



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE  
**KEITH FABER**





**RUSSIA LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SHELBY COUNTY  
JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Independent Auditor's Report .....	1
Prepared by Management:	
Government-Wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis – June 30, 2024.....	5
Statement of Activities – Cash Basis – For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024.....	6
Fund Financial Statements:	
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances – Cash Basis Governmental Funds – June 30, 2024.....	7
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances – Cash Basis Governmental Funds - For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 .....	8
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis General Fund – For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 .....	9
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements - For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024.....	11
Government-Wide Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis – June 30, 2023.....	47
Statement of Activities – Cash Basis – For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023.....	48
Fund Financial Statements:	
Statement of Assets and Fund Balances – Cash Basis Governmental Funds – June 30, 2023.....	49
Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances – Cash Basis Governmental Funds- For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 .....	50
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual – Budgetary Basis General Fund – For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 .....	51
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements - For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023.....	53
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by <i>Government Auditing Standards</i> .....	89
Schedule of Findings.....	91
Prepared by Management:	
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings .....	93

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Russia Local School District  
Shelby County  
100 School Street  
Russia, Ohio 45363

To the Board of Education:

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Russia Local School District, Shelby County, Ohio (the School District), as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Russia Local School District, as of June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position thereof and the budgetary comparison for the General Fund and for the fiscal years then ended in accordance with the cash-basis of accounting described in Note 2.

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

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

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

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

### ***Emphasis of Matter***

As discussed in Note 18 to the financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, during 2024, the School District adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement (GASB) No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 9, 2025 on our consideration of the School District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters.

The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

KEITH FABER  
Ohio Auditor of State



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

July 9, 2025

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**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis*  
*June 30, 2024*

	Governmental Activities
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$8,639,044
<b>Net Position</b>	
Restricted for:	
Capital Projects	\$33,684
Debt Service	1,753,148
Other Purposes	535,148
Unrestricted	6,317,064
<i>Total Net Position</i>	\$8,639,044

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Activities - Cash Basis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

		Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Total Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$3,279,856	\$33,465	\$366,839	\$0	(\$2,879,552)
Special	675,724	31,564	291,435	-	(352,725)
Student Intervention Services	2,892	-	2,889	-	(3)
Support Services:					
Pupil	110,951	4,356	59,739	-	(46,856)
Instructional Staff	49,886	-	800	-	(49,086)
Board of Education	6,484	-	-	-	(6,484)
Administration	425,850	-	-	-	(425,850)
Fiscal	234,441	-	-	-	(234,441)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	623,228	-	58,715	-	(564,513)
Pupil Transportation	151,807	21,809	10,881	-	(119,117)
Central	132,973	-	30,791	-	(102,182)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	241,073	137,769	105,343	-	2,039
Extracurricular Activities	327,450	162,964	14,040	-	(150,446)
Capital Outlay	6,187,672	-	-	15,250	(6,172,422)
Principal Retirement	490,000	-	-	-	(490,000)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	338,438	-	-	-	(338,438)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$13,278,725</u>	<u>\$391,927</u>	<u>\$941,472</u>	<u>\$15,250</u>	(11,930,076)
<b>General Receipts</b>					
Property Taxes Levied for:					
General Purposes					1,422,134
Debt Service					807,463
Other Purposes					21,667
Income Taxes Levied for General Purposes					711,081
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs					3,381,728
Gifts and Donations not Restricted to Specific Programs					220
Interest					517,056
Miscellaneous					60,302
<i>Total General Cash Receipts</i>					<u>6,921,651</u>
Change in Net Position					(5,008,425)
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>					<u>13,647,469</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>					<u><u>\$8,639,044</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*June 30, 2024*

	General	Permanent Improvement	Bond Retirement	Building Activity Center	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>						
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$5,350,365	\$958,883	\$1,753,148	\$33,684	\$542,964	\$8,639,044
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$5,350,365</u>	<u>\$958,883</u>	<u>\$1,753,148</u>	<u>\$33,684</u>	<u>\$542,964</u>	<u>\$8,639,044</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>						
Restricted	\$0	\$0	\$1,753,148	\$33,684	\$535,148	\$2,321,980
Committed	-	-	-	-	7,816	7,816
Assigned	92,320	\$958,883	-	-	-	1,051,203
Unassigned	5,258,045	-	-	-	-	5,258,045
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$5,350,365</u>	<u>\$958,883</u>	<u>\$1,753,148</u>	<u>\$33,684</u>	<u>\$542,964</u>	<u>\$8,639,044</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances - Cash Basis*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

	General	Permanent Improvement	Bond Retirement	Building Activity Center	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Receipts</b>						
Property Taxes	\$1,422,134	\$0	\$807,463	\$0	\$21,667	\$2,251,264
Income Taxes	711,081	-	-	-	-	711,081
Intergovernmental	3,753,777	-	82,878	-	415,825	4,252,480
Interest	289,514	-	-	227,542	-	517,056
Tuition and Fees	65,029	-	-	-	-	65,029
Extracurricular Activities	3,634	-	-	-	176,481	180,115
Contributions and Donations	25,580	-	-	15,250	45,360	86,190
Charges for Services	-	-	-	-	136,354	136,354
Miscellaneous	32,564	-	-	29,734	8,433	70,731
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>6,303,313</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>890,341</u>	<u>272,526</u>	<u>804,120</u>	<u>8,270,300</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>						
Current:						
Instruction:						
Regular	3,106,908	-	-	-	172,948	3,279,856
Special	591,584	-	-	-	84,140	675,724
Student Intervention Services	3	-	-	-	2,889	2,892
Support Services:						
Pupil	110,951	-	-	-	-	110,951
Instructional Staff	49,086	-	-	-	800	49,886
Board of Education	6,484	-	-	-	-	6,484
Administration	425,850	-	-	-	-	425,850
Fiscal	218,192	-	15,803	-	446	234,441
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	367,254	20,000	-	23,368	212,606	623,228
Pupil Transportation	130,926	-	-	-	20,881	151,807
Central	102,182	-	-	-	30,791	132,973
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	9,301	-	-	-	231,772	241,073
Extracurricular Activities	172,449	-	-	-	155,001	327,450
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	6,187,672	-	6,187,672
Debt Service:						
Principal Retirement	-	-	490,000	-	-	490,000
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	338,438	-	-	338,438
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>5,291,170</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>844,241</u>	<u>6,211,040</u>	<u>912,274</u>	<u>13,278,725</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	<u>1,012,143</u>	<u>(20,000)</u>	<u>46,100</u>	<u>(5,938,514)</u>	<u>(108,154)</u>	<u>(5,008,425)</u>
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year as previously reported</i>	4,338,222	-	1,707,048	5,972,198	1,630,001	13,647,469
Adjustment: Permanent Improvement as Major Fund	-	978,883	-	-	(978,883)	-
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year as Adjusted</i>	<u>4,338,222</u>	<u>978,883</u>	<u>1,707,048</u>	<u>5,972,198</u>	<u>651,118</u>	<u>13,647,469</u>
 <i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	 <u>5,350,365</u>	 <u>958,883</u>	 <u>1,753,148</u>	 <u>33,684</u>	 <u>542,964</u>	 <u>8,639,044</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and*  
*Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budgetary Basis*  
*General Fund*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024*

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final	Actual	
<b>Receipts</b>				
Property Taxes	\$1,680,300	\$1,680,300	\$1,422,134	(\$258,166)
Income Taxes	750,000	750,000	711,081	(38,919)
Intergovernmental	3,996,000	3,996,000	3,753,777	(242,223)
Interest	212,500	212,500	289,514	77,014
Tuition and Fees	94,500	94,500	65,029	(29,471)
Extracurricular Activities	1,000	1,000	346	(654)
Contributions and Donations	6,500	6,500	220	(6,280)
Miscellaneous	37,700	37,700	29,593	(8,107)
Total Receipts	<u>6,778,500</u>	<u>6,778,500</u>	<u>6,271,694</u>	<u>(506,806)</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,301,550	3,801,550	3,154,160	647,390
Special	656,250	656,250	591,584	64,666
Student Intervention Services	5,850	5,850	3	5,847
Support Services:				
Pupils	116,515	116,515	108,588	7,927
Instructional Staff	61,575	61,575	49,086	12,489
Board of Education	8,600	8,600	6,484	2,116
Administration	475,100	475,100	425,850	49,250
Fiscal	242,350	242,350	218,192	24,158
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	476,088	476,088	395,727	80,361
Pupil Transportation	148,050	148,050	131,763	16,287
Central	147,900	147,900	102,182	45,718
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	20,000	20,000	9,151	10,849
Extracurricular Activities	211,450	211,450	181,532	29,918
Total Disbursements	<u>5,871,278</u>	<u>6,371,278</u>	<u>5,374,302</u>	<u>996,976</u>
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	<u>907,222</u>	<u>407,222</u>	<u>897,392</u>	<u>490,170</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	15,000	15,000	1,110	(13,890)
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	5,000	5,000	793	(4,207)
Transfers Out	(300,000)	(300,000)	-	300,000
Other Financing Uses	<u>(590,000)</u>	<u>(590,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>590,000</u>
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(870,000)</u>	<u>(870,000)</u>	<u>1,903</u>	<u>871,903</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	37,222	(462,778)	899,295	1,362,073
Fund Balance at Beginning of Year	4,303,053	4,303,053	4,303,053	-
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	28,803	28,803	28,803	-
Fund Balance at End of Year	<u>\$4,369,078</u>	<u>\$3,869,078</u>	<u>\$5,231,151</u>	<u>\$1,362,073</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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

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**Note 1 - Reporting Entity**

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

The School District was established in 1862 through the consolidation of existing land areas and school districts. The School District serves an area of approximately 20 square miles. It is located in Shelby County, including all of the Village of Russia, Ohio, and portions of Loramie and Cynthian Townships. The School District's instructional/support facilities are staffed by 25 non-certificated employees, 35 certificated teaching personnel. The School District's ADM (average daily membership) was 432 students. It currently operates one instructional building.

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

**Primary Government**

The primary government of the School District consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For Russia Local School District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the School District.

**Jointly Governed Organizations and Insurance Purchasing Pools**

The School District participates in two jointly governed organizations and three insurance purchasing pools. These organizations are discussed in Note 13 to the basic financial statements. These organizations are:

Jointly Governed Organizations:

Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO)  
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC)

Insurance Purchasing Pools:

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers'  
Compensation Group Rating Plan  
Shelby County Schools Consortium  
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Property, Fleet and  
Liability Insurance Program

The School District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the School District is financially accountable.

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

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section on this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

**A. Basis of Presentation**

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

**Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The statements usually distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental activities (primarily those supported through taxes and intergovernmental receipts) and those that are considered business-type activities (primarily supported by fees and charges). However, the School District does not have any business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible.

Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the School District's general receipts.

**Fund Financial Statements**

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



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

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

**B. Fund Accounting**

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the School District are classified as governmental.

**Governmental Funds**

The School District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g., grants), and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

Permanent Improvement Fund – The Permanent Improvement Fund accounts for resources that are used for capital improvement projects, maintenance and repairs of School District property and certain equipment items.

Bond Retirement Fund – The Bond Retirement Fund debt service fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term principal, interest and related costs.

Building Activity Center Fund – The Building Activity Center Fund accounts for local receipts received as well as general obligation bond proceeds that were issued for the construction of the new center along with the related disbursements.

The other governmental funds of the School District account for (a) financial resources are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets, (b) specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to an expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects, and (c) financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest.

**Fiduciary Funds**

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

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

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

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C. Basis of Accounting

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

As a result of the use of this cash basis of accounting, certain assets and their related revenues (such as accounts receivable and revenue for billed or provided services not yet collected) and certain liabilities and

their related expenses (such as accounts payable and expenses for goods or services received but not yet paid, and accrued expenses and liabilities) are not recorded in these financial statements.

D. Budgetary Process

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The Board has established the legal level of control for the General Fund and the Bond Retirement Debt Service Fund at the two-digit function level and at the fund level for all other funds. The Treasurer makes budgetary allocations at the function and object level within all funds.

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

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

E. Cash and Investments

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

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

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

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

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

During fiscal year 2024, the School District invested in STAR Ohio, Treasury Notes, negotiable certificates of deposit, and First American Money Market Fund.

During fiscal year 2024, the School District invested in STAR Ohio. STAR Ohio (the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio), is an investment pool managed by the State Treasurer's Office which allows governments within the State to pool their funds for investment purposes. STAR Ohio is not registered with the SEC as an investment company, but has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Statement No. 79, "Certain External Investment Pools and Pool Participants." The School District measures its investment in STAR Ohio at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by STAR Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized costs basis that provides an NAV per share that approximates fair value. For fiscal year 2024, there were no limitations or restrictions on any participant withdrawals due to redemption notice periods, liquidity fees, or redemption gates. However, notice must be given 24 hours in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transactions to \$100 million per day, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$100 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2024 was \$289,514, which included \$109,523 assigned from other School District funds.

**F. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

The School District reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

**G. Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

**H. Accumulated Leave**

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the School District's cash basis of accounting.

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

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

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

The School District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension/OPEB plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits (OPEB).

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, 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.

**J. Long-Term Obligations**

The School District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease or financed purchase transaction is not the result of a cash transactions, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments, SBITA payments, and financed purchase payments are reported when paid.

**K. Leases**

The School District is the lessee in a lease for copiers/printers. Lease payables are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

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

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

**M. Net Position**

The net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for food service operations, music and athletic programs, student activities and federal and state grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes.

The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available. The School District did not have any net position restricted by enabling legislation at June 30, 2024.

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

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

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**N. Fund Balance**

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

Non-spendable – The non-spendable classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The ‘not in spendable form’ includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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

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

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

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

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

**O. Interfund Transactions**

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

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

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

**P. Estimates**

The cash basis of accounting used by the School District requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures; accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Note 3 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting**

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

- 1.) Outstanding year-end encumbrances are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as assigned fund balance (cash basis) and
- 2.) Perspective differences resulting from differences in fund structure.

Cash Basis	\$ 1,012,143
Encumbrances	(87,357)
Perspective Differences	(25,491)
Budgetary Basis	<u><u>\$ 899,295</u></u>

**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments** (continued)

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Interim monies are to be deposited or invested in the following securities:

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

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

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

***Deposits***

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. The School District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute.

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

**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments** (continued)

Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to and deposited with either the School District or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of deposits being secured (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of the State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of the State. During fiscal year 2024, certain School District financial institutions did not participate in the OPCS while certain other financial institutions did participate in the OPCS. Those financial institutions that did participate were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 102 percent through the OPCS.

At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$1,727,385. Cash balances per the bank were \$2,005,023. \$250,000 of the School District's deposits was insured by Federal depository insurance. As of June 30, 2024, \$1,755,023 of the School District's bank balance of \$2,005,023 was exposed to custodial risk and was uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging institution's trust department or agent, but not in the School District's name.

**Investments**

Investments are reported at cost. The School District had the following investments at June 30, 2024:

Investment Type	Carrying Value	Investment Maturity	
		Less than one year	One to Two Years
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
US Treasury Notes	1,068,767	802,640	266,127
STAR Ohio	4,835,106	4,835,106	-
First American Money Market Fund	7,786	7,786	-
Total Investments	<u>\$ 6,911,659</u>	<u>\$ 6,145,532</u>	<u>\$ 766,127</u>
Total Deposits	<u>\$1,727,385</u>		
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>\$8,639,044</u>		

**Interest Rate Risk** – Interest rate risk arises because the potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The Ohio Revised Code generally limits security purchases to those that mature within five years of the settlement date

**Credit Risk** – State law limits investments in commercial paper and corporate bonds to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service and that the money market fund be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The School District's investment in US Treasury Notes and the First American Money Market Fund are all rated Aaa by Moody's. The negotiable CD's were not rated. The School District's investment policy does not further limit its investment choices.



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

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**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments** (continued)

*Custodial Credit Risk* - Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirements of ORC 135.14(M)(2) which states, "Payment for investments shall be made only upon the delivery of securities representing such investments to the treasurer, investing authority, or qualified trustee. If the securities transferred are not represented by a certificate, payment shall be made only upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian by the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee."

*Concentration of Credit Risk* - The School District places no limits on the amount the School District may invest in any one issuer. At June 30, 2024, the School District has invested more than 5 percent in the following:

<u>Investments:</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Negotiable CDs	14.5%
US Treasury Notes	15.5%
Star Ohio	70.0%

**Note 5 - Property Taxes**

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax receipts received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023, the lien date.

Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

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

The School District receives property taxes from Shelby and Darke Counties. The Shelby County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2024, are available to finance fiscal year 2025 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent. The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2024 taxes were collected are:

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

**Note 5 - Property Taxes** (continued)

	2023 Second-Half Collections		2024 First-Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/Residential and Other Real Estate	\$55,100,190	91.30%	\$74,399,010	92.92%
Public Utility Personal	5,247,710	8.70	5,668,850	7.08
Total	<u>\$60,347,900</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$80,067,860</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Tax Rate per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation	\$46.25		\$46.25	

**Note 6 - Income Taxes**

The School District levies a voted tax of .75 percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was effective on January 1, 1992, and is a continuing tax. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue is credited to the General Fund.

**Note 7 - Risk Management**

**A. Property and Liability**

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. The School District contracted with Arthur Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. through the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council. Coverage provided is as follows:

Building and Contents (\$5,000 deductible)	\$35,100,696
Boiler and Machinery (\$10,000 deductible)	350,000,000
Flood	25,000,000
Earthquake aggregate	25,000,000
Cyber Liability/Identity Theft (\$25,000 deductible)	1,000,000
Automobile Liability (per occurrence, \$1,000 deductible)	1,000,000
Money and Securities (per occurrence, \$5,000 deductible)	1,000,000
Employee Benefits Liability	
Per occurrence	1,000,000
School Board Legal Liability (\$25,000 deductible)	1,000,000
General Liability	
Per occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate per member	3,000,000
Excess Liability – (occurrence/aggregate per district)	5,000,000
Sexual Abuse and Molestation - (occurrence/aggregate per district)	5,000,000
Violent Event (\$2,500 deductible)	100,000
Site Pollution (\$50,000 deductible)	
Per occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate	5,000,000
Excess Property (per occurrence)	250,000,000

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

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**Note 7 - Risk Management** (continued)

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

**B. Workers' Compensation**

For fiscal year 2024, the School District participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), a workers' compensation insurance purchasing pool (Note 13). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate.

Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund." This "equity pooling" arrangement ensures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Hunter Consulting provides administrative, cost control, and actuarial services to the GRP.

**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

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

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework.

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

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

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

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

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

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 all funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide 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 pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan'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 systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 9 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension is in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. In 2023, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2024.

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

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14% 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% for plan members and 14% 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% was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$117,165 for fiscal year 2024.

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

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

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

The DB plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective August 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2 percent of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. In April 2017, the Retirement Board made the decision to reduce COLA granted on or after July 1, 2017, to 0 percent upon a determination by its actuary that it was necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the retirement system. Benefit recipients' base benefit and past cost-of living increases are not affected by this change. Effective July 1, 2022, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 3 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2023 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2018. Effective July 1, 2023, a one-time ad-hoc COLA of 1 percent of the base benefit was granted to eligible benefit recipients to begin on the anniversary of their retirement benefit in fiscal year 2024 as long as they retired prior to July 1, 2019. Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 3307.67(E) the STRS Ohio Retirement Board may adjust the COLA upon a determination by the board's actuary that a change will not materially impair the fiscal integrity of the system or is necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the system. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 34 years of service credit at any age.

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

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

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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

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

New members who choose the DC Plan or CO 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 Ohio plan. The optional annuitization of a member's defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member's CO Plan account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS Ohio bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS Ohio therefore has included all three plan options in the GASB 68 schedules of employer allocations and pension amounts by employer.

A DB or CO 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 10 years of qualifying service credit to apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

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

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$314,460 fiscal year 2024.

***Net Pension Liability***

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

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

**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Prior Measurement Date	0.0183214%	0.01684925%	
Current Measurement Date	0.0188982%	0.01657719%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0005768%	-0.00027206%	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$1,044,225	\$3,569,887	\$4,614,112

**Actuarial Assumptions - SERS**

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

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employers and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing benefit costs between the employers and plan members to that point. The projection of benefits for financial reporting purposes does not explicitly incorporate the potential effects of legal or contractual funding limitations. Future benefits for all current plan members were projected through 2037.

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

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

Inflation	2.4 percent
Future Salary Increases, including inflation	3.25 percent to 13.58 percent
COLA or Ad Hoc COLA	2.0 percent, on or after April 1, 2018, COLAs for future retirees will be delayed for three years following commencement
Investment Rate of Return	7.00 percent net of System expenses
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal (Level Percent of Payroll)

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

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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

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

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

As of June 30, 2023, the target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major assets class are summarized in the following table:

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

**Discount Rate** Total pension liability as of June 30, 2023 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. The discount rate determination did not use a municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employers would contribute the actuarially determined contribution rate of projected compensation over the remaining 21-year amortization period of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. The actuarially determined contribution rate of fiscal year 2023 was 14%. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long term assumed investment rate of return, 7.00%. Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability. The annual money-weighted rate of return, calculated as the internal rate of return on pension plan investments, for fiscal year 2023 was 6.90%.



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

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$1,541,220	\$1,044,225	\$625,598

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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

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

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

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

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$5,489,697	\$3,569,887	\$1,946,254

**Changes Between Measurement Date and Reporting Date** – The discount rate remained at 7.00% for June 30, 2023 valuation. There were no demographic assumption changes.

**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans**

The net OPEB liability (asset) is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework.

See Note 8 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

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

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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***A. School Employees Retirement System***

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

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

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$14,302.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$14,302 for fiscal year 2024.

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

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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***B. State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)***

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

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

***Net OPEB Liability (Asset)***

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)			
Prior Measurement Date	0.0187577%	0.016849250%	
Current Measurement Date	0.0194330%	0.016577190%	
Change in Proportionate Share	0.0006753%	-0.000272%	
Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB			
Liability (Asset)	\$320,148	(\$322,403)	(\$2,255)

***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.

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

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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

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

	<u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>June 30, 2022</u>
<b>Inflation</b>	2.40%	2.40%
<b>Projected salary increases, including inflation</b>	3.25% to 13.58%	3.25% to 13.58%
<b>Investment rate of return</b>	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
<b>Municipal bond index rate</b>	3.86%	3.69%
<b>Single Equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including inflation price</b>	4.27%	4.08%
<b>Health Care Cost Trend Rate</b>	6.75 to 4.40%	7.00 to 4.40%

In 2023, the following mortality assumptions were used:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial 5-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%, 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.

As of June 30, 2023, the target asset allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized as follows:

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

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

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

**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$409,241	\$320,148	\$249,895

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$235,202	\$320,148	\$432,713

***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

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

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022		
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%		
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		
Discount rate of return	7.00%	7.00%		
Payroll increases	3.00%	3.00%		
Health care cost trends				
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	4.14%	7.50%	3.94%
Medicare	-10.94%	4.14%	-68.78%	3.94%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	-11.95%	4.14%	9.00%	3.94%
Medicare	1.33%	4.14%	-5.47%	3.94%

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



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

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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

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

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

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

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

STRS' investment consultant develops an estimate range for the investment return assumption based on the target allocation adopted by the Retirement Board. The target allocation and long-term expected rate of return for each major asset class at June 30, 2023 are summarized as follows:

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

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

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



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

**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset)	(\$272,872)	(\$322,403)	(\$365,540)
	1% Decrease In Trend Rate	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase in Trend Rate
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB (asset)	(\$367,541)	(\$322,403)	(\$268,035)

**Note 10 – Debt**

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

	Amount Outstanding 6/30/23	Additions	Deletions	Amount Outstanding 6/30/24	Amount Due in One Year
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
<b>Current Refunding Bonds, 3/16/2017</b>					
Serial Bonds 2.0-2.25%	\$ 145,000	\$ -	\$ (75,000)	\$ 70,000	\$ 70,000
Term Bonds 2.75-3.5%	1,195,000	-	-	1,195,000	-
<b>Total Current Refunding Bonds, 3/16/2017</b>	<b>1,340,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(75,000)</b>	<b>1,265,000</b>	<b>70,000</b>
<b>Current Refunding Bonds, 9/7/2017</b>					
Serial Bonds 2.0-2.375%	1,560,000	-	(245,000)	1,315,000	250,000
<b>Total Current Refunding bonds, 9/7/2017</b>	<b>1,560,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(245,000)</b>	<b>1,315,000</b>	<b>250,000</b>
<b>General Obligation Bonds Issued 3/23/2023</b>					
Serial Bonds 3.25-4.0%	1,697,000	-	(170,000)	1,527,000	90,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds 3.75-3.95%	497,998	-	-	497,998	-
Term Bonds 5%	4,005,000	-	-	4,005,000	-
<b>Total General Obligation Bonds Issued</b>	<b>6,199,998</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(170,000)</b>	<b>6,029,998</b>	<b>90,000</b>
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>\$ 9,099,998</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (490,000)</b>	<b>\$ 8,609,998</b>	<b>\$ 410,000</b>

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

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**Note 10 – Debt** (continued)

On March 16, 2017, the School District issued \$1,604,999 in current refunding bonds, with interest rates ranging from 2-3.5%. \$385,000 of the bonds is serial bonds, \$1,195,000 is term bonds, and \$24,999 is capital appreciation bonds (maturity amount of \$75,000 and \$70,000 matured December 1, 2020 and 2021, respectively).

On September 7, 2017, the School District issued \$2,210,000 in current refunding bonds, with interest rates ranging from 1.75-2.375%. The bond proceeds were used to advance refund \$2,210,000 of the school improvement bonds which had interest rates ranging from 4.0-4.2%. \$130,000 of the bonds are capital appreciation bonds; bonds with maturity values of \$25,000 matured December 1, 2020 and \$240,000 matured December 1, 2021.

On March 23, 2023, the School District issued \$6,199,998 in general obligation bonds for facilities improvements which includes the construction of a new activity center. The bonds include serial, capital appreciation and term bonds. The bonds carry interest rates ranging from 3.25-5.00%. The bonds mature December 1, 2052. The bond issue included three term bonds for a total of \$4,005,000. The term bonds, have an annual interest rate of 5% with \$1,025,000 scheduled to mature December 1, 2042, \$1,310,000 scheduled to mature December 1, 2047, and \$1,670,000 scheduled to mature December 1, 2052.

The term bond due to mature December 1, 2042, is subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption on December 1 in the following years and in the following amounts:

<b>Date</b> <b>(December 1)</b>	<b>Principal Amount</b> <b>to be Redeemed</b>
2038	\$ 185,000
2039	195,000
2040	205,000
2041	215,000

The term bond due to mature December 1, 2047, is subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption on December 1 in the following years and in the following amounts:

<b>Date</b> <b>(December 1)</b>	<b>Principal Amount</b> <b>to be Redeemed</b>
2043	\$ 235,000
2044	250,000
2045	260,000
2046	275,000

The term bond due to mature December 1, 2052, is subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption on December 1 in the following years and in the following amounts:

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

**Note 10 – Debt** (continued)

<u>Date</u> <u>(December 1)</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u> <u>to be Redeemed</u>
2048	\$ 300,000
2049	315,000
2050	335,000
2051	350,000

The School District applied to the State Tax Commissioner and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be considered a “special needs district” in order to issue bonds which caused the School District to exceed the overall debt limitation established by the Ohio Revised Code. The School District was approved for “special needs district” status. In order to enter into further debt, the School District would again have to apply to the State Tax Commissioner and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Principal and interest requirements to retire the general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2024, are as follows:

<u>Fiscal Year Ending</u> <u>June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2025	\$410,000	\$327,388	\$737,388
2026	460,000	316,169	776,169
2027	475,000	303,522	778,522
2028	480,000	290,225	770,225
2029	500,000	276,209	776,209
2030-2034	1,189,998	1,314,152	2,504,150
2035-2039	1,275,000	1,081,588	2,356,588
2040-2044	1,075,000	825,625	1,900,625
2044-2049	1,375,000	520,875	1,895,875
2050-2053	1,370,000	141,500	1,511,500
Subtotal	<u>\$8,609,998</u>	<u>\$5,397,253</u>	<u>\$14,007,251</u>

***Leases***

The School District has entered into a lease agreement for copiers/printers where the School District has the option to purchase the equipment at fair market value at the end of the contract. The School District made its final payments of \$20,004 during fiscal year 2024.

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

**Note 11 – Fund Balance**

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

<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Permanent Improvement</b>	<b>Bond Retirement</b>	<b>Building Activity Center</b>	<b>Other Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
Restricted for:						
Food Service Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 180,180	\$ 180,180
Classroom Maintenance	-	-	-	-	235,327	235,327
Athletics	-	-	-	-	89,831	89,831
Student Activities	-	-	-	-	29,810	29,810
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	33,684	-	33,684
Debt Service	-	-	1,753,148	-	-	1,753,148
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,753,148</b>	<b>33,684</b>	<b>535,148</b>	<b>2,321,980</b>
Committed to:						
College Scholarships	-	-	-	-	7,816	7,816
Assigned for:						
Unpaid Obligations	87,357	-	-	-	-	87,357
Capital Improvements	-	958,883	-	-	-	958,883
Public School Support	4,963	-	-	-	-	4,963
<b>Total Assigned</b>	<b>92,320</b>	<b>958,883</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,051,203</b>
Unassigned	5,258,045	-	-	-	-	5,258,045
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 5,350,365</b>	<b>\$ 958,883</b>	<b>\$ 1,753,148</b>	<b>\$ 33,684</b>	<b>\$ 542,964</b>	<b>\$ 8,639,044</b>

**Note 12 – Set-Aside Requirements**

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

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

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

**Note 12 – Set-Aside Requirements** (continued)

	<b>Capital Acquisitions</b>
Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2023	\$0
Current Year Set-aside Requirement	89,255
Current Year Offsets - Capital Facilities maintenance levy	(36,246)
Prior Year Offset from Bond Proceeds	(53,009)
Total Set-aside Balance as of June 30, 2024	<u>\$0</u>

The School District had current year offsets that reduced the capital improvements set-aside. During prior fiscal years, the School District issued \$4,500,500, \$1,940,700 and \$6,199,999 in capital related school improvement bonds. These proceeds may be used to reduce capital acquisition below zero for future years. The amount presented for Prior Year Offset from Bond Proceeds is limited to an amount needed to reduce the reserve for capital improvement to zero. The School District is responsible for tracking the amount of the bond proceeds that may be used as an offset in future periods, which was \$10,457,713 at June 30, 2024.

**Note 13 - Jointly Governed Organizations and Insurance Purchasing Pools**

**A. Jointly Governed Organizations**

*Western Ohio Computer Organization* - The School District is a participant in the Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO). WOCO is a council of governments within the boundaries of Auglaize, Champaign, Hardin, Logan, and Shelby Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member Districts. The governing board of WOCO consists of two representatives from each county elected by majority vote of all charter member Districts within each county. During fiscal year 2024, the School District paid \$76,031 to WOCO for various services. Financial information can be obtained from the WOCO Fiscal Officer, 129 East Court Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

*Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council* -The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of 240 school districts/organizations in 37 counties in Ohio and 2 in Kentucky. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC. SOEPC exercises total control over the operations of SOEPC, including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. Each member's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Council. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC shall forfeit its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One-year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group.

During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are made from the General Fund. During fiscal year 2024, the School District paid \$34,070 to the SOEPC. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Vandalia, OH 45377.

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

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**Note 13 - Jointly Governed Organizations and Insurance Purchasing Pools** (continued)

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**B. Insurance Purchasing Pools**

*Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan* - The School District participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP). The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a ten-member committee consisting of the Chairperson, a representative from the Montgomery County Educational Service Center, and eight other members elected by a majority vote of all member school districts. The Chief administrator of GRP serves as the coordinator of the program. Each fiscal year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

*Shelby County Schools Consortium* - The Shelby County Schools Consortium is an insurance purchasing pool among seven local school districts and the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center. The purpose of the Consortium is to achieve more favorable rates for employee insurance by creating a larger pool on which to base the insurance experience. The Consortium acts together to provide health/surgical, dental, and term-life benefits to its participants at a lower rate than if individual districts acted independently.

Each school district pays monthly premiums to the provider, currently Anthem for health, Superior Dental for dental insurance, and Sun Life Financial for life insurance. The Consortium is governed by an administrative committee consisting of the superintendent from each participating district and the service center. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the committee. During fiscal year 2024, Russia Local School District contributed \$940,445. Financial information can be obtained from Michele Mandelik-Worley, who serves as consultant to the group, Horan Financial Services, 8044 Montgomery Road, Suite 640, Cincinnati, Ohio 45236.

*Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Property, Fleet and Liability Insurance Program* – The School District participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Council Property, Fleet and Liability Insurance Program (PFL). The PFL's business affairs are conducted by a six-member committee consisting of various PFL representatives that are elected by the general assembly. The purpose of the program is to jointly provide or obtain casualty, property, employer liability, general liability, risk management, professional liability, group coverage and other protections for participating school districts. During fiscal year 2024, the School District paid \$34,070 for insurance coverage. Financial information can be obtained from Ken Swink, Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

**Note 14 – Tax Abatement Disclosures**

Pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*, the School District is required to disclose certain information about tax abatements as defined in the Statement. For purposes of GASB Statement 77, a tax abatement is a reduction in tax revenues that results from an agreement between one or more governments and an individual or entity in which (a) one or more governments promise to forgo tax revenues to which they are otherwise entitled and (b) the individual or entity promises to take a specific action after the agreement has been entered into that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the local government or its citizens.

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

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**Note 14 – Tax Abatement Disclosures** (continued)

***Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Program***

The Ohio Community Reinvestment Area program is an economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real property tax exemptions for property owners who renovate existing or construct new buildings. Community Reinvestment Areas (CRA) are areas of land in which property owners can receive tax incentives for investing in real property improvements. In order to use the Community Reinvestment program, a city, village, or county petitions to the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) for confirmation of a geographical area in which investment in housing has traditionally been discouraged. Once the area is confirmed by the Director of ODSA, communities may offer real property tax exemptions to taxpayers that invest in that area.

The type of development is determined by specifying the eligibility of residential, commercial and/or industrial projects. The local governments negotiate property tax exemptions on new property tax from investment for up to one hundred percent for up to fifteen years based on the amount of investments made to renovate or construct buildings within a CRA. Taxes are abated as the increase in assessed value resulting from the investment is not included (or included at a lesser amount) in the assessed value used for property tax computation for the taxpayer. For commercial projects, job retention and/or creation is also required.

Agreements must be in place before the project begins. Provisions for recapturing property tax exemptions, which can be used at the discretions of the local governments, are pursuant to ORC Section 9.66(C)(1) and 9.66(C)(2).

The Village of Russia entered into an agreement with O’Francis Properties, LLC, Russia Rentals LLC and 5340 FR LLC. Approval of the agreement by the Board of Education of Russia Local School District was not required pursuant to an exception set forth in Section 3735.671(A)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code. The property taxes foregone by the School District for the abatement program for the year ended December 31, 2023, was \$8,894.

**Note 15– Contingent Liabilities**

**Grants**

The School District receives financial assistance from federal and State agencies in the form of grants. Disbursing grant funds generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2024.

**Litigation**

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

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

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**Note 15– Contingent Liabilities** (continued)

**Foundation Funding**

School District foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) is legislatively required to adjust/reconcile funding as enrollment information is updated by schools throughout the State, which can extend past the fiscal year end. As of the date of this report, DEW has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2024 Foundation funding for the School District, and adjustments made to the School District's fiscal year 2024 funding after year end were not significant.

**Note 16 – Compliance**

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

**Note 17 – Contractual Commitments**

At June 30, 2024, the School District had the following contractual commitments:

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Contract Amount</b>	<b>Disbursed</b>	<b>Remaining Commitment</b>
Trackman Inc.	\$ 42,391	\$ 21,195	\$ 21,196
Level MB Construction	72,000	60,000	12,000
Slagle Mechanical	8,383	0	8,383
Professional Service Inc	37,000	25,319	11,681

**Note 18 – Implementation of New Accounting Policies**

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

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

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



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

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**Note 18 – Implementation of New Accounting Policies** (continued)

GASB Statement No. 100 is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. The implementation of GASB Statement No 100 resulted in additional reporting requirements for changes within the financial reporting entity.

During fiscal year 2024, the School District's permanent improvement fund qualified to be reported as a major fund. The effects of the change within the financial reporting entity are shown on the Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances - Cash Basis.

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

**Note 19 – Subsequent Events**

On November 8, 2022, the School District approved the passage of a new six mill property tax levy for the purpose of paying part of the cost of facility renovations and additions. The project was to provide classrooms, community space, career tech lab, performing arts stage, auxiliary gym and locker rooms. The 30-year property tax levy would raise approximately \$6.2 million and would be used to repay the issued bonds. Additionally, the project was also to be funded by private donations and local grants. The School District had budgeted \$9 million for the project, which included all anticipated expenses and a contingency to cover unanticipated costs and inflation.

During fiscal year 2023 and fiscal year 2024, the School District receive the related debt proceeds for the project, along with a portion of the private contributions/donations received to date. The Community Foundation of Shelby County (the Foundation) is being used to receive and hold the private donations towards the School District's building project. As of June 30, 2024, there was approximately \$3.7 million held by the Foundation's account that had been received as a donation for the building project.

Subsequent to June 30, 2024, the School District has expended approximately \$3.5 million in expenditures related to the building project. Primarily, the majority of these expenditures were made to Level MB, which is the construction company involved with the building project. If there are any amounts remaining subsequent to the completion of the building project, those will be used for maintenance and additional equipment for the building.

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**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis*  
*June 30, 2023*

	Governmental Activities
<b>Assets</b>	
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$13,647,469
<b>Net Position</b>	
Restricted for:	
Capital Projects	\$5,972,198
Debt Service	1,707,048
Other Purposes	643,052
Unrestricted	5,325,171
<i>Total Net Position</i>	\$13,647,469

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Activities - Cash Basis*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

		Program Cash Receipts			Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
	Cash Disbursements	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Total Governmental Activities
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
Instruction:					
Regular	\$2,933,551	\$34,462	\$36,683	\$0	(\$2,862,406)
Special	636,941	25,098	269,657	-	(342,186)
Student Intervention Services	6,957	-	5,957	-	(1,000)
Support Services:					
Pupil	84,434	3,539	202,210	-	121,315
Instructional Staff	41,772	-	-	-	(41,772)
Board of Education	10,476	-	-	-	(10,476)
Administration	416,857	-	-	-	(416,857)
Fiscal	236,565	-	-	-	(236,565)
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	357,839	23,065	112,500	-	(222,274)
Pupil Transportation	249,664	4,068	127,634	-	(117,962)
Central	110,646	-	30,517	-	(80,129)
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	228,863	133,272	96,669	-	1,078
Extracurricular Activities	306,588	160,855	4,060	-	(141,673)
Capital Outlay	309,582	-	-	45,000	(264,582)
Principal Retirement	310,000	-	-	-	(310,000)
Interest and Fiscal Charges	128,845	-	-	-	(128,845)
Issuance Costs	142,943	0	0	0	(142,943)
<i>Total Governmental Activities</i>	<u>\$6,512,523</u>	<u>\$384,359</u>	<u>\$885,887</u>	<u>\$45,000</u>	<u>(5,197,277)</u>
<b>General Receipts</b>					
Property Taxes Levied for:					
General Purposes					1,286,871
Debt Service					621,407
Other Purposes					22,377
Income Taxes Levied for General Purposes					689,451
Grants and Entitlements not Restricted to Specific Programs					2,956,997
General Obligation Bonds Issued					6,199,998
Premium on General Obligation Bonds					142,942
Gifts and Donations not Restricted to Specific Programs					5,399
Interest					168,142
Miscellaneous					21,362
<i>Total General Cash Receipts</i>					<u>12,114,946</u>
Change in Net Position					6,917,669
<i>Net Position Beginning of Year</i>					<u>6,729,800</u>
<i>Net Position End of Year</i>					<u><u>\$13,647,469</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Assets and Fund Balances - Cash Basis*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*June 30, 2023*

	General	Bond Retirement	Building Activity Center	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>					
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$4,338,222	\$1,707,048	\$5,972,198	\$1,630,001	\$13,647,469
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>\$4,338,222</u>	<u>\$1,707,048</u>	<u>\$5,972,198</u>	<u>\$1,630,001</u>	<u>\$13,647,469</u>
<b>Fund Balances</b>					
Restricted	\$0	\$1,707,048	\$5,972,198	\$643,052	\$8,322,298
Committed	0	0	0	8,066	8,066
Assigned	31,186	-	-	978,883	1,010,069
Unassigned	<u>4,307,036</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,307,036</u>
<i>Total Fund Balances</i>	<u>\$4,338,222</u>	<u>\$1,707,048</u>	<u>\$5,972,198</u>	<u>\$1,630,001</u>	<u>\$13,647,469</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Fund Balances - Cash Basis*  
*Governmental Funds*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

	General	Bond Retirement	Building Activity Center	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Receipts</b>					
Property Taxes	\$1,286,871	\$621,407	\$0	\$22,377	\$1,930,655
Income Taxes	689,451	-	-	-	689,451
Intergovernmental	3,230,549	83,860	-	481,242	3,795,651
Interest	113,312	-	54,830	-	168,142
Tuition and Fees	60,760	-	-	-	60,760
Rent	-	-	-	100	100
Extracurricular Activities	5,936	-	-	160,637	166,573
Contributions and Donations	11,002	-	45,000	38,630	94,632
Charges for Services	-	-	-	132,056	132,056
Miscellaneous	25,430	-	-	19,852	45,282
<i>Total Receipts</i>	<u>5,423,311</u>	<u>705,267</u>	<u>99,830</u>	<u>854,894</u>	<u>7,083,302</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>					
Current:					
Instruction:					
Regular	2,900,943	-	-	32,608	2,933,551
Special	529,617	-	-	107,324	636,941
Student Intervention Services	1,000	-	-	5,957	6,957
Support Services:					
Pupil	84,434	-	-	-	84,434
Instructional Staff	41,772	-	-	-	41,772
Board of Education	10,476	-	-	-	10,476
Administration	416,857	-	-	-	416,857
Fiscal	230,960	5,133	-	472	236,565
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	310,522	-	18,047	29,470	358,039
Pupil Transportation	112,099	-	-	137,565	249,664
Central	80,129	-	-	30,517	110,646
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	5,049	-	-	223,614	228,663
Extracurricular Activities	163,201	-	-	143,387	306,588
Capital Outlay	-	-	309,582	-	309,582
Debt Service:					
Principal Retirement	-	310,000	-	-	310,000
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	128,845	-	-	128,845
Issuance Costs	-	-	142,943	-	142,943
<i>Total Disbursements</i>	<u>4,887,059</u>	<u>443,978</u>	<u>470,572</u>	<u>710,914</u>	<u>6,512,523</u>
<i>Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements</i>	<u>536,252</u>	<u>261,289</u>	<u>(370,742)</u>	<u>143,980</u>	<u>570,779</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>					
General Obligation Bonds Issued	-	-	6,199,998	-	6,199,998
Premium on Bonds Issued	-	-	142,942	-	142,942
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	3,950	-	-	-	3,950
Transfers In	-	-	-	300,000	300,000
Transfers Out	(300,000)	-	-	-	(300,000)
<i>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</i>	<u>(296,050)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,342,940</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>6,346,890</u>
<i>Net Change in Fund Balances</i>	<u>240,202</u>	<u>261,289</u>	<u>5,972,198</u>	<u>443,980</u>	<u>6,917,669</u>
<i>Fund Balances Beginning of Year</i>	<u>4,098,020</u>	<u>1,445,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,186,021</u>	<u>6,729,800</u>
<i>Fund Balances End of Year</i>	<u>\$4,338,222</u>	<u>\$1,707,048</u>	<u>\$5,972,198</u>	<u>\$1,630,001</u>	<u>\$13,647,469</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Russia Local School District**  
*Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and*  
*Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual - Budgetary Basis*  
*General Fund*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final	Actual	
<b>Receipts</b>				
Property Taxes	\$1,375,300	\$1,375,300	\$1,286,871	(\$88,429)
Income Taxes	560,000	560,000	689,451	129,451
Intergovernmental	3,346,000	3,346,000	3,230,549	(115,451)
Interest	62,000	62,000	113,312	51,312
Tuition and Fees	95,200	95,200	60,760	(34,440)
Extracurricular Activities	1,400	1,400	2,397	997
Contributions and Donations	4,700	4,700	5,399	699
Miscellaneous	38,200	38,200	21,564	(16,636)
Total Receipts	<u>5,482,800</u>	<u>5,482,800</u>	<u>5,410,303</u>	<u>(72,497)</u>
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	3,249,426	3,249,426	2,900,273	349,153
Special	589,851	589,851	529,617	60,234
Student Intervention Services	5,850	5,850	1,000	4,850
Support Services:				
Pupils	80,967	80,967	78,623	2,344
Instructional Staff	58,565	58,565	41,772	16,793
Board of Education	12,100	12,100	10,476	1,624
Administration	456,048	456,048	416,857	39,191
Fiscal	253,500	253,500	230,960	22,540
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	459,916	459,916	336,110	123,806
Pupil Transportation	145,010	145,010	112,099	32,911
Central	92,700	92,700	81,329	11,371
Operation of Non-Instructional Services	15,000	15,000	5,049	9,951
Extracurricular Activities	201,800	201,800	163,201	38,599
Total Disbursements	<u>5,620,733</u>	<u>5,620,733</u>	<u>4,907,366</u>	<u>713,367</u>
Excess of Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	<u>(137,933)</u>	<u>(137,933)</u>	<u>502,937</u>	<u>640,870</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	30,000	30,000	3,866	(26,134)
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	2,000	2,000	3,950	1,950
Refund of Prior Year Receipts	-	-	(670)	(670)
Transfers Out	(200,000)	(200,000)	(300,000)	(100,000)
Other Financing Uses	<u>(600,000)</u>	<u>(600,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>600,000</u>
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(768,000)</u>	<u>(768,000)</u>	<u>(292,854)</u>	<u>475,146</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(905,933)	(905,933)	210,083	1,116,016
Fund Balance at Beginning of Year	4,053,912	4,053,912	4,053,912	-
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	39,058	39,058	39,058	-
Fund Balance at End of Year	<u>\$3,187,037</u>	<u>\$3,187,037</u>	<u>\$4,303,053</u>	<u>\$1,116,016</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

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**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 1 - Reporting Entity**

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

The School District was established in 1862 through the consolidation of existing land areas and school districts. The School District serves an area of approximately 20 square miles. It is located in Shelby County, including all of the Village of Russia, Ohio, and portions of Loramie and Cynthian Townships. The School District's instructional/support facilities are staffed by 24 non-certificated employees, 35 certificated teaching personnel. The School District's ADM (average daily membership) was 421 students. It currently operates one instructional building.

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

**Primary Government**

The primary government of the School District consists of all funds, departments, boards, and agencies that are not legally separate from the School District. For Russia Local School District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the School District.

**Jointly Governed Organizations and Insurance Purchasing Pools**

The School District participates in two jointly governed organizations and three insurance purchasing pools. These organizations are discussed in Note 13 to the basic financial statements. These organizations are:

**Jointly Governed Organizations:**

Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO)  
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC)

**Insurance Purchasing Pools:**

Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers'  
Compensation Group Rating Plan  
Shelby County Schools Consortium  
Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Property, Fleet and  
Liability Insurance Program

The School District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the School District is financially accountable.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

As discussed further in the Basis of Accounting section on this note, these financial statements are presented on a cash basis of accounting. This cash basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Generally accepted accounting principles include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements, which have been applied to the extent they are applicable to the cash basis of accounting. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

**A. Basis of Presentation**

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

**Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the School District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The statements usually distinguish between those activities of the School District that are governmental activities (primarily those supported through taxes and intergovernmental receipts) and those that are considered business-type activities (primarily supported by fees and charges). However, the School District does not have any business-type activities.

The statement of net position presents the cash balance of the governmental activities of the School District at fiscal year-end. The statement of activities compares disbursements with program receipts for each function or program of the School District's governmental activities. Disbursements are reported by function. A function is a group of related activities designed to accomplish a major service or regulatory program for which the government is responsible.

Program receipts include charges paid by the recipient of the program's goods or services, grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program, and receipts of interest earned on grants that are required to be used to support a particular program. General receipts are all receipts not classified as program receipts, with certain limited exceptions. The comparison of direct disbursements with program receipts identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing on a cash basis or draws from the School District's general receipts.

**Fund Financial Statements**

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

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

**B. Fund Accounting**

The School District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the fiscal year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the School District are classified as governmental.

**Governmental Funds**

The School District classifies funds financed primarily from taxes, intergovernmental receipts (e.g., grants), and other nonexchange transactions as governmental funds. The following are the School District's major governmental funds:

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

Bond Retirement Fund – The Bond Retirement Fund debt service fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term principal, interest and related costs.

Building Activity Center Fund – The Building Activity Center Fund accounts for local receipts received as well as general obligation bond proceeds that were issued for the construction of the new center along with the related disbursements.

The other governmental funds of the School District account for (a) financial resources are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets, (b) specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to an expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects, and (c) financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest.

**Fiduciary Funds**

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

**C. Basis of Accounting**

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

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

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

**D. Budgetary Process**

All funds, except custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriations resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The tax budget demonstrates a need for existing or increased tax rates. The certificate of estimated resources establishes a limit on the amount the Board of Education may appropriate. The appropriations resolution is the Board's authorization to spend resources and sets annual limits on cash disbursements plus encumbrances at the level of control selected by the Board. The Board has established the legal level of control for the General Fund and the Bond Retirement Debt Service Fund at the two-digit function level and at the fund level for all other funds. The Treasurer makes budgetary allocations at the function and object level within all funds.

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

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

**E. Cash and Investments**

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

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

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

During fiscal year 2023, the School District invested in STAR Ohio, US Treasury Bills, US Treasury Notes, negotiable certificates of deposit, and First American Money Market Fund.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

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

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

Following Ohio statutes, the Board of Education has, by resolution, specified the funds to receive an allocation of interest earnings. Interest receipts credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2023 were \$113,312, which included \$49,267 assigned from other School District funds.

**F. Inventory and Prepaid Items**

The School District reports disbursements for inventory and prepaid items when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

**G. Capital Assets**

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets in the accompanying financial statements.

**H. Accumulated Leave**

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment or retirement, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the School District's cash basis of accounting.

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

The School District recognizes the disbursement for employer contributions to cost-sharing pension/OPEB plans when they are paid. As described in Notes 8 and 9, the employer contributions include portions for pension benefits and for postretirement health care benefits (OPEB).

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, 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.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

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J. Long-Term Obligations

The School District's cash basis financial statements do not report liabilities for bonds and other long-term obligations. Proceeds of debt are reported when cash is received and principal and interest payments are reported when paid. Since recording a capital asset (including the intangible right to use) when entering into a lease or financed purchase transaction is not the result of a cash transactions, neither an other financing source nor a capital outlay expenditure is reported at inception. Lease payments, SBITA payments, and financed purchase payments are reported when paid.

K. Leases

The School District is the lessee in a lease for copiers/printers. Lease payables are not reflected under the School District's cash basis of accounting. Lease disbursements are recognized when they are paid.

L. Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITAs)

For fiscal year 2023, GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements (SBITA)* was effective. This GASB pronouncement had no effect on beginning net position/fund balance.

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

M. Net Position

The net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the School District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Net position restricted for other purposes include resources restricted for food service operations, music and athletic programs, student activities and federal and state grants restricted to cash disbursement for specified purposes.

The School District's policy is to first apply restricted resources when a cash disbursement is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available. The School District did not have any net position restricted by enabling legislation at June 30, 2023.

N. Fund Balance

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

Non-spendable – The non-spendable classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The 'not in spendable form' includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash.

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

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (continued)

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

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

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

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

**O. Interfund Transactions**

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

**P. Estimates**

The cash basis of accounting used by the School District requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures; accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Note 3 - Budgetary Basis of Accounting**

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

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 3 – Budgetary Basis of Accounting** (continued)

1.) Outstanding year-end encumbrances are treated as cash disbursements (budgetary basis) rather than as assigned fund balance (cash basis) and

2.) Perspective differences resulting from differences in fund structure.

Cash Basis	\$ 240,202
Encumbrances	(28,803)
Perspective Differences	<u>(1,316)</u>
Budgetary Basis	<u><u>\$ 210,083</u></u>

**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments**

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

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

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

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

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

Interim monies are to be deposited or invested in the following securities:

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



**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments** (continued)

3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided that the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least two percent and be marked to market daily, and that the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio, and with certain limitations including a requirement for maturity within ten years from the date of settlement, bonds and other obligations of political subdivisions of the State of Ohio, if training requirements have been met;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions;
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio);
7. Time certificates of deposit or savings or deposit accounts including, but not limited to, passbook accounts; and
8. Certain bankers' acceptances (for a period not to exceed one hundred eight days) and commercial paper (for a period not to exceed two hundred seventy days) in an amount not to exceed 40 percent of the interim monies available for investment at any one time if training requirements have been met.

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

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

***Deposits***

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in possession of an outside party. The School District has no deposit policy for custodial risk beyond the requirements of State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits be either insured or be protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to and deposited with either the School District or a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose market value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of deposits being secured (2) participation in the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS), a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of the State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total market value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a rate set by the Treasurer of the State. During fiscal year 2023, certain School District financial institutions did not participate in the OPCS while certain other financial institutions did participate in the OPCS. Those financial institutions that did participate were approved for a reduced collateral rate of 102 percent through the OPCS.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments** (continued)

At fiscal year-end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$1,571,883. Cash balances per the bank were \$1,635,751. \$250,000 of the School District's deposits was insured by Federal depository insurance. As of June 30, 2023, \$1,385,751 of the School District's bank balance of \$1,635,751 was exposed to custodial risk and was uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging institution's trust department or agent, but not in the School District's name.

**Investments**

Investments are reported at cost. The School District had the following investments at June 30, 2023:

Investment Type	Carrying Value	Investment Maturity		
		Less than one year	One to Two Years	Greater than Two Years
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
US Treasury Bills	511,012	511,012	-	-
US Treasury Notes	509,549	-	509,549	-
STAR Ohio	4,085,579	4,085,579	-	-
First American Government Obligations Fund	5,969,446	5,969,446	-	-
Total Investments	\$ 12,075,586	\$ 11,066,037	\$ 759,549	\$ 250,000

*Interest Rate Risk* – Interest rate risk arises because the potential purchasers of debt securities will not agree to pay face value for those securities if interest rates subsequently increase. The Ohio Revised Code generally limits security purchases to those that mature within five years of the settlement date

*Credit Risk* – State law limits investments in commercial paper and corporate bonds to the top two ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations. Ohio law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service and that the money market fund be rated in the highest category at the time of purchase by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The School District's investment in US Treasury Bills, US Treasury Notes and the First American Money Market Fund are all rated Aaa by Moody's. The negotiable CD's were not rated. The School District's investment policy does not further limit its investment choices.

*Custodial Credit Risk* - Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the School District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirements of ORC 135.14(M)(2) which states, "Payment for investments shall be made only upon the delivery of securities representing such investments to the treasurer, investing authority, or qualified trustee. If the securities transferred are not represented by a certificate, payment shall be made only upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian by the treasurer, governing board, or qualified trustee."

*Concentration of Credit Risk* - The School District places no limits on the amount the School District may invest in any one issuer. At June 30, 2023, the School District has invested more than 5 percent in the following:

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

**Note 4 - Deposits and Investments** (continued)

<u>Investments:</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Negotiable CDs	8.3%
First American Money Market Fund	49.4%
Star Ohio	33.8%

**Note 5 - Property Taxes**

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property located in the School District. Real property tax receipts received in calendar year 2023 represent the collection of calendar year 2022 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2023 were levied after April 1, 2022, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2022, the lien date.

Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised market value. Real property taxes are payable annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due December 31; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due December 31, with the remainder payable by June 20. Under certain circumstances, State statute permits alternate payment dates to be established.

Public utility property tax revenue received in calendar 2023 represents collections of calendar year 2022 taxes. Public utility real and tangible personal property taxes received in calendar year 2023 became a lien December 31, 2021, were levied after April 1, 2022 and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property currently is assessed at varying percentages of true value.

The School District receives property taxes from Shelby and Darke Counties. The Shelby County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2023, are available to finance fiscal year 2023 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent. The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2023 taxes were collected are:

	<u>2022 Second-Half Collections</u>		<u>2023 First-Half Collections</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/Residential and Other Real Estate	\$54,587,660	91.80%	\$55,100,190	91.30%
Public Utility Personal	4,873,870	8.20	5,247,710	8.70
Total	<u>\$59,461,530</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$60,347,900</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Tax Rate per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation	\$43.25		\$46.25	

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 6 - Income Taxes**

The School District levies a voted tax of .75 percent for general operations on the income of residents and of estates. The tax was effective on January 1, 1992, and is a continuing tax. Employers of residents are required to withhold income tax on compensation and remit the tax to the State. Taxpayers are required to file an annual return. The State makes quarterly distributions to the School District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue is credited to the General Fund.

**Note 7 - Risk Management**

**A. Property and Liability**

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters. The School District contracted with Arthur Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc. through the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council. Coverage provided is as follows:

Building and Contents (\$5,000 deductible)	\$22,235,445
Boiler and Machinery (\$3,500 deductible)	250,000,000
Flood	25,000,000
Earthquake aggregate	25,000,000
Cyber Liability/Identity Theft (\$25,000 deductible)	2,000,000
Automobile Liability (per occurrence, \$1,000 deductible)	1,000,000
Money and Securities (per occurrence, \$5,000 deductible)	1,000,000
Employee Benefits Liability	
Per occurrence	1,000,000
School Board Legal Liability (\$10,000 deductible)	1,000,000
General Liability	
Per occurrence	1,000,000
Aggregate per member	3,000,000
Excess Liability – (occurrence/aggregate per district)	5,000,000
Sexual Abuse and Molestation - (occurrence/aggregate per district)	5,000,000
Violent Event (\$2,500 deductible)	100,000
Site Pollution (\$25,000 deductible)	1,000,000
Excess Property (per occurrence)	250,000,000

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

**B. Workers' Compensation**

For fiscal year 2023, the School District participated in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP), a workers' compensation insurance purchasing pool (Note 13). The intent of the GRP is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the GRP. The workers' compensation experience of the participating school districts is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all school districts in the GRP. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the GRP rather than its individual rate.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 7 - Risk Management** (continued)

Total savings are then calculated and each participant's individual performance is compared to the overall savings percentage of the GRP. A participant will then either receive money from or be required to contribute to the "Equity Pooling Fund." This "equity pooling" arrangement ensures that each participant shares equally in the overall performance of the GRP. Participation in the GRP is limited to school districts that can meet the GRP's selection criteria. The firm of Hunter Consulting provides administrative, cost control, and actuarial services to the GRP.

**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

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

The net pension/OPEB liability (asset) is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability because of the use of the cash basis framework. The Statewide retirement systems provide both pension benefits and other postemployment benefits (OPEB).

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

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

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

GASB 68/75 assumes the liability is solely the obligation of the employer, because (1) they benefit from employee services; and (2) State statute requires all funding to come from these employers. All pension contributions to date have come solely from these employers (which also includes costs paid in the form of withholdings from employees). The retirement systems may allocate a portion of the employer contributions to provide 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 pension plans to amortize unfunded liabilities within 30 years. If the amortization period exceeds 30 years, each pension plan'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 systems to provide healthcare to eligible benefit recipients.

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 9 for the required OPEB disclosures.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

An individual whose benefit effective date is before April 1, 2018, is eligible for a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) on the first anniversary date of the benefit. Beginning April 1, 2018, new benefit recipients must wait until the fourth anniversary of their benefit for COLA eligibility. The COLA is added each year to the base benefit amount on the anniversary date of the benefit. A three-year COLA suspension is in effect for all benefit recipients for the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. In 2022, the Board of Trustees approved a 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries in 2023.

Funding Policy – Plan members are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14% 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% for plan members and 14% 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, 2023, the allocation to pension, death benefits, and Medicare B was 14%; 0% was allocated to the Health Care Fund.

The School District’s contractually required contribution to SERS was \$104,964 for fiscal year 2023.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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

Plan Description – School District licensed teachers and other faculty members participate in STRS Ohio, a cost-sharing multiple-employer public employee retirement system administered by STRS. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits to members and death and survivor benefits to beneficiaries. STRS issues a stand-alone financial report that includes financial statements, required supplementary information and detailed information about STRS’ fiduciary net position. That report can be obtained by writing to STRS, 275 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215-3771, by calling (888) 227-7877, or by visiting the STRS Web site at [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org).

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

The DB Plan offers an annual retirement allowance based on final average salary multiplied by a percentage that varies based on years of service. Effective Aug. 1, 2015, the calculation is 2.2% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service. Eligibility changes will be phased in until August 1, 2023, when retirement eligibility for unreduced benefits will be five years of service credit and age 65, or 35 years of service credit and at least age 60.

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

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

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

New members who choose the DC Plan or CO 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 Ohio plan. The optional annuitization of a member’s defined contribution account or the defined contribution portion of a member’s CO Plan account to a lifetime benefit results in STRS Ohio bearing the risk of investment gain or loss on the account. STRS Ohio therefore has included all three plan options in the GASB 68 schedules of employer allocations and pension amounts by employer.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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A DB or CO 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 10 years of qualifying service credit to apply for disability benefits. Members in the DC Plan who become disabled are entitled only to their account balance. Eligible survivors of members who die before service retirement may qualify for monthly benefits. If a member of the DC Plan dies before retirement benefits begin, the member's designated beneficiary is entitled to receive the member's account balance.

Funding Policy – Employer and member contribution rates are established by the State Teachers Retirement Board and limited by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. The fiscal year 2023 employer and member contribution rates of 14% was equal to the statutory maximum rates. For fiscal year 2023, the full employer contribution was allocated to pension.

The School District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$309,647 fiscal year 2023.

***Net Pension Liability***

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability			
Prior Measurement Date	0.0194889%	0.017590302%	
Current Measurement Date	0.0183214%	0.016849250%	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.0011675%</u>	<u>-0.00074105%</u>	
Proportionate Share of the Net Pension			
Liability	\$990,964	\$3,745,610	\$4,736,574

***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.



**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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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, 2022, compared with June 30, 2021, are presented below:

**Wage inflation:**

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%

**Future salary increases, including inflation:**

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

**COLA or ad hoc COLA:**

Current measurement date	2.00%
Prior measurement date	2.00%

**Investment rate of return:**

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

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

In 2022, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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

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

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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

As of June 30, 2022, the target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major assets class are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	2.00%	-0.45%
US Equity	24.75%	5.37%
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50%	6.22%
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75%	8.22%
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00%	1.20%
Private Equity	11.00%	10.05%
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00%	4.87%
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00%	3.39%
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00%	5.38%
<b>Total</b>	<u>100.00%</u>	

**Discount Rate** The total pension liability as of June 30, 2022 was calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed the contributions from employers and from the members would be computed based on contribution requirements as stipulated by State statute. Projected inflows from investment earnings were calculated using the long-term assumed investment rate of return (7.00%). Based on those assumptions, the plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefits to determine the total pension liability.

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

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$1,458,651	\$990,964	\$596,943

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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***Actuarial Assumptions - STRS***

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation compared to those used in the June 30, 2021, actuarial valuation are presented below:

	<u>June 30, 2022</u>	<u>June 30, 2021</u>
<b>Inflation</b>	2.50%	2.50%
<b>Projected salary increases</b>	2.5% to 12.50% based on age	12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65
<b>Investment rate of return</b>	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation
<b>Discount rate of return</b>	7.00%	7.00%
<b>Payroll increases</b>	3.00%	3.00%
<b>Cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)</b>	0.00%	0.00%

For the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For the prior measurement date, post-retirement mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Tables with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Pre-retirement mortality rates are based on RP-2014 Employee Mortality Tables, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. Post-retirement disabled mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Tables with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

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

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

**Note 8 - Defined Benefit Pension Plans** (continued)

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

\*Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

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

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at the statutory contribution rates in accordance with the rates described previously. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Based on those assumptions, STRS Ohio's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2022.

**Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** - The following table represents the net pension liability as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what each plan's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$5,658,252	\$3,745,610	\$2,128,106

**Changes Between Measurement Date and Reporting Date** - STRS approved a one-time 1.00% cost-of-living adjustment to eligible benefit recipients effective July 1, 2023. It is unknown what effect this change will have on the net pension liability.

**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans**

The net OPEB liability (asset) is disclosed as a commitment and not reported on the face of the financial statements as a liability(asset) because of the use of the cash basis framework.

See Note 8 for a description of the net OPEB liability.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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***A. School Employees Retirement System***

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

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

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2023, this amount was \$25,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2023, the School District's surcharge obligation was \$14,134.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The School District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$14,134 for fiscal year 2023.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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***B. State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)***

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

Funding Policy - Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3307 authorizes STRS to offer the Plan and gives the Retirement Board discretionary authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Active employee members do not contribute to the Health Care Plan. Nearly all health care plan enrollees, for the most recent year, pay a portion of the health care costs in the form of a monthly premium. Under Ohio law, funding for post-employment health care may be deducted from employer contributions, currently 14% of covered payroll. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, STRS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care.

***Net OPEB Liability (Asset)***

The net OPEB liability (asset) was measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total OPEB asset/liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability (asset) was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The School District's proportion of the net OPEB liability (asset) was based on the School District's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)</b>			
Prior Measurement Date	0.0200897%	0.017590302%	
Current Measurement Date	0.0187577%	0.016849250%	
Change in Proportionate Share	<u>-0.0013320%</u>	<u>-0.000741%</u>	
<b>Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB</b>			
Liability (Asset)	\$263,360	(\$436,283)	(\$172,923)

***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.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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

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

Key methods and assumptions used in calculating the total OPEB liability in the latest actuarial valuation date of June 30, 2022, compared with June 30, 2021, are presented below:

	<u>June 30, 2022</u>	<u>June 30, 2021</u>
<b>Inflation</b>	<b>2.40%</b>	<b>2.40%</b>
<b>Projected salary increases, including inflation</b>	<b>3.25% to 13.58%</b>	<b>3.25% to 13.58%</b>
<b>Investment rate of return</b>	<b>7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation</b>	<b>7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation</b>
<b>Municipal bond index rate</b>	<b>3.69%</b>	<b>1.92%</b>
<b>Single Equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including inflation price</b>	<b>4.08%</b>	<b>2.27%</b>
<b>Medical trend assumption</b>		
<b>Medicare</b>	<b>5.125 to 4.400%</b>	<b>5.125 to 4.400%</b>
<b>Pre-Medicare</b>	<b>6.750 to 4.400%</b>	<b>6.750 to 4.400%</b>

In 2022, mortality rates were based on the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 1 year and adjusted 94.20% for males and set forward 2 years and adjusted 81.35% for females. Mortality among disabled members were based upon the PUB-2010 General Disabled Retiree mortality table projected to 2017 with ages set forward 5 years and adjusted 103.3% for males and set forward 3 years and adjusted 106.8% for females. Future improvement in mortality rates is reflected by applying the MP-2020 projection scale generationally.

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



**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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

The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets is reviewed as part of the actuarial 5-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%, by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and then adding expected inflation. The capital market assumptions developed by the investment consultant are intended for use over a 10-year horizon and may not be useful in setting the long-term rate of return for funding pension plans which covers a longer timeframe. The assumption is intended to be a long-term assumption and is not expected to change absent a significant change in the asset allocation, a change in the inflation assumption, or a fundamental change in the market that alters expected returns in future years.

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

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Cash	2.00%	-0.45%
US Equity	24.75%	5.37%
Non-US Equity Developed	13.50%	6.22%
Non-US Equity Emerging	6.75%	8.22%
Fixed Income/Global Bonds	19.00%	1.20%
Private Equity	11.00%	10.05%
Real Estate/Real Assets	16.00%	4.87%
Multi-Asset Strategy	4.00%	3.39%
Private Debt/Private Credit	3.00%	5.38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	



**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2022, was 4.08%. The discount rate used to measure total OPEB liability prior to June 30, 2022, was 2.27%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions will be made from members and the System at the contribution rate of 1.50% of projected covered payroll each year, which includes a 1.50% payroll surcharge and no contributions from the basic benefits plan. Based on these assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position 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, 2022 and the June 30, 2021 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 3.69% at June 30, 2022 and 1.92% at June 30, 2021.

**Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Changes in the Health Care Cost Trend Rates** - The net OPEB liability is sensitive to changes in the discount rate and the health care cost trend rate. The following table presents the net OPEB liability, what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.08%) and higher (5.08%) than the current discount rate (4.08%). Also shown is what the net OPEB liability would be based on health care cost trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower (6.00% decreasing to 3.40%) and higher (8.00% decreasing to 5.40%) than the current rate (7.00% decreasing to 4.40%).

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$327,097	\$263,360	\$211,907
	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$203,098	\$263,360	\$342,072

**Actuarial Assumptions - STRS**

Key methods and assumptions used in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuation and the June 30, 2021 actuarial valuation are presented below:

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

	June 30, 2022		June 30, 2021	
Projected salary increases	Varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%		12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65	
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation		7.00%, net of investment expenses, including inflation	
Discount rate of return	7.00%		7.00%	
Payroll increases	3.00%		3.00%	
Health care cost trends				
	Initial	Ultimate	Initial	Ultimate
Medical				
Pre-Medicare	7.50%	3.94%	5.00%	4.00%
Medicare	-68.78%	3.94%	-16.18%	4.00%
Prescription Drug				
Pre-Medicare	9.00%	3.94%	6.50%	4.00%
Medicare	-5.47%	3.94%	29.98%	4.00%

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

For the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation, for healthy retirees the post-retirement mortality rates are based on the Pub- 2010 Teachers Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table, adjusted 110% for males, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020; pre-retirement mortality rates are based on Pub-2010 Teachers Employee Table adjusted 95% for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the Pub-2010 Teachers Disabled Annuitant Table projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2020.

For the prior measurement date, for healthy retirees the mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Annuitant Mortality Tables with 50% of rates through age 69, 70% of rates between ages 70 and 79, 90% of rates between ages 80 and 84, and 100% of rates thereafter, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the RP-2014 Disabled Mortality Tables with 90% of rates for males and 100% of rates for females, projected forward generationally using mortality improvement scale MP-2016.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2022 valuation are based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021. An actuarial experience study is done on a quinquennial basis.

**Assumption Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date** - The discount rate remained unchanged at 7.00% for the June 30, 2022 valuation.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

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**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

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**Benefit Term Changes Since the Prior Measurement Date** - Salary increase rates were updated based on the actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2021 and were changed from age based to service based.

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 as of June 30, 2022:

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

\*Target allocation percentage is effective as of July 1, 2022. Target weights were phased in over a 3-month period concluding on October 1, 2022.

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

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.00% as of June 30, 2022. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed STRS Ohio continues to allocate no employer contributions to the health care fund. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members as of June 30, 2022. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on health care fund investments of 7.00% was applied to all periods of projected health care costs to determine the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2022.

**Sensitivity of the School District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Asset to Changes in the Discount and Health Care Cost Trend Rate** - The following table represents the net OPEB asset as of June 30, 2022, calculated using the current period discount rate assumption of 7.00%, as well as what the net OPEB asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00%) or one percentage point higher (8.00%) than the current assumption. Also shown is the net OPEB asset as if it were calculated using health care cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower or one percentage point higher than the current health care cost trend rates.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

**Note 9 – Defined Benefit OPEB Plans** (continued)

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$403,332)	(\$436,283)	(\$464,508)
	1% Decrease In Trend Rate	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase in Trend Rate
School District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	(\$452,532)	(\$436,283)	(\$415,773)

**Note 10 – Debt**

The changes in the School District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2023 were as follows:

	Amount Outstanding 6/30/22	Additions	Deletions	Amount Outstanding 6/30/23	Amount Due in One Year
<b>Governmental Activities</b>					
<b>Current Refunding Bonds, 3/16/2017</b>					
Serial Bonds 2.0-2.25%	\$ 215,000	\$ -	\$ (70,000)	\$ 145,000	\$ 75,000
Term Bonds 2.75-3.5%	1,195,000	-	-	1,195,000	-
<b>Total Current Refunding Bonds, 3/16/2017</b>	<b>1,410,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(70,000)</b>	<b>1,340,000</b>	<b>75,000</b>
<b>Current Refunding Bonds, 9/7/2017</b>					
Serial Bonds 2.0-2.375%	1,800,000	-	(240,000)	1,560,000	245,000
<b>Total Current Refunding bonds, 9/7/2017</b>	<b>1,800,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(240,000)</b>	<b>1,560,000</b>	<b>245,000</b>
<b>General Obligation Bonds Issued 3/23/2023</b>					
Serial Bonds 3.25-4.0%	-	1,697,000	-	1,697,000	170,000
Capital Appreciation Bonds 3.75-3.95%	-	497,998	-	497,998	-
Term Bonds 5%	-	4,005,000	-	4,005,000	-
<b>Total General Obligation Bonds Issued</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,199,998</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,199,998</b>	<b>170,000</b>
<b>Total Debt</b>	<b>\$ 3,210,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,199,998</b>	<b>\$ (310,000)</b>	<b>\$ 9,099,998</b>	<b>\$ 490,000</b>

On March 16, 2017, the School District issued \$1,604,999 in current refunding bonds, with interest rates ranging from 2-3.5%. \$385,000 of the bonds is serial bonds, \$1,195,000 is term bonds, and \$24,999 is capital appreciation bonds (maturity amount of \$75,000 and \$70,000 matured December 1, 2020 and 2021, respectively).

On September 7, 2017, the School District issued \$2,210,000 in current refunding bonds, with interest rates ranging from 1.75-2.375%. The bond proceeds were used to advance refund \$2,210,000 of the school improvement bonds which had interest rates ranging from 4.0-4.2%. \$130,000 of the bonds are capital appreciation bonds; bonds with maturity values of \$25,000 matured December 1, 2020 and \$240,000 matured December 1, 2021.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 10 – Debt** (continued)

On March 23, 2023, the School District issued \$6,199,998 in general obligation bonds for facilities improvements which includes the construction of a new activity center. The bonds include serial, capital appreciation and term bonds. The bonds carry interest rates ranging from 3.25-5.00%. The bonds mature December 1, 2052. The bond issue included three term bonds for a total of \$4,005,000. The term bonds, have an annual interest rate of 5% with \$1,025,000 scheduled to mature December 1, 2042, \$1,310,000 scheduled to mature December 1, 2047, and \$1,670,000 scheduled to mature December 1, 2052.

The term bond due to mature December 1, 2042, is subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption on December 1 in the following years and in the following amounts:

<b>Date (December 1)</b>	<b>Principal Amount to be Redeemed</b>
2038	\$ 185,000
2039	195,000
2040	205,000
2041	215,000

The term bond due to mature December 1, 2047, is subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption on December 1 in the following years and in the following amounts:

<b>Date (December 1)</b>	<b>Principal Amount to be Redeemed</b>
2043	\$ 235,000
2044	250,000
2045	260,000
2046	275,000

The term bond due to mature December 1, 2052, is subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption on December 1 in the following years and in the following amounts:

<b>Date (December 1)</b>	<b>Principal Amount to be Redeemed</b>
2048	\$ 300,000
2049	315,000
2050	335,000
2051	350,000

The School District applied to the State Tax Commissioner and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be considered a “special needs district” in order to issue bonds which caused the School District to exceed the overall debt limitation established by the Ohio Revised Code. The School District was approved for “special needs district” status. In order to enter into further debt, the School District would again have to apply to the State Tax Commissioner and the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 10 – Debt** (continued)

Principal and interest requirements to retire the general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2023, are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Principal	Interest	Total
2024	\$490,000	\$338,438	\$828,438
2025	410,000	327,388	737,388
2026	460,000	316,169	776,169
2027	475,000	303,522	778,522
2028	480,000	290,225	770,225
2029-2033	1,434,998	1,343,736	2,778,734
2034-2038	1,345,000	1,132,588	2,477,588
2039-2043	1,025,000	878,125	1,903,125
2044-2048	1,310,000	588,000	1,898,000
2049-2053	1,670,000	217,500	1,887,500
Subtotal	<u>\$9,099,998</u>	<u>\$5,735,691</u>	<u>\$14,835,689</u>

**Leases**

The School District has entered into a lease agreement for copiers/printers where the School District has the option to purchase the equipment at fair market value at the end of the contract. The School District disbursed \$20,004 to pay for the costs for fiscal year 2023. Future payments are as follows:

Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	Total
2024	\$20,004

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

**Note 11 – Fund Balance**

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

Fund Balance	General	Bond Retirement	Building Activity Center	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Restricted for:					
Food Service Operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,966	\$ 200,966
Classroom Maintenance	-	-	-	244,102	244,102
Athletics	-	-	-	68,645	68,645
Student Activities	-	-	-	29,339	29,339
Other Grants	-	-	-	100,000	100,000
Capital Improvements	-	-	5,972,198	-	5,972,198
Debt Service	-	1,707,048	-	-	1,707,048
Total Restricted	-	1,707,048	5,972,198	643,052	8,322,298
Committed to:					
College Scholarships	-	-	-	8,066	8,066
Assigned for:					
Unpaid Obligations	28,803	-	-	-	28,803
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	978,883	978,883
Public School Support	2,383	-	-	-	2,383
Total Assigned	31,186	-	-	978,883	1,010,069
Unassigned	4,307,036	-	-	-	4,307,036
Total Fund Balance	\$ 4,338,222	\$ 1,707,048	\$ 5,972,198	\$ 1,630,001	\$ 13,647,469

**Note 12 – Set-Aside Requirements**

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

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

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 12 – Set-Aside Requirements** (continued)

	<b>Capital Acquisitions</b>
Set-aside Reserve Balance as of June 30, 2022	\$0
Current Year Set-aside Requirement	93,464
Current Year Offsets - Capital Facilities maintenance levy	(36,974)
Prior Year Offset from Bond Proceeds	(56,490)
Total Set-aside Balance as of June 30, 2023	<u>\$0</u>

The School District had current year offsets that reduced the capital improvements set-aside. During prior fiscal years, the School District issued \$4,500,500 and \$1,940,700 in capital related school improvement bonds. In fiscal year 2023, the School District issued \$6,199,999 in capital related school improvement bonds. These proceeds may be used to reduce capital acquisition below zero for future years. The amount presented for Prior Year Offset from Bond Proceeds is limited to an amount needed to reduce the reserve for capital improvement to zero. The School District is responsible for tracking the amount of the bond proceeds that may be used as an offset in future periods, which was \$10,510,722 at June 30, 2023.

**Note 13 - Jointly Governed Organizations and Insurance Purchasing Pools**

A. Jointly Governed Organizations

*Western Ohio Computer Organization* - The School District is a participant in the Western Ohio Computer Organization (WOCO). WOCO is a council of governments within the boundaries of Auglaize, Champaign, Hardin, Logan, and Shelby Counties. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member Districts. The governing board of WOCO consists of two representatives from each county elected by majority vote of all charter member Districts within each county. During fiscal year 2023, the School District paid \$47,368 to WOCO for various services. Financial information can be obtained from the WOCO Fiscal Officer, 129 East Court Street, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

*Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council* -The Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council (SOEPC) is a purchasing cooperative made up of 240 school districts/organizations in 37 counties in Ohio and 2 in Kentucky. The purpose of the cooperative is to obtain prices for quality merchandise and services commonly used by schools. All member districts are obligated to pay all fees, charges, or other assessments as established by the SOEPC. SOEPC exercises total control over the operations of the SOEPC, including budgeting, contracting, and designating management. Each member's degree of control is limited to its representation on the Council. Each member district has one voting representative. Title to any and all equipment, furniture and supplies purchased by the SOEPC is held in trust for the member districts. Any district withdrawing from the SOEPC shall forfeit its claim to any and all SOEPC assets. One-year prior notice is necessary for withdrawal from the group.

During this time, the withdrawing member is liable for all member obligations. Payments to SOEPC are made from the General Fund. During fiscal year 2023, the School District paid \$34,070 to the SOEPC. To obtain financial information, write to the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council, Ken Swink, who serves as Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Vandalia, OH 45377.



**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 13 - Jointly Governed Organizations and Insurance Purchasing Pools** (continued)

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**B. Insurance Purchasing Pools**

*Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan* - The School District participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (GRP). The GRP's business and affairs are conducted by a ten-member committee consisting of the Chairperson, a representative from the Montgomery County Educational Service Center, and eight other members elected by a majority vote of all member school districts. The Chief administrator of GRP serves as the coordinator of the program. Each fiscal year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the GRP to cover the costs of administering the program.

*Shelby County Schools Consortium* - The Shelby County Schools Consortium is an insurance purchasing pool among seven local school districts and the Midwest Regional Educational Service Center. The purpose of the Consortium is to achieve more favorable rates for employee insurance by creating a larger pool on which to base the insurance experience. The Consortium acts together to provide health/surgical, dental, and term-life benefits to its participants at a lower rate than if individual districts acted independently.

Each school district pays monthly premiums to the provider, currently Anthem for health, Superior Dental for dental insurance, and Sun Life Financial for life insurance. The Consortium is governed by an administrative committee consisting of the superintendent from each participating district and the service center. The degree of control exercised by any participating school district is limited to its representation on the committee. During fiscal year 2023, Russia Local School District contributed \$978,106. Financial information can be obtained from Michele Mandelik-Worley, who serves as consultant to the group, Horan Financial Services, 8044 Montgomery Road, Suite 640, Cincinnati, Ohio 45236.

*Southwestern Ohio Educational Purchasing Council Property, Fleet and Liability Insurance Program* – The School District participates in the Southwestern Ohio Educational Council Property, Fleet and Liability Insurance Program (PFL). The PFL's business affairs are conducted by a six-member committee consisting of various PFL representatives that are elected by the general assembly. The purpose of the program is to jointly provide or obtain casualty, property, employer liability, general liability, risk management, professional liability, group coverage and other protections for participating school districts. During fiscal year 2023, the School District paid \$34,070 for insurance coverage. Financial information can be obtained from Ken Swink, Director, at 303 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 208, Vandalia, OH 45377.

**Note 14 – Tax Abatement Disclosures**

Pursuant to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 77, *Tax Abatement Disclosures*, the School District is required to disclose certain information about tax abatements as defined in the Statement. For purposes of GASB Statement 77, a tax abatement is a reduction in tax revenues that results from an agreement between one or more governments and an individual or entity in which (a) one or more governments promise to forgo tax revenues to which they are otherwise entitled and (b) the individual or entity promises to take a specific action after the agreement has been entered into that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the local government or its citizens.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 14 – Tax Abatement Disclosures** (continued)

***Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Program***

The Ohio Community Reinvestment Area program is an economic development tool administered by municipal and county governments that provides real property tax exemptions for property owners who renovate existing or construct new buildings. Community Reinvestment Areas (CRA) are areas of land in which property owners can receive tax incentives for investing in real property improvements. In order to use the Community Reinvestment program, a city, village, or county petitions to the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) for confirmation of a geographical area in which investment in housing has traditionally been discouraged. Once the area is confirmed by the Director of ODSA, communities may offer real property tax exemptions to taxpayers that invest in that area.

The type of development is determined by specifying the eligibility of residential, commercial and/or industrial projects. The local governments negotiate property tax exemptions on new property tax from investment for up to one hundred percent for up to fifteen years based on the amount of investments made to renovate or construct buildings within a CRA. Taxes are abated as the increase in assessed value resulting from the investment is not included (or included at a lesser amount) in the assessed value used for property tax computation for the taxpayer. For commercial projects, job retention and/or creation is also required.

Agreements must be in place before the project begins. Provisions for recapturing property tax exemptions, which can be used at the discretions of the local governments, are pursuant to ORC Section 9.66(C)(1) and 9.66(C)(2).

The Village of Russia entered into an agreement with O’Francis Properties, LLC. Approval of the agreement by the Board of Education of Russia Local School District was not required pursuant to an exception set forth in Section 3735.671(A)(2) of the Ohio Revised Code. The property taxes foregone by the School District for the abatement program for the year ended December 31, 2022, was \$5,229.

**Note 15– Contingent Liabilities**

**Grants**

The School District receives financial assistance from federal and State agencies in the form of grants. Disbursing grant funds generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the general fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2023.

**Litigation**

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

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 15– Contingent Liabilities** (continued)

**Foundation Funding**

Foundation funding is based on the annualized full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of each student. Traditional districts must comply with minimum hours of instruction, instead of a minimum number of school days each year. The funding formula the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the School District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. As of the date of this report, ODE has finalized the impact of enrollment adjustments to the June 30, 2023 foundation funding for the School District and adjustments made to the School District's fiscal year 2023 funding after fiscal year-end were not significant.

**Note 16 – Compliance**

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

**Note 17 – Implementation of New Accounting Policies**

For fiscal year 2023, the School District has implemented GASB Statement No. 91, "*Conduit Debt Obligations*", GASB Statement No. 94, "*Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements*", GASB Statement No. 96, "*Subscription Based Information Technology Arrangements*", certain questions and answers of GASB Implementation Guide 2021-1 and certain paragraphs of GASB Statement No. 99, "*Omnibus 2022*".

GASB Statement No. 91 provides a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations by issuers and eliminate diversity in practice associated with (1) commitments extended by issuers, (2) arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations, and (3) related note disclosures. This Statement achieves those objectives by clarifying the existing definition of a conduit debt obligation; establishing that a conduit debt obligation is not a liability of the issuer; establishing standards for accounting and financial reporting of additional commitments and voluntary commitments extended by issuers and arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations; and improving required note disclosures. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 91 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

GASB Statement No. 94 is to improve financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public partnership arrangements (PPPs). As used in this Statement, a PPP is an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contracts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide public services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The implementation of GASB Statement No. 94 did not have an effect on the financial statements of the School District.

**Russia Local School District**  
*Notes to the Basic Financial Statements*  
*For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023*

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**Note 17 – Implementation of New Accounting Policies** (continued)

GASB Statement No. 96 provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users (governments). This Statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset—an intangible asset—and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosures regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards for SBITAs are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended. The notes to the basic financial statements include the disclosure requirements under the Statement.

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

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

**Note 18 – Transfers**

During fiscal year 2023, the School District transferred \$300,000 from the General Fund to the Permanent Improvement Fund.

This transfer was to use unrestricted receipts collected in the General Fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

**Note 19 – Contractual Commitments**

At June 30, 2023, the School District had the following contractual commitments:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Remaining Commitment</u>
Garmann/Miller & Associates, Inc.	\$ 630,000	\$ 309,382	\$ 320,618
Level MB Construction	660,000	0	660,000
Forty Nine Degrees	10,000	0	10,000

# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER

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

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Russia Local School District  
Shelby County  
100 School Street  
Russia, Ohio 45363

To the Board of Education:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Russia Local School District, Shelby County, Ohio (the School District) as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated July 9, 2025, wherein we noted the School District uses a special purpose framework other than generally accepted accounting principles. We also noted the School District adopted new accounting guidance in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections – an Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62*.

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

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2024-002 that we consider to be a material weakness.

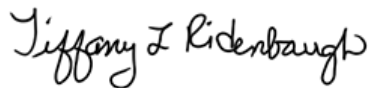
***Report on Compliance and Other Matters***

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

***Purpose of this Report***

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

KEITH FABER  
Ohio Auditor of State



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

July 9, 2025

**RUSSIA LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SHELBY COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023**

<b>FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS</b>
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**FINDING NUMBER 2024-001**

**Noncompliance**

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

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

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

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

**Officials' Response:** We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.

**FINDING NUMBER 2024-002**

**Material Weakness – Financial Reporting**

In our audit engagement letter, as required by AU-C Section 210, *Terms of Engagement*, paragraph .06, management acknowledged its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of their financial statements; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error as discussed in AU-C Section 210 paragraphs .A14 & .A16.

Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Cod. 2200.158 and .159 as well as paragraphs 75 and 76 of Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, as amended by GASB Statements No. 37 and 65, provide the focus of governmental and proprietary fund financial statements is on major funds. Fund statements should present the financial information of each major fund in a separate column. Non-major funds should be aggregated and displayed in a single column. The reporting government's main operating fund (the general fund or its equivalent) should always be reported as a major fund. Other individual governmental and enterprise funds should be reported in separate columns as major funds based on these criteria:

- a. The total of assets and deferred outflows of resources, the total of liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding element(s) total (total assets and deferred outflows of resources, total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, and so forth) for all funds of that category or type (that is, total governmental or total enterprise funds), and
- b. The same element(s) that met the 10 percent criterion in (a) is at least 5 percent of the corresponding element total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

**FINDING NUMBER 2024-002**  
**(Continued)**

Due to an oversight in the major fund calculations, the School District's financial statements did not report the Permanent Improvement Fund as a major fund for fiscal year 2024. In addition, the School District's financial reporting controls failed to identify the error. The School District's fiscal year 2024 financial statements originally presented the Permanent Fund under "Nonmajor Governmental Funds" even though it met the above noted criteria to be presented as a major fund. This resulted in Other Governmental Funds being overstated in beginning fund balance of \$978,883, expenditures of \$20,000, and ending fund balance of \$958,883. The School District adjusted their financial statements to properly reflect the School District's major funds.

Additionally, one of the Building Activity Center Fund's special cost centers was not included as part of the major fund determination for the Building Activity Fund for fiscal year 2024 and 2023. Further, the School District's financial reporting controls failed to identify the error. For fiscal years 2024 and 2023, the Building Activity Fund was properly reported as a major fund, however the other special cost center within the Building Activity Center Fund was originally presented under "Nonmajor Governmental Funds" on the financial statements. For fiscal year 2024, this resulted in Other Governmental Funds being overstated in beginning fund balance of \$2,753, revenues of \$44,984, expenditures of \$21,837, and ending fund balance of \$25,900. For fiscal year 2023, this resulted in Other Governmental Funds being overstated in revenues of \$45,000, expenditures of \$42,247, and ending fund balance of \$2,753.

In addition, the following misstatements were identified and adjusted on the District's June 30, 2024 financial statements:

- Governmental Activities Restricted for Capital Projects Net Position was overstated by \$258,883 and the Unrestricted Net Position was understated by \$258,883 due to the improper classification of restricted fund balance in the Permanent Improvement fund instead of assigned fund balance.

The following misstatements were identified and adjusted on the District's June 30, 2023 financial statements:

- Governmental Activities Restricted for Capital Projects Net Position was overstated by \$278,883 and the Unrestricted Net Position was understated by \$278,883 due to the improper classification of restricted fund balance in the Permanent Improvement fund instead of assigned fund balance.

The above errors occurred when posting transactions to the accounting system and when reporting financial activity and information on the financial statements. Failure to properly record and report financial activity could lead to material financial statement errors and users of the financial statements basing their conclusions on incorrect information.

The School District should establish and implement additional procedures to verify the accuracy of information reported within the financial statements and to assist in the effective management and reporting of financial resources.

**Officials' Response:** We did not receive a response from Officials to this finding.



# Russia Local School

100 School Street  
Russia, Ohio 45363-9811  
[www.russiaschool.org](http://www.russiaschool.org)

Steven J. Rose, Superintendent  
Janel M. Slonkosky, Principal  
Jean Borchers, Treasurer

(937) 526-3156  
(937) 295-3454  
Fax (937) 526-0045

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## SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2022-001	Ohio Rev. Code §117.38 and Ohio Admin. Code 117-2-03(B) – Failure to file financial statements in accordance with GAAP.	Not Corrected	Repeated as Finding 2024-001. The School District prepares OCBOA cash-basis financial statements. This does not affect the audit opinion or School District credit rating.

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# OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



**RUSSIA LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**SHELBY COUNTY**

## **AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

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



**Certified for Release 8/12/2025**

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

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