



**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

REGULAR AUDIT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000



**JIM PETRO
AUDITOR OF STATE**

STATE OF OHIO

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

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STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

One Government Center
Room 1420
Toledo, Ohio 43604-2246
Telephone 419-245-2811
800-443-9276
Facsimile 419-245-2484
www.auditor.state.oh.us

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

Van Buren Local School District
Hancock County
217 South Main Street
Van Buren, Ohio 45889-9720

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of Van Buren Local School District, Hancock County, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2000, as listed in the table of contents. These general-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the District's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general-purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Van Buren Local School District, Hancock County, as of June 30, 2000, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its enterprise funds for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 24, 2001 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 grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

January 24, 2001

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**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**Combined Balance Sheet
All Fund Types and Account Groups
June 30, 2000**

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects
Assets and Other Debits:				
<u>Assets:</u>				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$1,512,376	\$164,372	\$0	\$180,954
Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents		5,719	4,653	
<u>Receivables:</u>				
Property Taxes	4,696,167			253,334
Accounts Intergovernmental	129	621		
Interest	7,760	2,000		
Prepaid Items	33,431	317		
Inventory Held for Resale				
Materials and Supplies Inventory	6,590			
<u>Restricted Assets:</u>				
Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents	184,215			
Fixed Assets (net, where applicable, of accumulated depreciation)				
<u>Other Debits:</u>				
Amount Available in Special Revenue Fund for Payment of Termination Benefits				
Amount to be Provided from General Governmental Resources				
Total Assets and Other Debits	\$6,440,668	\$173,029	\$4,653	\$434,288

Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Groups		Totals (Memorandum Only)
		General Fixed Assets	General Long-Term Obligations	
Enterprise	Agency			
\$39,696	\$17,417	\$0	\$0	\$1,914,815
				10,372
				4,949,501
2,643				3,393
				2,000
				7,760
1,483				35,231
11,796				11,796
262				6,852
				184,215
20,190		5,748,401		5,768,591
			103,803	103,803
			379,117	379,117
\$76,070	\$17,417	\$5,748,401	\$482,920	\$13,377,446

(continued)

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**Combined Balance Sheet
All Fund Types and Account Groups
June 30, 2000
(Continued)**

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects
Liabilities, Fund Equity, and Other Credits:				
<u>Liabilities:</u>				
Accounts Payable	\$34,600	\$2,428	\$0	\$10,168
Contracts Payable				5,310
Accrued Wages and Benefits	432,433	6,793		
Compensated Absences Payable	3,807			
Intergovernmental Payable	92,236	550		
Deferred Revenue	4,470,884			246,617
Due to Students				
Matured Bonds Payable			3,000	
Matured Interest Payable			1,653	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Liabilities	5,033,960	9,771	4,653	262,095
<u>Fund Equity and Other Credits:</u>				
Investment in General Fixed Assets				
Contributed Capital				
Retained Earnings:				
Unreserved				
Fund Balance:				
Reserved for Property Taxes	225,283			6,717
Reserved for Inventory	6,590			
Reserved for Textbooks	86,442			
Reserved for Budget Stabilization	97,773			
Reserved for Encumbrances	89,380	15,095		83,693
Designated for Budget Stabilization	17,382			
Designated for Termination Benefits		103,803		
Unreserved, Undesignated	883,858	44,360		81,783
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Fund Equity and Other Credits	1,406,708	163,258	0	172,193
Total Liabilities, Fund Equity, and Other Credits	<u>\$6,440,668</u>	<u>\$173,029</u>	<u>\$4,653</u>	<u>\$434,288</u>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

Proprietary Fund Type	Fiduciary Fund Type	Account Groups		Totals (Memorandum Only)
		General Fixed Assets	General Long-Term Obligations	
Enterprise	Agency			
\$1,625	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$48,821
				5,310
13,300				452,526
6,155			433,792	443,754
6,736			49,128	148,650
5,708				4,723,209
	17,417			17,417
				3,000
				1,653
<u>33,524</u>	<u>17,417</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>482,920</u>	<u>5,844,340</u>
		5,748,401		5,748,401
41,933				41,933
613				613
				232,000
				6,590
				86,442
				97,773
				188,168
				17,382
				103,803
				1,010,001
<u>42,546</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,748,401</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,533,106</u>
<u>\$76,070</u>	<u>\$17,417</u>	<u>\$5,748,401</u>	<u>\$482,920</u>	<u>\$13,377,446</u>

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**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
All Governmental Fund Types
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2000**

	Governmental Fund Types			Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	
Revenues:				
Property Taxes	\$4,617,660	\$0	\$88,665	\$4,706,325
Intergovernmental	915,891	140,378	9,442	1,065,711
Interest	159,016			159,016
Extracurricular Activities	9,683	98,489		108,172
Gifts and Donations	12,931	16,021		28,952
Miscellaneous	16,350	621		16,971
Total Revenues	5,731,531	255,509	98,107	6,085,147
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Instruction:				
Regular	2,701,756	35,002	3,109	2,739,867
Special	477,396	47,491		524,887
Vocational	163,109			163,109
Other	241,978			241,978
Support Services:				
Pupils	120,519	19,694		140,213
Instructional Staff	163,440	17,394		180,834
Board of Education	84,093			84,093
Administration	477,538	3,703		481,241
Fiscal	193,451	267	1,512	195,230
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	446,826	3,204		450,030
Pupil Transportation	373,174			373,174
Central	5,456	4,943		10,399
Non-Instructional Services		174		174
Extracurricular Activities	142,013	115,854		257,867
Capital Outlay	32,610		190,334	222,944
Total Expenditures	5,623,359	247,726	194,955	6,066,040
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	108,172	7,783	(96,848)	19,107
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets	7,200			7,200
Operating Transfers In		103,803	155,387	259,190
Operating Transfers Out	(259,190)			(259,190)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(251,990)	103,803	155,387	7,200
Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	(143,818)	111,586	58,539	26,307
Fund Balances at Beginning of Year	1,550,886	51,672	113,654	1,716,212
Decrease in Reserve for Inventory	(360)			(360)
Fund Balances at End of Year	\$1,406,708	\$163,258	\$172,193	\$1,742,159

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Budget and Actual Comparison (Non-GAAP Basis)
All Governmental Fund Types
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2000**

	General Fund			Special Revenue Funds		
	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:						
Property Taxes	\$4,675,031	\$4,648,377	(\$26,654)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental	882,083	918,641	36,558	89,589	88,758	(831)
Interest	127,500	151,148	23,648			
Extracurricular Activities	10,000	9,683	(317)	107,200	98,930	(8,270)
Gifts and Donations	13,000	12,931	(69)	15,155	16,021	866
Miscellaneous	10,800	14,453	3,653			
Total Revenues	5,718,414	5,755,233	36,819	211,944	203,709	(8,235)
Expenditures:						
Current:						
Instruction:						
Regular	2,808,860	2,771,842	37,018	40,072	37,448	2,624
Special	476,155	474,670	1,485	45,535	42,618	2,917
Vocational	187,617	170,001	17,616			
Other	253,700	241,978	11,722			
Support Services:						
Pupils	124,204	120,802	3,402	700	700	
Instructional Staff	180,972	167,340	13,632			
Board of Education	85,468	80,322	5,146			
Administration	504,581	493,253	11,328			
Fiscal	216,866	192,831	24,035			
Operation and Maintenance of Plant	558,585	465,211	93,374	3,204	3,204	
Pupil Transportation	387,000	378,680	8,320			
Central	10,080	5,456	4,624	5,838	4,934	904
Non-Instructional Services						
Extracurricular Activities	145,948	142,104	3,844	136,859	121,948	14,911
Capital Outlay	79,247	76,948	2,299			
Total Expenditures	6,019,283	5,781,438	237,845	232,208	210,852	21,356
Excess of Expenditures Over Revenues	(300,869)	(26,205)	274,664	(20,264)	(7,143)	13,121
Other Financing Sources (Uses):						
Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets	7,200	7,200				
Refund of Prior Year Expenditures	1,065	1,768	703		315	315
Refund of Prior Year Receipts	(160)	(158)	2	(300)	(300)	
Operating Transfers In				103,803	103,803	
Operating Transfers Out	(259,192)	(259,190)	2			
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(251,087)	(250,380)	707	103,503	103,818	315
Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	(551,956)	(276,585)	275,371	83,239	96,675	13,436
Fund Balances at Beginning of Year	1,647,711	1,647,711		46,732	46,732	
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	206,932	206,932		4,829	4,829	
Fund Balances at End of Year	\$1,302,687	\$1,578,058	\$275,371	\$134,800	\$148,236	\$13,436

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

Capital Projects Funds			Totals (Memorandum Only)		
Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	Revised Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
\$96,102	\$81,948	(\$14,154)	\$4,771,133	\$4,730,325	(\$40,808)
	9,442	9,442	971,672	1,016,841	45,169
			127,500	151,148	23,648
			117,200	108,613	(8,587)
			28,155	28,952	797
			10,800	14,453	3,653
96,102	91,390	(4,712)	6,026,460	6,050,332	23,872
95,916	93,282	2,634	2,944,848	2,902,572	42,276
10,000	7,974	2,026	521,690	517,288	4,402
			197,617	177,975	19,642
			253,700	241,978	11,722
			124,904	121,502	3,402
			180,972	167,340	13,632
			85,468	80,322	5,146
3,000	1,512	1,488	504,581	493,253	11,328
			219,866	194,343	25,523
			561,789	468,415	93,374
			387,000	378,680	8,320
5,000	4,711	289	15,918	10,390	5,528
			5,000	4,711	289
181,250	190,205	(8,955)	282,807	264,052	18,755
295,166	297,684	(2,518)	260,497	267,153	(6,656)
(199,064)	(206,294)	(7,230)	6,546,657	6,289,974	256,683
			(520,197)	(239,642)	280,555
			7,200	7,200	
			1,065	2,083	1,018
			(460)	(458)	2
155,387	155,387		259,190	259,190	
			(259,192)	(259,190)	2
155,387	155,387		7,803	8,825	1,022
(43,677)	(50,907)	(7,230)	(512,394)	(230,817)	281,577
87,525	87,525		1,781,968	1,781,968	
45,166	45,166		256,927	256,927	
\$89,014	\$81,784	(\$7,230)	\$1,526,501	\$1,808,078	\$281,577

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Equity
Enterprise Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2000**

<u>Operating Revenues:</u>	
Sales	\$175,743
Charges for Services	280
	176,023
Total Operating Revenues	176,023
<u>Operating Expenses:</u>	
Salaries	72,277
Fringe Benefits	25,504
Purchased Services	2,314
Materials and Supplies	5,590
Cost of Sales	94,917
Depreciation	2,409
Other Operating Expenses	788
	203,799
Total Operating Expenses	203,799
Operating Loss	(27,776)
<u>Non-Operating Revenues:</u>	
Federal Donated Commodities	14,145
Operating Grants	16,808
Interest	824
	31,777
Total Non-Operating Revenues	31,777
Net Income	4,001
Retained Earnings (Deficit) at Beginning of Year	(3,388)
Retained Earnings at End of Year	613
Contributed Capital at Beginning of Year	35,922
Contributed from Donations	1,300
Contributed from Other Funds	4,711
	41,933
Contributed Capital at End of Year	41,933
Total Fund Equity at End of Year	\$42,546

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Balances
Budget and Actual Comparison (Non-GAAP Basis)
Enterprise Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2000**

	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
<u>Revenues:</u>			
Sales	\$173,700	\$176,067	\$2,367
Charges for Services	3,500	280	(3,220)
Operating Grants	20,800	16,808	(3,992)
Interest		824	824
	<u>198,000</u>	<u>193,979</u>	<u>(4,021)</u>
<u>Expenses:</u>			
Salaries	73,750	71,109	2,641
Fringe Benefits	26,525	26,085	440
Purchased Services	2,100	2,031	69
Materials and Supplies	110,362	89,386	20,976
Capital Outlay	2,900	2,900	
Other Expenses	800	788	12
	<u>216,437</u>	<u>192,299</u>	<u>24,138</u>
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenses	(18,437)	1,680	20,117
Fund Balances at Beginning of Year	34,845	34,845	
Prior Year Encumbrances Appropriated	1,402	1,402	
Fund Balances at End of Year	<u><u>\$17,810</u></u>	<u><u>\$37,927</u></u>	<u><u>\$20,117</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**Combined Statement of Cash Flows
Enterprise Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2000**

Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents

<u>Cash Flows from Operating Activities:</u>	
Cash Received from Customers	\$176,347
Cash Payments for Salaries	(71,109)
Cash Payments for Fringe Benefits	(26,085)
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(89,648)
Cash Payments for Other Expenses	(788)
	(11,283)
 <u>Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities:</u>	
Cash Received from Operating Grants	16,808
	(2,900)
 <u>Cash Flows from Investing Activities:</u>	
Cash Received from Interest	824
	3,449
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	36,247
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	\$39,696

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

Operating Loss	(\$27,776)
 <u>Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Cash Used for Operating Activities:</u>	
Depreciation	2,409
Donated Commodities Used During Year	14,145
<u>Changes in Assets and Liabilities:</u>	
Decrease in Accounts Receivable	324
Increase in Prepaid Items	(415)
Increase in Inventory Held for Resale	(2,483)
Decrease in Materials and Supplies Inventory	31
Increase in Accounts Payable	1,480
Increase in Accrued Wages and Benefits	1,433
Increase in Compensated Absences Payable	512
Decrease in Intergovernmental Payable	(943)
	(\$11,283)

Non-Cash Capital Transactions:

During fiscal year 2000, the Food Service enterprise fund received fixed assets that were donated by outside sources, in the amount of \$1,300, and purchased by governmental funds, in the amount of \$4,711.

See accompanying notes to the general purpose financial statements

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000**

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND REPORTING ENTITY

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

The School District was established in 1936 through the consolidation of existing land areas. The School District serves an area of approximately forty-eight square miles. It is located in Hancock County, and includes all of the Village of Van Buren and Allen Township and portions of Case, Marion, and Portage Townships. The School District is the 513th largest in the State of Ohio (among 611 school districts) in terms of enrollment. It is staffed by forty-two classified employees, fifty-nine certified teaching personnel, and four administrative employees who provide services to nine hundred forty-eight students and other community members. The School District currently operates an elementary school and an elementary/middle/high school.

Reporting Entity

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

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

The School District is associated with two jointly governed organizations and two insurance pools. These organizations are the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative, Blanchard Valley Cooperative Vocational Career Center, Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund and Trust, and NOACSC Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan. Information about these organizations is presented in Notes 16 and 17 to the combined financial statements.

The financial statements of Van Buren Local School District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (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 School District also applies Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) statements and interpretations issued on or before November 30, 1989, to the enterprise funds provided they do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. Following are the more significant of the School District's accounting policies.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting

The School District uses funds and account groups to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain School District functions or activities.

A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and other financial resources, together with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances, and changes therein, which are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special restrictions or limitations. An account group is a financial reporting device designed to provide accountability for certain assets and liabilities not recorded in the funds because they do not directly affect net available expendable resources.

For financial statement presentation purposes, the various funds of the School District are grouped into the following generic fund types under the broad fund categories of governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary.

Governmental Fund Types

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the School District are financed. The acquisition, use, and balances of the School District's expendable financial resources and the related current liabilities (except those accounted for in proprietary funds and trust funds) are accounted for through governmental funds. The following are the School District's governmental fund types:

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

Special Revenue Funds - Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditure for specified purposes.

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

Capital Projects Funds - Capital projects funds are used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by proprietary funds or trust funds).

Proprietary Fund Type

Proprietary funds are used to account for the School District's ongoing activities which are similar to those found in the private sector. The following is the School District's proprietary fund type:

Enterprise Funds - Enterprise funds are used to account for activities that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises where the intent is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges or where it has been decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Fiduciary Fund Type

Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held by the School District in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units, and/or other funds. The School District's fiduciary funds are agency funds, which are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

Account Groups

To make a clear distinction between fixed assets related to specific funds and those of general government, and between long-term liabilities related to specific funds and those of a general nature, the following account groups are used:

General Fixed Assets Account Group - This account group is established to account for all fixed assets of the School District, except those accounted for in proprietary funds or trust funds.

General Long-Term Obligations Account Group - This account group is established to account for all long-term obligations of the School District, except those accounted for in proprietary funds or trust funds.

B. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental fund types are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

The enterprise funds are accounted for using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of these funds are included on the balance sheet. Fund equity (i.e., net total assets) is segregated into contributed capital and retained earnings components. Operating statements of these funds present increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in net total assets.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made.

The modified accrual basis of accounting is followed for the governmental fund types and agency funds. Under this basis, revenues are recognized in the accounting period when they become both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined, and "available" means collectible within the current fiscal year or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. The available period for the School District is sixty days after fiscal year end.

In applying the susceptible to accrual concept under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are deemed both measurable and available: grants and investment earnings.

The School District reports deferred revenues on its combined balance sheet. Deferred revenues arise when a potential revenue does not meet both the measurable and available criteria for recognition in the

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

current period. In the subsequent period, when both revenue recognition criteria are met, the liability for deferred revenue is removed from the combined balance sheet and revenue is recognized. Property taxes measurable as of June 30, 2000, and delinquent property taxes, whose availability is indeterminable and which are intended to finance fiscal year 2001 operations, have been recorded as deferred 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 the governmental funds.

The accrual basis of accounting is utilized for reporting purposes by the enterprise funds. Revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they are earned, and expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred. The fair value of donated commodities used during the year is reported on the operating statement as an expense with a like amount reported as donated commodities revenue. Unused donated commodities are reported as deferred revenue.

C. Budgetary Process

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 appropriation resolution are subject to amendment throughout the year with the legal restriction that appropriations cannot exceed estimated resources, as certified. All funds, other than agency funds, are legally required to be budgeted and appropriated. The primary level of budgetary control is at the object level within each function and fund. Any budgetary modifications at this level may only be made by resolution of the Board of Education.

The Eisenhower, Title VI-B, Drug Free, and Early Childhood Preschool special revenue funds are flow through grants in which the Hancock County Educational Service Center is the primary recipient. Budgetary information for these funds is not included within the School District's reporting entity for which the "appropriated budget" is adopted.

Tax Budget

Prior to January 15, the Superintendent and 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 express 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 Hancock 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 County Budget Commission, and receives the commission's certificate of estimated resources, which states the projected revenue of each fund. Prior to June 30, the School District must revise its budget so that total contemplated expenditures from any fund during the ensuing fiscal year will not exceed the amount stated

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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 fiscal year. The certificate of estimated resources may be further amended during the year if projected increases or decreases in revenue are identified by the School District Treasurer. The amounts reported in the budgetary statements reflect the amounts in the final amended certificate of estimated resources issued during fiscal year 2000.

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 is necessary, the annual appropriation resolution is legally enacted by the Board of Education at the fund, function, and object level of expenditures, which are the legal levels 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 School 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, or alter total function appropriations within a fund, or alter object appropriations within functions must be approved by the Board of Education.

The Board may pass supplemental fund appropriations as long as the total appropriations by fund do not exceed the amounts set forth in the most recent certificate of estimated resources. During the year, several supplemental appropriation resolutions were legally enacted.

The budget figures which appear in the statements of budgetary comparisons represent the final appropriation amounts, including all supplemental appropriations. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for all funds, except agency 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. On the GAAP basis, encumbrances outstanding at fiscal year end are reported as a reservation of fund balance for subsequent-year expenditures for governmental fund types and reported in the notes to the financial statements for the enterprise funds.

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.

D. Cash and Investments

To improve cash management, cash received by the School District is pooled. Monies for all funds are maintained in this pool. Individual fund integrity is maintained through School District records. Each fund's interest in the pool is presented as "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents" on the combined balance sheet.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents held for the School District by the Hancock County Educational Service Center and Ohio Bank, who services the School District's bond/coupon account, are included on the combined balance sheet as "Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents".

During fiscal year 2000, investments were limited to nonnegotiable certificates of deposit and STAR Ohio. Nonnegotiable certificates of deposit are reported at cost. STAR 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 does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. Investments in STAR Ohio are valued at STAR Ohio's share price, which is the price the investment could be sold for on June 30, 2000.

The School District allocates interest earnings according to Ohio statutes. Interest revenue credited to the General Fund during fiscal year 2000 was \$159,016, which included \$15,307 assigned from other School District funds.

For purposes of the combined statement of cash flows and for presentation on the combined balance sheet, investments of the cash management pool and investments with an original maturity of three months or less at the time they are purchased by the School District are considered to be cash equivalents. Investments with an initial maturity of more than three months are reported as investments.

E. Prepaid Items

Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond June 30, 2000, are recorded as prepaid items using the consumption method. A current asset for the prepaid amount is recorded at the time of purchase and an expenditure/expense is reported in the year in which services are consumed.

F. Inventory

Inventory of the governmental funds is stated at cost while inventory of the enterprise funds is stated at the lower of cost or market. For all funds, cost is determined on a first-in, first-out basis. Inventory in the governmental funds consists of expendable supplies held for consumption. The costs of inventory items are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund types when purchased. Reported materials and supplies inventory is equally offset by a fund balance reserve in the governmental funds which indicates that it does not constitute available expendable resources even though it is a component of net current assets. Inventory in the enterprise funds consists of donated food, purchased food, and school supplies held for resale and is expensed when used.

G. Restricted Assets

Restricted assets in the General Fund represent cash and cash equivalents whose use is limited by legal requirements. Restricted assets include amounts required by State statute to be set aside for the purchase of textbooks and other instructional materials and to create a reserve for budget stabilization.

H. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

General fixed assets are not capitalized in the funds used to acquire or construct them. Instead, capital acquisition and construction costs are reflected as expenditures in governmental funds, and the related assets are reported in the general fixed assets account group. Fixed assets utilized in the enterprise funds are capitalized in the respective fund. All fixed assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and reductions during the year. Donated fixed assets are recorded at their fair

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

market value as of the date received. The School District maintains a capitalization threshold of two hundred fifty dollars. The School District does not have any infrastructure.

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 capitalized. Improvements are capitalized. Improvements to enterprise fund fixed assets are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related fixed assets.

Assets in the general fixed assets account group are not depreciated. Depreciation of furniture and equipment in the enterprise funds is computed using the straight-line method over an estimated useful life of five to fifteen years.

I. 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 School District will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means. The School District records a liability for accumulated unused vacation time when earned for all employees with more than one year of service.

Sick leave benefits are accrued as a liability using the vesting method. The liability includes the employees who are currently eligible to receive termination benefits and those the School District has identified as probable of receiving payment in the future. The amount is based on accumulated sick leave and employees' wage rates at fiscal year end, taking into consideration any limits specified in the School District's termination policy. The School District records a liability for accumulated unused sick leave for all employees after ten years of service with the School District.

For governmental funds, the current portion of unpaid compensated absences is the amount expected to be paid using available expendable resources. These amounts are recorded in the account "Compensated Absences Payable" in the fund from which the employees who have accumulated unpaid leave are paid. The remainder is reported in the general long-term obligations account group. In the enterprise funds, the entire amount of compensated absences is reported as a fund liability.

J. Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations

In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities are reported as obligations of the funds regardless of whether they will be liquidated with current resources. However, compensated absences and contractually required pension contributions that will be paid from governmental funds are reported as liabilities in the general long-term obligations account group to the extent that they will not be paid with current available expendable resources. Payments for these liabilities made more than sixty days after fiscal year end are considered not to have required the use of current available expendable resources.

Long-term debt and other obligations financed by the enterprise funds are reported as liabilities in the appropriate fund.

K. Contributed Capital

Contributed capital represents resources from other funds, other governments, and private sources provided to the enterprise funds that is not subject to repayment. These assets are recorded at their fair market value on the date donated. Depreciation on those assets acquired or constructed with contributed resources is expensed and closed to unreserved retained earnings at fiscal year end.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Because the School District did not prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles prior to fiscal year 1994, the exact amount of contributed capital cannot be determined. Consequently, only those amounts that have been specifically identified have been classified as contributed capital in the accompanying combined financial statements. All other fund equity amounts pertaining to the enterprise funds have been classified as retained earnings.

L. Fund Balance Reserves and Designations

The School District reserves those portions of fund equity which are legally segregated for a specific future use or which do not represent available expendable resources and, therefore, are not available for appropriation or expenditure. Unreserved fund balance indicates that portion of fund equity which is available for appropriation in future periods. Fund equity reserves have been established for property taxes, inventories of materials and supplies, textbooks, budget stabilization, and encumbrances.

The reserve for property taxes represents taxes recognized as revenue under generally accepted accounting principles but not available for appropriation under State statute. The reserve for budget stabilization represents monies required to be set aside by State statute to protect against cyclical changes in revenues and expenditures. The designation for budget stabilization represents revenues set aside that exceed statutorily required amounts. The designation for termination benefits represents revenues accumulated in a special revenue fund for future severance payments.

M. Intergovernmental Revenues

For governmental funds, intergovernmental revenues, such as grants awarded on a non-reimbursement basis, entitlements, and shared revenues are recorded as receivables and revenues when measurable and available. Reimbursement type grants are recorded as receivables and revenues when the related expenditures are incurred. Other than commodities, grants and entitlements for enterprise fund operations are recognized as non-operating revenues in the accounting period in which they are earned and become measurable.

The School District currently participates in several State and Federal programs, categorized as follows:

Entitlements

General Fund

- State Foundation Program
- State Property Tax Relief
- School Bus Purchase Allocation

Non-Reimbursable Grants

Special Revenue Funds

- Teacher Development
- Education Management Information Systems
- SchoolNet Professional Development
- Ohio Reads
- Safe School Helpline
- School Conflict Management
- Eisenhower
- Title VI-B
- Title I
- Title VI
- Drug Free

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Early Childhood Preschool
Title VI-R
Capital Project Fund
Textbook/Instructional Materials
Reimbursable Grants
General Fund
Driver Education
Special Revenue Fund
E-Rate
Enterprise Fund
National School Lunch Program
Government Donated Commodities

Grants and entitlements were 18 percent of the revenues of the School District's governmental fund types during the 2000 fiscal year.

N. Interfund Transactions

Quasi-external transactions are accounted for as revenues and expenditures, or expenses. Transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures/expenses initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund are recorded as expenditures/expenses in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures/expenses in the fund that is reimbursed.

Nonrecurring or nonroutine permanent transfers of equity are reported as residual equity transfers. All other interfund transfers are reported as operating transfers.

O. Estimates

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

P. Total Columns on General Purpose Financial Statements

Total columns on the general purpose financial statements are captioned "Totals (Memorandum Only)" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position or results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

A. Accountability

At June 30, 2000, the Teacher Development and the Title I special revenue funds had deficit fund balances of \$19 and \$3,992, respectively, which were created by the application of generally accepted accounting principles. The General Fund provides transfers to cover deficit balances; however, this is done when cash is needed rather than when accruals occur.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE (continued)

The Food Service enterprise fund had deficit retained earnings of \$22,926 at June 30, 2000, as a result of accumulated operating losses from prior years.

B. Compliance

The Permanent Improvement capital projects fund capital outlay account had expenditures in excess of appropriations, in the amount of \$8,955, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000.

Obligations were incurred in fiscal year 2000 but not certified until fiscal year 2001 in the amount of \$39,574 in the permanent improvement, capital project fund.

NOTE 4 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

While the School District is reporting financial position, results of operations, and changes in fund balances/retained earnings on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the budgetary basis as provided by law is based upon accounting for certain transactions on a basis of cash receipts, disbursements, and encumbrances. The Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual - All Governmental Fund Types and the Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget (Non-GAAP Basis) and Actual - Enterprise Funds are presented on the budgetary basis to provide a meaningful comparison of actual results with the budget. The major differences between the budget basis and GAAP basis are that:

1. Revenues are recorded when received in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when susceptible to accrual (GAAP basis).
2. Expenditures/expenses are recorded when paid in cash (budget basis) as opposed to when the liability is incurred (GAAP basis).
3. Encumbrances are treated as expenditures/expenses for all funds (budget basis) rather than as a reservation of fund balance for governmental fund types and as note disclosure in the enterprise funds (GAAP basis).
4. For the enterprise funds, the acquisition and construction of fixed assets are reported on the operating statement (budget basis) rather than as balance sheet transactions (GAAP basis).
5. Although not part of the appropriated budget, the Eisenhower, Title VI-B, Drug Free, and Early Childhood Preschool special revenue funds are included as part of the reporting entity when preparing financial statements that conform with GAAP.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 4 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING (continued)

The following tables summarize the adjustments necessary to reconcile the GAAP and budgetary basis statements by fund type.

	Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses Governmental Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects
GAAP Basis	(\$143,818)	\$111,586	\$58,539
<u>Increase (Decrease) Due To:</u>			
Revenue Accruals:			
Accrued FY 1999, Received in Cash FY 2000	258,750	756	
Accrued FY 2000, Not Yet Received in Cash	(233,172)	(2,621)	(6,717)
Expenditure Accruals:			
Accrued FY 1999, Paid in Cash FY 2000	(603,219)	(6,691)	(19,037)
Accrued FY 2000, Not Yet Paid in Cash	563,076	9,771	15,478
Cash Adjustments:			
Unrecorded Activity FY 2000	(108)		
Prepaid Items	331	(317)	
Excess of Revenues Under Expenditures for Nonbudgeted Funds		327	
Encumbrances Outstanding at Year End (Budget Basis)	(118,425)	(16,136)	(99,170)
Budget Basis	(\$276,585)	\$96,675	(\$50,907)

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 4 - BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING (continued)

Net Income/Excess of Revenues Over Expenses
Enterprise Funds

GAAP Basis	\$4,001
<u>Increase (Decrease) Due To:</u>	
Revenue Accruals:	
Accrued FY 1999, Received in Cash FY 2000	2,967
Accrued FY 2000, Not Yet Received in Cash	(2,643)
Expense Accruals:	
Accrued FY 1999, Paid in Cash FY 2000	(25,334)
Accrued FY 2000, Not Yet Paid in Cash	27,816
Prepaid Items	(415)
Inventory Held for Resale	(2,483)
Materials and Supplies Inventory	31
Depreciation Expense	2,409
Acquisition of Fixed Assets	(2,900)
Encumbrances Outstanding at Year End (Budget Basis)	(1,769)
Budget Basis	\$1,680

NOTE 5 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

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

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

Inactive deposits are public deposits the Board of Education has identified as not required for use within the current two 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.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 5 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

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

Protection of School District's deposits is provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), by eligible securities pledged by the financial institution as security for repayment, by surety company bonds deposited with the Treasurer by the financial institution, or by a single collateral pool established by the financial institution to secure the repayment of all public monies deposited with the institution.

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

1. United States Treasury bills, bonds, notes, or any other obligation or security issued by the United States Treasury, or any other obligation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States;
2. Bonds, notes, debentures, or any other obligation or security issued by any federal government agency or instrumentality including, but not limited to, the Federal National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Bank, Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Government National Mortgage Association, and Student Loan Marketing Association. All federal agency securities shall be direct issuances of federal government agencies or instrumentalities;
3. Written repurchase agreements in the securities listed above provided the market value of the securities subject to the repurchase agreement must exceed the principal value of the agreement by at least 2 percent and be marked to market daily, and the term of the agreement must not exceed thirty days;
4. Bonds and other obligations of the State of Ohio;
5. No-load money market mutual funds consisting exclusively of obligations described in division (1) or (2) and repurchase agreements secured by such obligations, provided that investments in securities described in this division are made only through eligible institutions; and
6. The State Treasurer's investment pool (STAR Ohio).

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

At fiscal year end, the School District had \$100 in undeposited cash on hand which is included on the balance sheet of the School District as part of "Equity in Pooled Cash and Cash Equivalents". The School District also had \$5,719 held by the Hancock County Educational Service Center, which is included on the balance sheet of the School District as part of "Cash and Cash Equivalents with Fiscal Agents". The Educational Service Center holds this flow through grant money for the School District together with that of

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
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**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 5 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS (continued)

other school districts, and therefore, the School District cannot classify this money by risk under GASB Statement No. 3.

The following information classifies deposits and investments by categories of risk as defined in GASB Statement No. 3, "Deposits with Financial Institutions, Investments (including Repurchase Agreements), and Reverse Repurchase Agreements".

At fiscal year end, the carrying amount of the School District's deposits was \$1,300,266 and the bank balance was \$1,422,332. Of the bank balance, \$200,000 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$1,222,332 was uninsured and uncollateralized. Although all State statutory requirements for the deposit of money had been followed, non-compliance with federal requirements could potentially subject the School District to a successful claim by the FDIC.

The School District's investments are categorized to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the School District at fiscal year end. Category 1 includes investments that are insured or registered for which the securities are held by the School District or its agent in the School District's name. Category 2 includes uninsured and unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the School District's name. Category 3 includes uninsured and unregistered investments for which the securities are held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the School District's name. The School District's investment in STAR Ohio is unclassified since it is not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. At June 30, 2000, the fair value of funds on deposit with STAR Ohio was \$803,317.

The classification of cash and cash equivalents and investments on the combined balance sheet is based on criteria set forth in GASB Statement No. 9, "Reporting Cash Flows of Proprietary and Nonexpendable Trust Funds and Governmental Entities That Use Proprietary Fund Accounting". A reconciliation between the classification of cash and cash equivalents and investments on the combined balance sheet and the classification of deposits and investments according to GASB Statement No. 3 is as follows:

	Cash and Cash Equivalents/Deposits	Investments
GASB Statement No. 9	\$2,109,402	\$0
Cash on Hand	(100)	
Cash and Cash Equivalents with Educational Service Center	(5,719)	
Investments:		
STAR Ohio	(803,317)	803,317
GASB Statement No. 3	\$1,300,266	\$803,317

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES

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

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY TAXES (continued)

Property taxes include amounts levied against all real, public utility, and tangible personal (used in business) property located in the School District. Real and public utility property tax revenues received in calendar year 2000 represent the collection of calendar year 1999 taxes. Real property taxes were levied after April 1, 2000, on the assessed values as of January 1, 2000, 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 real and tangible personal property taxes were levied after April 1, 2000, on the assessed values as of December 31, 1999, the lien date. Public utility real property is assessed at 35 percent of true value; tangible personal property is currently assessed at varying percentages of true value. Public utility property taxes are payable on the same dates as real property taxes described previously.

Tangible personal property tax revenue received in calendar year 2000 (other than public utility property) represents the collection of calendar year 2000 taxes. Tangible personal property taxes were levied after April 1, 2000, on the value as of December 31, 1999. Tangible personal property is currently assessed at 25 percent of true value. Amounts paid by multi-county taxpayers are due September 20. Single county taxpayers may pay annually or semiannually. If paid annually, payment is due April 30; if paid semiannually, the first payment is due April 30, with the remainder payable by September 20.

The School District receives property taxes from Hancock County. The County Auditor periodically advances to the School District its portion of the taxes collected. Second-half real property tax payments collected by the County by June 30, 2000, are available to finance fiscal year 2000 operations. The amount available to be advanced can vary based on the date the tax bills are sent.

Accrued property taxes receivable represents delinquent taxes outstanding and real property, public utility property, and tangible personal property taxes which were measurable as of June 30, 2000. Although total property tax collections for the next fiscal year are measurable, only the amount available as an advance at June 30 is intended to finance current fiscal year operations. The receivable is therefore offset by a credit to deferred revenue for that portion not intended to finance current year operations. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 2000, was \$225,283 in the General Fund and \$6,717 in the Permanent Improvement capital projects fund. The amount available as an advance at June 30, 1999, was \$256,000 in the General Fund.

The assessed values upon which the fiscal year 2000 taxes were collected are:

	1999 Second- Half Collections		2000 First- Half Collections	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Agricultural/Residential	\$68,267,450	37.01%	\$72,096,730	40.07%
Industrial/Commercial	36,355,140	19.71	38,573,340	21.44
Public Utility	9,490,600	5.14	9,162,990	5.09
Tangible Personal	70,345,002	38.14	60,087,261	33.40
Total Assessed Value	<u>\$184,458,192</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$179,920,321</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
Tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	\$32.80		\$32.80	

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 7 - RECEIVABLES

Receivables at June 30, 2000, consisted of property taxes, accounts (student fees and billings for user charged services), intergovernmental, and interest receivables. 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. Student fees are also considered collectible in full due to the withholding of diplomas and grade cards. Accounts receivable at June 30 were \$3,393. The SchoolNet Professional Development special revenue fund had an intergovernmental receivable, in the amount of \$2,000.

NOTE 8 - FIXED ASSETS

A summary of the enterprise funds' fixed assets at June 30, 2000, follows:

Furniture and Equipment	\$75,837
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(55,647)
Net Fixed Assets	\$20,190

A summary of the changes in general fixed assets during fiscal year 2000 follows:

Asset Category	Balance at 6/30/99	Additions	Reductions	Balance at 6/30/00
Land and Improvements	\$155,129	\$0	\$0	\$155,129
Buildings and Improvements	2,546,203	23,848		2,570,051
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	1,493,535	266,013	18,325	1,741,223
Books	462,122	41,178		503,300
Vehicles	780,211	61,464	62,977	778,698
Totals	\$5,437,200	\$392,503	\$81,302	\$5,748,401

NOTE 9 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The School District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2000, the School District contracted for the following insurance coverages:

Coverages provided by Nationwide Insurance are as follows:

Buildings and Contents - replacement cost (\$500 deductible)	\$13,763,800
Boiler and Machinery (\$1,000 deductible)	13,926,400
Inland Marine Coverage	
Musical Instruments (\$100 deductible)	172,805
Photographic Equipment (no deductible)	139,751
Electronic Equipment - including computers (\$250 deductible)	746,535
Automobile Liability	2,000,000
Uninsured Motorists	2,000,000/2,000,000

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

Medical Payments - per person	5,000
General School District Liability	
Per Occurrence	2,000,000
Total per Year	5,000,000
Umbrella Liability Insurance	2,000,000

Coverages provided by Stacy Insurance are as follows:

Employee Dishonesty - per loss	10,000
--------------------------------	--------

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

The School District participates in the Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund and Trust (the Trust), a public entity shared risk pool consisting of seven local school districts, the Hancock County Educational Service Center, and the Blanchard Valley Board of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities. The School District pays monthly premiums to the Trust for employee medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits. The Trust is responsible for the management and operations of the program. Upon withdrawal from the Trust, a participant is responsible for the payment of all Trust liabilities to its employees, dependents, and designated beneficiaries accruing as a result of withdrawal.

For fiscal year 2000, the School District participated in the NOACSC Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (the Plan), an insurance purchasing pool. The Plan is intended to achieve the benefit of a reduced premium for the School District by virtue of its grouping and representation with other participants in the Plan. The workers' compensation experience of the participating members is calculated as one experience and a common premium rate is applied to all members in the Plan. Each member pays its workers' compensation premiums to the State based on the rate for the Plan rather than its individual rate.

Participation in the Plan is limited to members that can meet the Plan's selection criteria. The members apply for participation each year. The firm of Acordia Workers' Compensation Services provides administrative, cost control, and actuarial services to the Plan. Each year, the School District pays an enrollment fee to the Plan to cover the costs of administering the program.

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

A. State Teachers Retirement System

The School District contributes to the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS), a cost-sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system administered by the State Teachers Retirement Board. STRS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to members and beneficiaries. Benefits are established by Chapter 3307 of the Ohio Revised Code. STRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to the State Teachers Retirement System, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3771.

Plan members are required to contribute 9.3 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute 14 percent; 6 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations for fiscal year 2000. Contribution rates are established by STRS, upon recommendation of its consulting actuary, not to exceed statutory maximum rates of 10 percent for members and 14 percent for employers. The School

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 10 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS (continued)

District's required contribution for pension obligations to STRS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2000, 1999, and 1998, were \$158,517, \$151,521, and \$251,783, respectively; 83 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2000 and 100 percent for fiscal years 1999 and 1998. The unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2000, in the amount of \$26,539, is recorded as a liability within the respective funds.

B. School Employees Retirement System

The School District contributes to the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the School Employees Retirement Board. SERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to members and beneficiaries. Authority to establish and amend benefits is provided by Chapter 3309 of the Ohio Revised Code. SERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to the School Employees Retirement System, 45 North Fourth Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3634.

Plan members are required to contribute 9 percent of their annual covered salary and the School District is required to contribute an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 14 percent of annual covered payroll; 5.5 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations for fiscal year 2000. For fiscal year 1999, 7.7 percent was the portion used to fund pension obligations. The contribution requirements of plan members and employers are established and may be amended, up to statutory maximum amounts, by the SERS Retirement Board. The School District's required contribution for pension obligations to SERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2000, 1999, and 1998, were \$38,618, \$49,233, and \$54,117, respectively; 44 percent has been contributed for fiscal year 2000 and 100 percent for fiscal years 1999 and 1998. The unpaid contribution for fiscal year 2000, in the amount of \$21,778, is recorded as a liability within the respective funds and the general long-term obligations account group.

C. Social Security System

Effective July 1, 1991, all employees not otherwise covered by the State Teachers Retirement System or the School Employees Retirement System have an option to choose Social Security or the State Teachers Retirement System/School Employees Retirement System. As of June 30, 2000, two of the Board of Education members have elected Social Security. The Board's liability is 6.2 percent of wages paid.

NOTE 11 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The School District provides comprehensive health care benefits to retired teachers and their dependents through the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), and to retired classified employees and their dependents through the School Employees Retirement System (SERS). Benefits include hospitalization, physicians' fees, prescription drugs, and reimbursement of monthly Medicare premiums. Benefit provisions and the obligation to contribute are established by the Systems based on authority granted by State statute. Both systems are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis.

The State Teachers Retirement Board has statutory authority over how much, if any, of the health care costs will be absorbed by STRS. Most benefit recipients pay a portion of the health care cost in the form of a monthly premium. By law, the cost of coverage paid from STRS funds shall be included in the employer contribution rate, currently 14 percent of covered payroll. For fiscal year 2000, the Board allocated employer contributions equal to 8 percent of covered payroll to the Health Care Reserve Fund. For the School District, this amount equaled \$211,356 for fiscal year 2000.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 11 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (continued)

STRS pays health care benefits from the Health Care Reserve Fund. The balance in the Fund was \$2,783 million at June 30, 1999 (the latest information available). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1999, net health care costs paid by STRS were \$249,929,000, and STRS had 95,796 eligible benefit recipients.

For SERS, coverage is made available to service retirees with ten or more years of qualifying service credit, disability, and survivor benefit recipients. Members retiring on or after August 1, 1989, with less than twenty-five years of service credit, must pay a portion of their premium for health care. The portion is based on years of service up to a maximum of 75 percent of the premium.

For this fiscal year, employer contributions to fund health care benefits were 8.5 percent of covered payroll, an increase from 6.3 percent for fiscal year 1999. In addition, SERS levies a surcharge to fund health care benefits equal to 14 percent of the difference between a minimum pay and the member's pay, pro-rated for partial service credit. For fiscal year 2000, the minimum pay has been established at \$12,400. For the School District, the amount to fund health care benefits, including the surcharge, was \$76,862 for fiscal year 2000.

The surcharge, added to the unallocated portion of the 14 percent employer contribution rate, provides for maintenance of the asset target level for the health care fund. The target level for the health care reserve is 150 percent of annual health care expenses. Expenses for health care at June 30, 1999, were \$126,380,984, and the target level was \$189.6 million. At June 30, 1999, SERS had net assets available for payment of health care benefits of \$188 million. SERS has approximately 51,000 participants currently receiving health care benefits.

NOTE 12 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

A. Compensated Absences

The criteria for determining vacation and sick leave components is derived from negotiated agreements and State laws. Classified employees earn ten to twenty days of vacation per year, depending upon length of service. Accumulated unused vacation time is paid to classified employees and administrators upon termination of employment. Teachers do not earn vacation time. Teachers, administrators, and classified employees earn sick leave at a rate of one and one-fourth days per month.

The following table identifies the maximum amount of sick leave days that may be accumulated and the maximum days paid upon retirement.

	Sick Days Accumulated	25% of Sick Days Paid Upon Retirement to the following maximum
Administrators	240	60
Certified Employees	240	60
Classified Employees	unlimited	51

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 12 - OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (continued)

B. Health Care Benefits

The School District provides medical, dental, vision, and life insurance to all employees through the Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund and Trust. Depending upon the plan chosen, the employees share the cost of monthly premium with the Board. The premium varies with employee depending on the terms of the union contract.

NOTE 13 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The changes in the School District's long-term obligations during fiscal year 2000 were as follows:

	Balance at 6/30/99	Additions	Reductions	Balance at 6/30/00
Compensated Absences Payable	\$400,060	\$33,732	\$0	\$433,792
Intergovernmental Payable	50,310	49,128	50,310	49,128
Total General Long-Term Obligations	<u>\$450,370</u>	<u>\$82,860</u>	<u>\$50,310</u>	<u>\$482,920</u>

Compensated absences and intergovernmental payables, representing the School District's contractually required pension contributions, will be paid from the fund from which the employees' salaries are paid.

The School District's overall debt margin was \$16,192,829 with an unvoted debt margin of \$179,920 at June 30, 2000.

NOTE 14 - SET ASIDE REQUIREMENTS

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

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 14 - SET ASIDE REQUIREMENTS (continued)

The following cash basis information identifies the changes in the fund balance reserves for textbooks, capital improvements, and budget stabilization during fiscal year 2000.

	Textbooks	Capital Improvements	Budget Stabilization
Balance June 30, 1999	\$51,409	\$47,198	\$63,429
Current Year Set Aside Requirement	155,177	155,177	51,726
Current Year Offset		(155,177)	(17,382)
Qualifying Expenditures	(120,144)	(47,198)	
Balance June 30, 2000	<u>\$86,442</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$97,773</u>

The total reserve balance at the end of fiscal year 2000 was \$184,215.

NOTE 15 - SEGMENT INFORMATION FOR ENTERPRISE FUNDS

The School District maintains three enterprise funds to account for the operations of food service, uniform school supplies, and adult education. The table below reflects the more significant financial data relating to the enterprise funds of Van Buren Local School District as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000.

	Food Service	Uniform School Supplies	Adult Education	Total Enterprise Funds
Operating Revenues	\$143,847	\$31,896	\$280	\$176,023
Depreciation Expense	2,409			2,409
Operating Income (Loss)	(37,622)	9,728	118	(27,776)
Federal Donated Commodities	14,145			14,145
Operating Grants	16,808			16,808
Net Income (Loss)	(5,845)	9,728	118	4,001
Fixed Asset Additions	8,911			8,911
Fixed Asset Reductions	3,016			3,016
Current Contributed Capital	6,011			6,011
Net Working Capital	4,972	23,265	274	28,511

(continued)

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 15 - SEGMENT INFORMATION FOR ENTERPRISE FUNDS (continued)

	<u>Food Service</u>	<u>Uniform School Supplies</u>	<u>Adult Education</u>	<u>Total Enterprise Funds</u>
Total Assets	\$51,233	\$24,563	\$274	\$76,070
Total Equity	19,007	23,265	274	42,546
Encumbrances Outstanding at Year End (Budget Basis)	337	1,432		1,769

NOTE 16 - JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATIONS

A. Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative

The School District is a participant in the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (NOACSC), which is a computer consortium. NOACSC is an association of public school districts within the boundaries of Allen, Hancock, Paulding, Putnam, and Van Wert Counties, and the Cities of St. Marys and Wapakoneta. The organization was formed for the purpose of applying modern technology with the aid of computers and other electronic equipment to administrative and instructional functions among member school districts. The governing board of NOACSC consists of two representatives from each county. Financial information can be obtained from Michael Wildermuth, who serves as director, 645 South Main Street, Lima, Ohio 45804.

B. Blanchard Valley Cooperative Vocational Career Center

The Blanchard Valley Cooperative Vocational Career Center (the Career Center) is a distinct political subdivision of the State of Ohio established under Section 3313.90 of the Ohio Revised Code. The Career Center provides vocational instruction to students. The Career Center operates under the direction of an Advisory Council consisting of the superintendent of each participating school district and one additional representative appointed by the Findlay City School District. The Treasurers from the Hancock and Putnam County Educational Service Centers serve in an ex-officio capacity for all meetings. Financial information can be obtained from the Findlay City School District, Pam Barber, who serves as treasurer, 227 South West Street, Findlay, Ohio 45840-3377.

NOTE 17 - INSURANCE POOLS

A. Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund and Trust

The Hancock County Schools Health Benefit Fund and Trust (the Trust) is a public entity shared risk pool consisting of seven local school districts, the Hancock County Educational Service Center, and the Blanchard Valley Board of Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities. The Trust is a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association under Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code and provides medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits to the employees of the participants. Each participants' superintendent is appointed to an Administrative Committee which advises the Trustee, Ohio Bank, concerning aspects of the administration of the Trust.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 17 - INSURANCE POOLS (continued)

Each participant decides which plans offered by the Administrative Committee will be extended to its employees. Participation in the Trust is by written application subject to acceptance by the Administrative Committee and payment of the monthly premiums. Financial information can be obtained from Tim Smith, Ohio Benefits Group, 545 Pearl Street, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402.

B. NOACSC Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan

The School District participates in a group rating plan for workers' compensation as established under Section 4123.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The NOACSC Workers' Compensation Group Rating Plan (the Plan) was established through the Northwest Ohio Area Computer Services Cooperative (NOACSC) as an insurance purchasing pool.

The Safety Coordinator, Robert Lotz, of NOACSC, or his designee, serves as coordinator of the Plan. Each year, the participating members pay an enrollment fee to the Plan to cover the costs of administering the program.

NOTE 18 - STATE SCHOOL FUNDING DECISION

On March 24, 1997, the Ohio Supreme Court rendered a decision declaring certain portions of the Ohio school funding plan unconstitutional. The Court stayed the effect of its ruling for one year to allow the State's Legislature to design a plan to remedy the perceived defects in the system. Declared unconstitutional was the State's "School Foundation Program" which provides significant monetary support to the School District. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000, the School District received \$573,172 in school foundation support for its General Fund.

Since the Supreme Court ruling, numerous pieces of legislation have been passed by the Ohio General Assembly in an attempt to address the issues identified by the Court. The Court of Common Pleas in Perry County reviewed the new laws and, in a decision issued on February 26, 1999, determined they are not sufficiently responsive to the constitutional issues raised under the "thorough and efficient" clause of the Ohio Constitution. The State appealed the decision made by the Court of Common Pleas to the Ohio Supreme Court. On May 11, 2000, the Supreme Court rendered an opinion on this issue. The Supreme Court concluded, "...the mandate of the [Ohio] Constitution has not been fulfilled". The Supreme Court's majority recognized efforts by the Ohio General Assembly taken in response to the Court's March 24, 1997, decision; however, it found seven "...major areas warrant further attention, study, and development by the Ohio General Assembly...", including the State's reliance on local property tax funding; the State's basic aid formula; the school foundation program, as discussed above; the mechanism for, and adequacy of, funding for school facilities; and the existence of the State's School Solvency Assistance Fund, which the Supreme Court found took the place of the unconstitutional emergency school loan assistance program.

The Supreme Court decided to maintain jurisdiction over these issues and continued the case at least until June 15, 2001.

As of the date of these financial statements, the School District is unable to determine what effect, if any, this ongoing litigation will have on its future State funding under this program and on its financial operations.

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**NOTES TO THE GENERAL-PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000
(Continued)**

NOTE 19 - CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

A. Grants

The School District received financial assistance from federal and state agencies in the form of grants. The expenditure of funds received under these programs generally requires compliance with terms and conditions specified in the grant agreements and is subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims resulting from such audits could become a liability of the General Fund or other applicable funds. However, in the opinion of management, any such disallowed claims will not have a material adverse effect on the overall financial position of the School District at June 30, 2000.

B. Litigation

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

NOTE 20 - SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On November 20, 2000, the Board of Education authorized the issuance of notes in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 in anticipation of the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$11,500,000 for the purpose of construction and renovations to the existing school. The bond issue was approved by the voters of the District on November 7, 2000.

On December 19, 2000, the District received note proceeds in the amount of \$9,975,000. These proceeds will be used to start the project and the note will be repaid with the bond proceeds.



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

One Government Center
Room 1420
Toledo, Ohio 43604-2246
Telephone 419-245-2811
800-443-9276
Facsimile 419-245-2484
www.auditor.state.oh.us

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Van Buren Local School District
Hancock County
217 South Main Street
Van Buren, Ohio 45889-9720

To the Board of Education:

We have audited the financial statements of Van Buren Local School District, Hancock County, (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2000, and have issued our report thereon dated January 24, 2001. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2000-10232-001. We also noted certain immaterial instances of noncompliance that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated January 24, 2001.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that do not require inclusion in this report, that we have reported to management of the District in a separate letter dated January 24, 2001.

Van Buren Local School District
Hancock County
Report of Independent Accountants on Compliance and on
Internal Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*
Page 2

This report is intended for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and the Board of Education, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Jim Petro
Auditor of State

January 24, 2001

**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000**

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

FINDING NUMBER 2000-10232- 001

Noncompliance Citation

Ohio Revised Code § 5705.41(D) states that no subdivision shall make any contract or order any expenditure of money unless the certificate of the fiscal officer is attached. The fiscal officer must certify that the amount required to meet such a commitment has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrance. Further, contracts and orders for expenditures lacking prior certification should be null and void.

This section also provides two exceptions to the above requirement:

- A. Then and Now Certificate - If no certificate is furnished as required, upon receipt of the fiscal officer's certificate that a sufficient sum was appropriated and free of any previous encumbrance, the Board may authorize the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amount due upon such contract or order by resolution within 30 days from the receipt of such certificate, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

- B. If the amount involved is less than \$1,000 the fiscal officer may authorize it to be paid without the affirmation of the Board, if such expenditure is otherwise valid.

As of June 30, 2000, the District had \$39,574 in outstanding purchase commitments that were not properly certified and as a result were charged against fiscal year 2001 appropriations. The accompanying financial statements have been adjusted to reflect this amount as an outstanding encumbrance in the permanent improvement, capital projects fund, as of June 30, 2000. In addition, fifteen percent of the transactions tested had not received prior certification nor were they certified using a then-and-now certification.

Certification is not only required by Ohio law but is a key control in the disbursement process to assure that purchase commitments receive prior approval, and to help reduce the possibility of District funds being over expended or exceeding budgetary spending limitations as set by the Board. To improve controls over disbursements, we recommend that all District disbursements receive prior certification of the Treasurer and that the Board periodically review the expenditures made to ensure they are within the appropriations adopted by the Board, certified by the Treasurer and recorded against appropriations.

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**VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
HANCOCK COUNTY**

**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2000**

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain:</i>
1999-10232-001	ORC § 117.28 Finding for Recovery	Yes	



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR

JIM PETRO, AUDITOR OF STATE

88 East Broad Street
P.O. Box 1140
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1140
Telephone 614-466-4514
800-282-0370
Facsimile 614-466-4490

VAN BUREN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HANCOCK COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

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

Susan Babbitt

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

**CERTIFIED
FEBRUARY 20, 2001**