

**PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024





65 East State Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ContactUs@ohioauditor.gov
800-282-0370

Board of Directors
Promise Academy
1701 East 13th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

We have reviewed the *Independent Auditor's Report* of Promise Academy, Cuyahoga County, prepared by Rea & Associates, 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. Promise Academy is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

April 15, 2025

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**PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County
1701 East 13th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Promise Academy (the "Academy"), Cuyahoga County, Ohio, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Promise Academy, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, as of June 30, 2024, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Academy 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 opinion.

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

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

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy'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 Academy'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, and pension and other post-employment benefit schedules, as 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 GAAS, 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.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 5, 2025 on our consideration of the Academy'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 Academy'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 Academy's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Rea & Associates, Inc.

Rea & Associates, Inc.
Cleveland, Ohio
February 5, 2025

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**PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of Promise Academy's (the Academy) financial performance provides an overall review of the Academy's financial activities for the period ending June 30, 2024. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the Academy's' financial performance as a whole; readers should also review the basic financial statements and notes to the basic financial statements to enhance their understanding of the Academy's financial performance.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (the MD&A) is an element of the reporting model adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) in their Statement No. 34 Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments. Certain comparative information between the current fiscal year and the prior fiscal year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

Financial Highlights

Key Financial Highlights for the Academy for the fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- Total Net Position decreased \$10,419.
- Total assets increased \$922,586 and total liabilities increased \$788,378.
- Total Operating Revenues were \$996,404 and Non-Operating revenues were \$709,599 for a combined total of \$1,706,003. Total Operating expenses were \$1,652,238.

Using this Financial Report

This report consists of the basic financial statements, notes to the basic financial statements, required supplementary information and notes to the required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include a Statement of Net Position, a Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, and a Statement of Cash Flows.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position reflect how the Academy did financially during fiscal year 2024. These statements include all assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting includes all of the current year's revenues and expenses regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These statements report on the Academy's Net Position and changes in net position. This change in Net Position is important because it tells the reader whether the financial position of the Academy 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 Academy's' student enrollment, per-pupil funding as determined by the State of Ohio, change in technology, required educational programs and other factors.

The Academy uses enterprise presentation for all of its activities.

PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position includes all assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term using the accrual basis of accounting and economic resource focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into account all revenues and expenses during the year, regardless of when the cash is received or paid. Table 1 provides a summary of the Academy's Net Position for fiscal year 2024 compared to fiscal year 2023.

Table 1
Net Position

	2024	2023	Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets	\$ 543,436	\$ 406,509	\$ 136,927
Capital Assets, Net	963,288	146,993	816,295
Non-Current Assets	58,942	89,578	(30,636)
Total Assets	1,565,666	643,080	922,586
DEFERRED OUTFLOW OF RESOURCES			
Pension/OPEB	329,278	492,844	(163,566)
Total Deferred Outflow of Resources	329,278	492,844	(163,566)
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities	727,319	620,872	106,447
Long-Term Liabilities	1,729,334	1,047,403	681,931
Total Liabilities	2,456,653	1,668,275	788,378
DEFERRED INFLOW OF RESOURCES			
Pension/OPEB	358,566	377,505	(18,939)
Total Deferred Inflow of Resources	358,566	377,505	(18,939)
NET POSITION			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	20,154	146,993	(126,839)
Unrestricted	(940,429)	(1,056,849)	116,420
Total Net Position	\$ (920,275)	\$ (909,856)	\$ (10,419)

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

**PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

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

GASB 68 and GASB 75 require the net pension liability and the net OPEB asset/liability to equal the Academy'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 Academy is not responsible for certain key factors affecting the balance of these liabilities. In Ohio, the employee shares the obligation of funding pension benefits with the employer. Both employer and employee contribution rates are capped by State statute. A change in these caps requires action of both Houses of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor. Benefit provisions are also determined by State statute. The Ohio revised Code permits but does not require the retirement systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients. The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide for these OPEB benefits.

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

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 asset/liability. As explained above, changes in benefits, contribution rates, and return on investments affect the balance of these liabilities but are outside the control of the local government. In the event that contributions, investment returns, and other changes are insufficient to keep up with required payments, State statute does not

PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

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 Academy'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.

There was a change in net pension/OPEB liability/asset for the Academy. These fluctuations are due to changes in the retirement systems unfunded liabilities that are passed through to the Academy'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.

Table 2 shows the changes in net position for fiscal years 2024 and 2023. This change in net position is important because it tells the reader that, for the Academy as a whole, the financial position of the Academy has improved or diminished. The cause of this may be the result of many factors, some financial, some not. Non-financial factors include the current laws in Ohio restricting revenue growth, facility conditions, required educational programs and other factors.

Table 2
Change in Net Position

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Change</u>
OPERATING REVENUES			
State Aid	\$ 995,656	\$ 955,230	\$ 40,426
Miscellaneous	748	5,676	\$ (4,928)
NON-OPERATING REVENUES			
Federal and State Grants	<u>709,599</u>	<u>330,285</u>	<u>379,314</u>
Total Revenues	1,706,003	1,291,191	414,812
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Salaries	596,905	551,373	(45,532)
Benefits	225,131	244,355	19,224
Purchased Services	599,218	418,382	(180,836)
Supplies	18,029	39,406	21,377
Depreciation and Amortization	170,438	236,330	65,892
Other Operating Expenses	42,517	47,931	5,414
NON-OPERATING EXPENSES			
Interest Expense	<u>64,184</u>	<u>6,847</u>	<u>(57,337)</u>
Total Expenses	<u>1,716,422</u>	<u>1,544,624</u>	<u>(171,798)</u>
Changes in Net Position	(10,419)	(253,433)	243,014
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>(909,856)</u>	<u>(656,423)</u>	<u>(253,433)</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u><u>\$ (920,275)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (909,856)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (10,419)</u></u>

**PROMISE ACADEMY
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

The Academy's operating and non-operating revenues in 2024 and 2023 were based on the Academy's full-time equivalent (FTE) and the Academy's federal grant funding received throughout the year. While the Academy's enrollment decreased from 98 students in fiscal year 2023 to 83 students in fiscal year 2024, state aid increased due to an increase in per-pupil funding under Ohio House Bill 33. The Academy's most significant expense was "Purchased services" which is disaggregated in Note 8.

Fluctuations in operating expenses are also caused by changes in the Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability, net OPEB liability and related accruals. As previously indicated, these items are explained in detail within their respective notes.

Budgeting

Unlike other public Schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow budgetary provisions set forth in Ohio Rev. Code Chapter 5705 (with the exception section 5705.391 – Five Year Forecasts), unless specifically provided in the community Academy's contract with its Sponsor.

The contract between the Academy and its Sponsor does prescribe a budgetary process. The Academy must prepare and submit a detailed budget for every fiscal year to the Board of Directors and its Sponsor. The five-year forecast is also submitted to the Ohio Department of Education & Workforce, annually.

Capital Assets

The Academy's capital assets increased \$816,295 during fiscal year 2024 due to the accounting for its building lease amendment under GASB statement no. 87, offset by depreciation and amortization. Detailed information regarding capital asset activity is included in Note 4 in the notes to the basic financial statements.

Debt

The Academy's leases payable increased \$942,541 during fiscal year 2024, also due to the accounting for its building lease amendment under GASB statement no. 87. The Academy also has an outstanding long-term obligation related to a purchased services agreement. For more information on debt, see Note 10 to the basic financial statements.

CONTACTING THE ACADEMY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens with a general overview of the Academy's finances and to demonstrate the Academy's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact the Fiscal Officer at 1701 E. 13th St, Cleveland OH 44114.

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Statement of Net Position
As of June 30, 2024

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 429,113
Grant Funding Receivable	110,454
Prepaid Expenses	<u>3,869</u>
Total Current Assets	543,436

Noncurrent Assets

Security Deposit	3,965
Capital Assets, Net	963,288
Net OPEB Asset	<u>54,977</u>
Total Noncurrent Assets	1,022,230

TOTAL ASSETS

1,565,666

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Related to Pensions	264,502
Related to OPEB	<u>64,776</u>
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	329,278

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	40,076
Accrued Wages and Benefits	32,370
Current Portion of Leases Payable	154,873
Current Portion of Notes Payable	<u>500,000</u>
Total Current Liabilities	727,319

Noncurrent Liabilities

Leases Payable, Less Current Portion	788,261
Net Pension Liability	870,307
Net OPEB Liability	<u>70,766</u>
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	1,729,334

TOTAL LIABILITIES

2,456,653

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Related to Pensions	233,255
Related to OPEB	<u>125,311</u>
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	358,566

NET POSITION

Net Investment in Capital Assets	20,154
Unrestricted	<u>(940,429)</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ (920,275)

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

**Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

OPERATING REVENUES

State Aid	\$ 995,656
Miscellaneous	748
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	996,404

OPERATING EXPENSES

Salaries	596,905
Fringe Benefits	156,198
Fringe Benefits - GASB 68/75	68,933
Purchased Services	599,218
Supplies	18,029
Depreciation and Amortization	170,438
Other Operating Expenses	42,517
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,652,238

OPERATING LOSS

(655,834)

NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)

Federal and State Restricted Grants	709,599
Interest Expense	(64,184)
TOTAL NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	645,415

CHANGE IN NET POSITION

(10,419)

Net Position - Beginning of Year

(909,856)

Net Position - End of Year

\$ (920,275)

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

**Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Cash Flows Used for Operating Activities:

State Aid Receipts	\$ 995,656
Other Operating Receipts	748
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(696,382)
Cash Payments to Employees for Services	(596,905)
Cash Payments for Employee Benefits	<u>(163,080)</u>
Total Cash Used for Operating Activities	(459,963)

Cash Flows Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities

Federal and State Grant Receipts	661,631
Total Cash Provided by Noncapital Financing Activities	661,631

Cash Flows Used for Capital and Related Financing Activities

Lease Principal Payments	(44,192)
Lease Interest Payments	<u>(64,184)</u>
Net Cash Used for Capital and Related Financing Activities	(108,376)

Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	93,292
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of Year	335,821
Cash and Cash Equivalents - End of Year	<u>\$ 429,113</u>

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

**Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Used for Operating Activities:

Operating Loss	\$ (655,834)
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Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Cash Flows Used for
Operating Activities:

Depreciation and Amortization	170,438
Changes in Assets, Liabilities, & Deferred Inflows/Outflows of Resources:	
(Increase) / Decrease in Prepaid Expenses	1,933
(Increase) / Decrease in Intergovernmental Receivable	2,400
(Increase) / Decrease in Net OPEB Asset	30,636
(Increase) / Decrease in Deferred Outflows Pension	153,772
(Increase) / Decrease in Deferred Outflows OPEB	9,794
Increase / (Decrease) in Accounts Payable	(40,951)
Increase / (Decrease) in Accrued Expenses	(6,882)
Increase / (Decrease) in Deferred Inflows Pension	13,892
Increase / (Decrease) in Deferred Inflows OPEB	(32,831)
Increase / (Decrease) in Net Pension Liability	(114,620)
Increase / (Decrease) in Net OPEB Liability	8,290
Total Adjustments	195,871
Net Cash Flows Used for Operating Activities	\$ (459,963)

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

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF ACADEMY AND REPORTING ENTITY

Promise Academy (the Academy) is a nonprofit corporation established pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3314 and 1702 to address the needs of students in grades nine through twelve. The Academy, which is part of the State's education program, is independent of any school district and is non-sectarian in its programs, admissions policies employment practices and all other operations. The Academy may sue and be sued, acquire facilities as needed, and contract for any services necessary for the operation of the Academy. The Academy qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Management is not aware of any course of action or series of events that have occurred that may adversely affect the Academy's tax-exempt status.

The Academy was approved for operation under a contract with Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (BCHF) (the Sponsor). The Sponsor is responsible for evaluating the performance of the Academy and has the authority to deny renewal of the contract at its expiration or terminate the contract prior to its expiration.

The Academy operates under the direction of a five-member Governing Board. The Governing Board is responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract, which include, but are not limited to, state-mandated provisions regarding student population, curriculum, academic goals, performance standards, admission standards, and qualifications of teachers. The Governing Board controls the Academy's one instructional facility which was staffed certified full-time teaching.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Basis of Presentation

The Academy uses enterprise accounting to maintain its financial records during the school year. Enterprise accounting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position, and cash flows. Enterprise accounting may be used to account for any activity for which a fee is charged to external users for goods and services.

Measurement Focus

Enterprise accounting uses a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are included on the Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in total net position. The Statement of Cash Flows provides information about how the Academy finances and meets the cash flow needs of its enterprise activities.

**Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. The Academy's financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, are recorded when the exchange takes place. Revenues resulting from nonexchange transactions, in which the Academy receives value without directly giving equal value in return, such as grants and entitlements, are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used of the fiscal year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the Academy must provide local resources to be used for a specific purpose; and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the Academy on a reimbursement basis. Expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred.

Budgetary Process

Community Schools are statutorily required to adopt a budget by Ohio Revised Code 3314.032(C). However, unlike traditional public Schools located in the State of Ohio, community schools are not required to follow the specific budgetary process and limits set forth in the Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, unless specifically provided in the contract between the Academy and its Sponsor. The contract between the Academy and its Sponsor does not require the Academy to follow the provisions Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705; therefore, no budgetary information is presented in the basic financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

All monies received by the Academy are maintained in a demand deposit account. The Academy considers all short-term, highly liquid investments with an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Operating and Non-Operating Revenues and Expenses

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activities of the Academy. For the Academy, these revenues are primarily foundation payments from the state. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the good or service that is the primary activity of the Academy.

Non-operating revenues are those revenues that are not generated directly from the primary activities of the Academy. Various federal and state grants, interest earnings, if any, and other miscellaneous revenues comprise the non-operating revenues of the Academy. Interest and fiscal charges on outstanding obligations, as well as gain or loss on capital asset disposals, if any comprise the non-operating expenses.

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
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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 these estimates.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources. Net Position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use through external restriction imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws and regulations of other governments. The Academy applies restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted Net Position are available. Net Position invested in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Grants Receivable

All submitted yet unpaid grant reimbursement requests are reported as Grants Receivable at their gross values and, where appropriate, are reduced by the estimated portion that is expected to be uncollectible. As of June 30, 2024, no amount was deemed to be uncollectible.

Capital Assets and Depreciation

Capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The Academy maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The Academy does not possess any infrastructure. Improvements are capitalized, and the cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not capitalized.

Depreciation is calculated utilizing the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the asset which are as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Leasehold Improvements	20 years
Furniture and Fixtures	5 years

The Academy is also reporting intangible right to use assets related to leased buildings 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.

Accrued Liabilities

The Academy has recognized certain liabilities on its Statement of Net Position relating to expenses which are due but unpaid as of June 30, 2024.

**Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
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Intergovernmental Revenues

The Academy currently participates in the State Foundation Program, facilities aid, and casino tax distributions, which are reflected under “operating revenues” on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position. Revenues received from this program are recognized as operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements are met.

The Academy also participates in various federal and state grant programs through the Ohio Department of Education & Workforce. Grants and entitlements received under these programs are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which all eligibility requirements have been met.

Eligibility requirements included timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year use is first permitted, matching requirements in which the Academy must provide local resources to be used for a specific purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which resources are provided to the Academy on a reimbursement basis.

Under the above programs the Academy recorded \$995,656 this fiscal year from the Foundation Program and Casino Tax Revenues and \$709,599 from Federal and State Grants.

Deferred Inflows 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 Academy, deferred outflows of resources are reported on the government-wide statement of net position for pension and OPEB. The deferred outflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are explained in Note numbers 6 and 7.

In addition to liabilities, the statements of financial position report in a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized until that time. For the Academy, deferred inflows of resources include pension and OPEB. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available. Deferred inflows of resources related to pension and OPEB plans are reported on the government-wide statement of net position. (See Notes 6 and 7).

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 pensions/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.

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NOTE 3 – DEPOSITS

Deposits - The Academy maintains two bank accounts at a financial institution and a money market investment account. Accounts at financial institutions are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Company (FDIC), up to \$250,000. At June 30, 2024, the carrying amounts of the Academy's deposits were \$429,113 and the bank balances were \$428,163, respectively. At June 30, 2024, \$178,163 of the Academy's bank balances were uninsured and uncollateralized.

Custodial Credit Risk - Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the Academy will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The securities were held by the pledging institutions' trust department. Institution noncompliance with federal requirements could potentially subject the Academy's deposits.

NOTE 4 - CAPITAL ASSETS

For the period ending June 30, 2024, the Academy's capital assets consisted of the following:

	Balance			Balance
	June 30, 2023	Additions	Deletions	June 30, 2024
<i>Capital Assets Being Depreciated/Amortized:</i>				
Leasehold Improvements	\$ 910,890	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 910,890
Furniture and Fixtures	11,495	-	-	11,495
Leased Asset - Building (intangible)	372,482	979,309	-	1,351,791
Leased Asset - Equipment (intangible)	7,383	7,424	7,383	7,424
<i>Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated</i>	<i>1,302,250</i>	<i>986,733</i>	<i>7,383</i>	<i>2,281,600</i>
<i>Less Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization:</i>				
Leasehold Improvements	(764,465)	(50,089)	-	(814,554)
Furniture and Fixtures	(11,495)	-	-	(11,495)
Leased Asset - Building (intangible)	(372,482)	(115,213)	-	(487,695)
Leased Asset - Equipment (intangible)	(6,815)	(5,136)	(7,383)	(4,568)
<i>Total Accumulated Depreciation/Amortization</i>	<i>(1,155,257)</i>	<i>(170,438)</i>	<i>(7,383)</i>	<i>(1,318,312)</i>
<i>Total Capital Assets, Net</i>	<i>\$ 146,993</i>	<i>\$ 816,295</i>	<i>\$ -</i>	<i>\$ 963,288</i>

NOTE 5 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Academy is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the fiscal year, the Academy contracted with commercial insurance companies for property and liability insurance. Insurance claims have not exceeded coverage in the past three years, nor has there been a significant reduction in coverage from the prior year.

The Academy pays the State Worker's Compensation System a premium for employee injury coverage. The premium is calculated by multiplying the monthly total gross payroll by a factor that is calculated by the State.

The Academy provides medical, vision, and dental insurance benefits to all full-time employees. During the Academy year, the Academy paid 50% of the monthly premiums for all employees.

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NOTE 6 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

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 Academy'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.

Ohio Revised Code limits the Academy's obligation for this liability to annually required payments. The Academy cannot control benefit terms or the manner in which pensions/OPEB are financed; however, the Academy 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)*. Any liability for the contractually required pension contribution outstanding at the end of the year is included in *accrued wages and benefits*.

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

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Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Plan Description – Academy 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 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 each calendar year 2023 and 2024.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10 percent of their annual covered salary and the Academy 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 Academy's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$31,206 for fiscal year 2024.

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Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

Plan Description – Academy 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.

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. Effective August 1, 2017 – July 1, 2019, any member could retire with reduced benefits who had (1) five years of service credit and age 60; (2) 27 years of service credit and age 55; or (3) 30 years of service credit regardless of age. Effective August 1, 2019 – July 1, 2021, any member may retire with reduced benefits who has (1) five years of service credit and age 60; (2) 28 years of service credit and age 55; or (3) 30 years of service credit regardless of age. Eligibility changes will continue to be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retired with actuarially reduced benefits were phased in until August 1, 2023. Retirement eligibility is now 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 9.53 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 4.47 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 Academy's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$56,268 for fiscal year 2024.

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 Academy'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	0.0047350%	0.00282679%	
Prior Measurement Date	<u>0.0046206%</u>	<u>0.00330636%</u>	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>0.0001144%</u>	<u>-0.00047957%</u>	
 Proportionate Share of the Net			
Pension Liability	\$ 261,633	\$ 608,674	\$ 870,307
Pension Expense	\$ (10,603)	\$ 151,121	\$ 140,518

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 Academy reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 11,246	\$ 22,193	\$ 33,439
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	54,949	-	54,949
Changes of Assumptions	1,850	50,133	51,983
Changes in Proportion and Differences between Academy Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	-	36,657	36,657
Academy Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	31,206	56,268	87,474
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 99,251</u>	<u>\$ 165,251</u>	<u>\$ 264,502</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ -	\$ 1,351	\$ 1,351
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	-	1,824	1,824
Changes of Assumptions	-	37,736	37,736
Changes in Proportion and Differences between Academy Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	47,096	145,248	192,344
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 47,096</u>	<u>\$ 186,159</u>	<u>\$ 233,255</u>

\$87,474 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from Academy 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	\$ (9,871)	\$ (51,660)	\$ (61,531)
2026	(13,732)	(42,411)	(56,143)
2027	29,702	24,431	54,133
2028	14,850	(7,536)	7,314
Total	<u>\$ 20,949</u>	<u>\$ (77,176)</u>	<u>\$ (56,227)</u>

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Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
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, including inflation
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.00 percent, on and after April 1, 2018, COLA's 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 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

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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.

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

Asset Class	Target	Long-Term Expected
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	<u>5.00</u>	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 Academy'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 Academy's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00 percent, as well as what the Academy's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent), or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate.

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 386,157	\$ 261,633	\$ 156,745

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Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

Inflation	2.50%
Salary increases	Varies by service from 2.5% to 8.5%
Payroll increases	3.00%
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
Discount rate of return	7.00%
Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)	0%

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:

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	<u><u>100.00 %</u></u>	

*Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2023. 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

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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.

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 936,119	\$ 608,674	\$ 331,881

Changes between the Measurement Date and the Reporting Date The discount rate was adjusted to 7.00 percent for the June 30, 2023 valuation. Demographic assumptions were changed based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021.

NOTE 7 – DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

Health Care Plan Description - The Academy 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 under Employers/Audit Resources.

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

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health plan or program. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. The SERS Retirement Board established the rules for the premiums paid by the retirees for health care coverage for themselves and their dependents or for their surviving beneficiaries. Premiums vary depending on the plan selected, qualified years of service, Medicare eligibility, and retirement status.

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For fiscal year 2024, no allocation was made to health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2 percent of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5 percent of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the Academy's surcharge obligation was \$28, which is reported as a deferred outflow of resources. 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 Academy'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. The Plan is included in the report of STRS which can be obtained by visiting www.strsoh.org or by calling (888) 227-7877.

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

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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 Academy's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the Academy'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	0.0042955%	0.00282679%	
Prior Measurement Date	0.0044498%	0.00330636%	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.0001543%</u>	<u>-0.00047957%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ 70,766	\$ (54,977)	
OPEB Expense	\$ 9,590	\$ 6,327	\$ 15,917

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 Academy reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ -	\$ 86	\$ 86
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	549	100	649
Changes of Assumptions	23,926	2,434	26,360
Changes in Proportion and Differences between Academy Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	28,436	9,217	37,653
Academy Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	28	-	28
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 52,939</u>	<u>\$ 11,837</u>	<u>\$ 64,776</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Differences between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 36,492	\$ 8,387	\$ 44,879
Net Difference between Projected and Actual Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	-	-	-
Changes of Assumptions	19,815	36,270	56,085
Changes in Proportion and Differences between Academy Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	23,934	413	24,347
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 80,241</u>	<u>\$ 45,070</u>	<u>\$ 125,311</u>

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\$28 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from Academy 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	\$ 4,402	\$ (13,409)	\$ (9,007)
2026	(3,690)	(4,707)	(8,397)
2027	(8,977)	(3,358)	(12,335)
2028	(6,969)	(4,224)	(11,193)
2029	(12,052)	(8,229)	(20,281)
Thereafter	<u>(12,080)</u>	<u>(7,882)</u>	<u>(19,962)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (27,330)</u>	<u>\$ (33,233)</u>	<u>\$ (60,563)</u>

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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.

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

Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)
Actuarial Assumptions	
Experience Study Date	5-year period ended June 30, 2020
Investment Rate of Return	7.00% net of investment expenses
Municipal Bond Index Rate	
Prior Measurement Date	3.69%
Measurement Date	3.86%
Year FNP is projected to be depleted	2048
Single Equivalent Interest Rate	
Prior Measurement Date	4.08%
Measurement Date	4.27%
Future Salary Increases, including Inflation	3.25% - 13.58%
Inflation	2.40%
Health Care Cost Trend Rate	6.75% - 4.40%

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.

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 in 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 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.

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The target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class, as used in the June 30, 2020 five-year experience study, are summarized as follows:

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

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 become insufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current System members by SERS actuaries. The Municipal Bond Index Rate is used in the determination of the SEIR for both the June 30, 2023 and the June 30, 2022 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.

Sensitivity of the Academy'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
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 90,459	\$ 70,766	\$ 55,237
	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 51,989	\$ 70,766	\$ 95,648

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Actuarial Assumptions – STRS

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Projected Salary Increases	Varies by age from 2.5 percent to 12.5 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 percent	3 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.

For 2023 and 2022, healthy retirees post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110 percent for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95 percent for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

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

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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	<u>100.00 %</u>	

*Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. 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 Academy'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.

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	\$ (46,531)	\$ (54,977)	\$ (62,333)
Current			
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	\$ (62,674)	\$ (54,977)	\$ (45,706)

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NOTE 8 - PURCHASED SERVICES

For the year ended June 30, 2024, purchased service expenses for services rendered by various vendors were as follows:

Professional and Technical Services	\$ 353,397
Property Services	87,139
Travel/Meeting Expenses	1,466
Communications	42,512
Utilities Services	49,218
Food Service	39,574
Pupil Transportation	25,912
Total Purchased Services	<u><u>\$ 599,218</u></u>

NOTE 9 – SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

The Academy has a sponsorship contract with Buckeye Community Hope Foundation (BCHF), effective July 1, 2019, for educational and management services. In exchange for its time, organization, oversight, monitoring, fees, costs, and other services, BCHF received three percent of the total amount of payments for operating expenses that the Academy received from the State of Ohio. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, the total sponsorship fees paid totaled \$29,692.

NOTE 10 – LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

During the fiscal year, the following activity occurred in long-term liabilities:

	Balance June 30, 2023	Additions	Reductions	Balance June 30, 2024	Due Within the Year
Net Pension/OPEB Liability:					
Pension	\$ 984,927	\$ -	\$ (114,620)	\$ 870,307	\$ -
OPEB	62,476	8,290	-	70,766	-
Total Net Pension/OPEB Liability	<u><u>1,047,403</u></u>	<u><u>8,290</u></u>	<u><u>(114,620)</u></u>	<u><u>941,073</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>
 Direct Borrowing:					
Cleveland Municipal School District	500,000	-	-	500,000	500,000
Total Direct Borrowing	<u><u>500,000</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>500,000</u></u>	<u><u>500,000</u></u>
 Lease Obligations:					
Building Lease	-	979,309	(40,973)	938,336	152,449
Equipment Lease	593	7,424	(3,219)	4,798	2,424
Total Lease Obligations	<u><u>593</u></u>	<u><u>986,733</u></u>	<u><u>(44,192)</u></u>	<u><u>943,134</u></u>	<u><u>154,873</u></u>
 Total Long-Term Obligations	<u><u>\$ 1,547,996</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 995,023</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (158,812)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,384,207</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 654,873</u></u>

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Purchased Services Agreement Payable Cleveland Municipal School District

In December 2018, the Academy entered into an agreement with Cleveland Municipal School District (CMSD) to repay \$1,000,000, interest free, for services rendered in fiscal years 2018 and 2017. This agreement indicated that completion of the payment schedule will represent full satisfaction of all amounts owed by the Academy for purchased services through the effective date of the service payment plan. CMSD had provided some of its employees, including teachers, to the Academy in exchange for certain payments. The Academy's management estimated the value of the debt forgiveness related to this agreement at \$752,332, which was recorded as a Special Item on the financial statements in the year the agreement was entered into.

The Academy has agreed to pay CMSD a total of \$1,000,000 plus student full-time equivalency (FTE) bonus payments. CMSD shall be entitled to payments of \$1,500 per the Academy's final annualized FTE that exceeds the thresholds in the following schedule (FTE bonus payments).

School Year	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
FTE Threshold	205	210	215	220	225

The FTE bonus payments are to be calculated and paid annually through the end of the 2023-2024 school year or until CMSD has received a total FTE bonus payment equaling \$300,000, whichever occurs sooner. The Academy has not made payments related to this agreement and the entire \$500,000 remains outstanding at June 30, 2024. It intends to begin making payments in fiscal year 2025.

Leases

The Academy has outstanding agreements to lease a building and copiers. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement 87, these leases have met the criteria of leases thus requiring them to be recorded by the Academy. The future lease payments were discounted based on the interest rate implicit in the lease or using the Academy's incremental borrowing rate. This discount is being amortized over the life of the lease. The Academy made principal payments of \$44,192 and interest payments of \$64,184 during the year ended June 30, 2024 for a total of \$108,376. Future payment obligations under the lease agreements are as follows:

Year Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 154,873	\$ 61,352	\$ 216,225
2026	171,136	51,261	222,397
2027	186,327	40,113	226,440
2028	205,231	28,002	233,233
2029	225,567	14,662	240,229
Total	\$ 943,134	\$ 195,390	\$ 1,138,524

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NOTE 11 - CONTINGENCIES

Grants

The Academy received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. Amounts received from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. Any disallowed costs may require refunding to the grantor. Amounts which may be disallowed, if any, are not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of the Academy, any such adjustments will not have a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Academy.

Litigation

The Academy is not party to legal proceedings that, in the opinion of management, would have a materially adverse effect on the financial statements.

Full-Time Equivalency

School foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. However, there is an important nexus between attendance and enrollment for Foundation funding purposes. Community Schools must provide documentation that clearly demonstrates students have participated in learning opportunities. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by Schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end.

Under Ohio Rev. Code Section 3314.08, ODE may also perform an FTE Review subsequent to the fiscal year end that may result in an additional adjustment to the enrollment information as well as claw backs of Foundation funding due to a lack of evidence to support student participation and other matters of noncompliance. ODE did not perform such a review on the Academy for fiscal year 2024.

As of the date of this report, additional ODE adjustments for fiscal year 2024 are not finalized. As a result, the impact of future FTE adjustments on the fiscal year 2024 financial statements is not determinable at this time. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or a liability of, the Academy.

In addition, the Academy's contracts with their Sponsor require payment based on revenues received from the State. As discussed above, additional FTE adjustments for fiscal year 2024 are not finalized. Until such adjustments are finalized by ODE, the impact on the fiscal year 2024 financial statements, related to additional reconciliation necessary with these contracts, is not determinable. Management believes this may result in either an additional receivable to, or liability of, the Academy.

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Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of the Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability
 Last Nine Fiscal Years (1)

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i>									
Academy's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.0047350%	0.0046206%	0.0054144%	0.0055036%	0.0048470%	0.0008077%	0.0009440%	0.0007792%	0.0001412%
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 261,633	\$ 249,918	\$ 199,766	\$ 364,020	\$ 291,662	\$ 46,258	\$ 56,402	\$ 57,030	\$ 8,057
Academy's Covered Payroll	\$ 194,643	\$ 172,607	\$ 186,800	\$ 193,141	\$ 165,936	\$ 27,702	\$ 30,165	\$ 30,201	\$ 4,208
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	134.42%	144.79%	106.94%	188.47%	175.77%	166.98%	186.98%	188.83%	191.47%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	76.06%	75.82%	82.86%	68.55%	70.85%	71.36%	69.50%	62.98%	69.16%
<i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i>									
Academy's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.00282679%	0.00330636%	0.00369170%	0.00326910%	0.00386006%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 608,674	\$ 735,009	\$ 472,018	\$ 791,006	\$ 853,629	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Academy's Covered Payroll	\$ 381,807	\$ 429,843	\$ 455,529	\$ 394,529	\$ 453,186	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	159.42%	170.99%	103.62%	200.49%	188.36%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	80.00%	78.90%	87.80%	75.50%	77.40%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

(1) Information prior to 2016 is not available.

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

n/a = Academy did not contribute to STRS during this time period.

See the accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

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Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of the Academy's Pension Contributions
 Last Ten Fiscal Years

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i>										
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 31,206	\$ 27,250	\$ 24,165	\$ 26,152	\$ 26,074	\$ 22,405	\$ 3,740	\$ 4,223	\$ 4,228	\$ 589
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(31,206)	(27,250)	(24,165)	(26,152)	(26,074)	(22,405)	(3,740)	(4,223)	(4,228)	(589)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Academy's Covered Payroll	\$ 222,900	\$ 194,643	\$ 172,607	\$ 186,800	\$ 193,141	\$ 165,963	\$ 27,704	\$ 30,164	\$ 30,200	\$ 4,207
Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	13.50%	13.50%	13.50%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%
<i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i>										
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 56,268	\$ 53,453	\$ 60,178	\$ 63,774	\$ 55,234	\$ 63,446	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(56,268)	(53,453)	(60,178)	(63,774)	(55,234)	(63,446)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Academy's Covered Payroll	\$ 401,914	\$ 381,807	\$ 429,843	\$ 455,529	\$ 394,529	\$ 453,186	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pension Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

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

n/a = Academy did not contribute to STRS during this time period.

See the accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Promise Academy - Cuyahoga County

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of the Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)
 Last Eight Fiscal Years (1)

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
<i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i>								
Academy's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	0.0042955%	0.0044498%	0.0050460%	0.0050280%	0.0047430%	0.0007735%	0.0008570%	0.0007064%
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 70,766	\$ 62,476	\$ 95,498	\$ 109,277	\$ 119,284	\$ 21,459	\$ 23,000	\$ 20,134
Academy's Covered Payroll	\$ 194,643	\$ 172,607	\$ 186,800	\$ 193,141	\$ 165,963	\$ 27,704	\$ 30,165	\$ 30,201
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	36.36%	36.20%	51.12%	56.58%	71.87%	77.46%	76.25%	66.67%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	30.02%	30.34%	24.08%	18.17%	15.57%	13.57%	12.46%	11.49%
<i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i>								
Academy's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	0.00282679%	0.00330636%	0.00369200%	0.00326900%	0.00386000%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	\$ (54,977)	\$ (85,613)	\$ (77,843)	\$ (57,453)	\$ (63,931)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Academy's Covered Payroll	\$ 381,807	\$ 429,843	\$ 455,529	\$ 394,529	\$ 453,186	n/a	n/a	n/a
Academy's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	-14.40%	-19.92%	-17.09%	-14.56%	-14.11%	n/a	n/a	n/a
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability	168.52%	230.73%	174.73%	182.10%	174.70%	n/a	n/a	n/a

(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.

n/a = Academy did not contribute to STRS during this time period.

See the accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Promise Academy - Cuyahoga County

Required Supplementary Information
 Schedule of the Academy's OPEB Contributions
 Last Nine Fiscal Years (1)

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
<i>School Employees Retirement System (SERS)</i>									
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 28	\$ 28	\$ 1,500	\$ 762	\$ -	\$ 2,543	\$ 353	\$ -	\$ -
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	(28)	(28)	(1,500)	(762)	-	(2,543)	(353)	-	-
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>								
Academy's Covered Payroll	\$ 222,900	\$ 194,643	\$ 172,607	\$ 186,800	\$ 193,141	\$ 165,963	\$ 27,704	\$ 30,164	\$ 30,200
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.01%	0.01%	0.87%	0.41%	0.00%	1.53%	1.27%	0.00%	0.00%
<i>State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)</i>									
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	n/a	n/a	n/a
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Academy's Covered Payroll	\$ 401,914	\$ 381,807	\$ 429,843	\$ 455,529	\$ 394,529	\$ 453,186	n/a	n/a	n/a
OPEB Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	n/a	n/a	n/a

(1) Information prior to 2016 is not available.

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

n/a = Academy did not contribute to STRS during this time period.

See the accompanying notes to the required supplementary information.

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

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.

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga 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. Preretirement 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.

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga 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>Assumption</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</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.

**Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Notes to the Required Supplementary Information
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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.

**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**

To the Board of Directors
Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County
1701 East 13th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the Promise Academy, Cuyahoga County, Ohio (the "Academy") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Academy's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 5, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Academy's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy'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 entity'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2024-002 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

Promise Academy

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*

Page 2 of 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Academy'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 instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2024-001.

The Academy's Response to Findings

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

Purpose of this Report

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rea & Associates, Inc." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rea & Associates, Inc.

Cleveland, Ohio

February 5, 2025

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Schedule of Findings and Responses
June 30, 2024

Finding Number: 2024-001
Material Noncompliance – Student Enrollment and Data Reporting

Criteria: Pursuant to Ohio Rev. Code (ORC) 3314.08(H)(3) community schools shall offer not less than nine hundred twenty hours of learning opportunities during the school year.

Condition: The Academy did not meet the required number of hours of learning opportunities offered during the school year.

Context: The Academy only offered 916.5 hours of learning opportunities during the school year.

Cause: The Academy had various board-approved calamity days throughout the year, which reduced the number of hours of learning opportunities offered during the year to below 920 hours.

Effect: Without meeting the required number of hours of learning opportunities, the Academy will not be compliant with the requirements of the ORC.

Recommendation: The Academy should monitor the number of hours of learning opportunities each year and ensure that it offers more than nine hundred twenty (920) hours of learning opportunities during the school year.

Management's Response: The Academy has added three school days to the school year. The school director also weighs options regarding using online day plans rather than calling off school. Lastly, the school director is also judicious about the use of calamity days, making sure that calling off school is absolutely necessary.

Finding Number: 2024-002
Significant Deficiency – Internal Controls Over Financial Reporting

Criteria: The AICPA establishes auditing standards generally accepted in the United States that certified public accountants and government auditors must follow in conducting audits of state and local governments. AU-C 265 establishes standards, responsibilities and guidance for auditors during a financial statement audit engagement for identifying and evaluating a client's internal control over financial reporting. This standard requires the auditor to report in writing to management and the governing body any control deficiencies found during the audit that are considered significant deficiencies and/or material weaknesses. To this end, AU-C 265 lists specific control deficiencies that should be regarded as at least a significant deficiency and a strong indicator of a material weakness in internal control.

Condition: The Academy did not properly record deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to pensions and a lease under GASB 87 and audit adjustments and reclassifications were made to the financial statements presented for audit.

Context: Audit adjustments were required in the amounts of \$56,773 to increase deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to pensions. Another audit adjustment was required related to the proper recording of leases under GASB 87. The adjustments related in the reduction of lease payable was by \$692,692, capital assets - lease building by \$651,719, interest expense by \$40,973, depreciation/amortization expense by \$37,696, and accumulated depreciation/amortization by \$37,696.

Promise Academy
Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Schedule of Findings and Responses (Continued)
June 30, 2024

Cause: The Academy did not properly record deferred inflows/outflows of resources related to pensions and a lease under GASB 87. The entries posted to the financial statements represented a difference in lease estimation by management compared to the lease agreement and an immaterial adjustment to eliminate negative deferred inflows/outflows within the pension footnote.

Effect: Audit adjustments described above were necessary to properly present the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Recommendation: The Academy should implement and strengthen processes to review financial transactions and monthly financial reports to ensure that transactions are recorded in accordance with GAAP.

Management's Response: We will continue to improve our processes and review procedures in the future to ensure accurate GASB accounting adjustments.

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



PROMISE ACADEMY

CUYAHOGA 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 5/8/2025

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