



OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2024**

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COLUMBIANA COUNTY
JUNE 30, 2024**

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

United Local School District
Columbiana County
8143 State Route 9
Hanoverton, Ohio 44423

To the Board of Education:

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

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

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

Basis for Opinion

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

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

Supplementary information

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

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 4, 2025, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 4, 2025

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**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

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

Financial Highlights

Key financial highlights for fiscal year 2024 are as follows:

- In total, net position of governmental activities increased \$6,024,581 which represents a 15.78% increase from 2023 net position.
- General revenues accounted for \$19,288,264 in revenue or 80.60% of all revenues. Program specific revenues in the form of charges for services and sales, grants and contributions accounted for \$4,642,826 or 19.40% of total revenues of \$23,931,090.
- The District had \$17,906,509 in expenses related to governmental activities; \$4,642,826 of these expenses were offset by program specific charges for services, grants or contributions. General revenues supporting governmental activities (primarily taxes and unrestricted grants and entitlements) of \$19,288,264 were adequate to provide for these programs.
- The District's major governmental funds are the general fund and the classroom facilities fund. The general fund had \$16,604,384 in revenues and \$17,454,250 in expenditures and other financing uses. During fiscal year 2024, the general fund's fund balance decreased \$849,866 from a fund balance of \$4,723,968 to \$3,874,102.
- The classroom facilities fund had \$18,252,203 in revenues and other financing sources and \$21,070,787 in expenditures. During fiscal year 2024, the classroom facilities fund balance decreased \$2,818,584 from a fund balance of \$28,555,313 to \$25,736,729.

Using the Basic Financial Statements

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

The statement of net position and statement of activities provide information about the activities of the whole District, presenting both an aggregate view of the District's finances and a longer-term view of those finances. Fund financial statements provide the next level of detail. For governmental funds, these statements tell how services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. The fund financial statements also look at the District's most significant funds with all other nonmajor funds presented in total in one column. In the case of the District, the general fund and the classroom facilities fund are by far the most significant funds, and the only governmental funds reported as major funds.

Reporting the District as a Whole

Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

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

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, the governmental activities include the District's programs and services, including instruction, support services, operation and maintenance of plant, pupil transportation, extracurricular activities, and food service operations.

Reporting the District's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial reports provide detailed information about the District's major funds. The District uses many funds to account for a multitude of financial transactions. However, these fund financial statements focus on the District's most significant funds. The District's major governmental funds are the general fund and the classroom facilities fund.

Governmental Funds

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

Reporting the District's Fiduciary Responsibilities

The District acts in a trustee capacity as an agent for individuals or other entities. These activities are reported in a custodial fund. All of the District's fiduciary activities are reported in separate statements (statement of fiduciary net position and statement of changes in fiduciary net position). These activities are excluded from the District's other financial statements because the assets cannot be utilized by the District to finance its operations.

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Required Supplemental Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the District's general fund budgetary information, net pension liability and net OPEB liability/asset.

The District as a Whole

The statement of net position provides the perspective of the District as a whole. The table below provides a summary of the District's net position for June 30, 2024 and June 30, 2023.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

	Net Position	
	Governmental Activities 2024	Governmental Activities 2023
<u>Assets</u>		
Current and other assets	\$67,771,858	\$ 82,652,121
Capital assets, net	<u>29,471,878</u>	<u>7,745,916</u>
Total assets	<u>97,243,736</u>	<u>90,398,037</u>
<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>		
Pension	2,992,372	3,374,148
OPEB	<u>445,977</u>	<u>286,148</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>3,438,349</u>	<u>3,660,296</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>100,682,085</u>	<u>94,058,333</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current liabilities	5,528,428	2,374,542
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	1,247,449	1,923,994
Due within more than one year:		
Net pension liability	13,874,679	13,871,972
Net OPEB liability	622,480	548,537
Other amounts	<u>26,283,492</u>	<u>27,429,447</u>
Total liabilities	<u>47,556,528</u>	<u>46,148,492</u>
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>		
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	6,307,217	6,271,641
Pensions	<u>1,134,114</u>	<u>1,594,797</u>
OPEB	<u>1,470,424</u>	<u>1,854,182</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>8,911,755</u>	<u>9,720,620</u>
Total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	<u>56,468,283</u>	<u>55,869,112</u>
<u>Net Position</u>		
Investment in capital assets	5,991,143	7,074,732
Restricted	<u>38,325,075</u>	<u>33,434,087</u>
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(102,416)</u>	<u>(2,319,598)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 44,213,802</u>	<u>\$ 38,189,221</u>

The net pension liability (NPL) is one of the largest single liabilities reported by the District at June 30, 2024 and is reported pursuant to GASB Statement 68, “Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions—an Amendment of GASB Statement 27.” The District has adopted GASB Statement 75, “Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions,” which significantly revises accounting for costs and liabilities related to other postemployment benefits (OPEB). For reasons discussed below, many end users of this financial statement will gain a clearer understanding of the District’s actual financial condition by adding deferred inflows related to pension and OPEB, the net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset to the reported net position and subtracting deferred outflows related to pension and OPEB.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Over time, net position can serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. At June 30, 2024, the District's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$44,213,802.

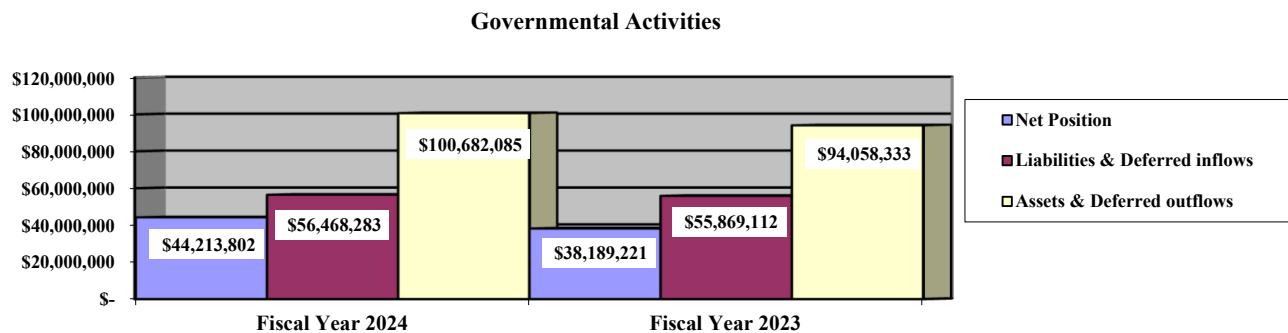
**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

At year-end, capital assets represented 30.31% of total assets. Capital assets include land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture and equipment and vehicles. Investment in capital assets at June 30, 2024, was \$5,991,143. These capital assets are used to provide services to the students and are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources to repay the debt must be provided from other sources, since capital assets may not be used to liquidate these liabilities.

A portion of the District's net position, \$38,325,075, represents resources that are subject to external restriction on how they may be used. The remaining deficit balance of unrestricted net position is \$102,416.

The graph below presents the District's assets and deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows, and net position at June 30, 2024 and 2023.



The table below shows the change in net position for fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

	Change in Net Position	
	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
Revenues		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services and sales	\$ 939,484	\$ 1,015,844
Operating grants and contributions	2,268,414	1,947,820
Capital grants and contributions	1,434,928	810,300
General revenues:		
Property taxes	9,386,490	9,425,385
Income taxes	1,116,885	1,051,971
Grants and entitlements	7,772,901	7,721,896
Investment earnings	845,104	441,136
Change in fair value of investments	138,528	97,688
Miscellaneous	28,356	4,479
Total revenues	<u>23,931,090</u>	<u>22,516,519</u>

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**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

Change in Net Position (Continued)		
	Governmental Activities <u>2024</u>	Governmental Activities <u>2023</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Program expenses:		
Instruction:		
Regular	\$ 6,874,339	\$ 6,982,148
Special	2,646,489	2,456,913
Vocational	308,991	280,965
Adult/continuing	-	4,676
Other	38,953	30,706
Support services:		
Pupil	833,198	716,751
Instructional staff	693,075	684,402
Board of education	137,889	176,434
Administration	995,748	1,003,174
Fiscal	518,177	504,870
Business	92,672	81,464
Operations and maintenance	1,342,669	1,379,954
Pupil transportation	887,748	938,335
Central	67,962	63,775
Operation of non-instructional services:		
Food service operations	705,501	688,801
Other non-instructional services	6,945	7,123
Extracurricular activities	994,512	913,539
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>761,641</u>	<u>944,589</u>
Total expenses	<u>17,906,509</u>	<u>17,858,619</u>
Change in net position	6,024,581	4,657,900
Net position at beginning of year	<u>38,189,221</u>	<u>33,531,321</u>
Net position at end of year	<u>\$ 44,213,802</u>	<u>\$ 38,189,221</u>

Governmental Activities

Net position of the District's governmental activities increased \$6,024,581. Total governmental expenses of \$17,906,509 were offset by program revenues of \$4,642,826 and general revenues of \$19,288,264. Program revenues supported 25.93% of the total governmental expenses.

The primary sources of revenue for governmental activities are derived from property taxes, income taxes, unrestricted grants and entitlements. These revenue sources represent 76.37% of total governmental revenue. The increase in investment earnings and change in fair value of investments during the fiscal year was due to the federal reserve increasing interest rates to combat inflation. Capital grants and contributions increased primarily due to the District receiving an increase in OFCC draws during fiscal year 2024 than in the prior fiscal year.

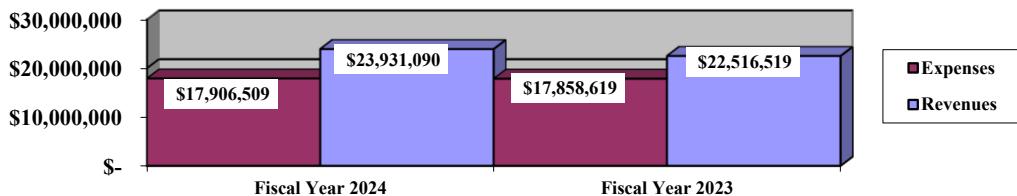
The largest expense of the District is for instructional programs. Instruction expenses totaled \$9,868,772 or 55.11% of total governmental expenses for fiscal year 2024.

The graph below presents the District's governmental activities revenue and expenses for fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

Governmental Activities - Revenues and Expenses



The statement of activities shows the cost of program services and the charges for services and grants offsetting those services. The following table shows, for governmental activities, the total cost of services and the net cost of services. That is, it identifies the cost of these services supported by tax revenue and unrestricted State grants and entitlements.

	Total Cost of Services 2024	Net Cost of Services 2024	Total Cost of Services 2023	Net Cost of Services 2023
Program expenses				
Instruction:				
Regular	\$ 6,874,339	\$ 6,664,842	\$ 6,982,148	\$ 6,761,601
Special	2,646,489	1,570,478	2,456,913	1,373,295
Vocational	308,991	259,115	280,965	236,291
Adult/continuing	-	-	4,676	4,166
Other	38,953	38,953	30,706	30,706
Support services:				
Pupil	833,198	466,367	716,751	425,677
Instructional staff	693,075	693,075	684,402	684,402
Board of education	137,889	137,889	176,434	176,434
Administration	995,748	989,976	1,003,174	997,896
Fiscal	518,177	518,177	504,870	504,870
Business	92,672	(298,867)	81,464	(147,345)
Operations and maintenance	1,342,669	(156,125)	1,379,954	550,493
Pupil transportation	887,748	883,314	938,335	893,256
Central	67,962	63,967	63,775	60,175
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	705,501	153,808	688,801	130,574
Other non-instructional services	6,945	1,291	7,123	(3,776)
Extracurricular activities	994,512	515,782	913,539	461,351
Interest and fiscal charges	761,641	761,641	944,589	944,589
Total expenses	\$ 17,906,509	\$ 13,263,683	\$ 17,858,619	\$ 14,084,655

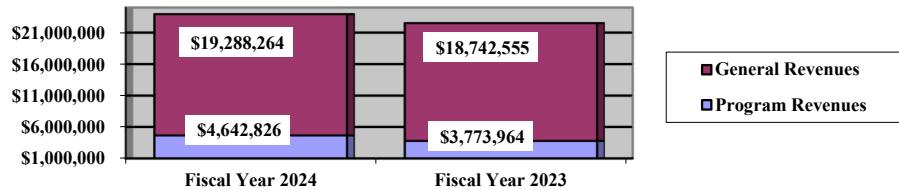
The dependence upon tax and other general revenues for governmental activities is apparent, 86.47% of instruction activities are supported through taxes and other general revenues. For all governmental activities, general revenue support is 74.07%. The District's taxpayers and unrestricted grants and entitlements received from the State are by far the primary support for District's students.

The graph below presents the District's governmental activities revenue for fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

Governmental Activities - General and Program Revenues



The District's Funds

The District's governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$39,309,974 which is lower than last year's total of \$46,689,256. The schedule below indicates the fund balance and the total change in fund balance as of June 30, 2024 and 2023.

	<u>Fund Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>Fund Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>
General	\$ 3,874,102	\$ 4,723,968	\$ (849,866)	(17.99) %
Classroom Facilities	25,736,729	28,555,313	(2,818,584)	(9.87) %
Other governmental	9,699,143	13,409,975	(3,710,832)	(27.67) %
Total	\$ 39,309,974	\$ 46,689,256	\$ (7,379,282)	(15.81) %

General Fund

The District's general fund balance decreased \$849,866. The table that follows assists in illustrating the revenues and expenditures of the general fund.

<u>Revenues</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>
Taxes	\$ 5,830,921	\$ 6,271,604	\$ (440,683)	(7.03) %
Income taxes	1,117,116	1,050,960	66,156	6.29 %
Tuition and fees	242,740	302,103	(59,363)	(19.65) %
Investment earnings	843,533	429,116	414,417	96.57 %
Intergovernmental	8,302,912	8,328,049	(25,137)	(0.30) %
Change in fair value of investments	138,528	97,688	40,840	41.81 %
Other revenues	128,634	130,611	(1,977)	(1.51) %
Total	\$ 16,604,384	\$ 16,610,131	\$ (5,747)	(0.03) %

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Change</u>
Instruction	\$ 9,203,333	\$ 9,055,118	\$ 148,215	1.64 %
Support services	5,049,731	5,121,232	(71,501)	(1.40) %
Operation of non-instructional services	6,945	7,123	(178)	(2.50) %
Extracurricular activities	520,866	494,699	26,167	5.29 %
Facilities acquisition and construction	-	821	(821)	(100.00) %
Debt service	2,648,375	2,705,152	(56,777)	(2.10) %
Total	\$ 17,429,250	\$ 17,384,145	\$ 45,105	0.26 %

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

The District experienced a \$5,747 or 0.03% decrease in general fund revenues and an increase of \$45,105 or 0.26% in general fund expenditures during the current fiscal year. The increase in investment earnings and change in fair value of investments during the fiscal year was due to the federal reserve increasing interest rates to combat inflation. All other revenue and expenditures remained comparable to the prior fiscal year.

Classroom Facilities Fund

The classroom facilities fund had \$18,252,203 in revenues and other financing sources and \$21,070,787 in expenditures. During fiscal year 2024, the classroom facilities fund balance decreased \$2,818,584 from a fund balance of \$28,555,313 to \$25,736,729. The classroom facilities capital projects fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted to expenditures related to the District's construction project with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC). The remaining state share of the project, \$7,434,324, has been reported as a receivable at June 30, 2024. The District will continue to draw down on the state funds over the duration of the project.

General Fund Budgeting Highlights

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

During the course of fiscal year 2024, the District amended its general fund budget several times. For the general fund, original budgeted revenues and other financing sources were \$16,049,480 and final budgeted revenues and other financing sources were \$16,297,385. Actual revenues and other financing sources for fiscal year 2024 were \$16,415,298. This represents a \$117,913 increase from final budgeted revenues and other financing sources.

General fund original appropriations totaled \$18,372,822 and final appropriations totaled \$17,160,250. The actual budget basis expenditures for fiscal year 2024 totaled \$17,141,684, which was \$18,566 lower than the final budget appropriations.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

At the end of fiscal year 2024, the District had \$29,471,878 invested in land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings and improvements, furniture and equipment and vehicles. This entire amount is reported in governmental activities.

The following table shows June 30, 2024 balances compared to June 30, 2023:

**Capital Assets at June 30
(Net of Depreciation)**

	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023
Land	\$ 57,872	\$ 57,872
Construction in progress	25,211,536	3,482,817
Land improvements	265,449	302,053
Building and improvements	2,496,495	2,697,488
Furniture and equipment	731,038	413,460
Vehicles	709,488	792,226
Total	\$ 29,471,878	\$ 7,745,916

See Note 9 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the District's capital assets.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024
(UNAUDITED)**

Debt Administration

At June 30, 2024, the District had \$23,270,000 in certificates of participation. Of this total, \$1,080,000 is due within one year and \$22,190,000 is due in greater than one year.

At June 30, 2024, the District's overall legal debt margin was \$34,800,621, and an unvoted debt margin of \$386,674. See Note 10 to the basic financial statements for additional information on the District's debt administration.

Current Financial Related Activities

United Local School District continues to manage its general fund budgets prudently, ensuring that resources are optimized for student education while minimizing the need for additional levy millage. Through responsible fiscal oversight by the Board of Education and Administration, the District has maintained a positive cash balance without seeking voter approval for new operating levies since 1984. This approach has allowed United Local to sustain a high-quality and comprehensive educational program despite financial challenges.

Enrollment trends remain a key area of focus for the Board and Administration. Over the past decade, the District has experienced fluctuations in student enrollment, requiring careful planning to align staffing and resources with student needs. Open enrollment, which was approved in 2004, continues to benefit the District, with more students enrolling into United Local than leaving for other districts. However, long-term declines in enrollment could necessitate future adjustments to staffing and operations.

United Local remains committed to both educational and financial excellence. The District prioritizes transparency, responsible budgeting, and long-term financial stability to ensure resources are effectively allocated to student programs and services. Regular financial reviews and proactive planning help maintain the District's strong fiscal position, allowing it to adapt to economic challenges while continuing to offer high-quality education. By maintaining fiscal responsibility and collaborating with the community, the District ensures that it has the necessary resources to support a thriving educational program for all students.

Contacting the District's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information contact Ms. Melissa Baker, Treasurer, United Local School District, 8143 State Route 9, Hanoverton, Ohio 44423.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2024**

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 40,864,757
Cash and investments with trustee	20,991
Receivables:	
Property taxes	17,296,529
Income taxes	507,173
Accounts	3,544
Accrued interest	58,086
Intergovernmental	7,786,635
Prepayments	160,149
Materials and supplies inventory	978
Inventory held for resale	3,468
Net OPEB asset	1,069,548
Capital assets:	
Nondepreciable capital assets	25,269,408
Depreciable capital assets, net	4,202,470
Capital assets, net	<u>29,471,878</u>
Total assets	<u>97,243,736</u>
Deferred outflows of resources:	
Pension	2,992,372
OPEB	445,977
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>3,438,349</u>
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	66,142
Contracts payable	2,922,868
Retainage payable	576,331
Accrued wages and benefits payable	1,640,629
Intergovernmental payable	256,782
Accrued interest payable	65,676
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	1,247,449
Due in more than one year:	
Net pension liability	13,874,679
Net OPEB liability	622,480
Other amounts due in more than one year	<u>26,283,492</u>
Total liabilities	<u>47,556,528</u>
Deferred inflows of resources:	
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	6,307,217
Pension	1,134,114
OPEB	1,470,424
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>8,911,755</u>
Net position:	
Investment in capital assets	5,991,143
Restricted for:	
Capital projects	36,698,961
Classroom facilities maintenance	239,465
Debt service	20,991
State funded programs	4,776
Federally funded programs	138,432
Food service operations	12,495
Student activities	140,407
OPEB	1,069,548
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(102,416)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 44,213,802</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	
	Charges for Services and Sales	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions		Governmental Activities	
Governmental activities:						
Instruction:						
Regular	\$ 6,874,339	\$ 77,846	\$ 131,651	\$ -	\$ (6,664,842)	
Special	2,646,489	173,562	902,449	-	(1,570,478)	
Vocational	308,991	-	49,876	-	(259,115)	
Other	38,953	-	-	-	(38,953)	
Support services:						
Pupil	833,198	-	366,831	-	(466,367)	
Instructional staff	693,075	-	-	-	(693,075)	
Board of education	137,889	-	-	-	(137,889)	
Administration	995,748	-	5,772	-	(989,976)	
Fiscal	518,177	-	-	-	(518,177)	
Business	92,672	-	391,539	-	298,867	
Operations and maintenance	1,342,669	-	63,866	1,434,928	156,125	
Pupil transportation	887,748	-	4,434	-	(883,314)	
Central	67,962	-	3,995	-	(63,967)	
Operation of non-instructional services:						
Food service operations	705,501	205,869	345,824	-	(153,808)	
Other non-instructional services	6,945	5,654	-	-	(1,291)	
Extracurricular activities	994,512	476,553	2,177	-	(515,782)	
Interest and fiscal charges	<u>761,641</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(761,641)</u>	
Totals	<u>\$ 17,906,509</u>	<u>\$ 939,484</u>	<u>\$ 2,268,414</u>	<u>\$ 1,434,928</u>	<u>(13,263,683)</u>	

General revenues:

Property taxes levied for:

General purposes	8,316,260
Capital outlay	996,560
Classroom facilities maintenance	73,670

Income taxes levied for:

General purposes	1,116,885
Grants and entitlements not restricted to specific programs	7,772,901
Investment earnings	845,104
Change in fair value of investments	138,528
Miscellaneous	28,356
Total general revenues	19,288,264

Change in net position

6,024,581

Net position at beginning of year

38,189,221

Net position at end of year

\$ 44,213,802

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2024**

	General	Classroom Facilities	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Assets:				
Equity in pooled cash and investments	\$ 4,917,630	\$ 26,078,303	\$ 9,868,824	\$ 40,864,757
Cash and investments with trustee	20,991	-	-	20,991
Receivables:				
Property taxes	15,189,388	-	2,107,141	17,296,529
Income taxes	507,173	-	-	507,173
Accounts	1,413	-	2,131	3,544
Accrued interest	46,557	11,529	-	58,086
Intergovernmental	64,158	7,434,324	288,153	7,786,635
Prepayments	67,238	-	92,911	160,149
Materials and supplies inventory	-	-	978	978
Inventory held for resale	-	-	3,468	3,468
Due from other funds	93,421	-	-	93,421
Total assets	<u>\$ 20,907,969</u>	<u>\$ 33,524,156</u>	<u>\$ 12,363,606</u>	<u>\$ 66,795,731</u>
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 24,709	\$ 1,307	\$ 40,126	\$ 66,142
Contracts payable	-	2,623,133	299,735	2,922,868
Retainage payable	-	548,249	28,082	576,331
Accrued wages and benefits payable	1,538,476	-	102,153	1,640,629
Compensated absences payable	82,582	-	-	82,582
Intergovernmental payable	244,130	350	12,302	256,782
Due to other funds	-	-	93,421	93,421
Total liabilities	<u>1,889,897</u>	<u>3,173,039</u>	<u>575,819</u>	<u>5,638,755</u>
Deferred inflows of resources:				
Property taxes levied for the next fiscal year	5,623,700	-	683,517	6,307,217
Delinquent property tax revenue not available	9,372,865	-	1,405,127	10,777,992
Income tax revenue not available	67,163	-	-	67,163
Intergovernmental revenue not available	64,158	4,606,463	-	4,670,621
Accrued interest not available	16,084	7,925	-	24,009
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>15,143,970</u>	<u>4,614,388</u>	<u>2,088,644</u>	<u>21,847,002</u>
Fund balances:				
Nonspendable:				
Materials and supplies inventory	-	-	978	978
Prepays	67,238	-	92,911	160,149
Restricted:				
Debt service	20,991	-	-	20,991
Capital improvements	-	25,736,729	5,221,696	30,958,425
Classroom facilities maintenance	-	-	239,465	239,465
Food service operations	-	-	34,078	34,078
State funded programs	-	-	4,776	4,776
Student activities	-	-	140,407	140,407
Committed:				
Capital improvements	-	-	3,964,832	3,964,832
Underground storage tank	11,000	-	-	11,000
Assigned:				
Student and staff support	14,380	-	-	14,380
School supplies	320	-	-	320
Adult education	3,135	-	-	3,135
Public school support	70,224	-	-	70,224
Other purposes	18,496	-	-	18,496
Subsequent year's appropriations	49,924	-	-	49,924
Unassigned	<u>3,618,394</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,618,394</u>
Total fund balances	<u>3,874,102</u>	<u>25,736,729</u>	<u>9,699,143</u>	<u>39,309,974</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows and fund balances	<u>\$ 20,907,969</u>	<u>\$ 33,524,156</u>	<u>\$ 12,363,606</u>	<u>\$ 66,795,731</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**RECONCILIATION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCES TO
NET POSITION OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**
JUNE 30, 2024

Total governmental fund balances	\$ 39,309,974
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities on the statement of net position are different because:</i>	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	29,471,878
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred inflows in the funds.	
Property taxes receivable	\$ 10,777,992
Income taxes receivable	67,163
Accrued interest receivable	24,009
Intergovernmental receivable	<u>4,670,621</u>
Total	15,539,785
Unamortized premiums on debt issued are not recognized in the funds.	(2,337,168)
Accrued interest payable is not due and payable in the current period and therefore is not reported in the funds.	(65,676)
The net pension/OPEB assets & liabilities are not due and payable in the current period; therefore, the assets, liabilities and related deferred inflows/outflows are not reported in governmental funds.	
Deferred outflows - pension	2,992,372
Deferred inflows - pension	(1,134,114)
Net pension liability	(13,874,679)
Deferred outflows - OPEB	445,977
Deferred inflows - OPEB	(1,470,424)
Net OPEB asset	1,069,548
Net OPEB liability	<u>(622,480)</u>
Total	(12,593,800)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.	
Certificates of participation	(23,270,000)
Compensated absences	<u>(1,841,191)</u>
Total	<u>(25,111,191)</u>
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 44,213,802</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	General	Classroom Facilities	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 5,830,921	\$ -	\$ 696,215	\$ 6,527,136
Income taxes	1,117,116	-	-	1,117,116
Intergovernmental	8,302,912	13,315,853	1,686,106	23,304,871
Investment earnings	843,533	1,327,200	5,448	2,176,181
Tuition and fees	242,740	-	-	242,740
Extracurricular	96,810	-	385,397	482,207
Charges for services	8,668	-	205,869	214,537
Miscellaneous	23,156	-	5,200	28,356
Change in fair value of investments	138,528	109,150	-	247,678
Total revenues	<u>16,604,384</u>	<u>14,752,203</u>	<u>2,984,235</u>	<u>34,340,822</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	6,740,574	-	132,169	6,872,743
Special	2,128,687	-	516,288	2,644,975
Vocational	295,119	-	2,510	297,629
Other	38,953	-	-	38,953
Support services:				
Pupil	668,904	-	163,483	832,387
Instructional staff	692,843	-	-	692,843
Board of education	138,167	-	-	138,167
Administration	994,195	-	5,772	999,967
Fiscal	486,336	-	15,116	501,452
Business	-	-	417,999	417,999
Operations and maintenance	1,210,036	-	63,880	1,273,916
Pupil transportation	794,976	-	-	794,976
Central	64,274	-	3,995	68,269
Operation of non-instructional services:				
Food service operations	-	-	695,238	695,238
Other non-instructional services	6,945	-	-	6,945
Extracurricular activities	520,866	-	413,449	934,315
Facilities acquisition and construction	-	21,070,787	790,168	21,860,955
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	1,790,000	-	-	1,790,000
Interest and fiscal charges	858,375	-	-	858,375
Total expenditures	<u>17,429,250</u>	<u>21,070,787</u>	<u>3,220,067</u>	<u>41,720,104</u>
Excess of expenditures over revenues	<u>(824,866)</u>	<u>(6,318,584)</u>	<u>(235,832)</u>	<u>(7,379,282)</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Transfers in	-	3,500,000	25,000	3,525,000
Transfers (out)	(25,000)	-	(3,500,000)	(3,525,000)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(25,000)</u>	<u>3,500,000</u>	<u>(3,475,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	(849,866)	(2,818,584)	(3,710,832)	(7,379,282)
Fund balances at beginning of year	<u>4,723,968</u>	<u>28,555,313</u>	<u>13,409,975</u>	<u>46,689,256</u>
Fund balances at end of year	<u>\$ 3,874,102</u>	<u>\$ 25,736,729</u>	<u>\$ 9,699,143</u>	<u>\$ 39,309,974</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ (7,379,282)
<i>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:</i>	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.	
Capital asset additions	\$ 22,174,339
Current year depreciation	<u>(414,991)</u>
Total	21,759,348
The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, disposals, trade-ins, and donations) is to decrease net position.	
	(33,386)
Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.	
Property taxes	2,859,354
Income taxes	<u>(231)</u>
Earnings on investments	149
Intergovernmental	<u>(13,269,004)</u>
Total	(10,409,732)
Repayment of debt obligations principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities on the statement of net position.	
	1,790,000
In the statement of activities, interest is accrued on outstanding debt, whereas in governmental funds, an interest expenditure is reported when due. The following items resulted in additional interest being reported in the statement of activities:	
Decrease in accrued interest payable	4,675
Amortization of debt premiums	<u>92,059</u>
Total	96,734
Contractually required contributions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds; however, the statement of net position reports these amounts as deferred outflows.	
Pension	1,206,292
OPEB	<u>25,709</u>
Total	1,232,001
Except for amounts reported as deferred inflows/outflows, changes in the net pension/OPEB liability/asset are reported as pension/OPEB expense in the statement of activities.	
Pension	(1,130,092)
OPEB	<u>139,221</u>
Total	(990,871)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities, such as compensated absences, do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.	
	<u>(40,231)</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities	\$ 6,024,581

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUND
JUNE 30, 2024**

	Custodial
Assets:	
Equity in pooled cash and cash equivalents	\$ 76,566
Receivables:	
Intergovernmental	71,050
Prepayments	122
Total assets	<u>147,738</u>
Liabilities:	
Accrued wages and benefits	37,497
Compensated absences payable	46,304
Intergovernmental payable	3,608
Total liabilities	<u>87,409</u>
Net position:	
Restricted for organizations	<u>60,329</u>
Total net position	<u><u>60,329</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
CUSTODIAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	Custodial
Additions:	
Amounts received as fiscal agent	<u>\$ 130,105</u>
Deductions:	
Distributions as fiscal agent	<u>141,853</u>
Change in net position	(11,748)
Net position at beginning of year	<u>72,077</u>
Net position at end of year	<u><u>\$ 60,329</u></u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

United Local School District (the “District”) is a body politic and corporate established for the purpose of exercising the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The District is a local district as defined by Section 3311.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.

The District is located in Columbiana County and encompasses the Village of Hanoverton, Butler Township, West Township, Franklin Township and Salem Township.

The District operates under a locally-elected five-member Board form of government. Each member is elected to a four year term. The District provides educational services as authorized and mandated by State and federal agencies. The Board of Education controls the District's one instructional/support facility staffed by 40 non-certified employees and 101 certified employees who provide services to 1,032 students and other community members.

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

A. Reporting Entity

The reporting entity has been defined in accordance with GASB Statement No. 14, “The Financial Reporting Entity” as amended by GASB Statement No. 39, “Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units” and GASB Statement No. 61, “The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus an Amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34”. The reporting entity is composed of the primary government and component units. The primary government consists of all funds, departments, boards and agencies that are not legally separate from the District. For the District, this includes general operations, food service, and student related activities of the District.

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

The following organizations are described due to their relationship to the District:

JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

Area Cooperative Computerized Educational Service System (ACCESS)

The Area Cooperative Educational Service System (ACCESS) is a computer network which provides data services to twenty-six school districts and two educational service centers. The jointly governed organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member districts. Each of the governments of these schools supports ACCESS based upon a per pupil charge. ACCESS is governed by an assembly consisting of the superintendents or other designees of the member school districts. The assembly exercises total control over the operation of ACCESS including budgeting, appropriating, contracting and designating management. All of ACCESS revenues are generated from charges for services and State funding. Financial information can be obtained by contacting the Treasurer, at 493 Bev Road, Unit 1, Boardman, Ohio 44512.

Columbiana County Career and Technical Center

The Columbiana County Career and Technical Center is a jointly governed organization to provide for the vocational and special education needs of the students of nine participating school districts. The Career Center's Board of Education members are appointed by the local Boards of Education from one of its elected members. The Career Center Board of Education exercises total control over its operations, including budgeting, appropriating, contracting, and designating management. All revenues are generated from tax levies, State funding and fees. Financial information can be obtained by writing to the Columbiana County Career and Technical Center, 9364 State Route 45, Lisbon, Ohio 44432.

PUBLIC ENTITY RISK POOLS

Ohio Association School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program

The District participates in a group rating program for worker's compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Ohio Association of School Business Officials Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (the "Program") was established through the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) as a group purchasing pool.

The Executive Director of the OASBO, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the Program. Each year, the participating school districts pay an enrollment fee to the Program to cover the costs of administering the Program. Refer to Note 12 for further information on this group rating plan.

Portage Area School Consortium

The Portage Area School Consortium (the "Consortium") was established in 1981 so that 12 educational service providers in Portage County could manage risk exposures and purchase necessary insurance coverage as a group. The Health and Welfare Trust is organized under the provisions of Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code. Its purpose is to facilitate the management of risks associated with providing employee benefits coverage such as health insurance, disability insurance and life insurance. A third party administrator is retained by the Consortium to facilitate the operation of the Health and Welfare Trust. The District pays all insurance premiums directly to the consortium. Also, the insurance agreement with Portage County School Consortium provides that the Consortium will reinsure through commercial companies for claims over \$150,000 per employee. Although the District does not participate in the day-to-day management of the Consortium, one of its administrators serves as a trustee of the Consortium's governing Board as provided in the Consortium's enabling authority. Field Local School District acts as fiscal agent for the Consortium. To obtain financial information, write to the Field Local School District, Todd Carpenter, who serves as Treasurer, at 2900 State Route 43, Mogadore, Ohio 44260.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

B. Fund Accounting

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

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

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

General fund - The general fund is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The general fund balance is available for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred according to the general laws of Ohio.

Classroom facilities fund - The classroom facilities capital projects fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted to expenditures related to the District's construction project with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC).

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

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

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

PROPRIETARY FUNDS

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

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The fiduciary fund category is split into four classifications: pension trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds. Trust funds are used to account for assets held by the District under a trust agreement for individuals, private organizations, or other governments and are therefore not available to support the District's own programs. The District does not have any trust funds. The District's custodial fund accounts for funds received and distributed on behalf of the Tobin Attention Center. The Tobin Attention Center is a 20 bed facility which provides a safe, secure and humane temporary custody facility for youths held by the County Juvenile Court.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

C. Basis of Presentation and Measurement Focus

Government-Wide Financial Statements - The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds.

The government-wide statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function or program of the governmental activities of the District. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include amounts paid by the recipient of goods or services offered by the program and grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the District.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and deferred outflows of resources and all liabilities and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the District are included on the statement of net position.

Fund Financial Statements - Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is presented in a separate column, and all nonmajor funds are aggregated into one column. Fiduciary funds are reported by fund type.

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

The fiduciary funds are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets and liabilities associated with the operation of fiduciary funds are included on the statement of net fiduciary position. Fiduciary funds present a statement of changes in fiduciary net position which reports additions to and deductions from custodial funds. In fiduciary funds, a liability to the beneficiaries of fiduciary activity is recognized when an event has occurred that compels the government to disburse fiduciary resources. Fiduciary fund liabilities other than those to beneficiaries are recognized using the economic resources measurement focus.

D. Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting.

Revenues - Exchange and Nonexchange Transactions - Revenues resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, are recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the fiscal year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current fiscal year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the District, available means expected to be received within sixty days of fiscal year end.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Nonexchange transactions, in which the District receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, income taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied (See Note 6).

Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the fiscal year when use is first permitted, matching requirements, in which the District must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose, and expenditure requirements, in which the resources are provided to the District on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from nonexchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

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

Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources - In addition to assets, the government-wide statement of net position will report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. See Notes 13 and 14 for deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability/asset and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively.

In addition to liabilities, both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Deferred inflows of resources include property taxes and unavailable revenue. Property taxes represent amounts for which there is an enforceable legal claim as of June 30, 2024, but which were levied to finance fiscal year 2025 operations. These amounts have been recorded as a deferred inflow of resources on both the government-wide statement of net position and the governmental fund financial statements. Unavailable revenue is reported only on the governmental funds balance sheet and represents receivables which will not be collected within the available period. Unavailable revenue includes, but is not limited to, delinquent property taxes and intergovernmental grants. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period the amounts become available.

See Notes 13 and 14 for deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability/asset and net OPEB liability/asset, respectively. These deferred inflows of resources are only reported on the government-wide statement of net position.

Expenses/Expenditures - On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred. The entitlement value of donated commodities used during the year is reported in the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances as an expenditure with a like amount reported as intergovernmental revenue.

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

E. Budgets

The budgetary process is prescribed by provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and entails the preparation of budgetary documents within an established timetable. The major documents prepared are the tax budget, the certificate of estimated resources, and the appropriation resolution, all of which are prepared on the budgetary basis of accounting. The certificate of estimated resources and the appropriations resolution are subject to amendment throughout the year with the legal restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources, as certified. All funds, other than custodial funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The primary level of budgetary control is at the fund level for all funds. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education.

Tax Budget: Prior to January 15, the Superintendent and the Treasurer submit to the Board of Education a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following July 1. The budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing for all funds. Public hearings are publicized and conducted to obtain taxpayers' comments. The purpose of this budget document is to reflect the need for existing (or increased) tax rates. By no later than January 20, the Board-adopted budget is filed with the Columbiana County Budget Commission for rate determination.

Estimated Resources: Prior to April 1, the Board of Education accepts, by formal resolution, the tax rates as determined by the Budget Commission and receives the Commission's certificate of estimated resources which states the projected revenue of each fund. Prior to July 1, the District must revise its budget so that total contemplated expenditures from any fund during the ensuing year will not exceed the amount stated in the certificate of estimated resources. The revised budget then serves as the basis for the appropriation measure. On or about July 1, the certificate of estimated resources is amended to include any unencumbered cash balances from the preceding year. The certificate of estimated resources may be further amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the District Treasurer. The amounts reported in the budgetary statement reflect the amounts in the original and final amended certificates of estimated resources issued during fiscal year 2024.

Appropriations: Upon receipt from the County Auditor of an amended certificate of estimated resources based on final assessed values and tax rates or a certificate saying no new certificate of estimated resources is necessary, the annual appropriation resolution must be legally enacted by the Board of Education at the fund level of expenditures, which is the legal level of budgetary control. Prior to the passage of the annual appropriation measure, the Board may pass a temporary appropriation measure to meet the ordinary expenses of the District. The appropriation resolution, by fund, must be within the estimated resources as certified by the County Budget Commission and the total of expenditures and encumbrances may not exceed the appropriation totals at any level of control. Any revisions that alter the total of any fund appropriation must be approved by the Board of Education. The Board may pass supplemental fund appropriations so long as the total appropriations by fund does not exceed the amounts set forth in the most recent certificate of estimated resources. Supplemental appropriations were legally enacted during fiscal year 2024.

The budget figures which appear in the schedule of budgetary comparisons represent the original and final appropriation amounts, including all supplemental appropriations. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all funds other than custodial funds consistent with statutory provisions.

Encumbrances: As part of formal budgetary control, purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded as the equivalent of expenditures on the non-GAAP budgetary basis in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation and to determine and maintain legal compliance.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Lapsing of Appropriations: At the close of each fiscal year, the unencumbered balance of each appropriation reverts to the respective fund from which it was appropriated and becomes subject to future appropriation. Encumbered appropriations are carried forward to the succeeding fiscal year and are not reappropriated.

F. Cash and Investments

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

The District is setting aside funds in an investment account with Zions Bank to fund lease payments on the Certificates of Participation. The amount is reported on the basic financial statements as "cash and investments with trustee".

During fiscal year 2024, investments included the State Treasury Asset Reserve of Ohio (STAR Ohio), negotiable certificates of deposits, federal agency securities (FHLB and FNMA), municipal bonds, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S. Treasury bills, commercial paper and U.S government money market mutual fund. Except for investments in STAR Ohio, investments are reported at fair value, which is based on quoted market prices.

The 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 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 notice in advance of all deposits and withdrawals exceeding \$100 million is encouraged. STAR Ohio reserves the right to limit the transaction to \$250 million, requiring the excess amount to be transacted the following business day(s), but only to the \$250 million limit. All accounts of the participant will be combined for these purposes.

Under existing Ohio statutes all investment earnings are assigned to the general fund unless statutorily required to be credited to a specific fund. Interest revenue credited to the general fund during fiscal year 2024 amounted to \$843,533, which includes \$426,123 assigned from other funds.

For presentation on the basic financial statements, investments of the cash management pool and investments with original maturities of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the District are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

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

G. Inventory

On government-wide and fund financial statements, purchased inventories are presented at the lower of cost or market and donated commodities are presented at their entitlement value. Inventories are recorded on a first-in, first-out basis and are expensed when used. Inventories are accounted for using the consumption method.

On the fund financial statements, reported material and supplies inventory is equally offset by a nonspendable fund balance in the governmental funds which indicates that it does not constitute available spendable resources even though it is a component of net current assets.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

Inventory consists of expendable supplies held for consumption, donated food and purchased food.

H. Capital Assets

General capital assets are those related to governmental activities. These assets generally result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the governmental activities column of the government-wide statement of net position, but are not reported in the fund financial statements.

All capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and deductions during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition values as of the date received. The District maintains a capitalization threshold of \$2,500. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not. The District does not possess infrastructure.

All reported capital assets, except land and construction in progress are depreciated. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Estimated Lives</u>
Land improvements		5 - 20 years
Buildings and improvements		20 - 50 years
Furniture and equipment		5 - 20 years
Vehicles		6 - 10 years

I. Interfund Balances

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

J. Compensated Absences

The District reports compensated absences in accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 16, "Accounting for Compensated Absences". Vacation benefits are accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned if the employees' rights to receive compensation are attributable to services already rendered and it is probable that the District will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the termination method. An accrual for sick leave is made to the extent that it is probable that the benefits will result in termination (severance) payments. The liability is an estimate based on the District's past experience of making termination (severance) payments for sick leave.

The total liability for vacation and sick leave payments has been calculated using pay rates in effect at June 30, 2024 and reduced to the maximum payment allowed by labor contract and/or statute, plus any applicable additional salary related payments.

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

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

K. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

All payables, accrued liabilities and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements.

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current financial resources, are reported as obligations of the funds. However, claims and judgments and compensated absences that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only to the extent that they are due for payment during the current year. Certificates of participation and lease obligations are recognized as a liability on the fund financial statements when due. Net pension/OPEB liability should be recognized in the governmental funds to the extent that benefit payments are due and payable and the pension/OPEB plan's fiduciary net position is not sufficient for payment of those benefits.

L. Fund Balance

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

M. Net Position

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows and liabilities and deferred inflows. The net position component “net investment in capital assets,” consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of any borrowing used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets or related debt also should be included in this component of net position. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments.

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

N. Prepayments

Certain payments to vendors reflect the costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements. These items are reported as assets on the balance sheet using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amounts is recorded at the time of the purchase and the expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

O. Estimates

The preparation of the basic financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the basic financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

P. Interfund Activity

Transfers between governmental activities on the government-wide statements are reported in the same manner as general revenues.

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

Q. Pensions/Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net pension/OPEB liability, net OPEB asset, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related pensions/OPEB, and pension/OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the pension/OPEB plans and additions to/deductions from their fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the pension/OPEB plan. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. The pension/OPEB plans report investments at fair value.

R. Extraordinary and Special Items

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

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

S. Fair Value

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

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Change in Accounting Principles

For fiscal year 2024, the District has implemented certain paragraphs from 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 balances previously report by the 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 District.

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

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

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

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

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

Investments in stripped principal or interest obligations, reverse repurchase agreements and derivatives are prohibited. The issuance of taxable notes for the purpose of arbitrage, the use of leverage and short selling are also prohibited. Except as noted above, an investment must mature within five years from the date of purchase unless matched to a specific obligation or debt of the District, and must be purchased with the expectation that it will be held to maturity. Investments may only be made through specified dealers and institutions. Payment for investments may be made only upon delivery of the securities representing the investments to the Treasurer or, if the securities are not represented by a certificate, upon receipt of confirmation of transfer from the custodian.

A. Cash on Hand

The District had \$6,420 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the financial statements of the District as part of "equity in pooled cash and investments".

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

B. Deposits with Financial Institutions

At June 30, 2024, the carrying amount of all District deposits was \$1,519,271 and the bank balance of all District deposits was \$1,824,081. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by the FDIC and \$1,574,081 was covered by the Ohio Pooled Collateral System (OPCS).

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of bank failure, the School District will not be able to recover deposits or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The School District has no deposit policy for custodial credit risk beyond the requirements of the State statute. Ohio law requires that deposits either be insured or protected by (1) eligible securities pledged to the School District and deposited with a qualified trustee by the financial institution as security for repayment whose fair value at all times shall be at least 105 percent of the deposits being secured, or (2) participation in the OPCS, a collateral pool of eligible securities deposited with a qualified trustee and pledged to the Treasurer of State to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited in the financial institution. OPCS requires the total fair value of the securities pledged to be 102 percent of the deposits being secured or a reduced rate set by the Treasurer of State. For fiscal year 2024, the District's financial institutions had collateral rate through the OPCS of 102 percent. Although all statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, noncompliance with Federal requirements could potentially subject the District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

C. Investments

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

Measurement/ Investment type	Measurement Value	Investment Maturities				
		6 months or less	7 to 12 months	13 to 18 months	19 to 24 months	Greater than 24 months
<i>Amortized Cost:</i>						
STAR Ohio	\$ 15,026,102	\$ 15,026,102	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Fair Value:</i>						
Negotiable CD's	4,315,734	1,604,472	294,053	407,347	246,772	1,763,090
FHLB	4,204,468	4,204,468	-	-	-	-
FNMA	641,594	641,594	-	-	-	-
Municipal bonds	549,621	-	549,621	-	-	-
U.S. Treasury notes	1,302,549	457,782	844,767	-	-	-
U.S. Treasury bills	4,393,696	4,393,696	-	-	-	-
Commercial paper	8,804,981	4,702,644	4,102,337	-	-	-
U.S. government money market mutual fund	197,878	197,878	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 39,436,623	\$ 31,228,636	\$ 5,790,778	\$ 407,347	\$ 246,772	\$ 1,763,090

The average maturity of investments is 0.38 years.

The District's investments in U.S Government money market mutual funds are valued using quoted market prices (Level 1 inputs). The District's investments in federal agency securities (FHLB and FNMA), negotiable CD's, municipal bonds, U.S. Treasury notes, U.S Treasury bills, and commercial paper are valued using quoted market prices that are not considered to be active, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources for similar assets or liabilities for which all significant inputs are observable, either direct or indirectly (Level 2 inputs).

Interest Rate Risk: As a means of limiting its exposure to fair value losses arising from rising interest rates and according to State law, the District's investment policy limits investment portfolio maturities to five years or less.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - (Continued)

Credit Risk: The District's investments in federal securities (FHLB and FNMA) and U.S. Treasury notes were rated AA+ and Aaa by Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investor Services, respectively. Municipal bond investments were rated AA by Standard & Poor's. Commercial paper investments were rated A-1 and A-1+ by Standard & Poor's and P-1 by Moody's Investor Services. U.S. Treasury bill investments were rated A-1+ by Standard & Poor's and P-1 by Moody's Investor Services. The negotiable CD's are not rated but are fully insured by the FDIC. Standard & Poor's has assigned STAR Ohio and the U.S. government money market mutual fund an AAA money market rating. Ohio Law requires that STAR Ohio maintain the highest rating provided by at least one nationally recognized standard rating service. The District has no investment policy dealing with credit risk.

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

The District has no investment policy dealing with investment custodial risk beyond the requirement in State statute that prohibits payment for investments prior to the delivery of the securities representing such investments to the Treasurer or qualified trustee.

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

<u>Measurement/ Investment type</u>	<u>Measurement Value</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
<i>Amortized Cost:</i>		
STAR Ohio	\$ 15,026,102	38.10
<i>Fair Value:</i>		
Negotiable CD's	4,315,734	10.94
FHLB	4,204,468	10.66
FNMA	641,594	1.63
Municipal bonds	549,621	1.40
U.S. Treasury notes	1,302,549	3.30
U.S. Treasury bills	4,393,696	11.14
Commercial paper	8,804,981	22.33
U.S. government money market mutual fund	<u>197,878</u>	<u>0.50</u>
Total	<u>\$ 39,436,623</u>	<u>100.00</u>

D. Reconciliation of Cash and Investments to the Statement of Net Position

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

<u>Cash and investments per note</u>	
Carrying amount of deposits	\$ 1,519,271
Investments	39,436,623
Cash on hand	6,420
Total	<u>\$ 40,962,314</u>

<u>Cash and investments per statement of net position</u>	
Governmental activities	\$ 40,885,748
Custodial funds	76,566
Total	<u>\$ 40,962,314</u>

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 5 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS

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

<u>Transfer to nonmajor governmental fund from:</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General fund	\$ 25,000
<u>Transfer to classroom facilities fund from:</u>	
Nonmajor governmental fund	3,500,000
Total	<u>\$ 3,525,000</u>

Transfers are used to (1) move revenues from the fund that statute or budget requires to collect them to the fund that statute or budget requires to expend them, and (2) use unrestricted revenues collected in the general fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

The transfer from the building fund (a nonmajor governmental fund) to the classroom facilities fund was in accordance with the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission project agreement.

Interfund transfers between governmental funds are eliminated on the government-wide financial statements; therefore, no transfers are reported in the statement of activities.

B. Interfund balances at June 30, 2024, as reported on the fund financial statements, consist of the following amount due to/from other funds:

<u>Receivable fund</u>	<u>Payable fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General fund	Nonmajor governmental funds	\$ 93,421

The primary purpose of the interfund balances is to cover costs in specific funds where revenues were not received by June 30. These interfund balances will be repaid once the anticipated revenues are received. Interfund loans between governmental funds are eliminated on the statement of net position thus there are no internal balances.

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real property and public utility property. Real property tax revenues received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Real property taxes received in calendar year 2024 were levied after April 1, 2023, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2023, the lien date. Assessed values for real property taxes are established by State statute at 35 percent of appraised 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 revenues received in calendar year 2024 represent the collection of calendar year 2023 taxes. Public utility real and personal property taxes received in calendar year 2024 became a lien on December 31, 2022, were levied after April 1, 2023, and are collected with real property taxes. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; public utility tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES - (Continued)

The District receives property taxes from Columbiana County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2024, are available to finance fiscal year 2024 operations. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2024 and 2023 were:

	<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>June 30, 2023</u>
Major governmental funds:		
General fund	\$ 192,823	\$ 247,931
Nonmajor governmental funds:		
Permanent improvement fund	18,497	24,297

The amount of second-half real property taxes available for advance at fiscal year-end can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

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

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

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

	2023 Second Half Collections		2024 First Half Collections	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Agricultural/residential and other real estate	\$ 191,894,360	49.15	\$ 193,077,960	49.93
Public utility personal	<u>198,513,700</u>	<u>50.85</u>	<u>193,595,610</u>	<u>50.07</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 390,408,060</u></u>	<u><u>100.00</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 386,673,570</u></u>	<u><u>100.00</u></u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$30.60		\$30.60	

NOTE 7 - INCOME TAX

The District levies a voted tax of one-half 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 District after withholding amounts for administrative fees and estimated refunds. Income tax revenue of \$1,117,116 has been credited to the general fund.

NOTE 8 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2024 consisted of taxes, accounts (billings for user charged services and student fees), intergovernmental grants and entitlements and accrued interest. All receivables are considered collectible in full due to the ability to foreclose for the nonpayment of taxes, the stable condition of state programs and the current year guarantee of federal funds.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 8 - RECEIVABLES - (Continued)

A summary of the principal items of receivables reported on the statement of net position follows:

Governmental activities:

Property taxes	\$ 17,296,529
Income taxes	507,173
Accounts	3,544
Accrued interest	58,086
Intergovernmental	<u>7,786,635</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 25,651,967</u></u>

Receivables have been disaggregated on the face of the basic financial statements. All receivables, except property taxes and the OFCC intergovernmental receivable, are expected to be collected within one year. Property taxes, although ultimately collectible, include some portion of delinquencies that will not be collected within one year. The OFCC intergovernmental receivable of \$7,434,324 will be collected over the duration of the construction project.

NOTE 9 - CAPITAL ASSETS

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

	<u>Balance</u>			<u>Balance</u>
	<u>6/30/23</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>6/30/24</u>
Governmental activities:				
<i>Capital assets, not being depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 57,872	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,872
Construction in progress	<u>3,482,817</u>	<u>21,728,719</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,211,536</u>
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	<u><u>3,540,689</u></u>	<u><u>21,728,719</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>25,269,408</u></u>
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated:</i>				
Land improvements	1,835,587	10,950	(10,500)	1,836,037
Buildings and improvements	10,338,638	3,500	-	10,342,138
Furniture and equipment	2,412,807	431,170	(34,659)	2,809,318
Vehicles	<u>2,038,303</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,038,303</u>
Total capital assets, being depreciated	<u><u>16,625,335</u></u>	<u><u>445,620</u></u>	<u><u>(45,159)</u></u>	<u><u>17,025,796</u></u>
<i>Less: accumulated depreciation</i>				
Land improvements	(1,533,534)	(38,367)	1,313	(1,570,588)
Buildings and improvements	(7,641,150)	(204,493)	-	(7,845,643)
Furniture and equipment	(1,999,347)	(89,393)	10,460	(2,078,280)
Vehicles	<u>(1,246,077)</u>	<u>(82,738)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,328,815)</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u><u>(12,420,108)</u></u>	<u><u>(414,991)</u></u>	<u><u>11,773</u></u>	<u><u>(12,823,326)</u></u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u><u>\$ 7,745,916</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 21,759,348</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (33,386)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 29,471,878</u></u>

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 9 - CAPITAL ASSETS - (Continued)

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction:

Regular	\$ 147,980
Special	17,844
Vocational	12,791

Support services:

Pupil	4,557
Instructional staff	6,443
Administration	4,576
Fiscal	1,741
Business	35,443
Operations and maintenance	23,262
Pupil transportation	94,097
Extracurricular activities	52,134
Food service operations	<u>14,123</u>
Total depreciation expense	<u><u>\$ 414,991</u></u>

NOTE 10 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

A. During fiscal year 2024, the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term obligations:

	Balance Outstanding 6/30/2023		<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	Balance Outstanding 6/30/2024		<u>Amounts Due in One Year</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u> </u>	<u>\$</u>	<u> </u>	<u>\$</u>	<u> </u>	
Governmental activities:							
Compensated absences	\$ 1,864,214		\$ 204,606	\$ (145,047)	\$ 1,923,773		\$ 167,449
Certificates of participation, series 2021 (direct borrowing)	21,310,000		-	(1,525,000)	19,785,000		845,000
Certificates of participation, series 2022 (direct borrowing)	3,750,000		-	(265,000)	3,485,000		235,000
Net pension liability	13,871,972		44,403	(41,696)	13,874,679		-
Net OPEB liability	<u>548,537</u>		<u>73,943</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>622,480</u>		<u>-</u>
Total governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 41,344,723</u></u>		<u><u>\$ 322,952</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (1,976,743)</u></u>	<u><u>39,690,932</u></u>		<u><u>\$ 1,247,449</u></u>
Add: unamortized premiums						<u>2,337,168</u>	
Total on statement of net position						<u><u>\$ 42,028,100</u></u>	

Compensated absences - Compensated absences will be paid from the fund from which the person is paid which, for the District, is primarily the general fund and the food service fund (a nonmajor governmental fund).

Net pension liability - See Note 13 for details.

Net OPEB liability/asset - See Note 14 for details.

B. Certificates of participation, Series 2021 - On June 17, 2021, the District issued \$24,500,000 in certificates of participation, for the purpose of constructing, improving, furnishing, and equipping, lease, and eventual acquisition of school facilities or improvements to school facilities. Principal payments and interest payments are made from the general fund. The interest rate ranges from 2.375% to 4.00%. Interest payments are due on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The final maturity stated in the issue is December 1, 2050.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

Certificates of participation, Series 2022 - On August 11, 2022, the District issued \$4,000,000 in certificates of participation, for the purpose of constructing, improving, furnishing, and equipping, lease, and eventual acquisition of school facilities or improvements to school facilities. Principal payments and interest payments are made from the general fund. The interest rate ranges from 4.125% to 5.00%. Interest payments are due on June 1 and December 1 of each year. The final maturity stated in the issue is December 1, 2042.

Certificates of participation are considered direct borrowings. Direct borrowings have terms negotiated directly between the District and the lender and are not offered for public sale. The District and Buckeye Leasing Services have entered into a Base Lease and Lease-Purchase Agreement, dated June 17, 2021, and together with the Supplemental Lease, dated August 11, 2022, pursuant to which the District will lease the Project Site to Buckeye Leasing Services and Buckeye Leasing Services will lease the Project Facilities and sublease the Project Site to the District in consideration for the District's agreement to lease the Project Facilities and construct, improve, furnish and equip the school facilities, and make payment of the Rent and certain Further Payments. In addition to the lease of the Project Site to Buckeye Leasing Services, the District has agreed to lease the Existing Facilities to Buckeye Leasing Services for a period commencing on the Closing Date and continuing until the Demolition Completion Date, which Existing Facilities are leased back to the District pursuant to the terms of the Lease. The Lease provides for a Base Lease Term that will run from August 11, 2022 through December 1, 2055 and for 30 one-year (or partial year) Renewal Periods of the Lease Term, the last of which Renewal Periods will run from July 1, 2050 through December 1, 2050.

Buckeye Leasing Services has assigned all of its rights, title and interests under the Lease (including rights to Lease Payments) and in the Project Facilities and the Project Site to the Zions Bancorporation, National Association.

The Project Site and Project Facilities are collateral for the debt as, in the event of default or "Nonappropriation of Funds", the Lease Term will terminate at the end of the then-current Lease Term and the District will have no further obligation to pay Rent. Zions Bancorporation, National Association, as assignee under the Lease Assignment, will have certain remedies under the Lease, including the right to take possession of the Project Facilities and enter upon the Project Site for the remainder of the Base Lease Term.

The District has established a Lease Payment Account with Zions Bank, the trustee. At June 30, 2024 the balance in the account was \$20,991. Lease payments made by the District to the Trustee will be deposited in the Lease Payment Account.

At June 30, 2024 the amount of unspent certificates of participation proceeds are \$3,288,464.

The following is a summary of the District's future annual debt service requirements to maturity for the certificates of participation:

Fiscal Year Ended,	Certificates of Participation - Series 2021			Certificates of Participation - Series 2022		
	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 845,000	\$ 651,050	\$ 1,496,050	\$ 235,000	\$ 159,275	\$ 394,275
2026	790,000	626,525	1,416,525	235,000	147,525	382,525
2027	770,000	599,275	1,369,275	225,000	136,025	361,025
2028	745,000	568,975	1,313,975	230,000	124,650	354,650
2029	730,000	539,475	1,269,475	230,000	113,150	343,150
2030-2034	4,405,000	2,216,475	6,621,475	960,000	409,000	1,369,000
2035-2039	4,525,000	1,280,875	5,805,875	800,000	201,712	1,001,712
2040-2044	3,715,000	599,363	4,314,363	570,000	45,994	615,994
2045-2049	2,580,000	222,656	2,802,656	-	-	-
2050-2051	680,000	15,556	695,556	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 19,785,000</u>	<u>\$ 7,320,225</u>	<u>\$ 27,105,225</u>	<u>\$ 3,485,000</u>	<u>\$ 1,337,331</u>	<u>\$ 4,822,331</u>

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 10 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS - (Continued)

C. Legal Debt Margin

The Ohio Revised Code provides that voted net general obligation debt of the District shall never exceed 9% of the total assessed valuation of the District. The code further provides that unvoted indebtedness shall not exceed 1/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The code additionally states that unvoted indebtedness related to energy conservation debt shall not exceed 9/10 of 1% of the property valuation of the District. The assessed valuation used in determining the District's legal debt margin has been modified by House Bill 530 which became effective March 30, 2006. In accordance with House Bill 530, the assessed valuation used in the District's legal debt margin calculation excluded tangible personal property used in business, telephone or telegraph property, interexchange telecommunications company property, and personal property owned or leased by a railroad company and used in railroad operations. The effects of these debt limitations at June 30, 2024, are a voted debt margin of \$34,800,621 and an unvoted debt margin of \$386,674.

NOTE 11 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave components are derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Classified employees earn up to twenty days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Vacation days are credited to administrators on the anniversary of their employment. Classified employees are credited monthly. Vacation days must be used within the next twelve months. Classified staff can carry over five days and administrators can carry over ten days to the next school year. Administrators can be paid for a maximum of ten unused vacation days. Accumulated unused vacation time is paid to administrators and classified employees upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time. Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at the rate of one and one-fourth days per month. A percentage of unused sick time is paid at retirement. The number of unused sick days which can accumulate is restricted per negotiated agreement.

NOTE 12 - RISK MANAGEMENT

A. Property and Liability

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees and natural disasters.

These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. The following is a summary of the District's insurance coverage with SORSA as of June 30, 2024:

<u>Coverage</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Building & Business Personal Property	\$ 57,819,426
Flood and Earthquake	10,000,000
Equipment Breakdown	57,819,426
Crime Insurance	1,000,000
General Liability:	
Per Occurrence	15,000,000
Educators Legal Liability	15,000,000
Automobile Liability	15,000,000
Uninsured Motorists	1,000,000

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 12 - RISK MANAGEMENT - (Continued)

B. OASBO Group Workers' Compensation Rating Program

The District participates in the Ohio Association of School Business Official Workers' Compensation Group Rating Program (the "Program"), an insurance purchasing pool (Note 2.A.). The intent of the Program is to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the Program. Participants in the Program are placed on tiers according to their loss history. Participants with low loss histories are rewarded with greater savings than participants with higher loss histories. Each participant pays its workers' compensation premium to the State based on the rate for the Program tier rather than its individual rate. Participation in the Program is limited to school districts that can meet the Program's selection criteria. The firm of Sheakley UniService, Inc. provides administrative, cost control and actuarial services to the Program.

C. Employee Medical Benefits

The District is a member of the Portage Area School Consortium (the "Consortium"), a risk sharing pool (see Note 2.A), through which a cooperative Health Benefit Program was created for the benefits of its members. The Health Benefit Program (the "Program") is an employee health benefit plan which covers the participating members' employees. The Consortium acts as a fiscal agent for the cash funds paid into the program by the participating school districts. These funds are pooled together for the purposes of paying health benefit claims of employees and their covered dependents, administrative expenses of the program and premiums for stop-loss insurance coverage. A reserve exists which is to cover any unpaid claims if the District were to withdraw from the pool. If the reserve would not cover such claims, the District would be liable for any costs above the reserve.

NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

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

Net Pension Liability/Net OPEB Liability/Asset

The net pension liability and the net OPEB liability/asset reported on the statement of net position represents a liability or asset to employees for pensions and OPEB, respectively.

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

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

The remainder of this note includes the required pension disclosures. See Note 14 for the required OPEB disclosures.

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

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Age and service requirements for retirement are as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$210,489 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$9,189 is reported as intergovernmental payable.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

New members have a choice of three retirement plans: a Defined Benefit (DB) Plan, a Defined Contribution (DC) Plan and a Combined (CO) Plan. Benefits are established by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 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 2.20% of final average salary for the five highest years of earnings multiplied by all years of service.

Eligibility changes for DB Plan members who retire with actuarially reduced benefits will be phased in until August 1, 2023. Effective Aug. 1, 2023 - July 1, 2028, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 34 years of service credit at any age or five years of service credit and age 65. Retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 30 years of service credit at any age; or 29 years of service credit and age 55; or five years of service credit and age 60. Effective on or after Aug. 1, 2028, any member can retire with unreduced benefits with 35 years of service credit at any age or five years of service credit and age 65. Retirement eligibility for reduced benefits is 30 years of service credit at any age or five years of service credit and age 60.

The DC Plan allows members to place all of their member contributions and 11.09% 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. The remaining 2.91% of the 14% employer rate is allocated to the defined benefit unfunded liability. A member is eligible to receive a retirement benefit at age 50 and termination of employment. The member may elect to receive a lifetime monthly annuity or a lump sum withdrawal.

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

The District's contractually required contribution to STRS was \$995,803 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$169,084 is reported as intergovernmental payable.

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

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net pension liability prior measurement date	0.03833690%	0.05307399%	
Proportion of the net pension liability current measurement date	<u>0.03677240%</u>	<u>0.05499350%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00156450%</u>	<u>0.00191951%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,031,862	\$ 11,842,817	\$ 13,874,679
Pension expense	\$ 179,840	\$ 950,252	\$ 1,130,092

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

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COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 87,334	\$ 431,766	\$ 519,100
Changes of assumptions	14,392	975,320	989,712
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	-	277,268	277,268
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	210,489	995,803	1,206,292
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 312,215</u>	<u>\$ 2,680,157</u>	<u>\$ 2,992,372</u>
 Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 26,278	\$ 26,278
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	28,558	35,492	64,050
Changes of assumptions	-	734,135	734,135
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	86,645	223,006	309,651
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 115,203</u>	<u>\$ 1,018,911</u>	<u>\$ 1,134,114</u>

\$1,206,292 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	<u>SERS</u>	<u>STRS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2025	\$ (34,042)	\$ (154,083)	\$ (188,125)
2026	(97,730)	(431,918)	(529,648)
2027	116,783	1,245,634	1,362,417
2028	<u>1,512</u>	<u>5,810</u>	<u>7,322</u>
Total	<u>\$ (13,477)</u>	<u>\$ 665,443</u>	<u>\$ 651,966</u>

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

SERS' total pension liability was determined by their actuaries in accordance with GASB Statement No. 67, as part of their annual actuarial valuation for each defined benefit retirement plan. Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts (e.g., salaries, credited service) and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future (e.g., mortality, disabilities, retirements, employment 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.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

Wage inflation:

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

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

COLA or ad hoc COLA:

Current measurement date	2.00%
Prior measurement date	2.00%

Investment rate of return:

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

Discount rate:

Current measurement date	7.00%
Prior measurement date	7.00%

Actuarial cost method

Entry age normal (level percent of payroll)

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

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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

	1% Decrease	Current Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 2,998,928	\$ 2,031,862	\$ 1,217,298

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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

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

* Final target weights reflected at October 1, 2022.

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 13 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 18,211,630	\$ 11,842,817	\$ 6,456,542

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

NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS

Net OPEB Liability/Asset

See Note 13 for a description of the net OPEB liability (asset).

Plan Description - School Employees Retirement System (SERS)

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

Access to health care for retirees and beneficiaries is permitted in accordance with Section 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Health Care Fund was established and is administered in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 105(e). SERS' Retirement Board reserves the right to change or discontinue any 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.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Funding Policy - State statute permits SERS to fund the health care benefits through employer contributions. Each year, after the allocation for statutorily required pensions and benefits, the Retirement Board may allocate the remainder of the employer contribution of 14% of covered payroll to the Health Care Fund in accordance with the funding policy. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, SERS did not allocate any employer contributions to post-employment health care. An additional health care surcharge on employers is collected for employees earning less than an actuarially determined minimum compensation amount, pro-rated if less than a full year of service credit was earned. For fiscal year 2024, this amount was \$30,000. Statutes provide that no employer shall pay a health care surcharge greater than 2% of that employer's SERS-covered payroll; nor may SERS collect in aggregate more than 1.5% of the total statewide SERS-covered payroll for the health care surcharge. For fiscal year 2024, the District's surcharge obligation was \$25,709.

The surcharge added to the allocated portion of the 14% employer contribution rate is the total amount assigned to the Health Care Fund. The District's contractually required contribution to SERS was \$25,709 for fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$25,709 is reported as intergovernmental payable.

Plan Description - State Teachers Retirement System (STRS)

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

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

Net OPEB Liabilities/Assets, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

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

Following is information related to the proportionate share and OPEB expense:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset prior measurement date	0.03906930%	0.05307399%	
Proportion of the net OPEB liability/asset current measurement date	<u>0.03778460%</u>	<u>0.05499350%</u>	
Change in proportionate share	<u>-0.00128470%</u>	<u>0.00191951%</u>	
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 622,480	\$ -	\$ 622,480
Proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ -	\$ (1,069,548)	\$ (1,069,548)
OPEB expense	\$ (76,900)	\$ (62,321)	\$ (139,221)

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

	SERS	STRS	Total
Deferred outflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 1,296	\$ 1,670	\$ 2,966
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments	4,822	1,911	6,733
Changes of assumptions	210,475	157,558	368,033
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	38,637	3,899	42,536
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	25,709	-	25,709
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 280,939</u>	<u>\$ 165,038</u>	<u>\$ 445,977</u>
Deferred inflows of resources			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 321,031	\$ 163,136	\$ 484,167
Changes of assumptions	176,787	705,677	882,464
Difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions/ change in proportionate share	97,355	6,438	103,793
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 595,173</u>	<u>\$ 875,251</u>	<u>\$ 1,470,424</u>

\$25,709 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from District contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability/asset in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

	SERS	STRS	Total
Fiscal Year Ending June 30:			
2025	\$ (105,738)	\$ (311,662)	\$ (417,400)
2026	(92,459)	(144,585)	(237,044)
2027	(53,947)	(55,744)	(109,691)
2028	(36,093)	(75,326)	(111,419)
2029	(32,100)	(69,012)	(101,112)
Thereafter	<u>(19,606)</u>	<u>(53,884)</u>	<u>(73,490)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (339,943)</u>	<u>\$ (710,213)</u>	<u>\$ (1,050,156)</u>

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions - SERS

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

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

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

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

Wage inflation:

Current measurement date	2.40%
Prior measurement date	2.40%

Future salary increases, including inflation:

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

Investment rate of return:

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

Municipal bond index rate:

Current measurement date	3.86%
Prior measurement date	3.69%

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

Current measurement date	4.27%
Prior measurement date	4.08%

Medical trend assumption:

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

In 2023, the following mortality assumptions were used:

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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.

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 795,708	\$ 622,480	\$ 485,883
<hr/>			
	Current		
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 457,315	\$ 622,480	\$ 841,347

Actuarial Assumptions - STRS

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB PLANS - (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 14 - DEFINED BENEFIT OPEB 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	<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' investment consultant indicates that the above target allocations should generate a return above the actuarial rate of return, without net value added by management.

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

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

	Current		
	1% Decrease	Discount Rate	1% Increase
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB asset	\$ 905,232	\$ 1,069,548	\$ 1,212,649
Current			
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase
	\$ 1,219,289	\$ 1,069,548	\$ 889,186

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 15 - CONTINGENCIES

A. Grants

The District receives significant financial assistance from numerous federal, State and local agencies in the form of grants. The disbursement of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the District. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material effect on the financial position of the District.

B. Litigation

The District is not party to legal proceedings that would have a material effect, if any, on the financial condition of the District.

C. 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 and Workforce (ODEW) is legislatively required to follow will continue to adjust as enrollment information is updated by the District, which can extend past the fiscal year-end. The final adjustment was not material and is not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

NOTE 16 - SET-ASIDES

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

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

	<u>Capital Improvements</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2023	\$ -
Current year set-aside requirement	233,393
Current year qualifying expenditures	(149,201)
Current year offsets	<u>(749,166)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (664,974)</u>
Balance carried forward to fiscal year 2025	<u>\$ -</u>
Set-aside balance June 30, 2024	<u>\$ -</u>

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 17 - OTHER COMMITMENTS

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

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Year-End Encumbrances</u>
General	\$ 14,380
Classroom facilities	28,515,073
Other governmental	<u>3,900,032</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 32,429,485</u></u>

NOTE 18 - CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

As of June 30, 2024, the District had the following contractual commitments:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Contractual Commitment</u>	<u>Amount Paid as of 6/30/2024</u>	<u>Amount Remaining on Contract</u>
Hammond Construction	\$ 52,598,275	\$ 18,216,658	\$ 34,381,617
SHP	3,794,152	3,069,073	725,079
Four Seasons Environmental	182,610	26,372	156,238
Project Management Consultants	<u>15,000</u>	<u>10,500</u>	<u>4,500</u>
	<u><u>\$ 56,590,037</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 21,322,603</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 35,267,434</u></u>

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts Budgetary Basis	Variance with Final Budget - over (under) Actual Amounts
	Original	Final		
Budgetary revenues and other financing sources	\$ 16,049,480	\$ 16,297,385	\$ 16,415,298	\$ 117,913
Budgetary expenditures and other financing uses	<u>18,372,822</u>	<u>17,160,250</u>	<u>17,141,684</u>	<u>(18,566)</u>
Net change in fund balance	(2,323,342)	(862,865)	(726,386)	136,479
Budgetary fund balance at beginning of year	5,603,430	5,603,430	5,603,430	-
Prior year encumbrances appropriated	9,367	9,367	9,367	-
Budgetary fund balance at end of year	<u>\$ 3,289,455</u>	<u>\$ 4,749,932</u>	<u>\$ 4,886,411</u>	<u>\$ 136,479</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND
DISTRICT PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO**

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1)	District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	District's Covered Payroll	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2024	0.03677240%	\$ 2,031,862	\$ 1,494,557	135.95%	76.06%
2023	0.03833690%	2,073,558	1,384,836	149.73%	75.82%
2022	0.03977970%	1,467,756	1,379,950	106.36%	82.86%
2021	0.03703880%	2,449,824	1,294,621	189.23%	68.55%
2020	0.03873000%	2,317,284	1,293,815	179.10%	70.85%
2019	0.04018590%	2,301,521	1,360,281	169.19%	71.36%
2018	0.03838300%	2,293,299	1,261,443	181.80%	69.50%
2017	0.03914670%	2,885,177	1,217,107	237.05%	62.98%
2016	0.03889690%	2,219,495	1,171,002	189.54%	69.16%
2015	0.03977800%	2,013,142	1,155,887	174.16%	71.70%

Fiscal Year	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions		Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ 210,489	\$ (210,489)	\$ -	\$ 1,503,493	14.00%
2023	209,238	(209,238)	-	1,494,557	14.00%
2022	193,877	(193,877)	-	1,384,836	14.00%
2021	193,193	(193,193)	-	1,379,950	14.00%
2020	181,247	(181,247)	-	1,294,621	14.00%
2019	174,665	(174,665)	-	1,293,815	13.50%
2018	183,638	(183,638)	-	1,360,281	13.50%
2017	176,602	(176,602)	-	1,261,443	14.00%
2016	170,395	(170,395)	-	1,217,107	14.00%
2015	154,338	(154,338)	-	1,171,002	13.18%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET PENSION LIABILITY AND
DISTRICT PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO**

LAST TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1)	District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	District's Covered Payroll	District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2024	0.05499350%	\$ 11,842,817	\$ 7,429,450	159.40%	80.02%
2023	0.05307399%	11,798,414	6,924,957	170.38%	78.88%
2022	0.05434166%	6,948,070	6,765,207	102.70%	87.78%
2021	0.05479348%	13,258,072	6,607,914	200.64%	75.48%
2020	0.05502928%	12,169,395	6,486,236	187.62%	77.40%
2019	0.05466739%	12,020,132	6,476,821	185.59%	77.31%
2018	0.05427150%	12,892,311	6,130,086	210.31%	75.30%
2017	0.05493731%	18,389,174	5,849,150	314.39%	66.80%
2016	0.05229855%	14,453,789	5,456,479	264.89%	72.10%
2015	0.05214904%	12,684,451	5,328,192	238.06%	74.70%

Fiscal Year	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions		Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ 995,803	\$ (995,803)	\$ -	\$ 7,112,879	14.00%
2023	1,040,123	(1,040,123)	-	7,429,450	14.00%
2022	969,494	(969,494)	-	6,924,957	14.00%
2021	947,129	(947,129)	-	6,765,207	14.00%
2020	925,108	(925,108)	-	6,607,914	14.00%
2019	908,073	(908,073)	-	6,486,236	14.00%
2018	906,755	(906,755)	-	6,476,821	14.00%
2017	858,212	(858,212)	-	6,130,086	14.00%
2016	818,881	(818,881)	-	5,849,150	14.00%
2015	763,907	(763,907)	-	5,456,479	14.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY AND
DISTRICT OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS
SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO**

LAST EIGHT AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1) (2)	District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability	District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	District's Covered Payroll	District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability
2024	0.03778460%	\$ 622,480	\$ 1,494,557	41.65%	30.02%
2023	0.03906930%	548,537	1,384,836	39.61%	30.34%
2022	0.04103270%	776,577	1,379,950	56.28%	24.08%
2021	0.03861000%	839,122	1,294,621	64.82%	18.17%
2020	0.03964530%	996,996	1,293,815	77.06%	15.57%
2019	0.04091220%	1,135,015	1,360,281	83.44%	13.57%
2018	0.03917740%	1,051,418	1,261,443	83.35%	12.46%
2017	0.03974307%	1,132,824	1,217,107	93.08%	11.49%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ 25,709	\$ (25,709)	\$ -	\$ 1,503,493	1.71%
2023	27,328	(27,328)	-	1,494,557	1.83%
2022	24,847	(24,847)	-	1,384,836	1.79%
2021	26,427	(26,427)	-	1,379,950	1.92%
2020	25,631	(25,631)	-	1,294,621	1.98%
2019	30,455	(30,455)	-	1,293,815	2.35%
2018	29,206	(29,206)	-	1,360,281	2.15%
2017	22,405	(22,405)	-	1,261,443	1.78%
2016	20,420	(20,420)	-	1,217,107	1.68%
2015	30,036	(30,036)	-	1,171,002	2.56%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

SCHEDULES OF THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF
THE NET OPEB LIABILITY/(ASSET) AND
DISTRICT OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS
STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO**

LAST EIGHT AND TEN FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal Year (1) (2)	District's Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset)	District's Covered Payroll	District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability/(Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability/(Asset)
2024	0.05499350%	\$ (1,069,548)	\$ 7,429,450	14.40%	168.52%
2023	0.05307399%	(1,374,262)	6,924,957	19.85%	230.73%
2022	0.05434166%	(1,145,750)	6,765,207	16.94%	174.73%
2021	0.05479348%	(962,995)	6,607,914	14.57%	182.10%
2020	0.05502928%	(911,417)	6,486,236	14.05%	174.70%
2019	0.05466739%	(878,449)	6,476,821	13.56%	176.00%
2018	0.05427150%	2,117,474	6,130,086	34.54%	47.10%
2017	0.05493731%	2,938,062	5,849,150	50.23%	37.33%

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contributions	Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contributions	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	District's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,112,879	0.00%
2023	-	-	-	7,429,450	0.00%
2022	-	-	-	6,924,957	0.00%
2021	-	-	-	6,765,207	0.00%
2020	-	-	-	6,607,914	0.00%
2019	-	-	-	6,486,236	0.00%
2018	-	-	-	6,476,821	0.00%
2017	-	-	-	6,130,086	0.00%
2016	-	-	-	5,849,150	0.00%
2015	-	-	-	5,456,479	0.00%

(1) Amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the District's measurement date which is the prior year-end.

(2) Information prior to 2017 is not available. Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years.

Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 1 - BUDGETARY PROCESS

While reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balance on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts and disbursements.

The schedule of revenue, expenditures and changes in fund balance - budget and actual (non-GAAP budgetary basis) presented for the general fund is presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and the GAAP basis are that:

- (a) Revenues and other financing sources are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis);
- (b) Expenditures and other financing uses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis);
- (c) In order to determine compliance with Ohio law, and to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, total outstanding encumbrances (budget basis) are recorded as the equivalent of an expenditure, as opposed to assigned or committed fund balance for that portion of outstanding encumbrances not already recognized as an account payable (GAAP basis); and
- (d) Some funds are included in the general fund (GAAP basis), but have separate legally adopted budgets (budget basis).

The adjustments necessary to convert the results of operations for the year on the budget basis to the GAAP basis is as follows:

Net Change in Fund Balance	
	<u>General fund</u>
Budget basis	\$ (726,386)
Net adjustment for revenue and other financing sources accruals	92,276
Net adjustment for expenditure and other financing uses accruals	(218,756)
Funds budgeted elsewhere	(11,380)
Adjustments for encumbrances	<u>14,380</u>
GAAP Basis	<u><u>\$ (849,866)</u></u>

As part of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, “Fund Balance Reporting”, certain funds that are legally budgeted in separate special revenue funds are considered part of the general fund. This includes the sunshine fund, the special rotary fund, the adult education fund, the uniform school supplies fund, the public school support fund and the State of political subdivision fund.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

PENSION

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, SERS changed from a fixed 3% annual increase to a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), with a cap of 2.5% and a floor of 0%.
- For fiscal year 2019, with the authority granted the Board under Senate Bill 8, the Board has enacted a three year COLA delay for future benefit recipients commencing benefits on or after April 1, 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, SERS changed from a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 2.5% to 2.0%.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- For fiscal year 2024, SERS changed from a COLA of 2.0% to 2.5%.

Change in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- For fiscal year 2017, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement and (h) the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50%-18.20% to 3.25%-13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS decreased the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to zero.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.

Changes in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2015.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2016.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (b) the inflation assumption was lowered from 2.75% to 2.50%, (c) the payroll growth assumption was lowered to 3.00%, (d) total salary increases rate was lowered by decreasing the merit component of the individual salary increases, in addition to a decrease of 0.25% due to lower inflation, (e) the healthy and disabled mortality assumptions were updated to the RP-2014 mortality tables with generational improvement scale MP-2016 and (f) rates of retirement, termination and disability were modified to better reflect anticipated future experience.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2021.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total pension liability since the prior measurement date: the projected salary increases went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by service from 2.50% to 8.50%.
- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2024.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (SERS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2017.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2018.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2019.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2020.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2021.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2022.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts reported for fiscal year 2024.

Change in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) assumed rate of inflation was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%, (b) payroll growth assumption was reduced from 4.00% to 3.50%, (c) assumed real wage growth was reduced from 0.75% to 0.50%, (d) rates of withdrawal, retirement, and disability were updated to reflect recent experience, (e) mortality among active members was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection and a five-year age set-back for both males and females, (f) mortality among service retired members and beneficiaries was updated to the following: RP-2014 Blue Collar Mortality Table with fully generational projection with Scale BB, 120% of male rates, and 110% of female rates, (g) mortality among disabled members was updated to the following: RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, 90% for male rates and 100% for female rates, set back five years is used for the period after disability retirement, (h) the municipal bond index rate increased from 2.92% to 3.56% and (i) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 2.98% to 3.63%.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate increased from 3.63% to 3.70%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.50%-5.00% to a range of 5.375%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.50%-5.00% to a range of 7.25%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate increased from 3.56% to 3.62% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation increased from 3.63% to 3.70%.
- For fiscal year 2020, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%, (b) the health care cost trend rates for Medicare were changed from a range of 5.375%-4.75% to a range of 5.25%-4.75% and Pre-Medicare were changed from a range of 7.25%-4.75% to a range of 7.00%-4.75%, (c) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.62% to 3.13% and (d) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.70% to 3.22%.
- For fiscal year 2021, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate decreased from 3.22% to 2.63% and (b) the municipal bond index rate decreased from 3.13% to 2.45%, and (c) the single equivalent interest rate, net of plan investment expense, including price inflation decreased from 3.22% to 2.63%.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) wage inflation decreased from 3.00% to 2.40%, (b) future salary increases changed from 3.50%-18.20% to 3.25%-13.58%, (c) investment rate of return decreased from 7.50% to 7.00%, (d) discount rate decreased from 7.50% to 7.00% and (e) mortality tables changed from the RP-2014 Blue Collar mortality table to the PUB-2010 General Employee Amount Weighted Below Median Healthy Retiree mortality table.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 1.92% to 3.69%, (b) single equivalent interest rate went from 2.27% to 4.08% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 5.125% to 4.40% Medicare and 6.75% to 4.40% Pre-Medicare to 7.00% to 4.40%.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumptions affect the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) municipal bond index rate went from 3.69% to 3.86%, (b) single equivalent interest rate went from 4.08% to 4.27% and (c) medical trend assumptions went from 7.00% to 4.40% to 6.75% to 4.40%.

STATE TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM (STRS) OF OHIO

Change in benefit terms:

- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, STRS reduced the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 2.1% to 1.9% per year of service. Medicare Part B premium reimbursements were discontinued for certain survivors and beneficiaries and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 2019.
- For fiscal year 2019, STRS increased the subsidy multiplier for non-Medicare benefit recipients from 1.9% to 1.944% per year of service effective January 1, 2019. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased January 1, 2019 and all remaining Medicare Part B premium reimbursements will be discontinued beginning January 1, 2020.
- For fiscal year 2020, STRS increased the subsidy percentage from 1.944% to 1.984% effective January 1, 2020. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed to January 1, 2021.
- For fiscal year 2021, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2021 from 1.984% to 2.055% per year of service. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2021. The Medicare subsidy percentages were adjusted effective January 1, 2021 to 2.1% for the AMA Medicare plan. The Medicare Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- For fiscal year 2022, the non-Medicare subsidy percentage was increased effective January 1, 2022 from 2.055% to 2.100%. The non-Medicare frozen subsidy base premium was increased effective January 1, 2022. The Medicare Part D subsidy was updated to reflect it is expected to be negative in CY2022. The Part B monthly reimbursement elimination date was postponed indefinitely.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2023.
- There were no changes in benefit terms from the amounts previously reported for fiscal year 2024.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY, OHIO**

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

NOTE 2 - PENSIONS & OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) - (Continued)

Change in assumptions:

- There were no changes in methods and assumptions used in the calculation of actuarial determined contributions for fiscal year 2017.
- For fiscal year 2018, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from 3.26% to 4.13% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB), (b) the long term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.75% to 7.45%, (c) valuation year per capita health care costs were updated, and the salary scale was modified, (d) the percentage of future retirees electing each option was updated based on current data and the percentage of future disabled retirees and terminated vested participants electing health coverage were decreased and (e) the assumed mortality, disability, retirement, withdrawal and future health care cost trend rates were modified along with the portion of rebated prescription drug costs.
- For fiscal year 2019, the following changes of assumptions affected the total OPEB liability/asset since the prior measurement date: (a) the discount rate was increased from the blended rate of 4.13% to the long-term expected rate of return of 7.45% based on the methodology defined under GASB Statement No. 74, Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans (OPEB) and (b) decrease in health care cost trend rates from 6.00%-11.00% initial; 4.50% ultimate down to Medical Pre-Medicare 6.00% and Medicare 5.00% initial; 4.00% ultimate and Prescription Drug Pre-Medicare 8.00% and Medicare (5.23%) initial; 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2020, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 6.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 8.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate and (5.23%) initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2021, health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical pre-Medicare from 5.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate; medical Medicare from 4.93% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to -6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug pre-Medicare from 7.73% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 9.62% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2022, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) the long-term expected rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00%, (b) the discount rate of return was reduced from 7.45% to 7.00% and (c) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: medical Medicare from -6.69% initial - 4.00% ultimate down to -16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate; prescription drug Medicare from 11.87% initial - 4.00% ultimate up to 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2023, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) projected salary increase went from 12.50% at age 20 to 2.50% at age 65 to varies by services from 2.50% to 8.50% and (b) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 5.00% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate; medical Medicare from -16.18% initial - 4.00% ultimate to -68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 6.50% initial - 4.00% ultimate to 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate; Medicare from 29.98% initial - 4.00% ultimate to -5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate.
- For fiscal year 2024, the following changes of assumption affected the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement date: (a) health care cost trend rates were changed to the following: Pre-Medicare from 7.50% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 7.50% initial - 4.14% ultimate; medical Medicare from -68.78% initial - 3.94% ultimate to -10.94% initial - 4.14% ultimate; prescription drug Pre-Medicare from 9.00% initial - 3.94% ultimate to -11.95% initial - 4.14% ultimate; Medicare from -5.47% initial - 3.94% ultimate to 1.33% initial - 4.14% ultimate.

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**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

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

FEDERAL GRANTOR <i>Pass Through Grantor</i> Program / Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Pass Through Entity Identifying Number	Total Federal Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>			
Child Nutrition Cluster:			
School Breakfast Program	10.553	006	\$ 61,322
National School Lunch Program	10.555	006	192,773
National School Lunch Program - Commodities	10.555	006	56,849
COVID-19 National School Lunch Program	10.555	006	29,432
Total Child Nutrition Cluster			<u>340,376</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			<u>340,376</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			
<i>Passed Through Ohio Department of Education and Workforce</i>			
Title I Delinquent	84.010	572-9024	87,119
Title I Disadvantaged Children	84.010	572-9124	225,690
Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	84.010	572-9123	36,044
Total Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies			<u>348,853</u>
Improving Teacher Quality - State Grants	84.367	590-9024	47,742
Total Improving Teach Quality - State Grants			<u>47,742</u>
Student Support & Academic Enrichment	84.424	584-9024	20,796
Total Title IV-A Student Support and Academic Enrichment			<u>20,796</u>
COVID-19 ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund	84.425U	507-9024	434,218
Total Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Refieif (ESSER) Fund			<u>434,218</u>
Total U.S. Department of Education			<u>851,609</u>
Total Expenditures of Federal Awards			<u>\$ 1,191,985</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

**UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY**

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

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the Schedule) includes the federal award activity of United Local School District (the District) under programs of the federal government for the year ended June 30, 2024. The information on this Schedule is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the District.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

NOTE C – INDIRECT COST RATE

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

NOTE D - CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER

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

NOTE E – FOOD DONATION PROGRAM

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



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**

United Local School District
Columbiana County
8143 State Route 9
Hanoverton, Ohio 44423

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 financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the United Local School District, Columbiana County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 4, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

United Local School District
Columbiana County
Independent Auditor's Report On Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters
Required By *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of This Report

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



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 4, 2025



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

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

United Local School District
Columbiana County
8143 State Route 9
Hanoverton, Ohio 44423

To the Board of Education:

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

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

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

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

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

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

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

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

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

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

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

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

United Local School District

Columbiana County

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with Requirements

Applicable to the Major Federal Program and on Internal Control Over

Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Page 3

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

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

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



Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

March 4, 2025

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UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
COLUMBIANA COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
2 CFR § 200.515
JUNE 30, 2024

1. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

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

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

None

3. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

None

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OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



UNITED LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

COLUMBIANA 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 3/18/2025

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
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