to the total employer contributions of all participating employers. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability:			
Current Measurement Date	0.0540126%	0.07309992%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.0814044%	0.07582894%	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.0273918%</u>	<u>-0.00272902%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net			
Pension Liability	\$ 2,984,472	\$ 15,742,022	\$ 18,726,494
Pension Expense	\$ (208,510)	\$ 1,112,133	\$ 903,623

Other than contributions made subsequent to the measurement date and differences between projected and actual earnings on investments; deferred inflows/outflows of resources are recognized in pension expense beginning in the current period, using a straight line method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining services lives of all employees that are provided with pensions, determined as of the beginning of the measurement period. Net deferred inflows/outflows of resources pertaining to the differences between projected and actual investment earnings are similarly recognized over a closed five-year period.

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 128,279	\$ 573,922	\$ 702,201
Changes of Assumptions	21,140	1,296,442	1,317,582
Changes in Proportion and Differences between District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	-	222,872	222,872
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	316,616	1,385,630	1,702,246
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>\$ 466,035</u>	<u>\$ 3,478,866</u>	<u>\$ 3,944,901</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ -	\$ 34,932	\$ 34,932
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	41,951	47,177	89,128
Changes of Assumptions	-	975,847	975,847
Changes in Proportion and Differences between District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	1,199,319	860,955	2,060,274
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<u>\$ 1,241,270</u>	<u>\$ 1,918,911</u>	<u>\$ 3,160,181</u>

\$1,702,246 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2025	\$ (500,628)	\$ (371,275)	\$ (871,903)
2026	(509,098)	(682,662)	(1,191,760)
2027	(84,349)	1,438,146	1,353,797
2028	2,224	(209,884)	(207,660)
Total	<u>\$ (1,091,851)</u>	<u>\$ 174,325</u>	<u>\$ (917,526)</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.

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation, prepared as of June 30, 2023, and 2022 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 System expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.0 percent, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement

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 two 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 five years and adjusted 103.3 percent for males and set forward three 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.

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:



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

***Discount Rate*** The total pension liability for 2023 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent. The discount rate did not use a municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 21-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarially determined contribution rate of fiscal year 2023 was 14.00 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 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 District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent, as well as what the District'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.

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 4,404,932	\$ 2,984,472	\$ 1,788,010

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

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

Inflation	2.50 percent
Salary Increases	From 2.5 percent to 8.5 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 for healthy retirees 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, were based on the results of the latest available actuarial experience study, which is 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:

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

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

\*\*10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 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 payment to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2023.

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***Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate***

The following table presents the 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 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:

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 24,207,746	\$ 15,742,022	\$ 8,582,336

***Assumption and Benefit Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date*** Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2021.

**NOTE 11 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS**

See Note 10 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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

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

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

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

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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 2.00 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.50 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the District's surcharge obligation was \$37,682, which is reported as an intergovernmental payable. 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 District's contractually required contribution to SERS was equal to its surcharge obligation for fiscal year 2024.

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

Plan Description – The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) administers a cost-sharing Health Plan administered for eligible retirees who participated in the defined benefit or combined pension plans offered by STRS. Ohio law authorizes STRS to offer this plan. Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs and partial reimbursement of monthly Medicare Part B premiums. Health care premiums were reduced by a Medicare Part B premium credit beginning in 2023. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org) or by calling (888) 227-7877.

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

***OPEB Liability (Asset), OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows/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 District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the District's share of contributions to the respective retirement systems relative to the contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset):			
Current Measurement Date	0.0553967%	0.07309992%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.0803612%	0.07582894%	
Change in Proportionate Share	-0.0249645%	-0.00272902%	
Proportionate Share of the Net			
OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ 912,631	\$ (1,421,693)	
OPEB Expense	\$ (168,324)	\$ (63,116)	\$ (231,440)

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Other than contributions made subsequent to the measurement date and differences between projected and actual earnings on investments; deferred inflows/outflows of resources are recognized in OPEB expense beginning in the current period, using a straight-line method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining services lives of all employees that are provided with pensions, determined as of the beginning of the measurement period. Net deferred inflows/outflows of resources pertaining to the differences between projected and actual investment earnings are similarly recognized over a closed five-year period.

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 1,902	\$ 2,216	\$ 4,118
Changes of Assumptions	308,584	209,440	518,024
Changes in Proportion and Differences between District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	50,501	25,049	75,550
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	37,682	-	37,682
<b>Total Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>\$ 405,743</u>	<u>\$ 239,242</u>	<u>\$ 644,985</u>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 470,676	\$ 216,846	\$ 687,522
Changes of Assumptions	259,195	938,011	1,197,206
Changes in Proportion and Differences between District Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	842,526	18,439	860,965
<b>Total Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<u>\$ 1,572,397</u>	<u>\$ 1,173,296</u>	<u>\$ 2,745,693</u>

\$37,682 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction/addition to the net OPEB liability/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 as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30:	SERS	STRS	Total
2025	\$ (252,470)	\$ (414,096)	\$ (666,566)
2026	(227,661)	(198,159)	(425,820)
2027	(163,979)	(71,068)	(235,047)
2028	(135,266)	(96,712)	(231,978)
2029	(128,367)	(88,592)	(216,959)
Thereafter	(296,593)	(65,427)	(362,020)
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ (1,204,336)</u>	<u>\$ (934,054)</u>	<u>\$ (2,138,390)</u>

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***Actuarial Assumptions - SERS***

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

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2023, 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	
Medicare	5.125 to 4.40 percent
Pre-Medicare	6.75 to 4.40 percent
Medical Trend Assumption	
Measurement Date	6.75 to 4.40 percent
Prior Measurement Date	7.00 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.

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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 capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

The long-term expected nominal rate of return has been determined by calculating a weighted average of the expected real return premiums for each asset class, adding the projected inflation rate, and adding the expected return from rebalancing uncorrelated asset classes. 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	<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 plan 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 is 3.86 percent at June 30, 2023, and 3.69 percent at June 30, 2022.

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 1,166,603	\$ 912,631	\$ 712,363

  

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 670,478	\$ 912,631	\$ 1,233,515

***Actuarial Assumptions – STRS***

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Projected Salary Increases	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 percent	Varies by service from 2.5 percent to 8.5 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.



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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 is 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	1.00	1.00
Total	100.00 %	

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

\*\*10-Year annualized geometric nominal returns, which include the real rate of return and inflation of 2.25 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 OPEB liability was 7.00 percent as of June 30, 2023. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on 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 District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate 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.

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	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	\$ (1,203,277)	\$ (1,421,693)	\$ (1,611,910)
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	\$ (1,620,736)	\$ (1,421,693)	\$ (1,181,947)

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

**NOTE 12: INTERFUND TRANSFERS**

***Interfund Transfers***

Transfers made during fiscal year 2024 were as follows:

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Transfer In</u>	<u>Transfer Out</u>
General Fund	\$ -	\$ 539,040
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	821,219	282,179
	<u>\$ 821,219</u>	<u>\$ 821,219</u>

The general fund transferred to nonmajor governmental permanent improvement and adult education funds to provide for various capital improvements and normal operating expenses. The District performed the final close-out process of a Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) construction project. As required by the OFCC agreement, the District transferred its interest earnings in the nonmajor classroom facilities fund to the nonmajor governmental permanent improvement fund to provide for capital improvements in accordance with ORC 3318.12.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated in the statement of activities.

***Interfund Balances***

Interfund receivable/payable at June 30, 2024 consisted of the following:

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Interfund Receivable</u>	<u>Interfund Payable</u>
General Fund	\$ 46,465	\$ -
Nonmajor Governmental Funds	-	46,465
	<u>\$ 46,465</u>	<u>\$ 46,465</u>

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
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All balances resulted from the time lag between the dates that (1) interfund goods and services are provided or reimbursable expenditures occur, (2) transactions are recorded in the accounting system, or (3) payments between funds are made. As of June 30, 2024, all interfund loans outstanding are anticipated to be repaid in fiscal year 2025.

**NOTE 13: LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

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

	Balance 7/1/2023	Additions	Deductions	Balance 6/30/2024	Due Within One Year
<b><i>Governmental Activities:</i></b>					
Certificates of Participation 2015	7,970,000	-	(455,000)	7,515,000	470,000
 <i>Post Employment Liability</i>					
Net Pension Liability	21,259,851	-	(2,533,357)	18,726,494	-
Net OPEB Liability	1,128,280	-	(215,649)	912,631	-
<i>Total Post Employment Liability</i>	<u>22,388,131</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,749,006)</u>	<u>19,639,125</u>	<u>-</u>
 <i>Other Long-Term Obligations:</i>					
Leases Payable	167,802	-	(65,355)	102,447	29,245
Compensated Absences	1,210,147	747,166	(605,205)	1,352,108	439,802
<i>Total Other Long-Term Obligations</i>	<u>1,377,949</u>	<u>747,166</u>	<u>(670,560)</u>	<u>1,454,555</u>	<u>469,047</u>
 <i>Total Long-Term Obligations</i>	<u>\$ 31,736,080</u>	<u>\$ 747,166</u>	<u>\$ (3,874,566)</u>	<u>\$ 28,608,680</u>	<u>\$ 939,047</u>

On March 18, 2015, the District issued \$9,515,000 in certificates of participation ("COPs") to partially refund the District's 2008 COPs. The COPs bear interest rates ranging from 4.50 percent to 5.125 percent. Principal and interest payments on the COPs are due on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The final maturity stated in the issue is December 1, 2036. Principal and interest payments are made from the general fund.

In the event of default of the remaining COPs, the amounts payable by the District may become due. If payments are not made, the lessor may retake possession of the project (secured asset), including but not limited to equipment and furniture. Additionally, the lessor has the option to sublease the project facilities, holding the District liable for all lease payments and other payments due prior to the effective date of the sublease and for the difference between the rental and other amounts paid by the subleases pursuant to such sublease and the amounts payable by the District pursuant to the lease during the then current lease term.

The District is reporting the following leases:

Item Leased	Lease Entered	Lease Term (months)	Interest Rate	Lease End
Postage Machine	December 2020	60	9.638%	December 2025
Copiers	December 2022	60	5.130%	November 2027

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
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The District has implemented GASB Statement 87 for leases, however, except for the lease entered into in December 2022, it has not re-evaluated the leases above under the GASB Statement 87 model. The leases were previously reported under the GASB Statement 62 model, and any amounts resulting from re-evaluation are anticipated to be immaterial, if not below "trivial" amounts. As a result, the District has decided to continue with the values under GASB 62 amounts. Any new leases entered as of fiscal year 2022 are being reported and calculated under the GASB 87 model.

Compensated absences will be paid from the general fund and the food service fund.

Principal and interest requirements to retire long-term obligations outstanding at June 30, 2024 are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	Certificates of Participation		Leases	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2025	\$ 470,000	\$ 251,014	29,245	4,682
2026	490,000	234,264	29,807	3,069
2027	505,000	219,339	30,304	1,520
2028	520,000	203,639	13,091	170
2029	540,000	186,739		
2030-2034	2,950,000	643,466		
2035-2037	2,040,000	115,704		
	<u>\$ 7,515,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,854,165</u>	<u>\$ 102,447</u>	<u>\$ 9,441</u>

**NOTE 14: SET-ASIDES**

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

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

	Capital Improvement Reserve
Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$ -
Current Year Set Aside Requirement	290,017
Current Year Offsets	(400,000)
Total	<u>\$ (109,983)</u>
Balance Carried Forward to Fiscal Year 2025	<u>\$ -</u>
Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2024	<u>\$ -</u>

Although the District had current year offsets during the fiscal year that reduced the set-aside amount to below zero, this amount may not be used to reduce the set aside requirement for future years. The negative balance is, therefore, not presented as being carried forward to future years.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County, Ohio**

*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

**NOTE 15: FUND BALANCE**

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

	General	OFCC Career Technical Construction	Other Governmental Funds	Total
Nonspendable for:				
Unclaimed Monies	\$ 24,194	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,194
Total Nonspendable	24,194	-	-	24,194
Restricted for:				
Capital Projects	-	6,330,998	1,446,213	7,777,211
Classroom Facilities Maintenance	-	-	2,877,987	2,877,987
Adult Education	-	-	141,038	141,038
Students	-	-	347,066	347,066
Other Purposes	-	-	357,557	357,557
Total Restricted	-	6,330,998	5,169,861	11,500,859
Committed for:				
Capital Projects	-	-	188,421	188,421
Total Committed	-	-	188,421	188,421
Assigned for:				
Instruction	115,121	-	-	115,121
Support Services	71,279	-	-	71,279
Extracurricular	6,686	-	-	6,686
Other Purposes	586,278	-	-	586,278
Capital Projects	-	-	733,076	733,076
Total Assigned	779,364	-	733,076	1,512,440
Unassigned	24,580,441	-	(1,090)	24,579,351
Total Fund Balance	\$ 25,383,999	\$ 6,330,998	\$ 6,090,268	\$ 37,805,265

The nonmajor governmental vocational education: Carl D. Perkins fund had deficit fund balance of \$1,090. Deficits in the nonmajor governmental funds resulted from adjustments for accrued liabilities. The general fund is liable for any deficit in these funds and will provide transfers when cash is required, not when accruals occur.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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**NOTE 16: CONTINGENCIES**

***Grants***

The District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditures of funds received under these programs generally require 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, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the District at June 30, 2024.

***Litigation***

The District is not party to any claims or lawsuits that would have a material effect on the basic financial statements.

**NOTE 17: COMMITMENTS**

***Contractual Commitments***

After incurring \$282,376 of expenditures during the fiscal year, the District has \$202,872 remaining on a contract in the amount of \$485,248 for an electrical and welding trades facility.

***Encumbrance Commitments***

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

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General	\$ 200,767
OFCC Career Technical Construction	187,871
Nonmajor Governmental	196,321
	<u>\$ 584,959</u>

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**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Required Supplementary Information*  
*Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability*  
*Last Ten Fiscal Years*

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b><i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i></b>					
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.0540126%	0.0814044%	0.0883336%	0.0854389%	0.0872145%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 2,984,472	\$ 4,402,983	\$ 3,259,254	\$ 5,651,109	\$ 5,218,196
District's Covered Payroll	\$ 2,116,850	\$ 3,040,907	\$ 3,067,264	\$ 3,001,279	\$ 2,992,007
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	140.99%	144.79%	106.26%	188.29%	174.40%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	76.06%	75.82%	82.86%	68.55%	70.85%
<b><i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i></b>					
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.07309992%	0.07582894%	0.07819195%	0.07559287%	0.07752947%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 15,742,022	\$ 16,856,868	\$ 9,997,543	\$ 18,290,785	\$ 17,145,176
District's Covered Payroll	\$ 9,818,829	\$ 9,834,350	\$ 9,663,914	\$ 9,225,200	\$ 9,179,543
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	160.32%	171.41%	103.45%	198.27%	186.78%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	80.02%	78.90%	87.80%	75.50%	77.40%

The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which is the prior fiscal year.



2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
0.0894114%	0.0880513%	0.0981278%	0.0970477%	0.1010960%
\$ 5,120,756	\$ 5,260,871	\$ 7,182,050	\$ 5,537,636	\$ 5,116,411
\$ 2,932,452	\$ 3,131,200	\$ 3,051,471	\$ 2,923,050	\$ 2,988,312
174.62%	168.01%	235.36%	189.45%	171.21%
71.36%	69.50%	62.98%	69.16%	71.70%
0.07664719%	0.07508419%	0.07405316%	0.07447653%	0.07443163%
\$ 16,852,996	\$ 17,836,410	\$ 24,787,825	\$ 20,583,134	\$ 18,104,348
\$ 8,755,436	\$ 8,221,464	\$ 7,964,650	\$ 7,878,943	\$ 7,703,738
192.49%	216.95%	311.22%	261.24%	235.01%
77.31%	75.30%	66.80%	72.10%	74.70%

See notes to the required supplementary information

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Required Supplementary Information*  
*Schedule of District Contributions - Pension*  
*Last Ten Fiscal Years*

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b><i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i></b>					
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 316,616	\$ 296,359	\$ 425,727	\$ 429,417	\$ 420,179
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(316,616)</u>	<u>(296,359)</u>	<u>(425,727)</u>	<u>(429,417)</u>	<u>(420,179)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's Covered Payroll	\$ 2,261,543	\$ 2,116,850	\$ 3,040,907	\$ 3,067,264	\$ 3,001,279
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%
<b><i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i></b>					
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 1,385,630	\$ 1,374,636	\$ 1,376,809	\$ 1,352,948	\$ 1,291,528
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(1,385,630)</u>	<u>(1,374,636)</u>	<u>(1,376,809)</u>	<u>(1,352,948)</u>	<u>(1,291,528)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
District's Covered Payroll	\$ 9,897,357	\$ 9,818,829	\$ 9,834,350	\$ 9,663,914	\$ 9,225,200
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%

See notes to the required supplementary information

<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
\$ 403,921	\$ 395,881	\$ 438,368	\$ 427,206	\$ 385,258
<u>(403,921)</u>	<u>(395,881)</u>	<u>(438,368)</u>	<u>(427,206)</u>	<u>(385,258)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 2,992,007	\$ 2,932,452	\$ 3,131,200	\$ 3,051,471	\$ 2,923,050
13.50%	13.50%	14.00%	14.00%	13.18%
\$ 1,285,136	\$ 1,225,761	\$ 1,151,005	\$ 1,115,051	\$ 1,103,052
<u>(1,285,136)</u>	<u>(1,225,761)</u>	<u>(1,151,005)</u>	<u>(1,115,051)</u>	<u>(1,103,052)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 9,179,543	\$ 8,755,436	\$ 8,221,464	\$ 7,964,650	\$ 7,878,943
14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%

See notes to the required supplementary information

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Required Supplementary Information*  
*Schedule of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)*  
*Last Eight Fiscal Years (1)*

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b><i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i></b>					
District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.0553967%	0.0803612%	0.0868490%	0.0835690%	0.0848100%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 912,631	\$ 1,128,280	\$ 1,643,685	\$ 1,816,230	\$ 2,132,786
District's Covered Payroll	\$ 2,116,850	\$ 3,040,907	\$ 3,067,264	\$ 3,001,279	\$ 2,992,007
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	43.11%	37.10%	53.59%	60.52%	71.28%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	30.02%	30.34%	24.08%	18.17%	15.57%
<b><i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i></b>					
District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	0.07309992%	0.07582894%	0.07819200%	0.07559300%	0.07752900%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	\$ (1,421,693)	\$ (1,963,464)	\$ (1,648,614)	\$ (1,328,545)	\$ (1,284,066)
District's Covered Payroll	\$ 9,818,829	\$ 9,834,350	\$ 9,663,914	\$ 9,225,200	\$ 9,179,543
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	-14.48%	-19.97%	-17.06%	-14.40%	-13.99%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	168.52%	230.73%	174.73%	182.10%	174.70%

(1) Information prior to 2017 is not available.

The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the measurement date, which is the prior fiscal year.

2019	2018	2017
0.0887818%	0.0866118%	0.0963362%
\$ 2,463,047	\$ 2,324,433	\$ 2,745,937
\$ 2,932,452	\$ 3,131,200	\$ 3,051,471
83.99%	74.23%	89.99%
13.57%	12.46%	11.49%
0.07664719%	0.07508419%	0.07405316%
\$ (1,231,642)	\$ 2,929,508	\$ 3,960,382
\$ 8,755,436	\$ 8,221,464	\$ 7,964,650
-14.07%	35.63%	49.72%
176.00%	47.10%	37.30%

See notes to the required supplementary information

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Required Supplementary Information*  
*Schedule of District Contributions - OPEB*  
*Last Ten Fiscal Years*

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b><i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i></b>					
Contractually Required Contribution (1)	\$ 37,682	\$ 39,512	\$ 37,773	\$ 36,240	\$ 29,609
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(37,682)	(39,512)	(37,773)	(36,240)	(29,609)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District's Covered Payroll	\$ 2,261,543	\$ 2,116,850	\$ 3,040,907	\$ 3,585,014	\$ 3,001,279
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (1)	1.67%	1.87%	1.24%	1.01%	0.95%
<b><i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i></b>					
Contractually Required Contribution (1)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	-	-	-	-	-
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District's Covered Payroll	\$9,897,357	\$9,818,829	\$9,834,350	\$9,138,157	\$ 9,225,200
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll (1)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

(1) Includes surcharge

<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
\$ 54,370	\$ 61,052	\$ 35,422	\$ 35,422	\$ 56,350
<u>(54,370)</u>	<u>(61,052)</u>	<u>(35,422)</u>	<u>(35,422)</u>	<u>(56,350)</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 2,992,007	\$ 2,932,452	\$ 3,131,200	\$ 3,051,471	\$ 2,923,050
1.82%	2.08%	1.13%	1.16%	1.93%
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
\$ 9,179,543	\$ 8,755,436	\$ 8,221,464	\$ 7,964,650	\$ 7,878,943
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

See notes to the required supplementary information

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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**NOTE 1 - NET PENSION LIABILITY**

There were no changes in assumptions or benefit terms for the fiscal years reported unless otherwise stated below:

***Changes in Assumptions - SERS***

Amounts reported in 2022 incorporate changes in assumptions used by SERS in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These assumptions compared with those used in prior years are presented as follows:

	<u>Fiscal Year 2022</u>	<u>Fiscal Years 2021-2017</u>	<u>Fiscal Years 2016 and Prior</u>
Wage Inflation	2.40%	3.00%	3.25%
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%	3.50% to 18.20%	4.00% to 22.00%
Investment Rate of Return	7.00% net of system expenses	7.50% net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.75% net of investment expenses, including inflation

Beginning in 2022, amounts reported use mortality rates 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. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP2020 projection scale generationally.

Beginning in fiscal year 2018, on each anniversary of the initial retirement, the allowance of all retirees and survivors may be increased by the annual rate of increase in the CPI-W measured as of the June preceding the beginning of the applicable calendar year. The annual rate of increase shall not be less than 0 percent nor greater than 2.5 percent.

Amounts report for 2017 through 2021 use mortality rates that are based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females. Amounts reported for fiscal year 2016 and prior, use mortality assumptions that are based on the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Table set back one year for both men and women. Special mortality tables were used for the period after disability retirement.

***Changes in Benefit Terms - SERS***

For fiscal year 2022, COLA were increased from 2.00 percent to 2.50 percent.

For fiscal year 2021, COLA were reduced from 2.50 percent to 2.00 percent.

For fiscal year 2018, 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 2.50 percent with a floor of zero 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 calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020.



**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

***Changes in Assumptions – STRS***

Beginning with fiscal year 2022, amounts reported incorporate changes in assumptions and changes in benefit terms used by STRS in calculating the total pension liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These new assumptions compared with those used in fiscal years 2018-2021 and fiscal year 2017 and prior are presented as follows:

	<u>Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023</u>	<u>Fiscal Years 2021-2018</u>	<u>Fiscal Years 2017 and Prior</u>
Inflation	2.50%	2.50%	2.75%
Projected Salary Increases	From 2.50% to 12.50% based on age	From 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65	From 12.25% at age 20 to 2.75% at age 70
Investment Rate of Return, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%	7.45%	7.75%
Payroll Increases	3.00%	3.00%	3.50%

Beginning with fiscal year 2022, 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 Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

Beginning with fiscal year 2018, post-retirement mortality rates for healthy retirees were based on the RP2014 Annuitant Mortality Table with 50 percent of rates through age 69, 70 percent of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90 percent of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100 percent of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Table with 90 percent of rates for males and 100 percent of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Table, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

For fiscal year 2017 and prior actuarial valuation, mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table (Projection 2022—Scale AA) for Males and Females. Males' ages are set-back two years through age 89 and no set back for age 90 and above. Females younger than age 80 are set back four years, one year set back from age 80 through 89, and no set back from age 90 and above.

***Changes in Benefit Terms - STRS***

For fiscal year 2023, the Board approved a one-time 3 percent COLA effective on the anniversary of a benefit recipient's retirement date for those eligible during fiscal year 2023 and eliminated the age 60 requirement to receive unreduced retirement that was scheduled to go into effect August 1, 2026.

For fiscal year 2018, the COLA was reduced to zero.

Fiscal year 2017 and prior, COLA was 2 percent simple applied as follows: for members retiring before August 1, 2013, 2 percent per year; for members retiring August 1, 2013 or later, 2 percent COLA commences on fifth anniversary of retirement date

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

**NOTE 2 - NET OPEB LIABILITY (ASSET)**

***Changes in Assumptions – SERS***

Amounts reported incorporate changes in assumptions and changes in benefit terms used by SERS in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation. These new assumptions compared with those used in fiscal year 2021 and prior are presented below:

	<u>Fiscal Years 2023 and 2022</u>	<u>Fiscal Years 2021-2017</u>
Inflation	2.40%	3.00%
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25% to 13.58%	3.50% to 18.20%
Investment Rate of Return, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%	7.50%

Amounts reported incorporate changes in key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability as presented as follows:

	<u>Fiscal Year</u>							
<u>Assumption</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Municipal Bond Index Rate	3.86%	3.69%	1.92%	2.45%	3.13%	3.62%	3.56%	2.92%
Single Equivalent Interest Rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation	4.27%	4.08%	2.27%	2.63%	3.22%	3.70%	3.63%	2.98%

***Changes in Assumptions – STRS***

For fiscal year 2023, the projected salary increases were changed from age based (2.5 percent to 12.50 percent) to service based (2.5 percent to 8.5 percent).

For fiscal year 2022, the discount rate was decreased from 7.45 percent to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.00.

For fiscal year 2019, the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13 percent to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45.

For fiscal year 2018, the blended discount rate was increased from 3.26 percent to 4.13 percent. Valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified. The percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased. The assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.

**Pioneer Career and Technology Center**  
**Richland County, Ohio**  
*Notes to the Required Supplementary Information*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

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***Changes in Benefit Terms – STRS***

Effective January 1, 2024, Healthcare trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience as well as benefit changes.

For fiscal year 2023, health care trends were updated to reflect emerging claims and recoveries experience

For fiscal year 2022, there was no change to the claims costs process. Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, premium based on June 30, 2021, enrollment distribution. 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

For fiscal year 2021, there were no changes to the claims costs process. Claim curves were updated to reflect the projected fiscal year 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 .1 percent for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.

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 percent to 1.984 percent 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 percent for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021

For fiscal year 2019, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was increased from 1.9 percent to 1.944 percent per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.

For fiscal year 2018, the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients was reduced from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019. This was subsequently extended, see above paragraph.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**PIONEER CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER  
RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

<b>FEDERAL GRANTOR/ PASS THROUGH GRANTOR/ PROGRAM/CLUSTER TITLE</b>	<b>ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER</b>	<b>PASS-THROUGH ENTITY IDENTIFYING NUMBER / ADDITIONAL AWARD IDENTIFICATION</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>			
<i>Passed Through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>			
<b>Child Nutrition Cluster</b>			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	2024	\$ 63,729
COVID-19 - National School Lunch Program - CN FOOD PRO SUPPLY	10.555	COVID-19, 2024	35,734
National School Lunch Program	10.555	2024	254,428
National School Lunch Program - Food Donation	10.555	2024	22,481
<b>Total National School Lunch Program</b>			<b>312,643</b>
<b>Total Child Nutrition Cluster</b>			<b>376,372</b>
<b>Total U.S. Department of Agriculture</b>			<b>376,372</b>
<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>			
<i>Passed Through the Ohio Department of Higher Education</i>			
Career and Technical Education Basic Grants to States - Carl D. Perkins Secondary	84.048A	84.048A, 2023	105,544
Career and Technical Education Basic Grants to States - Carl D. Perkins Secondary	84.048A	84.048A, 2024	293,670
<i>Consortium/Partnership Member On-Behalf Grants (Proportionate Member Share)</i>			
<i>Partnership Lead - Ashland County West-Holmes Career Center</i>			
Career and Technical Education Basic Grants to States	84.048A	84.048A, 2023	962
Career and Technical Education Basic Grants to States	84.048A	84.048A, 2024	14,225
<b>Total Career and Technical Education Basic Grants to States</b>			<b>414,401</b>
<i>Direct</i>			
<b>Student Financial Assistance Cluster</b>			
Federal Pell Grant Program	84.063	N/A	17,999
<b>Total Student Financial Assistance Cluster</b>			<b>17,999</b>
<i>Passed Through the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>			
COVID-19 - Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER II) Fund II	84.425C	COVID-19, 84.425C, 2023	17,732
COVID-19 - American Rescue Plan - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) Fund - Homeless Targeted Support Grant	84.425W	COVID-19, 84.425W, 2024	14,244
<b>Total Education Stabilization Fund (ESF)</b>			<b>31,976</b>
<b>Total U.S. Department of Education</b>			<b>464,376</b>
<b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>			<b>\$ 840,748</b>

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

**PIONEER CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER  
RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

**NOTE 1 – BASIS OF PRESENTATION & SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center under programs of the federal government for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 and is prepared in accordance with the cash basis of accounting. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, or changes in net position, or cash flows of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center. Such expenditures are recognized following cost principles contained in Uniform Guidance wherein certain types of expenditures may or may not be limited to reimbursement.

**NOTE 2 – DE MINIMIS COST RATE**

CFR Section 200.414 of the Uniform Guidance allows a non-federal entity that has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs to indirect costs. Pioneer Career and Technology Center has not elected to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

**NOTE 3 – CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER**

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

**NOTE 4 – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM**

The Pioneer Career and Technology Center reports commodities consumed on the Schedule at the entitlement value. The Pioneer Career and Technology Center allocated donated food commodities to the respective program that benefitted from the use of those donated food commodities.

**NOTE 5 – PASS-THROUGH FUNDS**

The Pioneer Career and Technology Center was awarded federal program allocations to be administered on their behalf by the Ashland County West-Holmes Career Center. For fiscal year 2024, the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's allocations were as follows:

<b>Grant/Program Name</b>	<b>ALN</b>	<b>Passed/Transferred to</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Career and Technical Education Basic Grants to States	84.048A	Ashland County West-Holmes Career Center	\$ 15,187

**Independent Auditor's 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***

Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County  
27 Ryan Road  
Shelby, Ohio 44875

To the Members of the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center, Richland County, Ohio, as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 26, 2025.

**Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

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

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

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

Pioneer Career and Technology Center

Richland County

Independent Auditor's 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*

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

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

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



Julian & Grube, Inc.

February 26, 2025



**Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program  
and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance**

Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County  
27 Ryan Road  
Shelby, Ohio 44875

To the Members of the Board of Education:

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

***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We have audited the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's major federal programs for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. The Pioneer Career and Technology Center's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings.

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

***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; 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 Pioneer Career and Technology Center and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center'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 Pioneer Career and Technology Center's federal programs.

Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County  
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program  
and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

***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 Pioneer Career and Technology Center's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *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 Pioneer Career and Technology Center's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *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 Pioneer Career and Technology Center's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Pioneer Career and Technology Center's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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

**Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

*A deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or 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.

Pioneer Career and Technology Center  
Richland County  
Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program  
and on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julian & Grube, Inc.".

Julian & Grube, Inc.  
February 26, 2025

**PIONEER CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER  
RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**

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

<b>1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS</b>		
<i>(d)(1)(i)</i>	<i>Type of Financial Statement Opinion</i>	Unmodified
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	<i>Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</i>	No
<i>(d)(1)(ii)</i>	<i>Were there any other significant deficiencies in internal control reported at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</i>	None reported
<i>(d)(1)(iii)</i>	<i>Was there any reported material noncompliance at the financial statement level (GAGAS)?</i>	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	<i>Were there any material weaknesses in internal control reported for major federal programs?</i>	No
<i>(d)(1)(iv)</i>	<i>Were there any significant deficiencies in internal control reported for major federal programs?</i>	None reported
<i>(d)(1)(v)</i>	<i>Type of Major Program's Compliance Opinion</i>	Unmodified
<i>(d)(1)(vi)</i>	<i>Are there any reportable findings under 2 CFR §200.516(a)?</i>	No
<i>(d)(1)(vii)</i>	<i>Major Program (listed):</i>	Career and Technical Education Basic Grants to States (ALN - 84.048)
<i>(d)(1)(viii)</i>	<i>Dollar Threshold: Type A/B Programs</i>	Type A: > \$750,000 Type B: all others
<i>(d)(1)(ix)</i>	<i>Low Risk Auditee under 2 CFR § 200.520?</i>	Yes

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

None

**3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS**

None

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**PIONEER CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

**RICHLAND COUNTY**

**AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

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



**Certified for Release 6/3/2025**

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

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